



Dublin City Social Enterprise

Awards 2022

Awardees Brochure



An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council




Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office
ICE is a registered charity. Bhaile Átha Cliath: 01 854 6000. Email: ice@ice.ie

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Local Enterprise Office
Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil / Comhairle Bhaile Átha Cliath / Local Enterprise Office Dublin City

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 Economic Development Office, Dublin City Council, 3 Palace Street, D02 T277  01 222 5611  economicdevelopment@dublincity.ie  localenterprise.ie/DublinCity

2 Foreword

Today we are celebrating six local social enterprises. Each of these are actively supporting marginalised and vulnerable people and are extensively working to address important issues in our city such as: Biodiversity, Environmental Awareness, Sustainability, Circularity, Unemployment, Education Attainment, Diversity, Inclusion, Health, Mental Health, Homelessness, Accessibility, Ex-Offender Reintegration.

Unfortunately, many of these issues have become even more acute as we emerge slowly from the COVID-19 pandemic and are compounded by the current increases in the cost of living, which has caused much strife for local communities. Furthermore, it has typically been the most vulnerable people in our society and city who have been most negatively impacted. These awardee social enterprises and the many other social enterprises in Dublin will help to make our city a better, more inclusive and sustainable place as we continue to respond to the crisis.

At its core, social enterprise development represents a key way in which communities, areas and cities like Dublin can be improved. Through their work, social enterprises support Community Wealth Building and the local economy by bringing about economic benefits such as job creation (often for those who are marginalised); community benefits such as social inclusion, education, and environmental awareness; and policy benefits such as service delivery or active citizenship.

Despite the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the current cost of living crisis, they have continued or enhanced their delivery of services and supports for individuals and communities, adapting masterfully to the challenges they have faced. As each of these social enterprises uses the award funding and supports to develop in the future, it is an honour to meet them, to learn about their work and the issues they are seeking to address. I wish to congratulate them on achieving their award today and thank them for their dedicated and vital work.

Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy

“The social enterprises we are celebrating today, work with their local communities to address inadequacies, contradictions and underlying issues. They typically work with and seek to practically help those who are most disadvantaged, those who are particularly far from the labour market or inclusion in their local area. Going forward, these social enterprises and the many other social enterprises in Dublin will help to make our city a better, more inclusive and sustainable place.”

Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy



 www.dublincity.ie
 Mansion House, D02 AF30
 lordmayor@dublincity.ie
 01 222 6200
 [@LordMayorDublin](https://twitter.com/LordMayorDublin)



Dublin City

3 Introduction

Social enterprises work to address important issues and achieve a social, societal or environmental impact, rather than maximising profits for owners or shareholders. They seek to realise this impact through trading products and / or services on an ongoing basis and are governed in a fully accountable and transparent manner. Profits or surpluses that are generated via trading activities are directly reinvested back into social enterprises to further enhance their impact¹.

Through their activities, social enterprises bring about a diverse range of economic, community and policy benefits in the communities and areas where they are based. These benefits include shared prosperity, inclusive growth, social inclusion, active citizenship, and training and job creation often for marginalised people. Furthermore, social enterprises typically embrace and embed: collaboration, solidarity, pluralism and sustainability which leads to integrated economic and community development in their respective setting or concerning their goal.

In order to support the creation and development of social enterprises in Dublin City, the Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards (DCSEA) were established in 2015 by Dublin City Council (DCC), Inner City Enterprise (ICE) and the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Dublin City. These partner organisations recognised that there was a need for specific funding and support to help social enterprises start and grow in the city. The awards programme aims to help social enterprises develop in Dublin City, promote social enterprises and increase awareness of the important contribution that they make to local communities and economies.

Each year, typically a fund of €60,000 is distributed among the social enterprise awardees. The funding is provided by Dublin City Council along with the Department of Rural and Community Development which deserves particular thanks for its continued and generous support. The awards programme is managed by ICE who provide ongoing support for awardees and who also deserve particular thanks for the many ways that they help applicants and awardees to develop.

¹ National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022

As part of the programme, awardees receive funding and supports to enhance their development and impact. The benefits of receiving an award include:

- Award Funding (Typically €5,000- €10,000 per social enterprise)
- Publicity & Recognition (Featured in press releases, news etc.)
- Promotional Video
- Mentoring (Specialist ongoing mentoring support)
- Profile on www.BuySocial.ie
- Other Supports (Conference tickets, training, profiling etc.)

