

Service Provider of the year Award.

Objective

This award recognises businesses that provide *a range of best-in-class* products or services, are outstanding in their field, and enhance the professional and/or personal lives of their customers/clients.

Criteria:

- Innovation in delivery of your service
- Demonstrate excellence in customer service
- Sustainability practices employed

Questions:

1. Briefly describe your business, including your vision, and business strategy.
2. What is unique about your brand? How do you add value to your business performance, productivity, customer engagement, or customer satisfaction?
3. How do you ensure a high standard of consistent delivery of your product or service to customers/clients. How do you monitor customer feedback?
4. Were your performance targets met in 2023? How did you measure this? Did you achieve any expansion/development plans?
5. Give two examples of sales/marketing activities you undertook in 2023. How did you measure success in these initiatives?
6. Outline any sustainable practices your business implemented in the past year.

Agri & Food Producer Award

Objective

This award recognises businesses within the agri-food sector which are excelling and growing year on year. All businesses operating within this sector such as suppliers, producers, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers are invited to enter this award.

Criteria

- Applications will be judged on the noted criteria:
- Business Overview
- Evidence of business growth / consistency of performance in a volatile market
- Product range/service provided and innovation in this space
- Commitment to sustainable business practices

Questions

Questions:

1. Briefly describe your business, including your vision, and business strategy.
2. What is unique about your brand? How do you add value to your business performance, productivity, customer engagement, or customer satisfaction?
3. How do you ensure a high standard of consistent delivery of your product or service to customers/clients. How do you monitor customer feedback?
4. Were your performance targets met in 2023? How did you measure this? Did you achieve any expansion/development plans?
5. Give two examples of sales/marketing activities you undertook in 2023. How did you measure success in these initiatives?
6. Outline any sustainable practices your business implemented in the past year.

Retailer of the Year Award

Objective

The Retail Award will recognise and reward retail stores, companies, websites, and individuals who deliver continuous and exemplary standards. This includes those who inspire and encourage team members to work together to deliver the ultimate experience to customers and consequently drive business and success.

Criteria:

- Innovation in delivery of your business
- Demonstrate excellence in customer service
- Enhancing the profile of Tipperary as a retail destination
- Sustainability practices employed

Questions:

1. Briefly describe your business, including your vision, and retail business strategy.
2. What is unique about your brand? How do you add value to your business performance, productivity, customer engagement, or customer satisfaction?
3. How do you ensure a high standard of consistent delivery of your product or service? How do you monitor customer feedback?
4. Were your performance targets met in 2022? How did you measure this? Did you achieve any expansion/development plans?
5. Give two examples of sales/marketing activities undertaken in 2023. How did you measure success in these initiatives?
6. Highlight the benefits generated by your retail business for the wider community, locally, regionally or nationally.
7. Outline any sustainable practices your business implemented in the past year.

The above will be assessed in the context of the size and resources of the business.

In conjunction with your business financial overview, the entrepreneurial characteristics you have in place to monitor performance, financial controls, marketing strategies and sales growth will all be taken into account.

Best Small to Medium Enterprise

Objective

To recognise companies across all sectors (250 - employees), both indigenous and multinational, that have demonstrated significant achievements and success over the past year in fostering Innovation, developing Talent and dealing with the Challenges of their sector.

Criteria:

- Demonstrate a clear focus on growth in 2023 and planned growth for 2024
- Strategy and execution of a plan to develop **Talent** in your organisation
- Reacting to the **Challenges** in your particular sector (eg Inflation regulation, skills shortage, tech disruption, changing consumer preferences etc)
- How **Innovation** has been incorporated into the business plan

Questions:

1. Briefly describe your business, including your vision and mission statement.
2. What is unique about your business? How do you add value to your business performance, productivity, customer engagement, or customer satisfaction through **Innovation**?
3. Were your performance targets met in 2023? How did you measure this? Did you achieve any expansion/development plans? Identify the major **Challenges** faced and how you dealt with them
4. Outline how you attracted, retained and developed **Talent** in your business in 2023. How did you measure success in these initiatives?
5. Highlight the benefits generated by your business for the wider community, locally, regionally or nationally.

The above will be assessed in the context of the size and resources of the business.

In conjunction with your business financial overview, the entrepreneurial characteristics you have in place to monitor performance, financial controls, marketing strategies and sales growth will all be taken into account.

