**Social Care Ireland Outstanding Contribution Award 2020**

The aim of the Social Care Ireland Outstanding Contribution Award is to recognise and reward the outstanding contribution and performance of a social care worker, manager or educator. The principles of fairness and transparency will apply in the implementation of the Social Care Ireland Outstanding Contribution Award.

**Eligibility**

The Social Care Ireland Outstanding Contribution Award is open to Social Care Ireland Members and Non-members within the Republic of Ireland.

**Nomination**

Awards will be presented annually at the Social Care Ireland Conference. Nominations must be submitted on the nomination form and can be submitted by service users, colleagues, members of the public or any relevant stakeholder. Teams or groups may be nominated (please see Award below).

**Assessment**

The Assessment panel will be comprised of three members of the Social Care Ireland Conference Committee and shall include one social care educator representative, one social care worker representative and one social care manager representative.

To facilitate the assessment of nominations, the panel may independently verify, clarify or seek further information from any relevant stakeholder as it sees fit.

**Award**

One award will be presented every year. Awards may be presented to an individual or to a team/group or organisation. Regardless of the number of individuals in a team/group or organisation, only one award will be presented and, as such, individual team/group or organisation members will not receive individual awards.

**Criteria**

The Assessment panel will assess nominations on the following criteria:

Creativity and innovation.

Commitment and sustainability.

Advancement and enhancement of social care work.

The assessors will consider nominations against the following criteria:

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| **Criterion** | **Description** |
| Creativity and innovation | Creativity and innovation may include, but is not limited to, the introduction or enhancement of dynamic and imaginative interventions, activities, events, research or service improvements that contribute to the continuity, consistency or quality of care delivered in a manner that contributes positively to the lives of services users, colleagues, the working or educational environment or the profile of social care work. |
| Commitment and sustainability and scalability. | Commitment, sustainability and scalability may relate to the individual, team/group or organisation or to the work that they have developed and advanced that has made an outstanding contribution to the continuity, consistency or quality of care delivered or to the working or educational environment or the profile of social care work. Sustainability and scalability will be particular considerations, as the longevity and expansion of outstanding contributions facilitate their integration into practice more generally. |
| Advancement and enhancement of social care work. | Advancement and enhancement of social care work may include, but is not limited to, any activity that contributes positively to the lives of services users, the working or educational environment of social care or that positively raises the profile of social care work amongst the public, regulators, organisations, policy-makers or any other relevant stakeholder(s). |

**Announcement**

The recipient of the Social Care Ireland Outstanding Contribution Award will be contacted in advance of the Annual Social Care Ireland Conference and will be invited to attend the conference and to be presented with the award by the Chair of the Social Care Ireland Conference Committee.

**Nature of Awards**

The recipient or recipients will receive a personalised memento as a permanent token of recognition for their contribution. Additionally, there will be 1 overnight stay for the recipient and/or each member of a team/group or organisation (maximum of 4), during the annual Conference.

**Management and Review**

The Social Care Ireland Outstanding Contribution Award will be managed by the Chair of the Social Care Ireland Conference Committee. The award will be reviewed, as required, and will be modified in accordance with changing circumstances and requirements. The Assessment Committee’s decision is binding and no discussion or correspondence will be entered into unless approved by the Social Care Ireland Conference Committee.