The programme is overseen by the Dublin City Social Enterprise Committee which is comprised of key stakeholder representatives. As committee chairperson, I wish to sincerely thank each member for extensively contributing to creating, developing and improving the awards programme and to many other social enterprise supports.

Dublin City Social Enterprise Committee – Members:

Mary Mac Sweeney, DCC (Chair)	Evanne Kilmurray, Inner City Enterprise
Bruce Phillips, DCC	Shane Meehan, Inner City Enterprise
Chris Gordon, ISEN	Bernie Walsh, retired previously Sunflower Recycling
Emma McEvoy, ISEN	Jim Hargis, St. Andrews Resource Centre
Paul Rogers, Northside Partnership	Diarmaid Ó Corrbuí, Carmichael Ireland
Dr. Deiric O’Broin, DCU / NorDubCo	Maggie Clune, PACE

The awards programme was established in 2015 and is now in its eighth year. Each year it has been enhanced in various ways. This year, I am delighted that we could enhance it by producing this brochure to highlight the awardees, their activities, products and / or services and the issues or social causes that they seek to address. Enjoy learning about the awardees and please contact them directly if you or your organisation could collaborate with, support and / or purchase from them.

Mary Mac Sweeney, Deputy Head of Enterprise and Economic Development, Dublin City Council / Chairperson, Dublin City Social Enterprise Committee

“Each of the six social enterprise awardees are actively working with and supporting individuals and communities across Dublin City. They are providing tangible services, innovations and opportunities that are much needed.”

Mary Mac Sweeney, Dublin City Council / LEO Dublin City



Difig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office

www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity

DCC Civic Offices, D08 RF3F

info@leo.dublincity.ie

01 222 5611

[@LEO_DublinCity](#) / [@DCCeconDev](#)

3.1 Inner City Enterprise and The Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards

ICE was established to help unemployed people, social enterprises and youth entrepreneurs to set up their own businesses in Dublin's inner city. Social enterprises were always a feature of ICE's services, dating back to 1995 when ICE first supported Bernie Walshe to establish Sunflower Recycling.

Given the nature of how Social Enterprises work to address inadequacies, gaps and underlying social issues in the communities in which they live, this sector was always going to be of huge interest to both the ICE Team and their overall vision.

Irish Social Enterprises have had to fight hard for recognition over the years and while there had been much talk about the value of the work that they carried out, progress was slow. At a chance meeting in 2015, Greg Swift and I came to the conclusion that one of the ways to move Dublin City new and newly developing Social Enterprises forward would be to provide kickstart grants as well as specific training inputs and courses and pro bono Mentors. DCC senior management had the foresight to provide a yearly grant for €50,000, (now €60,000).

The Dept of Rural and Community Development took up the baton and the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland, 2019-2022 followed as well as very welcome funding for training Programmes such as the SECOP & the ARISE Programmes as well as an array of other much needed capital grants.

The success of the Awards speaks for itself! We're now in Year 8 of this initiative and it is gaining momentum within Dublin City! Social Enterprises are unique in society but still operate with one hand tied behind their backs. More work needs to be done in terms of supporting staffing costs so as to allow these enterprises to operate on an equal footing with other mainstream businesses.

Evanne Kilmurray, CEO Inner City Enterprise

"In order to keep moving forward, Social Enterprises also need help with staffing costs so as to allow them to continue the vital, impactful work that they are carrying out in their communities."


