

Application Form 2024



**Louth
Business
Awards**

Promoting Excellence in Service & Products

Company Details:

Name of Company/ Organisation/ Community Group: _____

Address 1: _____

Address 2: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Website: _____

No. of Years in Business: _____

No. of full-time employees: _____

General Guidance for applicants

Supporting Documentation

If including supporting documentation, we suggest you choose your materials carefully, these could include customer feedback forms, policies and procedures, special project information, photographs, press cuttings or endorsements. These are non-returnable so please do not send originals and post to:

Dundalk Chamber of Commerce,
Unit 4 Partnership Court,
Park St.
Dundalk.

If posting your entry, we strongly advise you to send it recorded delivery.

Judging process

All information will be treated confidentially and will only be circulated amongst the judges.
Entries are judged on merit only, with no reference to external considerations.

Finalists and Confidentiality

All entrants will be informed as to whether, or not, they have got through to the final stage of the process.

Closing date: **Friday 26th July 2024**

Announcement of short-listed companies: **Monday 2nd September 2024**

Announcement of winners: Gala Dinner **Saturday 19th October 2024 The Carrickdale Hotel**

Alternatively log in online:
<https://www.dundalk.ie/awards>

Please indicate the Award categories you wish to enter by ticking the relevant boxes below. You may enter up to 4 categories.

1	<p>Best Customer Service in the Retail Sector sponsored by NET 1.ie. This award is for retailers and recognises what the business offers to the customer that separates them from their competitors, giving the best customer experience along with commitment to offering the highest level of service to each customer. (Mystery Shopped)</p>	
2	<p>Best Shop Front Both Interior & Exterior sponsored by Av Direct. This award recognises excellence in exterior and interior premises in terms of visual impact for customers. Window displays, floral displays, cleanliness, and overall appearance will be taken into consideration. (Mystery Shopped)</p>	
3	<p>Best Hair & Beauty Award sponsored by L'Oréal. This award is open to all relevant businesses in these sectors who have demonstrated strategic growth, innovative entrepreneurship, and sustainability with a strong focus on excellent customer care and satisfaction. (Mystery Shopped)</p>	
4	<p>Best Licensed Premises sponsored by Diageo. Open to all Licensed Premises that offer exceptional ambience, service along with cleanliness, hygiene, exterior and interior décor. (Mystery Shopped)</p>	
5	<p>Best Café sponsored by Dundalk Stadium. Entrants must be able to demonstrate how they support local producers, provide excellent and consistent customer service, provide innovative offerings in the food and beverage market, and display excellent levels of housekeeping. (Mystery Shopped)</p>	
6	<p>Culture, Heritage & Tourism Award sponsored by Value Centre Cash & Carry. Open to all businesses operating in the Tourism Sector including visitor attractions, activity based or guided experience, museums, historic houses, garden exhibition centres, hotels, conference, and banqueting venues. Judges will look for commitment to excellence across all areas of the business (Mystery Shopped)</p>	
7	<p>Community Achievement sponsored by Dundalk Credit Union. This award is open to community and charitable groups who dedicate their efforts for better communities and wellbeing of others.</p>	
8	<p>Training Award sponsored by Dundalk Chamber Skillnet. This award will be open to any company that has engaged in staff training programmes over the previous 12 months. The award demonstrates a commitment to upskilling of staff in personnel enhancement. This award recognises a company that invests in its people and the importance of human potential in its future growth plans.</p>	
9	<p>Best Place to Work sponsored by Oriel Hub. This award seeks to find those businesses which provide an excellent, supportive, inclusive, secure, and nurturing environment for their employees. Entrants will be asked to explain their HR policies and the benefits, support structure and other incentives that they provide for their key asset, their employees.</p>	
10	<p>Technology, Research & Innovation Award sponsored by Regional Development Centre at DKIT. The award celebrates innovative ideas, processes, products, services, technologies, and applications that have the greatest impact on a company's success and the county's reputation as an innovative place. This award will recognise a business that has most successfully applied innovation to their own business and can demonstrate how they have improved business results and financial performance through innovation.</p>	

