

Focus on: National Fintech Awards 2023



Best Payment Solution Award: Oli Cavanagh, chief executive, Stripepay, and Charles Dowd, co-founder and chief product officer, Stripepay, with Patricia Callan, director of Financial Services Ireland Group and head of sectors, Ibec



Best Digital Banking Solution Award: Brendan McCann, communications & marketing manager, Guaranteed Irish, presenting Feargal Brady, founder and chief executive of NoFriction with the award for Best Digital Banking Solution



Best Insurance Technology Award: Hilary Moran, chief executive, The Fintech Corridor (centre), presenting Aidan O'Neill, chief executive of DOCOsoft, and colleagues with the Best Insurance Technology Award



Regional Fintech Company of the Year Award: Michael Browne, senior development adviser (financial services), Enterprise Ireland, presenting Fidelma McGuirk, founder and chief executive, Payslip, and her leadership team with the award for Regional Fintech Company of the Year



Fintech Investor of the Year: Joanna Murphy, chief executive of Taxback, presenting Ellen McCance Pinschmidt, venture partner, and Patrick Pinschmidt, general partner of MiddleGame Ventures, with their award



Best Wealth Management Solution Award: Niall Faherty, policy and economic analyst with Banking & Payments Federation Ireland presenting the Nazare Point Team with the award for Best Wealth Management Solution

A testament to the strength of Irish Fintech

The inaugural National Fintech Awards in association with GRID Foundation were held at the Round Room in the Mansion House, Dublin last Thursday.

Hosted by well-known fintech leader and founder of Fintech Ireland, Peter Oakes, the awards were launched this year to celebrate the innovation and success of home-grown Irish Fintechs.

Attended by over 300 guests, the awards recognised those who have been invested in building a better financial system in Ireland, across 15 categories. The awards provided a much-needed platform to highlight the very best in bank technology transformation, public policy, fintech advisory and game-changing financial technology. The

evening concluded with three pinnacle awards for Fintech Pioneer of the Year, Fintech Company of the Year and the Outstanding Achievement Award.

The awards were judged by a panel of industry experts, including:

- Lesley Tully, founder/chief executive, Penny FS
- Brid O'Connell, chief executive, Guaranteed Irish
- Charlie Taylor, technology and innovation editor, Business Post
- Derek Foley Butler, chief executive of GRID Finance and chairman of the GRID Foundation
- Michael Browne, senior development

adviser, Financial Services, Enterprise Ireland

- Patricia Callan, director of Financial Services Ireland (FSI) Group and head of sectors, Ibec
- Sarah-Jane Larkin, director general, Irish Venture Capital Association

The event was organised by iQuest & Business Post and sponsored by William Fry, Taxback, Fidelity Investments and GRID Finance. The Outstanding Achievement Award was presented to Colm Lyon, chief executive and founder, Fire. Colm, a seasoned expert with over three decades of experience in the financial services and technology sectors, has been a driving force in shaping

the landscape of fintech in Ireland. As the founder and chief executive of Realex, and subsequently Fire Financial Services, his visionary approach and commitment to innovation have not only propelled his own businesses but have also played a crucial role in the broader fintech ecosystem in Ireland and abroad.

Chair of GRID Foundation and the awards, Derek Foley Butler, noted: "The judging panel were delighted to recognise Colm, not just for achievement in Fintech but also for his contribution to policy, thought leadership and helping the next generation of founders and startups. His leadership truly deserved the recognition received last night by the Fintech Community."

National Fintech Awards and Summit director Laura Dunlop was pleased with how the awards ceremony went.

"The Business Post & iQuest are honoured to be facilitating an event that supports and acknowledges the achievements of innovators in the fintech sector and provides a platform for these incredible Irish leaders to celebrate their hard work and successes," Dunlop said.

"It is in this same vein that we will be holding the Fintech Summit in April 2024 to continue to drive the dialogue around growth, scale and investment for the Irish fintech sector."

www.fintechawards.ie



Best Crypto, Blockchain or Digital Asset Offering: Defactor Labs' Team celebrating their award for Best Crypto, Blockchain or Digital Asset Offering



Best Fintech Lending Solution Award: The Linked Finance team with their award for Best Fintech Lending Solution



Fintech Professional Adviser of the Year: Billy Kelly, Kilcullen Capital, presenting William Fry's fintech group with their award



Best Regtech Solution Award: Laura Dunlop, director of the National Fintech Awards, presenting team CalQRisk with their award



Public Servant of the Year Award: Winner Mai Santamaria of the Department of Finance with Lesley Tully, chief executive and founder, Penny FS



Outstanding Achievement Award: Derek Foley Butler, chief executive and chairman of the Grid Foundation, presenting the Outstanding Achievement Award to Colm Lyon, chief executive and founder, Fire



Fintech Company of the Year: Gary Conroy, chief product officer, and Sinead Fitzmaurice, chief executive of TransferMate Global Payments, with their award presented by John Ruane, Ireland regional leader and vice-president operations & services group at Fidelity Investments

National Fintech Award Winners	
Best Payment Solution Award	Fintech Diversity Champion of the Year
• Stripepay	• Mo Harvey, founder and chief executive, TRIBE Fintech
Best Digital Banking Solution Award	Fintech Professional Advisor of the Year
• NoFriction	• William Fry
Best Insurance Technology Award	Best Regtech Solution Award
• DOCOsoft	• CalQRisk
Regional Fintech Company of the Year	Public Servant of the Year Award
• Payslip	• Mai Santamaria – Department of Finance
Fintech Investor of the Year - sponsored by Taxback	Fintech Pioneer of the Year - sponsored by William Fry
• Middlegame Ventures	• Joe Morley – TrueLayer
Best Wealth Management Solution Award	Fintech Company of the Year - sponsored by Fidelity Investments
• Nazaré Point	• TransferMate
Best Crypto, Blockchain or Digital Asset Offering	Outstanding Achievement Award
• Defactor Labs	• Colm Lyon, founder and chief executive, Fire
Best Fintech Lending Solution Award sponsored by GRID Finance	
• Linked Finance	



Fintech Pioneer of the Year Award: John O'Connor, partner, William Fry's Technology Group, presenting Joe Morley, vice-president & general manager Europe, TrueLayer, with his award