Evanne Kilmurray



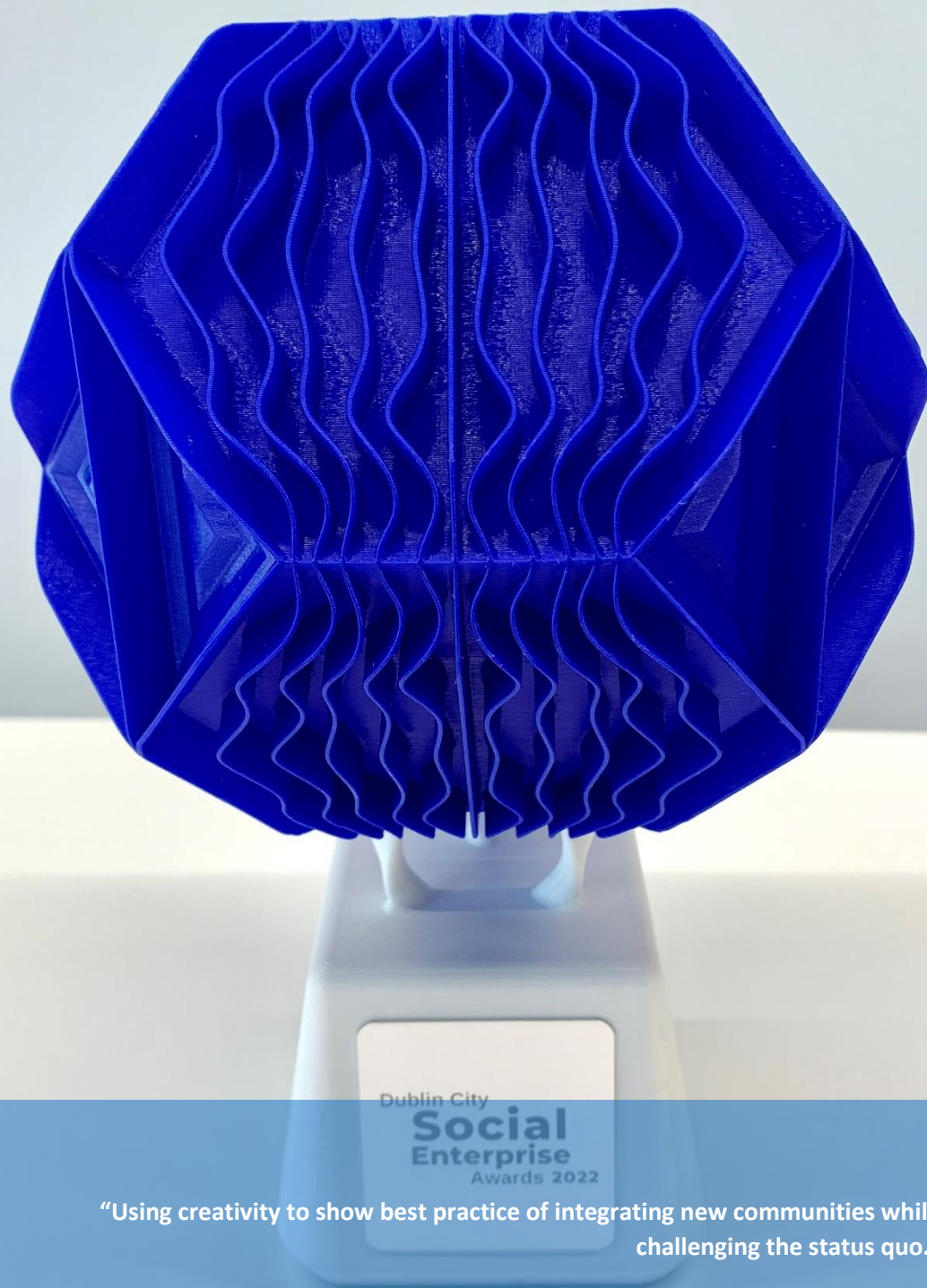
 www.innercityenterprise.com

 Unit F4 Spade Enterprise Centre, North King St, Smithfield D7

 evannekilmurray@innercityenterprise.com

 01 617 4852

 [@innercityenter](https://twitter.com/innercityenter)



“Using creativity to show best practice of integrating new communities while challenging the status quo.”

Lye Ogunsanya, House of AKI-NA

4 Award Trophies

As part of the awards programme and event, local social enterprises are commissioned to supply services and products wherever possible. This year, House of AKI-NA, a local social enterprise and previous recipient of a Dublin City Social Enterprise Award in 2016 was commissioned to design and produce the award trophies. The trophies were produced in Ireland using recycled plastic and created using a 3D Printer.