11	<p>Best Professional Services Award sponsored by Permanent TSB.</p> <p>The award recognises excellence in customer service, product knowledge and commitment to developing sustainable business practices across the full range of activities. Nominees will come from professions such as estate agents, architects, insurance companies, travel agents, solicitors, dental and medical providers, accountants, banks, and financial advisers.</p>	
12	<p>Best Family Business sponsored by Prometric.</p> <p>Open to all family owned and run businesses across all sectors who are at least second generation that have successfully blended strong business acumen and family engagement.</p>	
13	<p>Best Start-up sponsored by Local Enterprise Office Louth.</p> <p>Open to all businesses with 1-5 employees this award aims to acknowledge new & emerging businesses and entrepreneurs who have taken the brave step to start their own business in the past 3 years. The winner will clearly demonstrate to the judges that they have the potential to grow successful companies which will be create employment and maximise opportunities in their marketplace.</p>	
14	<p>Outstanding SME Business sponsored by AIB Bank</p> <p>The Outstanding Small Business Award recognizes those businesses employing fewer than 50 staff on a full-time basis, who have made a long-standing contribution to the community. Nominees will be able to demonstrate success in company growth and they will also illustrate their commitment to research and the development of advances in the company's industry sector. Consideration is also paid to their vision for sustainable growth, innovative and their impact on the wider community.</p>	
15	<p>Employee Health and Wellbeing sponsored by Servisource Recruitment.</p> <p>This category celebrates and rewards businesses who have over the last year committed to putting in place policies and practices to improve health and wellbeing of their employees.</p>	
16	<p>Best Online Presence sponsored by The Carrickdale Hotel.</p> <p>Omnichannel presence. A bespoke online presence that delivers in a range of ways, website purpose simplicity, usability, functional, optimisation, impact on the business and connection with brand and communication channels.</p>	
17	<p>Green Champion sponsored by Enterprise Ireland.</p> <p>Has your business embraced all things 'green' and made changes that directly impact on the environment, your business, staff, and customers? We want to find out about those businesses who are leading the way with their environmental procedures and decisions. Are you taking a stand on sustainability?</p>	
18	<p>Large Business of the Year sponsored by Bank of Ireland.</p> <p>Open to business with 50 plus employees involved in the production of goods for supply and /or sale that can demonstrate excellence and best practice in all aspects of manufacturing including but not limited to the following: innovation, design, quality control, sustainable manufacturing processes, supply chain and logistics management, a commitment to continuous improvement processes etc. Companies will also be successful in exporting and committed to continued growth in their international trade.</p>	

Overall Business of the 2024 year sponsored by Vhi Healthcare.

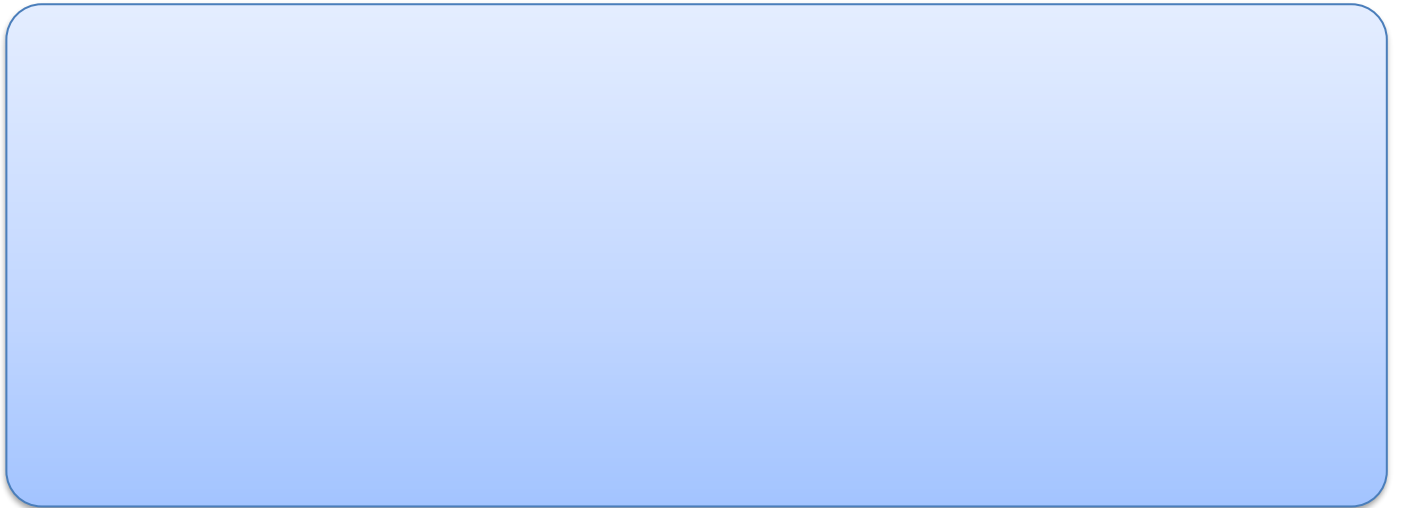
Winner will be selected from among the category winners. The company awarded distinguished itself among the other category winners as being outstanding in its field. The winner will have made a significant contribution to the economic life of Louth through its commitment to responsible business practices in all its endeavours, its innovation, its creativity, and its integrity in dealing with people

Lifetime award for contribution for Louth. Sponsored by Paypal.

This is not a category to apply for as picked by Management. This award is given to an individual who has contributed to the business life of Louth and is outstanding in every way.

