



# Waterford's Joe Hendry receives major entrepreneurship award

Waterford man Joe Hendry has been honoured with a Social Entrepreneurs Ireland award, presented at a ceremony in Dublin.

Mr Hendry received the award for establishing the 'Father Quality Mark' (FQM), an Award for agencies - or services within an agency - demonstrating good practice in working with fathers.

Already a service in the UK, Joe is setting up the FQM in Ireland to translate the growing awareness about the important roles fathers play in children's lives into practical policies and services.

The annual awards, supported by NTR, were held to honour 38 exceptional individuals

from all over the country for their work in tackling social problems throughout Ireland.

Speaking at the awards, Jim Barry, NTR Chief Executive said: "I cannot think of a more fitting partnership for us than Social Entrepreneurs Ireland.

NTR's entrepreneurial culture has been the bedrock of our significant growth and success across our renewable energy and recycling markets.

"What is particularly appealing for us in this partnership is the tangible way in which Social Entrepreneurs Ireland supports those who have the vision and are prepared to take risks to fulfil their

ambition for fundamental social change in Ireland."

The winners, who showed outstanding innovation in their communities, were honoured at the ceremony where two levels of awards were presented. Of the 38 winners, eight were honoured in Level Two (highest award) and 30 were honoured in Level One (early stages of development).

"Given the current turbulence in the financial markets and our slide into recession and cutbacks, state support for vitally needed services has and will continue to come under unprecedented pressure and as always, it is the most vulnerable in our society

who suffer the most," said Social Entrepreneurs CEO Sean Coughlan.

"Social entrepreneurs are filling an increasingly important role in solving social issues, they have stepped up to the mark, and are actively making a difference and igniting change.

"Social entrepreneurs are by definition entrepreneurs; they take risks, they are passionate and resourceful in what they do. They offer a vital role within our communities and they are truly exceptional individuals that need to be encouraged as well as congratulated."

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*Joe Hendry receives his Social Entrepreneurs Ireland award from Sean Coughlan, Chief Executive of Social Entrepreneurs Ireland.*