

***National Enterprise Awards 2017***

***Eligibility Criteria***

* Applicants must be current clients of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Louth or transferred to Enterprise Ireland within the last 12 months;
* All applicant businesses must employ ten or less employees;
* All applicant businesses must have been in receipt of direct LEO supports under one or more of the following interventions:
  + Grant aid
  + Mentoring Programme
  + Trading Online Voucher Scheme
  + Participation on LEO Management Development Programme e.g. Accelerate
  + MicroFinance Ireland Scheme
* Two hard copies of the Application Form, a Business Plan, together with the most recent financial statements are MANDATORY.
* The following awards will be announced and presented at the County Louth Final on Friday March 17th 2017.
  + Best Start Up Business Award
  + Best Established Business Award
  + The Innovation Award
  + Overall Winner
* The Overall Winner will go forward to represent County Louth at the National Final. Judging for the National Finals will take place at the ***Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone, Co. Roscommon*** on **Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March** and **Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th April, 2017**.
* The National winners will be announced at an evening event on May 25th 2017 in ***The Round Room, Mansion House, Dublin City*.** There will be no short-listing this year
* **CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 5.00pm FRIDAY FEBRUARY 17th 2017**
* **APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:**
* **Local Enterprise Office Louth - NEA AWARDS**

**Town Hall**

**Crowe Street**

**Dundalk**

**Co. Louth**

**Please mark PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**