Best Dining Experience

Objective

We are on the search for the best dining experience offering top quality food, great customer service and genuine hospitality. Whether it is table service or order at a counter. I. Décor, style of food and culture of each establishment will vary widely but should all complement each other within each restaurant.

Criteria:

- Innovation in delivery of your business
- Demonstrate excellence in customer service
- Enhancing the profile of Tipperary as a retail destination
- Sustainability practices employed

Questions:

1. Briefly describe your business, including your vision and mission statement.
2. What is unique about your café/ restaurant? How do you add value to your business performance, productivity, customer engagement, or customer satisfaction?
3. How do you ensure a high standard of consistent delivery of your product or service? How do you monitor customer feedback?
4. Were your performance targets met in 2022? How did you measure this? Did you achieve any expansion/development plans?
5. Outline two examples of sales/marketing activities undertaken in 2023. How did you measure success in these initiatives?
6. Outline details of your staff training development programmes that enhance the visitor experience.
7. Highlight the benefits generated by your hospitality business for the wider community, locally, regionally, or nationally.
8. Outline any sustainable practices your business implemented in the past year.

Tourism & Culture Award (to include craft in criteria)

Objective

This award celebrates the outstanding contribution of tourism & culture providers attracting visitors to the area, and enhancing the profile of Tipperary through their innovative tourism offering. The Award also includes businesses from the craft industry that sell homemade products from the locality.

Criteria:

- Innovation in delivery of your business
- Demonstrate excellence in customer service.
- Enhancing the profile of Tipperary
- Sustainability practices employed.

Questions:

9. Briefly describe your business, including your vision and mission statement.
10. What is unique about your brand? How do you add value to your business performance, productivity, customer engagement, or customer satisfaction?
11. How do you ensure a high standard of consistent delivery of your product or service? How do you monitor customer feedback?
12. Were your performance targets met in 2022? How did you measure this? Did you achieve any expansion/development plans?
13. Outline two examples of sales/marketing activities undertaken in 2023. How did you measure success in these initiatives?
14. Outline details of your staff training development programmes that enhance the visitor experience.
15. Highlight the benefits generated by your hospitality business for the wider community, locally, regionally, or nationally.
16. Outline any sustainable practices your business implemented in the past year.

The above will be assessed in the context of the size and resources of the business.

In conjunction with your business financial overview, the entrepreneurial characteristics you have in place to monitor performance, financial controls, marketing strategies and sales growth will all be taken into account.

Emerging Business Award

Objective

To recognise the outstanding achievements of Tipperary's newest *businesses*.

Criteria:

Businesses must be trading more than one year and less than three years.

Demonstrates innovation in your service or product

Questions

1. Briefly describe your business.
2. What is unique about your brand? How do you add value to your business performance, productivity, customer engagement, or customer satisfaction?
3. How do you ensure a high standard of consistent delivery of your product or service? How do you monitor customer feedback?
4. Were your performance targets met in 2023? How did you measure this? Did you achieve any expansion/development plans?
5. How did you market your business in 2023 – provide two examples. How did you measure success in your sales/marketing initiatives?
6. Outline any sustainable practices your business implemented in the past year.

The above will be assessed in the context of the size and resources of the business.

In conjunction with your business financial overview, the entrepreneurial characteristics you have in place to monitor performance, financial controls, marketing strategies and sales growth will all be taken into account.

Sustainable Initiatives Award

Objective

To celebrate Tipperary organisations with a track record for best practice in integrated energy management and environmental best practice through technology upgrades, process solutions, or staff engagement.

Criteria:

This award is open to any company, organisation, individual, academia, start-ups, researchers, and inventors that can demonstrate consistent work, investment, and commitment to the conservation of the environment through one or more of the following:

- Reduction in carbon footprint
- Increase in energy efficiency and energy conservation
- Smarter and sustainable travel and transport
- Use of clean fuels/renewables
- Pollution reduction
- Waste management
- Water management
- Environment improvement
- Habitat/biodiversity
- Passive construction/architecture
- Organic farming/agriculture
- Cleaning and laundry product manufacture
- Clean fuels (including Maritime)
- Printing (clean chemicals)
- Manufacturing/best practice

Application Questions:

