

To the Lord Mayor and
Members of Dublin City Council

Report No. 103/2017
Report of the Chairperson of the Environment
and Strategic Policy Committee



Review of Dublin City Neighbourhoods Competition

At the February 2017 meeting of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee a report was given (copy attached) by Mr. Vincent Norton, Executive Manager, Environment and Transportation Department, on proposed changes to the City Neighbourhoods Competition.

It was proposed that some minor changes to the current competition are introduced in the following areas

- Categories
- Judging Criteria
- Timelines
- Increase in prize fund

It is anticipated that these changes will lead to wider participation in the competition,

The changes to the competition were considered by the Environment Strategic Policy Committee and it was agreed that the report (copy attached) be forwarded to the City Council for noting.

Councillor Naoise Ó'Muirí
Chairperson
Environment Strategic Policy Committee
10th March 2017

Environment and Transportation Department,
Block 2, Floor 6,
Civic Offices,
Dublin 8.

16th February 2017.

To Each Member of the
Environment Strategic Policy Committee

Review of Dublin City Neighbourhoods Competition

The Dublin City Neighbourhoods competition is run by Dublin City Council to acknowledge in a meaningful way the work done across the city by communities to improve and enhance their neighbourhoods.

Following feedback from entrants and the Area Departments a review was undertaken of the competition. A questionnaire was included in the entry form to be completed by participants in the 2016 competition.

Responses to the questionnaire indicated that participants in the competition were satisfied with the manner in which the competition was organised with some suggestions for minor alterations to the categories in the residential competition.

The results were reviewed in conjunction with the Area Depts and other issues identified to be addressed were:

- lack of entries in certain categories.
- Timelines for judging of the schools competition
- judging criteria.

A number of change proposals were recommended to the format of the competition:

Categories

Residential

- Remove the over 300 dwellings category due to lack of entries
- Alter 151 – 300 Dwellings category to Over 150 Dwellings.
- Allotment and Community Garden category to appear as two separate categories to cater for the 2 distinct types of activity

Special

- Include category for Team Dublin Clean-Up Initiative

Business

- Business Environment Initiative and Sustainability Initiative (Water, Conservation/Energy Efficiency) to be incorporated into one category due to lack of entries in distinct categories.

Schools

- Application forms for the Schools competition to be available by end of March to facilitate entries and judging before school term ends

Judging Criteria:

The proposed judging criteria to be as follows:

Residential competition

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Voluntary and Community effort | 50% |
| • Absence of litter / graffiti | 25% |
| • Landscaping / biodiversity (where relevant) | 15% |
| • Overall Impression | 10% |

“Voluntary and Community effort” will include assessment of initiatives in communications, organising of events, clean-ups etc in the local area

Special Categories

Individual Contribution

- Assessment of individual contribution to community environmental initiatives

Team Dublin Clean Up

- Assessment of overall community effort in carrying out a Team Dublin Clean Up event

Prize Fund

Proposed as follows:

- In each category - Winner €1,000, 2nd Place €600 and 3rd Place €300.

The effect of the proposed changes will be:

- to ensure that the categories remain relevant and that entries are maximised in each category
- That judging may be carried out in a manner that provides equal opportunity for all areas of the city to obtain awards.
- The schools competition can be completed during school term
- The prize awards are increased

There is no net increase in funding required as costs in relation to organising the competition and events might have been reduced through carrying out more functions within Dublin City Council in recent years.

The Complete list of categories if approved would be:

Residential

- 1 – 150 Dwellings
- Over 150 Dwellings
- Flat / Apartment Complex
- Senior Citizen Complex
- Garden
- Open Green Space
- Community Environment Initiative
- Allotment
- Community Garden
- Urban Village
- Mixed Use Street

Special Categories

- Individual contribution
- Best New Entry
- Endeavour Award (most improved entry)
- Team Dublin Clean Up Initiative

Business Categories

- Shop Front
- Business Environment and Sustainability Initiative
- Waste Management Initiative

Vincent Norton
Executive Manager