

# Three Northern Ireland companies named as new entrants on best managed list

A mineral processor, a building façade manufacturer, and a waste management company – all from Northern Ireland – have been named as new entrants in a list of the best managed companies on the island of Ireland.

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Best Managed Companies Awards, led by Deloitte in association with Bank of Ireland, saw Larne-based Kilwaughter Minerals, Clarke from Ballymena; and Newry-headquartered waste management group Re-Gen Waste pick up the Best Managed Companies title for the first time.

The award “recognises excellence in Irish and Northern Irish owned and managed companies” and recognises 136 companies, including nine new entrants.

In addition to the nine entrants and those that have requalified as a Best Managed Company, 10 companies achieved Gold Standard, including Belfast hospitality group Beannchor and Co Tyrone manufacturer Northern Hydraulics, who have secured Best Managed Company status for four consecutive years. Nine companies were awarded Platinum Standard, including Bangor-based Denroy and Derry companies Learning Pool and Combined Facilities Management, who have won recognition seven years in a row.

Deloitte said the network of companies who hold the Best Managed title have a combined turnover of €13.9 billion and provide over 51,000 jobs across a range of sectors – from retail and hospitality to manufacturing and construction.

It said the evaluation looks at the entire management team and business strategy, looking beyond financial performance at

areas such as a company's environmental, social and governance standards, strategic planning and talent strategy.

"Year-on-year we're impressed by the businesses that qualify and requalify for our Best Managed Companies Awards and this year the entries continued to raise the bar," Aisléan Nicholson, Lead Partner for the Best Managed Companies Awards Programme at Deloitte in Belfast said. "Despite the challenges these businesses faced, the management teams of the winning companies have embraced new opportunities for innovation and growth, offering best-in-class products and services to their customers and retaining their competitive advantage in a changing world."

Nikki Canavan, Senior Director, Bank of Ireland Corporate Banking, said it had been a challenging year for companies throughout Ireland.

"The performance of these Best Managed Companies throughout the pandemic and these more recent headwinds is a testament to the energy, resilience and skills of their respective management teams and staff who have all been resolutely tested in ways we could not have predicted over the last few years," she said. "Bank of Ireland has been delighted to be able to support them through this year, as their Bank in many cases and also through our Coaches on the BMC programme."