Dublin City Council and the Economic Development Office were eager to commission a trophy that aligned with their circular values and the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Born out of response to the migrant crisis in 2013 and winner of the All Ireland Universities Social Enterprise Competition (Enactus), Joshua Doyle and Lye Ogunsanya founded the House of AKI-NA while studying in Dublin City University. House of AKI-NA creates handmade and limited edition accessories; examples include vases, travel bags, desk accessories and bowties. The profits from these products are used for educational workshops with a specific focus on women and children under 18.

In addition to their textile products, House of AKI-NA run a food programme (Foodle) to support families who have transitioned from direct provision and others struggling with basic household supplies and groceries. By facilitating the provision of basic supplies and groceries, it is Foodle’s hope that these families would be able to spread their finances over other necessities such as utility bills, education, leisure, sports equipment for kids, etc.



<https://www.houseofakina.ie/>

[35 Exchequer St, Dublin, D02 TE20](https://www.houseofakina.ie/)

info@houseofakina.ie

[@HouseofAkina](https://twitter.com/HouseofAkina)

[House of Aki-na](https://www.facebook.com/HouseofAki-na)

[@houseofakina](https://www.instagram.com/houseofakina)



Introducing the 2022

Awardees





5.1 The Grassroots Guild

The Grassroots Guild provide expert-led, practical, climate action projects, that deliver the theory, tools and training, so that people and groups of all ages and walks of life can take action they know will be effective. They are currently piloting a water conservation project tackling flash flooding while caring for street trees, and a wildlife mini-pond network with Waterways Ireland.

They provide practical, biodiversity programmes to community groups and corporate organisations. These programmes include instructional workshops, step-by-step guides, the physical tools or equipment needed to take action, follow on support and impact measurement. They are focused on engaging and including the most underserved and marginalised members of their community; youth, stay at home parents, older people, unemployed or underemployed, people with disabilities, etc.

The primary social causes that The Grassroots Guild seek to address are:

- Environment
- Education
- Young People
- Unemployment/Underemployed
- People with Disabilities

The Grassroots Guild will use the Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2022 funding towards:

- Website Fees
- Community Venue Hire
- Insurance – Public Liability and Professional Indemnity
- GDPR & Compliance Platforms
- Software Adobe Creative Cloud Suite
- Marketing, Branding, Videography and Photograph

Watch The Grassroots Guild - DCSEA 2022 Video here:



“The supports and backing provided by the Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards are invaluable to organisations like ours, particularly at the early stages of development.

The Grassroots Guild aim to boost the uptake of effective climate and biodiversity action at community level, by providing the theory, tools and training needed to get projects off to a good start.”

Gobnait Ní Néill, The Grassroots Guild

The Grassroots Guild
Supporting community environmental action

<http://www.thegrassrootsguild.org/>

info@thegrassrootsguild.org

[The Grassroots Guild](#)

[@thegrassrootsguild](#)



“It is an honour to be nominated and to win this enterprise award. I am proud of myself and my fellow visually impaired friends for this achievement. I’m amazed by their accomplishments, abilities, strengths and weaknesses. It makes me realise that with hard work and effort we can achieve something. This award has motivated us to keep working towards equality in employment. We are more than our disabilities.”

Amanda Deaton, CanDo Enterprises

5.2 CanDo Enterprises (ChildVision)

People with multiple disabilities and visual impairments (MDVI) experience extreme inequality, are distanced from opportunities, particularly in education and employment. The 2016 census reported an employment rate of just 12.5% for people with MDVI.

Over 150 years old, ChildVision is the only place in Ireland totally dedicated to the education and therapy needs of blind and multi-disabled children and young people. Lifelong Learning is a life skills programme for young adults with multiple disabilities and visual impairment (MDVI) aged between 18-25 years old. CanDo Enterprises was developed to further this programme.

CanDo Enterprises address this by providing specialist training in a range of enterprises while supporting each individual to learn comprehensive skills that are required for them to enter the world of work. Currently, CanDo Enterprises are working on five areas within the enterprise; Soap & Skincare, Weaving, Confidential Shredding, Horticulture and Letterpress (Handmade Cards).

