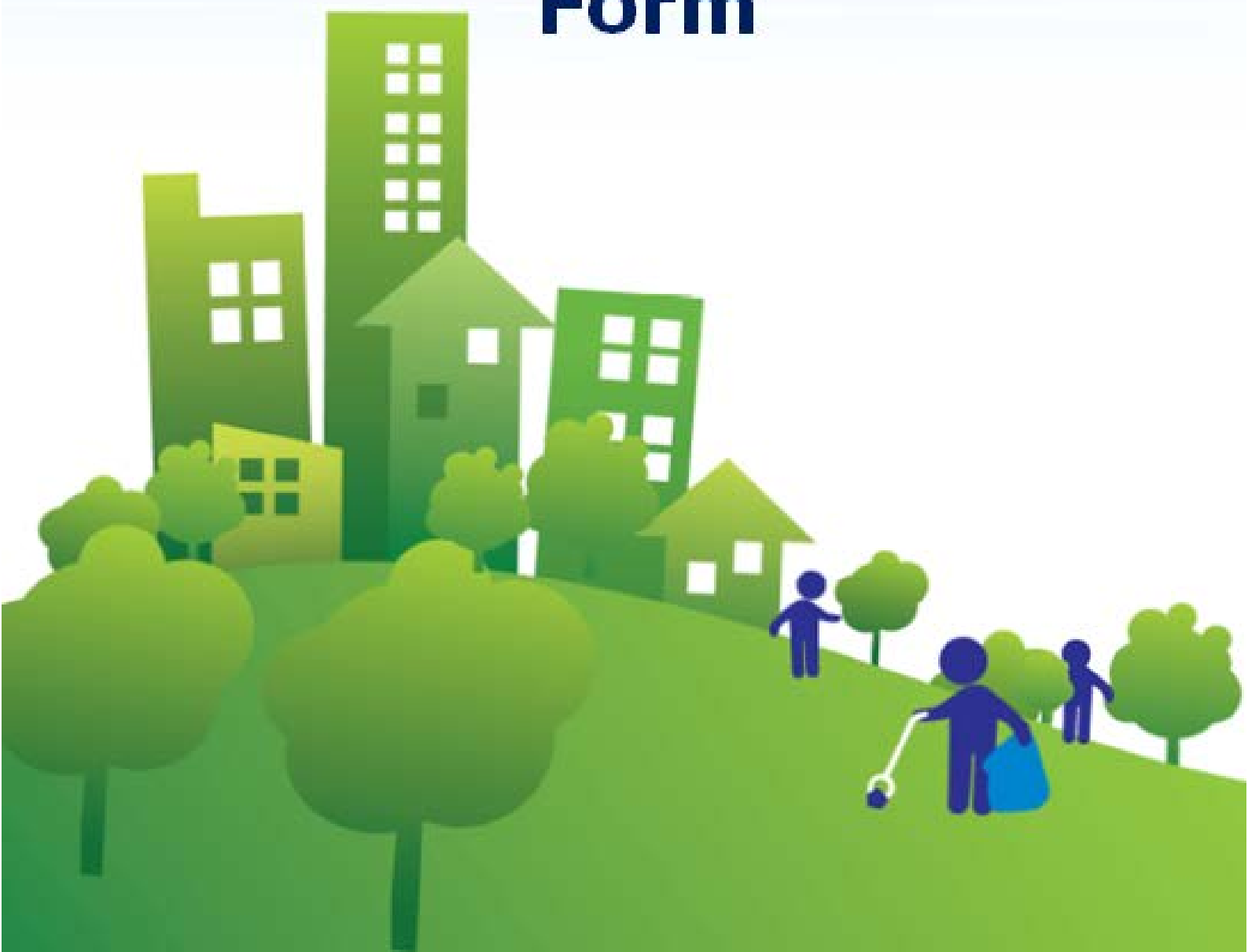


# Tidy Districts 2020

## Application Form



## Introduction from the Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change Department



Mr. Michael Mangan,  
Director of Infrastructure and  
Climate Change Department

The Tidy Districts Competition offers Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council an opportunity to recognise and reward the voluntary efforts made by residents' associations and tidy town groups to enhance their local environment.

While the annual competition is primarily an anti-litter and anti-graffiti competition, it has evolved over the last twenty-seven years and now also acknowledges environmental improvement and climate action.

We are delighted to see communities putting such a strong emphasis on managing their estates in a manner that is in keeping with natural heritage. The efforts of the volunteers are to be commended. I wish the participants and judges of Tidy Districts 2020 all the very best!