1. Briefly describe your business, including your vision and mission statement.
2. Demonstrate the uniqueness of your approach to energy and environmental conservation. Detail how it enhances your product and or service offering. How does this approach bring added value to your business performance, productivity, efficiency, customer engagement, staff and/or customer satisfaction?
3. What is your organisation's Energy and Environmental strategy? Briefly outline the organisation's vision for energy conservation and environmental protection for the next three years and outline the measures you intend to introduce to achieve this.
4. Outline the management or quality control systems, formal and informal, that ensure that the environmental conservation activities and standards your organisation has committed to are consistently achieved, monitored, and maintained.
5. Outline details of staff environmental training and development programmes and how the environmental approach of your organisation is fostered across all team members.
6. Outline two or three sales/marketing activities your business undertook in 2023 promoting energy efficiency and environmental conservation. Advise how your approach to environmental conservation has impacted on your success.
7. Highlight the benefits generated by your environmental best practices for the wider community, locally, regionally, or nationally.

8. Showcase details of any collaborative working arrangements, joint ventures, or other initiatives undertaken with other County Tipperary's regional, national, or international businesses, organisations, clubs, societies in the area of sustainability.

The above will be assessed in the context of the size and resources of the business.

In conjunction with your business financial overview, the entrepreneurial characteristics you have in place to monitor performance, financial controls, marketing strategies and sales growth will all be taken into account.

Community Award

Objective

This award will recognise the achievements of individuals or businesses that make an outstanding contribution to their local and/or wider community in terms of social, economic, or environmental improvements.

Criteria:

- Social enterprises (an enterprise that trades for a social/societal purpose and is separate from government)
- Companies excelling in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Note:

- A Social Enterprise is a business that focuses on tackling social problems, strengthening communities, improving people's life chances, or protecting the environment, as opposed to generating income for private individuals or bodies. Profits are reinvested in the business and/or in the community to further the social aims of the enterprise.
- For example, excellence in CSR in the following areas will be recognised:
- Environmental – focusing on eco issues such as climate change
- Community – improving the quality of life for people in the community
- Workplace – improving the wellbeing of staff
- Charity partnership – working with a charity to help in fundraising, promoting or assisting in other areas of their work

Application Questions:

1. Briefly describe your business, including your vision and mission statement.
2. Demonstrate the Social Enterprise nature/CSR ethos of your organisation. As a Social Enterprise, what is unique in terms of your products or services. As a business with a CSR ethos, what value does your CSR engagement add to your business environment, community, workplace, or charity?
3. Showcase details of any collaborative working arrangements, joint ventures, or other initiatives undertaken with other County Wexford regional, national, or international businesses, or social enterprises, organisations, clubs, societies to address and find solutions for a particular issue.
4. Outline your organisation's policies/commitments/investment, formal or informal, that ensure the consistent delivery of your added value service/CSR engagement and how you monitor feedback.
5. Outline two examples of marketing activities your business engaged in to grow your social enterprise/promote your CSR activities in 2023. How did you measure the impact of your work?
6. Outline any sustainable practices your social enterprise implemented in the past year. Or any sustainable practices your CSR activities supported in 2023.

Employer of the Year Award

Objective

This award will go to an organisation demonstrating excellence in employee value proposition (EVP). EVP includes a culture of belonging (including diversity and inclusion), wellbeing, flexibility, skills development and growth.

The award recognises initiatives that support staff retention and talent attraction and an overall high-quality value to employees that benefit the employee and support growth in the business. This award offers a platform to organisations who are growing their teams, one of the top priorities for many organisations in the region.

Criteria

Any Tipperary business can enter. Below are some of the traits that make a best employer?

1. Inspired Leadership
2. Unique Company Culture
3. Focus on Growing Talent
4. Strong Sense of Accountability
5. Aligned HR Practices and Excellent Execution

Questions

1. Briefly describe your business.
2. What is unique about your employee engagement? How do you add value to your business performance, productivity by engaging with your employees?
3. How do you monitor employee feedback?
4. Describe some employee initiatives that are ongoing in your business?

Innovation & Design Award

Objective

This category is for companies that demonstrate true innovation in their business. This could be innovation in a process, product, or business offering. Examples include introducing an innovative new product, launching an innovative new business, or offering an innovative new service.

Criteria

This award is aimed at celebrating any Tipperary business that has designed, implemented and managed an effective infrastructure spanning all business and/or manufacturing processes to result in significant and sustainable success.

Your company may have achieved significant success with a particular product, process or service innovation that has brought about significant performance improvements in the past 12 months.

Questions

Describe how your company has embraced innovative technologies in a new world of digitalisation, so that you are at the cutting edge of technology?

Describe how your business has been innovative, and what differentiates you from your competitors?