The primary social causes that CanDo Enterprises seek to address are:

- Disability
- Unemployment
- Education
- Young People

CanDo Enterprises will use the DSCEA 2022 funding towards:


- New Website / E-commerce Site
- New Equipment

Watch the CanDo Enterprises - DCSEA 2022 Video here:




CanDo
ENTERPRISES
Handmade by people with disabilities

 <https://childvision.ie/>

 Gracepark Rd, Drumcondra, D9

 info@childvision.ie

 01 837 3635

 [@ChildVisionVI](https://twitter.com/ChildVisionVI)

 [@childvisionvi](https://www.instagram.com/childvisionvi)



"The staff and volunteers at Crosscare Community Café in Portland Row have always been driven by a desire to provide our customers with a service of the highest standards. The increased cost of living has had a huge impact on the costs associated with providing our services. Receiving this award and funding will allow us to purchase equipment that will enable us to enhance our menus, offer more choice to our clients and increase the amount of people we serve."

Louise Black, Crosscare Community Café

5.3 Crosscare Community Café

Crosscare have been engaged in the delivery of food support in Dublin since 1941. Their services have developed over the years to meet the changing times and demands. Crosscare Food Services have two Community Cafés, three Community Food Banks and two Food Poverty Case Workers across the north and south side of the city.

Their Community Café's mission is to offer individuals and families within the local community access to low cost, healthy and nutritious meals in a welcoming and respectful environment while maintaining dignity, building skills and challenging inequality. Although their primary aim is to supply food, information on local services, rights and entitlements, social activities and outreach are included where appropriate, particularly addressing underlying issues such as isolation, financial struggles or health concerns.

The Café is non-profit and they aim to keep their costs low for their service users, making it possible for people to eat well. For just four euro, the customers can enjoy a three-course hot meal and a friendly ear to boot.

The primary social causes that Crosscare Community Café seek to address are:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| - Specific Community | - Animal Welfare | - Family Support |
| - Disability | - Young People | - Addiction |
| - Disadvantaged Children | - Disadvantaged Men/Women | - Homelessness |
| - Prisoners / Ex-Offenders | - Unemployment | |


Crosscare Community Café will use the DCSEA 2022 funding towards:

- New Combi Oven for the Kitchen
- New Illuminated Signage


Watch the Crosscare Community Café - DCSEA 2022 Video here:



 <https://crosscare.ie/>

 2 St. Mary's Place North

 info@crosscare.ie

 01 836 0011

 [@Crosscare1](https://twitter.com/Crosscare1)

 [Crosscare](https://www.facebook.com/Crosscare)

5.4 Little Fitness

Childhood is a critical stage in an individuals' development, and traumatic experiences such as homelessness have been shown to be extremely damaging. The harm done by this experience is often long-lasting and can affect people long after they exit homelessness. It is therefore essential that children in homelessness are afforded opportunities to develop in the same way as more advantaged children.

Little Fitness take a person-centred and holistic approach to children's well-being. Children participate in an 8-to-10-week programme. During this time, the children are supported in a range of fundamental skills and physical activities including skipping, running, and balance.

Children are also provided with time and opportunity to do activities, including stretching to relax, and wind down activities like colouring. This is often impossible while living in a family hub or similar temporary accommodation. Importantly, the skills the children learn, improve both physical and mental well-being, which empowers them to benefit from the programme long after they finish

The primary social causes that Little Fitness seek to address are:

- Disadvantaged Children
- Family Support
- Migrants, Refugees, Asylum
- Homelessness

Little Fitness will use the DCSEA 2022 funding towards:

- Website Development /Marketing Costs
- Development of New Programs
- Admin & Facilitator Support

Watch the Little Fitness - DCSEA 2022 Video here:



“This funding will create more opportunities to develop programmes focusing on reaching the needs of children living in emergency accommodation. The support by Dublin City Council and ICE will only strengthen Little Fitness’ development.”

Sinead Ryan, Little Fitness



ALL ABOUT ME

 <https://www.littlefitness.ie/>

 info@littlefitness.ie

 [@LittleFitnessIE](https://twitter.com/LittleFitnessIE)

 [Little Fitness](https://www.facebook.com/LittleFitness)

 [@littlefitnessire](https://www.instagram.com/littlefitnessire)



“Recycle IT are delighted to be selected as a Dublin City Social Enterprise Awardee for 2022. The award acknowledges the work of our recycling team, it helps increase our visibility and profile as a social enterprise and assists in building our reputation as a trustworthy not for profit organisation that delivers community electrical recycling to create worthwhile training and employment opportunities.”