*Michael Mangan*

Mr. Michael Mangan  
Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change,  
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

## Information for applicants and conditions of entry

### Who can apply?

Applications are invited from housing estates, residential streets, mixed-use streets, towns and villages within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

### How to enter Tidy Districts? (deadline 4pm, 29 May 2020).

Completed application forms should be returned by **4pm on Friday, 29 May 2020**.

- By email: **tidydistricts@dlrcoco.ie** or
- By post: Environmental Awareness, Infrastructure & Climate Change Department, County Hall, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, A96 K6C9.

All entrants will receive confirmation of receipt within 5 working days. If you do not receive confirmation, please contact Martha Casserly, Environmental Awareness Officer (01-2054700). Only completed forms, successfully received by this date, can be considered. Late entries cannot be accepted.

### What to include with your application?

- **Map** - All entrants must submit a map that clearly indicates the area to be judged and the location of any special features. Please highlight the roads and open spaces within the area.
- The information provided on this form will be used by an adjudicator to award marks. Applicants are advised to fully complete the application form.
- Entrants may wish to include documents to support their application and/or clarify any particular challenges experienced in the previous 12 months (e.g. before and after photographs).

### Judging Process

- **Optional pre-judging meeting/phone call in June 2020**  
The pre-judging meeting is designed to provide an opportunity for a group to explain a particular initiative or issue. In the interests of fairness, the meeting will be limited to twenty minutes for areas with less than 500 homes and 30 minutes for areas with 501 or more homes. While every effort will be made to accommodate availability, if a mutually suitable time within June cannot be identified, a phone call will be offered as an alternative. Optional meetings / phone calls must occur within June. No marking will be completed during this arranged meeting. This meeting is optional and is not required.
- **Unannounced judging visit in July 2020**  
The main judging visit will take place in July 2020 as an unannounced visit from the competition judge(s). The adjudicator's decision is final. Judging will not take place during a scheduled local dlr event e.g. Longitude, Teddy Bears Picnic etc.

## Display Boards (deadline 4pm, 31 July 2020)

Entrants are invited to submit a display board with at least 4 mounted photographs for display at the award ceremony.

- A light card is preferred. It is not necessary to ask a professional to create the board. Photos mounted on thick paper/light card can look well. A re-usable board is encouraged.
- The maximum size for a display board is A1 (59.4cm x 84.1cm).
- The closing date for submission of Tidy Districts display board is 4pm on Friday, 31 July 2020. All boards received by this date will be entered into the competition for Best Display Board.
- Every group that does submit a board by 4pm on 31 July 2020 will receive **1 extra mark** in the general competition. However, submission of a board is optional and is not required.
- Please drop the board into the Civic Hub, County Hall, Dún Laoghaire or dlr Council Office in Dundrum marked for the attention of Martha Casserly, Environmental Awareness.

## Award Ceremony

Results will be announced at an awards ceremony in September 2020. All applicant groups will be invited to the ceremony. Due to the capacity of the venue, it is often necessary to limit the invitations to three representatives from each group.

## Award Categories 2020

### General Competition

- Best Housing Estate / Apartment complex (5-100 dwellings)
- Best Housing Estate / Apartment complex (101-200 dwellings)
- Best Housing Estate / Apartment complex (201-500 dwellings)
- Best Housing Estate / Apartment complex (501 dwellings and over)
- Best Estate Management Area (5-250 dwellings)
- Best Estate Management Area (251 dwellings and over)
- Best Town/Village (0-3000 people)
- Best Town/Village (3001 people and over)
- Most Improved Housing Estate
- Most Improved Estate Management Area
- Most Improved Town/Village
- Overall Winner Tidy Districts 2020

### Specific Categories

- Best New Entry
- Best Display Board
- Litter Warden's Award (nominated by dlr Litter Warden)
- Graffiti Management Award (nominated by dlr Graffiti Officer)

### Optional Award Categories

- Climate Change Award
- Waste Prevention Award (*new*)
- Special Environmental Project Award (*new*)

## Tidy Districts 2020 Application Form

Group name			
Group email address			
Group website / social media			
Description of the area to be judged			
Have you included a map showing the area to be judged? (this is required)		Yes / No	
Last year of entry (e.g. 2019)			
Category of entry	Housing Estate/Residential Street (Please include the approximate number of households)		
	Mixed-Use Street (An area that does not have a village but may have one or two shops amongst residential properties)		
	Urban Town/ Village (Please include the estimated population)		
Your contact name			
Your contact postal address			
Your contact phone number			
Your contact email address(s)  (please ensure email addresses are active as communication will be by email)			
Optional Meeting: would you like to avail of an optional pre-judging meeting / phone call in June? (please see page 3 for more information) If yes, please indicate your general availability in June (days, dates, am/pm). Availability:			Yes / No
Do we have your consent to share your contact details with an external judge for the purposes of organising the optional judging visit?			Yes / No
Do you wish for the group email address to be included on the Environmental Awareness mailing list? Please list alternate email addresses, if applicable. Email addresses:			Yes / No
I/We have read the conditions of entry, agree to be bound by the rules and have full authorisation from the group to submit this application on their behalf.			Yes / No
<b>Signed:</b> (typed signature accepted)		<b>Date:</b>	

