


Social Inclusion

- Age Friendly
- Travelling Community
- LGBTQ+
- Youth
- Minority Groups



Please read the Social Inclusion category information document and the Terms & Conditions document before completing this application form.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm Friday 22nd May 2026

Applicant Details & Contact Information

Contact Person:

Phone Number: Email:

Address Details

Address:

Eircode

Municipal District	Ashbourne <input type="radio"/>	Kells <input type="radio"/>	Laytown/Bettystown <input type="radio"/>
	Navan <input type="radio"/>	Ratoath <input type="radio"/>	Trim <input type="radio"/>

Name of Group/Organisation:

Please give details of group social media/website pages:

Please be aware that this application form will be used for a desktop assessment. The information provided will help determine whether an in-person adjudication will take place as part of the next stage of the competition. Therefore, please include as much detail as possible and include at least two good-quality photographs.

Group Background & Achievements

Please describe your group (minimum 20 words)

Community Impact

How has your club, group, or organisation promoted Social Inclusion and benefited your community over the past 12 months? (minimum 100 words)

10 horizontal grey rounded rectangular bars for text entry.

Activities & Achievements

What key activities, projects, or initiatives have you delivered in the last year, and what difference have they made? (minimum 100 words)

10 horizontal grey rounded rectangular bars for text entry.

Please include a minimum of 2 photographs

Signature & Declaration

I have read the Category Guidelines and Terms & Conditions and I certify that the information provided on this form is a true and fair representation of this organisation's/group's position.

Signed: _____

Name (Block Capitals): _____ Date: _____

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Social Inclusion

This award recognises clubs, groups, and organisations that actively reduce social exclusion, enhance wellbeing, and build stronger, more connected communities. It celebrates initiatives that foster belonging, inclusion, and participation among diverse groups, including older adults, people with disabilities, young people, ethnic minorities, the Travelling community, and LGBTQ+ individuals.

Projects considered include but are not limited to the following:

- Best Youth-Led Project – celebrating initiatives led by young people that make a positive impact in their communities.
- Best Age-Friendly Initiative – recognising projects that promote intergenerational connection and support older community members.
- Best Community Group – honouring groups that bring people together to strengthen local connections.
- Best Diversity and Inclusion Project – celebrating initiatives that promote equality, representation, and belonging across all communities, including minority, LGBTQ+, and Traveller groups.

Social Inclusion Award – Marking Scheme (Total: 100 Marks)

- Impact – 30 Marks
- Inclusion & Diversity – 25 Marks
- Innovation – 15 Marks
- Sustainability – 15 Marks
- Community Engagement – 15 Marks

Terms & Conditions

Eligibility and Applications

- Each applying group must clearly outline its purpose, highlighting current or recent activities, achievements, and the impact of these activities on the local and wider community. This should include, where relevant, the group's level of local participation and volunteerism.
- The minimum word count specified beside each field must be met. Applicants are encouraged to provide as much relevant information as possible to assist adjudicators in fully understanding the group's work and impact. Forms that do not meet the required word count will be deemed ineligible.
- Each application form must include at least two photographs that represent the group's activities or achievements. Applications without the required photographs will be considered incomplete.
- Incomplete applications will be returned for completion, these must be returned before the closing date. Each application will undergo a desktop adjudication to determine whether an in-person adjudication will take place.
- Late applications will not be accepted. The closing date for receipt of applications is 5 pm on Friday 22nd May 2026

Conditions and Guidelines

- Groups may apply for two categories plus a Volunteer of the Year nomination or a Junior Helping Hero award. A separate application form must be submitted for each entry.
- Participating groups are expected to be inclusive, participative, and accessible in their structure and operations.
- Only not-for-profit community or voluntary groups are eligible to apply. Commercial organisations and individuals are not eligible.
- Adjudication will take place in June, July, and August 2026, Monday to Friday during business hours.
- Judging dates for selected applications will be arranged at least two weeks in advance, and every effort will be made to accommodate groups with a suitable date and time.
- A group representative must be available to meet with the adjudicator on the judging day. Failure to do so may result in the application being excluded from consideration.
- The contact person and address listed on the application form will be used for all correspondence regarding the application.
- Judging may occur either in person or over the phone. Each entry will be evaluated individually, so multiple meetings may be required.

Meath County Council and Data Protection

- Meath County Council implements this initiative in line with the public sector equality and human rights duty, seeking projects that reflect the values of dignity, inclusion, and democracy as outlined in its Equality and Human Rights Values Statement, available at www.meath.ie.
- Information provided is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Acts. If any information supplied is considered sensitive, the applicant should specify the reasons for its sensitivity. Applicants will be consulted prior to any release of such information.
- The 'Applicant Details and Contact Information' section must be completed for correspondence purposes. This personal information will not be shared with third parties. Applications will be retained by Meath County Council for the duration of the programme plus one year.