John McEntee, Recycle IT

5.5 Recycle IT

Clondalkin Community Recycling Initiative was originally set up in 2002 by the Environment Working Group of Clondalkin Partnership under the Irish Governments' Social Economy Initiative. With support from South Dublin County Council (SDCC) and Clondalkin Partnership, the initiative developed into a Social Enterprise now offering employment and training opportunities to over 20 people.

Over the years, the initiative established a presence in Dublin and surrounding areas, and became known as Recycle IT. Today, their teams work with households, community organisations and small businesses to facilitate electronic, electrical and pure metal recycling and promote environmental awareness.

Recycle IT's mission is to create sustainable, local employment through a community-based professional waste management service. Their vision is to become an environmental hub creating sustainable employment.

The primary social causes that Recycle IT seek to address are:

- Specific Community
- Environment
- Unemployment
- Prisoners / Ex-Offenders

Recycle IT will use the DCSEA 2022 funding towards:

- Pre-used Transit Van Purchase

Watch the Recycle IT - DCSEA 2022 Video here:



<https://www.recycleit.ie/>

[Unit 14/2 Crag Terrace](#)

info@recycleit.ie

[01 457 8321](tel:014578321)

[@socialrecycleit](#)

[Recycle IT](#)



“Receiving this award will make a huge impact to the Yard Social Enterprise, it will mean we can open more hours and more young people can come through our door and develop a wide range of new skills and of course it also means we can produce a larger amount of beautiful handmade wooden products for us to sell to the public.”

Ashling Golden, Solas Project

5.6 The Yard

The Yard Crew is a 16-week programme dedicated to developing personal, practical and business skills for young people aged 16-23. Each member of The Yard Crew receives hands-on work experience, learning everything from woodwork skills and bike repairs to the ins and outs of running a social enterprise.

The Yard were established nine years ago to target young people in Dublin 8 who had left school early and were not involved in education or employment. These young people were spending time in the Solas Project and it was clear that while they had skills and ability, they had nowhere to direct them.

The Yard are a social enterprise with the aim of equipping young people with the skills and knowledge that will empower them to fulfil their personal and professional potential, allowing them to strengthen their abilities with the ultimate goal of increasing opportunity for employment.

The primary social causes that The Yard Workshop seek to address are:

- Specific Community
- Disadvantaged Men/Women
- Young People
- Prisoners / Ex-Offenders
- Unemployment

The Yard will use the Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2022 funding towards:

- Extending Opening Hours

Watch The Yard Workshop - DCSEA 2022 Video here:



<https://solasproject.com/>

Unit 1 Liberty View D8

info@solasproject.ie

01 552 0683

[@SolasProject](https://twitter.com/SolasProject)

[Solus Project](https://www.facebook.com/SolasProject)



Awards Photo

Gallery





L-R: Sinead Ryan, Little Fitness; John McEntee, Recycle IT; Jason Chapman, CanDo Enterprises; Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy; Louise Black, Crosscare Community Café; Gobnait Ní Néill, The Grassroot Guild; Ashling Golden, The Yard.



Louise Black, Crosscare Community Café & Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy



Sinead Ryan, Little Fitness & Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy



John McEntee, Recycle IT & Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy



Ashling Golden, The Yard & Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy



Gobnait Ní Néill, The Grassroot Guild & Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy



CanDo Enterprises & Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy



MC Mary Mac Sweeney, Dublin City Council



Welcome Address: Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy



Keynote Address: Dr. Andrew Forde, Department of Rural & Community Development



Address: Susan McMahon, House of AKI-NA



L-R: Evanne Kilmurray, CEO Inner City Enterprise; Susan McMahon, House of AKI-NA; Sinead Ryan, Little Fitness; John McEntee, Recycle IT; Jason Chapman, CanDo Enterprises; Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy; Louise Black, Crosscare Community Café; Mary Mac Sweeney, Dublin City Council; Gobnait Ní Néill, The Grassroots Guild; Dr. Andrew Forde, Department of Rural & Community Development; Ashling Golden, The Yard.



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Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2022 – Awardees Panel Discussion

