



Inaugural Fórsa Members National Awards Winners 2024

We are proud of the contributions our members make to the union, members who time and again surprise us with their ability to find new and inspired ways of doing things. Through these awards we hope to highlight new ideas and methods for building a stronger, more durable union.

An external panel of judges reviewed all applications, which were submitted by Branch Committees. Below is the list of winners, and the rationale provided by the judging panel.

Judging panel

Mark Keane, President of PDFORRA, & Louise Dermody, AHCPs.

Branch effectiveness award: Fiona Baskett (Longford Health & Local Government)

Fiona has demonstrated a long and very productive association with her local union branch. She has clearly invested herself in every level and every aspect of the branch, and most importantly the needs of the members which are to the forefront of what they do as a union. Suffice to say that Fiona has demonstrated a very determined mindset and leads at every stage by example.

Organisation Award: Caoimhín Ó Tuathail (Department of Rural and Community Development Executive Grades)

Caoimhín has demonstrated that he's a very efficient chair and has maintained open lines of communication with all relevant stakeholders. He has demonstrated on many occasions that he's proactive as opposed to being reactive. He executes the role of chairman in a very positive way.

Community champion award: Trish Tobin (National Education & Training Board Branch)

Trish has dedicated herself to the betterment of the students, staff members, and wider education community. This has had a positive impact on all those who are invested in providing the highest standards.



Recruitment award: Daniel Langan (IALPA)

Daniel has clearly demonstrated all the attributes associated with a Union Official, such as resilience, determination, leadership, and compassion. Also considered was the fact that he has stayed the course in terms of taking a claim from its infancy and bringing it to a successful conclusion.

Outstanding pandemic response award: Christina Nestor (School Completion Programme Branch)

Christina has demonstrated exceptional resolve in the delivery of the "Mind the Gap" programme, which has proven to be an invaluable resource in assisting young students to transit seamless from primary school to post primary. Despite the onset of Covid 19, this has shaped future generations in no small way.

Campaigning award: Linda O'Sullivan (NDNL SNA Branch)

It's safe to say that Linda has shone a light on a personal experience and has given those who didn't have a voice an opportunity to be heard. This in turn has allowed for the introduction of domestic violence leave across the public sector. This is a very welcome development and most importantly will be of immense benefit to many people in a vulnerable situation.

Delivering for Members award: Stephen O'Hare (Meath Health & Local Government)

Stephen has been a constant presence in the Union movement over many years. He has evolved and equipped himself with the changes that have occurred over that time. He has garnered a vast amount of knowledge and expertise in the process. Stephen is seen as a linchpin of the wider union community.