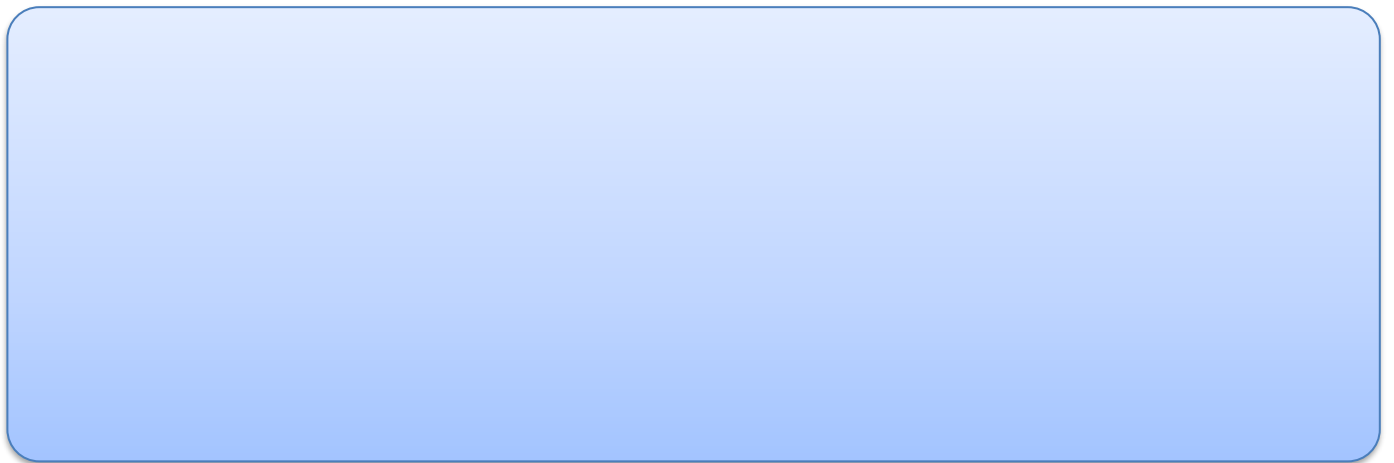
Q1: Tell us about your Company/ Organisation/ Community Group - What business are you in and who is your target market?

(100 words max)



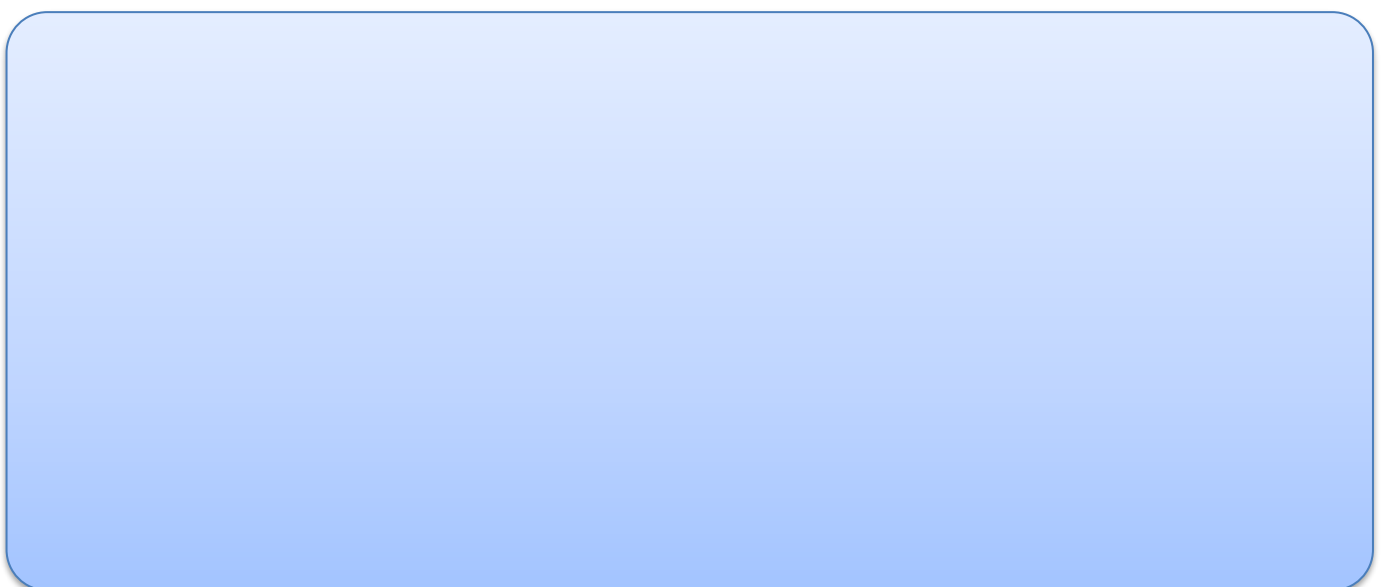
Q2: Describe your product/ service offering and explain how it compares to your competitors.

(100 words max)



Q3: What makes your Business/ Community Group/ Product/ Service unique to your customers/ clients.

(100 words max)



Q4: For each category you picked (you can enter up to 4) explain why you should win in each category.

	Name of Category you picked to enter	Write what you have done in this area as to why you should win in this category
1		
2		
3		
4		

Q5: Explain how your Business/ Organisation/Community Group has made a positive impact in the Louth region. (100 words max)