

The National Enterprise Town Awards: Dunboyne

We are profiling all the towns to enter this year's [National Enterprise Town Awards](#). Today we are looking at Dunboyne in Co Meath.

Dunboyne is a town based in Co Meath, close to the Dublin border, with population of 7,272. Its two train stations and direct access to the M3, M50 corridor and Dublin Airport, make it a transport rich location.

Dunboyne's history stretches back to ancient times. It's Gaelic name Dún Búinne indicates it was the fort of Bui who was the wife of the god Lugh.

Dunboyne was home to many people who fought for and against British rule in the Irish Rebellion in 1798. During the War of Independence, the town was division headquarters to the Irish Republican Army 1st Eastern Division, a unit formed in April 1921 under divisional commander Seán Boylan.

Dunboyne was a village up until the 1990s when a series of housing estates were built which rapidly increased the town's population. The town has many protected structures and a landscaped village centre with a landscape conservation plan.

The town has four primary schools, one secondary school and the Dunboyne College of Further Education. Dunboyne is home to the Bracetown and Dunboyne Business Parks and has enviable proximity to Dublin Enterprise Zone.

Collaboration is very strong in the town between local businesses and community groups including the Tidy Town committee. A clear example of this is when Supervalu opened its new premises in April 2019, and has already contributed to the local community by sponsorship St Peters ladies GAA. Sporting clubs are an integral and crucial part of Dunboyne community and work collaboratively sharing their facilities for the local good.

Dunboyne Business Association founded in 2016 has had a number of events based around important prevailing issues including GDPR, social media for business and public speaking. The association has also been central to promoting the shop local initiative at Christmas. Dunboyne Business Association also supports event held by the Meath chamber. More recently, a number of Brexit breakfast events have been held in Dunboyne Castle Hotel by public representatives.

Meath County Council's economy strategy has resulted in a number of high-profile businesses establishing in the area including Takeda, AVOCA and Facebook.

Facebook launched their community action scheme for local community groups in 2018 and

recently awarded Dunboyne grants totalling €150k. Takeda will also be launching a community action scheme which the town will benefit from.

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Image: Twitter @Dunboyne