**NATIONAL SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AWARDS 2025**

Please note that applications can only be made via the online application portal, which you can access [here](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=g7nHwUWE8UCP1xbbm1JjP4BF9SeGwqdPv7esLXMHjiNUN1Q4WDhKSVRVTVdQU09HWThKQU84QUcxRy4u). Because the online application form does not allow you to save your application in draft form, you are advised to populate the information on this document first, before copying it into the online application form when you are ready to submit.

Applications must be submitted by 11.59pm on 27th June 2025.

For more information about eligibility, award categories and prizes, and where to go for more information, please refer to the [Call for Applications](https://ildn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/National-Social-Enterprise-Awards-2025-Call-for-Applications.pdf) document.

**Section 1: Details of Your Social Enterprise**

Organisation name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Company number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Charity number (if relevant): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person role: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Selecting a Primary Category**

*Please carefully review the following categories before making your selection.*

***Training, Work Integration, and Life-long Learning*** *- Supporting those that face barriers to employment and/or those who may be experiencing or at risk of unemployment or underemployment, or that face barriers to employment. Examples: Work integration social enterprises, education and training supports for those who may be distant from the labour market.*

***Health and Wellbeing / Services for Children and Older People*** *- Supporting people at all stages of life to live healthier and more active lives. Examples: Sports, leisure, and recreation facilities, health and fitness initiatives, supports for people with disabilities, social and mental health supports, daycare and residential centres for older people, school-age and educational progression supports, addiction services.*

***Retail, Hospitality, and Professional Services*** *- Social enterprises that trade through “high street”-type business such as retail stores and cafes, as well as those in the hospitality and professional services sectors. Examples: Charity shops, community cafes, food, beverage and catering businesses, manufacturers and artisenal producers, hotels and B&Bs, marketing, print and accountancy services.*

***Community Facilities/Infrastructure, Arts and Heritage, and Local Development*** *- Facilities and services that are intended to strengthen the local community from an economic and/or cultural perspective. Examples: Community centres, local development associations, heritage centres, theatre and radio groups, transport services, housing supports, urban regeneration and dereliction.*

***Climate and the environment*** *- Environmental sustainability and sustainable development. Examples: Emissions reduction, marine environment, circular economy, care and repair, biodiversity, anti-litter, animal rescue.*

*The examples given here are indicative only - applicants should select the category that they believe is most appropriate to them. We recognise that some social enterprises will span two or more categories; for example, a care and repair business might generate climate/environment impacts while also being a work integration social enterprise. In such cases, we encourage applicants to select the category in which they believe their impact is greatest.*

*If the judging panel determines that an applicant organisation should be considered within a category other than the one that the applicant has chosen, the judging panel may re-classify the applicant to what it believes to be the more appropriate category.*

Which of the following categories best reflects the focus of your social enterprise? Refer to the guidance provided above for clarification.

\_\_ Training, Work Integration, and Life-long Learning

\_\_ Health and Wellbeing / Services for Children and Older People

\_\_ Retail, Hospitality, and Professional Services

\_\_ Community Facilities/Infrastructure, Arts and Heritage, and Local Development

\_\_ Climate and the environment

**Section 3: Your Work and its Impact**

Outline the main activities of your social enterprise, including its social/environmental mission and its trading/income generation activities. *Max 2,500 characters.*

Provide an overview of the social/environmental impact(s) that your social enterprise has achieved during the past 12-36 months. *Max 4,000 characters.*

Beyond the core activities of your social enterprise, describe any actions that you have taken to make your social enterprise more sustainable. Sustainability could mean environmental sustainability, economic sustainability (e.g., increased trading activity), operational sustainability (new governance arrangements, leadership/succession planning), etc. *Max 4,000 characters.*

*Secondary Category: Up-and-Coming Social Enterprise*

*If your social enterprise was registered on or after 1st July 2023, it will automatically be considered for an award in the Up-and-Coming Social Enterprise category, in addition to the primary category that you have selected already and any other secondary categories that you will be given the option to select later.*

Was your social enterprise registered on or after 1st July 2023?

\_\_ Yes

\_\_ No

*Secondary Category: Buy Social Award* ***(Optional)***

*The Buy Social Award is aimed at social enterprises that provide goods or services that are conventionally delivered on a for-profit basis, thereby creating an opportunity for consumers (be they private, business or state) to use their buying power to generate positive social impact.

If you would like your social enterprise to be considered for this award, please complete the section below. If this is not relevant to your social enterprise, leave this blank and move to the next section.

Please note: Your application will be considered for an award within the primary category that you have chosen, irrespective of whether you opt to complete this section.*

Describe how your social enterprise has enabled clients/consumers to generate a positive social impact through their buying choices.

You may wish to refer here to some of the following: the composition of the market before your social enterprise was founded, the profile of your competitors, the differences (if any) in the products/services that you provide, the type of clients you attract, the motives of those clients, etc. *Max 4,000 characters.*

*Secondary Category: Social Finance Award* ***(Optional)***

*The Social Finance Award, sponsored by Social Finance Ireland, is aimed at social enterprises that have used repayable finance (loans) to help them to grow their impact.

If you would like your social enterprise to be considered for this award, please complete the section below. If this is not relevant to your social enterprise, leave this blank and move to the next section.

Please note: Your application will be considered for an award within the primary category that you have chosen, irrespective of whether you opt to complete this section.*

Explain how the use of social finance has enabled your social enterprise to strengthen or grow its impact.

Please make reference to specific loans/financial products that your social enterprise has used. *Max 4,000 characters.*

**Data Notice**

The National Social Enterprise Awards initiative is being jointly delivered by Local Development Companies Network, The Wheel, Irish Social Enterprise Network and Social Enterprise Republic of Ireland. By submitting an application, you accept that this application will be made available to each of these entities for the purposes of evaluation, or to any third party that may support the evaluation process.