



SE-NEWS

A Newsletter for Social Enterprises in Ireland

Autumn 2024

Welcome to the autumn edition of SE-NEWS, the newsletter for social enterprises in Ireland brought to you by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Our aim is to share information and news of interest to social enterprises, to help build and strengthen the social enterprise community and to share case studies and examples of good practice.

In this edition, we tell you about the winners of the 10th Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards.

We'll also make you aware of the launch of the Third Round of funding under the Dormant Accounts funded Hybrid Social Lending Scheme.

We'll bring you news of the DRCD Sponsored 'Partnering with a Social Enterprise Award' at the Chambers Ireland Sustainable Business Impact Awards 2024.

We'll also tell you about the organisations who have come together to support DRCD with some of the policy actions from 'Trading for Impact' the new social enterprise policy. They're supporting us in organising the 6th National Social Enterprise Conference that takes place on 20th November 2024 in the Printworks, Dublin Castle.

Our regular 'Focus on SE' segment features **Triest Press**, a social enterprise based in Roscommon Town. Their goal is to transform the employment opportunities for people with an intellectual disability.

If you want your social enterprise to be featured in an upcoming issue of SE-News, send an email to senews@drcd.gov.ie and ask for an application form.

The Editor

NOTICE BOARD

DRCD is maintaining a list of supports for social enterprise. The list includes sources of funding, training or advice.

[Supports for Social Enterprise](#)

If you know of any supports available for social enterprise that are not on the list then let us know.

If you are organising any **events or training** in the near future that you think others in the social enterprise community would be interested in, send details to us at senews@drcd.gov.ie.

Social Enterprise in Ireland: A Baseline Data Collection Exercise

Click [HERE](#) to see the full report

DRCD WhatsApp

DRCD has a new WhatsApp channel, you can find it [HERE](#)

Energy Efficiency Grant for Small Business

The aim of this grant is to reduce the impact of enterprises on the environment thereby increasing the agility and resilience of these businesses.

Please see the link [HERE](#) for more details.

Join our Mailing List to receive every issue of SE News directly to your inbox.

Send your email address to senews@DRCD.gov.ie

DUBLIN CITY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AWARDS CELEBRATES ITS 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



September saw the Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2024 take place in the City Hall on Dame Street. Now in its 10th year the awards honoured eight social enterprises for the great work they are doing.

[Aspire Ireland](#)

[Frontline Bikes](#)

[Shannon's Hopeline](#)

[Change Clothes Crumlin](#)

[The Five Lamps Arts Festival](#)

[Cherry Orchard Community Garden](#)

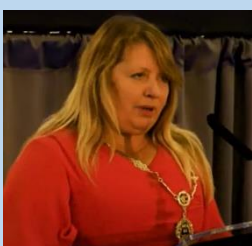
[Change Clothes Crumlin](#)

[The HomeShare](#)

[We Make Good](#)



The issues that the awardee social enterprises are seeking to address include: Sustainability, Unemployment, Low Education Attainment, Diversity, Inclusion, Addiction, Health, Mental Health, Homelessness, Accessibility, Ex-Offender Re-integration and more. As well as addressing these issues, the awardees provide practical help to people who are disadvantaged, distanced from the labour market or distanced from inclusion in their local communities.



Speaking at the awards, the Deputy Lord Mayor of Dublin, Donna Cooney, said:

"The eight social enterprises represented here this evening have embarked down the road less travelled. Despite much

prosperity across the country many still face conditions that have made it increasingly difficult to operate as an enterprise. Despite this, these social enterprises have continued to deliver services and supports for

individuals and communities. As each of these social enterprises uses the award funding and supports to develop in the future, I greatly look forward to hearing about them growing and increasing their impact."



Bairbre Nic Aongusa, Assistant Secretary with the Department of Rural and Community Development, gave the keynote address at the event:

"These awards provide an important showcase to highlight the inspirational work carried out by social enterprises. Social enterprises are helping to address many of the key issues affecting society while providing employment, opportunities and positive impact.

These awards align closely with 'Trading for Impact' the second national social enterprise policy, which was designed to cultivate and sustain a strong and impactful social enterprise sector in Ireland that enriches the social, environmental, and economic wellbeing of our communities."

This year saw the introduction of a new and special award category; The 'Nancy Ward Circular Economy Dublin City Social Enterprise Award'. This award is presented by [The Entrepreneurs Academy](#), to honour their colleague and friend, Nancy Ward, who sadly passed away in April 2023.

Nancy was a social entrepreneur as founder of a circular fashion social enterprise, and an extremely passionate advocate for entrepreneur education and development. In Nancy's name with this annual award, The Entrepreneurs Academy commit to nurturing the development of recipients through financial support of €5,000 and a package of mentoring support delivered by their team of topic experts across entrepreneurship, leadership and strategic growth. The Nancy Ward Circular Economy award was won by Change Clothes Crumlin.

Highlights of the event can be found [HERE](#).

THIRD CALL ANNOUNCED FOR HYBRID SOCIAL FINANCE LENDING SCHEME

The Hybrid Social Finance Loan is a recent addition to financial instruments in Ireland that aims to support social enterprises to develop a credit record and enhance their financial sustainability. It provides a mix of a loan that must be paid back (interest rate applicable), along with a non-repayable loan (cash support) and business supports. To be eligible, social enterprises must be first-time borrowers and meet all eligibility criteria.

