

Here we showcase the 2019 winners of the special award for waste prevention.

## Dromiskin Tidy Towns – National Winner

Dromiskin is a village in county Louth with a population of about 1,200. Dromiskin Tidy Towns showcased an excellent example of community engagement and action. The group initially surveyed its community to identify what to do in the area of sustainability. With an 80% response rate, and carried out across all social sectors, it gave a clear picture of where the community was at in terms of household behaviours and helped to prioritise practical actions that could be taken to improve its sustainability.

### Some of the outcomes included:

- The lack of a brown bin service for over two thirds of residents was identified. Waste providers were followed up with to get the service made available.
- After identifying that almost half of the residents compost they obtained a grant to bulk buy composting units and sell at a discount to those who were interested.
- A similar actions was taken for rainwater harvesting. They arranged to buy water butts in bulk and provide them at a subsidised cost to those interested.

### Various other initiatives carried included:

Energy surveys, installing LED lights on a local walkway, energy retrofit in the school, clothes collection days, an outdoor library, a poster-free election, water butts, and perennial planting.