**Overall appearance of buildings and spaces**

**(20 marks)**

15 marks will be available during the unannounced judging visit for the presentation of all properties, frontages, boundaries and walls within the area. Gardens should be presented to a good standard. Buildings are painted and of good visual quality.

5 marks are available for community actions listed below. Have you engaged with the Council, contractor or local residents to improve the physical streetscape, paving, lighting, signage, local accessibility for all etc.?

Please list any community actions taken in 2020 to improve overall street appearance.

**Landscaping**

**(10 marks)**

10 marks are available for landscaping and planting that creates interest, design and visual amenity. Please specify if it is the Council, a contractor or the residents who are involved in each activity.

Please list any notable planting or natural features you would like to judge to observe during adjudication.

**Improving natural amenity and habitats**

**(10 marks)**

10 marks are available for actions that have physically improved natural amenity e.g. planting to support biodiversity, eliminating/reducing herbicide use, wildflower growth, creation of new wildlife habitats, native species etc.

Please outline anything you have done to improve natural amenity and biodiversity through landscaping, planting and maintenance.

### **Litter management**

**(25 marks)**

15 marks are available for appearance during adjudication. Points are available for the absence of litter, fly-posting, dumping and for evidence of litter control strategies.

10 marks are available for awareness, actions and litter control strategies listed below. If you organise community clean-ups, please outline how many people and exactly how often they occur (e.g. three times a week, monthly, bi-weekly, every April). Has your group promoted the Green-Dog Walker Campaign, National Spring Clean, anti cigarette butt campaign, Community Clean-up Days etc.?

Please outline any anti-litter community actions taken in 2020.

### **Graffiti management**

**(15 marks)**

5 marks are available for appearance during adjudication. Marks will be awarded for absence of graffiti, evidence of graffiti control strategy, including regular patrols and promotion of anti-graffiti awareness throughout the community.

10 marks are available for the policies and procedures to manage graffiti outlined below.

Please outline any community actions taken/planned in 2020 to manage graffiti.

### **Sustainable community**

**(15 marks)**

10 marks are available for community involvement. Please outline the level of voluntary commitment (general involvement of the community at events such as clean-ups, engaging new residents etc.)? Do you involve/welcome all ages and all residents?

5 marks are available for other (non-planting) sustainable community actions not previously outlined in the application form. For example, have you worked to make your events or meetings more environmentally sustainable (e.g. single-use plastic free, paper free, segregated bins), hosted an environmental talk or does your local area host a bring bank/bottle bank recycling station?

Please outline the level of voluntary commitment and details of any other sustainable environmental actions in your community.

### **Communication**

**(5 marks)**

5 marks are available for communication.

How do you communicate with your members and wider community? Do you distribute newsletters, council notices, have a website, hold meetings or post on social media? Have you featured in a local newspaper?



### Optional Special Categories

Please complete the sections below, if you wish to be considered for any of the optional award categories.

#### Climate Change Award

**/10**

Marks will be awarded for projects/schemes that make positive contribution to the climate challenge, from resource management to information campaigns.

Please outline an action, awareness campaign or project that promoted mitigation and/or adaption to a changing climate.

#### Waste Prevention Award

**/10**

Have you reduced waste at your meetings (e.g. reusable plates and cups)? Have you completed an up-cycle project (e.g. a planter made from up-cycled wood, a sign made from up-cycled materials)? Do you take part in any waste campaigns or courses (e.g. single-use plastics, composting, recycling)? Do you accommodate a community bring bank locally?

Please outline the efforts that you have taken to save resources by preventing waste.

#### Environmental Project Award

**/10**

Have you completed a special project in 2020 that physically enhances the local environment and improves local amenity? Points will be awarded for a new project that has made a real and visible improvement to the local environment in 2020. Examples could include a new environmental focal point, a new feature at the estate entrance, new walkway, new estate entrance sign, upgraded shared wall, new seating area etc.

Please outline one particularly notable special project completed in 2020 that physically improves the local environment.