The initiative is administered by Rethink Ireland and supported by Community Finance Ireland and DRCD using Dormant Accounts funding. DRCD has committed €890,000 for this Fund. In addition, Community Finance Ireland are providing approximately €500,000 in repayable loans.

Applications opened on a rolling basis on September 27th, 2024. This means there is no specific deadline for applying, however we encourage social enterprises to apply early as we will close for applications once all the funds have been allocated. A total of €550,000 is available for loans (combining repayable and non-repayable loans) for Round 3.

Further details and instructions on how to apply can be found [HERE](#).

MAKING AN IMPACT AT CHAMBERS IRELAND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS IMPACT AWARDS

On 25th September, the Chambers Ireland Sustainable Business Impact Awards took place in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, in Santry, Dublin.

These Awards showcase best practice in sustainable development and social responsibility undertaken by companies of all sizes across Ireland. The UN Sustainable Development Goals are at the heart of these Awards, celebrating sustainable business practices and championing Chambers Ireland's alignment with the Goals.

DRCD sponsor the 'Partnering with a Social Enterprise' category at the awards, this year's winners are John Paul Construction for their partnership with [Inner City Enterprise](#) (ICE) in refurbishing their new enterprise hub in Dublin, 'The Hub on the Hill'.



Pictured: Ian Talbot - CEO Chambers Ireland, Deirdre Kearney - DRCD, Liam Kenny - Managing Director of John Paul Construction, Evanne Kilmurray - CEO of Inner City Enterprises, Alasdair Henderson - BAM Executive Director Ireland.

The other nominees for the category were ALDI Ireland for ALDI Ireland's partnership with [Too Good To Go](#) (TGTG) and McCann FitzGerald LLP for their partnership with [the Shona Project](#).

ORGANISATIONS TO SUPPORT 'TRADING FOR IMPACT' POLICY ACTIONS ANNOUNCED

DRCD are pleased to announce the organisations who won the contract to support us in rolling out a number of policy actions from 'Trading for Impact', the second National Social Enterprise Policy.

The successful consortium consisting of Social Enterprise Republic of Ireland (SERI), Irish Local Development Network (ILDN), Irish Social Enterprise Network (ISEN) and the Wheel are already hard at work providing support to the Department in organising the 6th National Social Enterprise Conference that will take place in Dublin Castle on 20 November 2024.

They will also support the running of the National Social Enterprise Conference in 2025, a number of networking events to take place around the country, a Social Enterprise Awards event in 2025, and in administering a pilot transition year programme to promote social enterprise to young people.

6th NATIONAL SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CONFERENCE TO TAKE PLACE IN DUBLIN CASTLE.

Preparations are well underway for the hosting of the 6th National Social Enterprise Conference, which this year takes place in the Printworks Conference Centre at Dublin Castle on Wednesday 20th November 2024. As mentioned above, DRCD is being supported in delivering this year's conference by a consortium of social enterprise networks and support organisations.



Click [HERE](#) to register for the event. Tickets have sold out for the live event, however you can still join our waiting list, or register to attend the event virtually.

FOCUS on SE



Triest Press is a great example of a business that works primarily to improve the lives of people. Through their design and printing enterprise Triest Press aim to support people with intellectual disabilities gain employment, and so much more.



In 1987, Triest Press began as a humble operation focusing on copying services and hand finishing print works from commercial printers. The idea was born out of the expressed desire for local employment opportunities from service users of the Brothers of Charity Services. Triest Press currently employs 5 full-time staff, 18 part-time and there are 2 volunteers.

As staff members became more skilled and experienced Triest Press evolved into a digital print service in its own right and in 2009 it registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee. Since then it has evolved into a multi award winning print and design house servicing a national client base.



Staff members are supported to reach their career goals through a Person-Centred Planning approach. This includes training and additional support where appropriate, along with providing responsibilities that align with the individual's interests. Supported staff members with the required experience are given roles as Peer Support workers whereby they provide

mentoring to other staff members with disabilities. During an employee survey we asked supported staff members what having a job meant for them and the answers we received were – making money, making friends and learning new things. The same reason, I imagine, every one of us values our working lives but many living with a disability are denied.



Triest Press specialise in traditional print and hand finishing methods long forgotten by commercial printers. They hold on to these practices for two reasons; they believe it is a lost art form and it provides work and training opportunities for our staff and participants. They also embrace modern technology, so marry their traditional methods with state-of-the-art digital print presses, software and equipment. Together, this results in a unique end product with that human touch. Their products span from business stationary and paper-based printing of all kinds to digitally printed clothing, branding and merchandise. They utilise green print practises at every opportunity using recycled materials, water and vegetable-based inks as well as repurposed packaging. Their design services are bespoke to their customer's needs and no request for print or design is too much to ask for.

They believe every individual regardless of ability has the right to access local employment and the Triest Press model provides a real solution to the lack of opportunities in other areas. Print as a medium requires, creativity, hand eye coordination, attention to detail and problem-solving skills. Along with these transferable skills, employees also train in all aspects of the business including Customer Service, basic design skills and administration. As part of their long-term goals, they envision replicating their model throughout Ireland.

CONTACT DETAILS

Triest Press

Athlone Road, Ardsallagh More, Roscommon
Town, Co. Roscommon F42AX24

Telephone: 090 6627500

Email: Deborah@triestpress.ie

Website: www.triestpress.ie

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