Excellent Work Undertaken by Local Authorities Highlighted In Awards Shortlist

**Aug 04, 2017**

Chambers Ireland today (3 August 2017) announced the shortlist for the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2017. This year there are a total of twenty three Local Authorities shortlisted over sixteen categories ranging from Active Communities to Local Authority Innovation. The 2017 Excellence in Local Government Awards are sponsored by Vodafone and held in conjunction with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

Commenting on the announcement of the shortlist, Ian Talbot, Chief Executive Chambers Ireland said, “Local Authorities across Ireland deserve national recognition for the important projects that they deliver on an ongoing basis to serve the community and the local region. The shortlist for 2017 reflects the best practice work being undertaken by Local Authorities across Ireland and highlights the commitment shown to improving the area in which they operate. Last year we introduced the new category, Commemorations & Centenaries which successfully showcased the enormous effort that was put into commemorating 1916. We are delighted that this category is continued this year to reflect the ongoing dedication within local authorities to celebrating the national decade of centenaries.  I would like to congratulate the twenty three shortlisted Local Authorities and acknowledge the excellent work being undertaken at Local Government level across Ireland.”

John Clancy, Head of Government Sales at Vodafone Ireland said, “We are delighted to be involved in the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2017. This is a unique and important event that recognises and celebrates the work that Local Authorities contribute to communities all over Ireland and I’d like to congratulate each of the 23 shortlisted local authorities.”

He added: “At Vodafone we understand that advancements in technology in recent years have affected the way in which local Government works and the way in which citizens access information, communicate and engage with local authorities. Vodafone is committed to supporting local authorities  by providing a range of market leading communications to enhance efficiencies across local government operations.”

The winners will be announced at the 14th annual awards ceremony on 23rd November at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Northwood, Santry.  Awards will be presented for excellence in sixteen different categories and one local authority will be awarded the overall award and named Local Authority of the Year 2017.

**-Ends-**

**Complete Shortlist for ELG Awards 2017**

***Supporting Active Communities***

* Clare County Council – Clare County Council International ‘One Tree Per Child’ Initiative
* Cork County Council – Dunmanway Community Garden – By the Community, for the Community in the heart of the Community
* Fingal County Council – Design a Book Project
* Kildare County Council – Purple Flag Maynooth
* Monaghan County Council – A Guide to Age Friendly Communication
* South Dublin County Council – South Dublin County 55plus Daily Activity Planner

***Best Practice in Citizen Engagement***

* Dublin City Council – Dublin City Intercultural Language Service
* Fingal County Council – The Pathway to Participation
* Kerry County Council – Development of Milltown Community and Chamber Alliance
* Monaghan County Council – Breaking Down Stereotypes Intergenerational Project
* South Dublin County Council - €300K – Have Your Say!

***Health & Wellbeing***

* Cork County Council – Physical Activity and Wellbeing Office
* Fingal County Council – MarathonKids – Children’s Marathon running programme
* Mayo County Council – Men on the Move
* South Dublin County Council – It’s not just a Race

***Supporting Tourism***

* Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council - dlr Spring into Heritage
* Fingal County Council - DIT Students in Action
* Galway County Council - Portumna Marina and Camper Van Recreational Park
* Leitrim County Council - Sliabh an Iarainn Visitor Centre
* Louth County Council - Gateway to the Boyne Valley Exhibition at the Tholsel, Drogheda
* Waterford City & County Council - Waterford Greenway

***Promoting Economic Development***

* Kerry County Council - TasteKerry
* Limerick City and County Council - Regeneration Programme: Model of pathways to employment in the hospitality and catering industry
* Meath County Council - ECON COMMUTE – Meath Economic Development - A Strategic Approach
* Monaghan County Council - Monaghan Town Team: Dedicated to promoting Monaghan
* Sligo County Council - An Chroí - South Sligo Enterprise Centre

***Local Authority Innovation***

* Cork City Council - Cork City Council Competitive Dialogue Housing Delivery Process
* Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council - dlr Downsizing Initiative
* Leitrim County Council - Lough Rinn Rowing Facility
* Mayo County Council - Mayo - Our People, Our Place
* Wicklow County Council - The Wicklow County Councillors Gala Function in aid of the Wicklow Hospice Foundation (WHF)

***Sustainable Environment***

* Cork City Council - Greening of Glow
* Kerry County Council - MacGillycuddy Reeks Habitat and Trail Repair Project - a Collaborative Rural Economic Development Zone (REDZ) initiative
* Meath County Council - Clean Up Navan Campaign
* Monaghan County Council - Working closely with the hospitality sector in County Monaghan to reduce Food Waste

***Best Library Service***

* Donegal County Council - Wainfest Arts and Book Festival for Children
* Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council - Sunday Opening at dlr LexIcon
* Kildare County Council - Support to Secondary Schools Programme
* South Dublin County Council - Digital Technologies – STEAM in South Dublin Libraries
* Waterford City and County Council - Carrickphierish Library

***Sustaining the Arts***

* Cork County Council - The Living Space Project Mallow
* Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council - dlr Caterpillar Commissions
* Kerry County Council - Welcoming The Stranger
* Longford County Council - www.virtualwriter.ie
* Meath County Council - BORN/BEIRTHE by Deirdre Kinahan, Primary Schools Theatre Project.
* Wexford County Council - Living Arts - Arts in Education

***Joint Local Authority Initiative***

* Dublin City Council - Dublin Economic Monitor
* Limerick City and County Council - Housing Assistance Payment Shared Services Centre
* Monaghan County Council - Cavan and Monaghan Science Festival

***Festival the Year***

* Donegal County Council - SEA SESSIONS Surf and Music FESTIVAL
* Limerick City and County Council - Riverfest Limerick
* Louth County Council - The Irish Maritime Festival 2016
* Monaghan County Council – Monaghan Country Music Festival
* Wicklow County Council - Bray Air Display

***Outstanding Customer Service***

* Cork County Council - Your Council.ie
* Limerick City and County Council - Limerick.ie

***Enhancing the Urban Environment***

* Kildare County Council - Kilcock Royal Canal Greenway & Square Enhancement Works 2015-2017
* Limerick City and County Council  -Limerick Smarter Travel Green Way
* Offaly County Council - Revitalising Birr by improving the way its public realm functions.
* South Dublin County Council - Ballyowen Equine Centre, Ballyowen Park, Lucan, Co Dublin.

***Heritage and Built Environment***

* Cork County Council - Spike Island, Cork Harbour
* Louth County Council - Bringing new life to Drogheda's Old Abbey Lane
* Wicklow County Council - Commemorating the 100th birthday and birthplace of artist George Campbell RHA (1917 - 1979)

***Disability Services Provision***

* Clare County Council - Disability Services at Active Ennis Leisure Complex
* Cork City Council - Hollyhill Library services for children with autism
* Monaghan County Council - A Minute Matters – Raising awareness YouTube campaign

***Commemorations & Centenaries***

* Carlow County Council - Rediscovering Willibrord
* Cavan County Council – Cavan County Museum’s Commemoration Education Programme
* Cork City Council – Cork City Council’s 2016 Commemoration Programme
* Cork County Council - Centenary Commemorations in the County of Cork
* Donegal County Council - County Donegal in 1916: From the Edge: Donegal County Council History & Heritage Education Pack
* South Dublin County Council - Our Heroes - Ár Laochra