



The continuing appeal of "The People's Building"

Stewart Construction

It is not the first time that the quality of Roscommon County Council Civic Offices has been recognised for its architecture and construction.

It's latest double win at the Fit Out Awards, held last week the 3rd of November at Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, Dublin was for the high standard of its fit out with it winning Best Public Sector Fit Out and Best Sustainable Fit Out categories.

This sees the elegant and contemporary concrete structure collecting a total of eight awards to date to include the prestigious RTA Irish Architecture Awards and Irish Design and Build Awards.

'The People's Building', as it is commonly referred to has also been considered successful at first stage assessment of The Civic Trust's Regional Finalists out of 247 applications. The Civic Trust Awards scheme was established in 1959 to recognise outstanding architecture, planning and design in the built environment. Regional Finalists will now be reviewed by the Civic Trust Awards and AABC National Panels who will consider them for a National/International Award or Commendation.

The client, Roscommon County Council and their project team which included

ABK Architects, Stewart Construction and PM Group all recognise the importance of delivering a civic building of this high standard in regional towns. 'The People's Building' has greatly enhanced the civic character of the town incorporating and complimenting the existing protected structures and landmark buildings such as the courthouse. The project also boasts a BREEAM Excellent Standard, which is one of the highest internationally recognised environmental ratings a building can achieve and giving Roscommon Town an opportunity to set the benchmark standard for civic buildings across the country.

Rachael Stewart, Business Development Director with Stewart Construction said that "Roscommon Civic Offices afforded us the opportunity to work with talented consultants such as ABK Architects and PM Group and to deliver another high end sustainable building aligning with our vision of remaining a leader in sustainable construction. The fact that it has been recognised by so many national bodies is outstanding for all involved and not least Roscommon County Council and the people of Roscommon availing of the building."

The construction sector continues to grow steadily throughout the country. Having grown from the West, Stewart Construction continues to expand nationwide with a key presence now well established in the Dublin market delivering large commercial office projects for investment bodies such as Green REIT and IPUT and

international clients such as SAP and GRIFOLS.

Growth in employment in this industry is a direct reflection of the increase in construction projects throughout the country. Employment figures in this sector have risen by 8.7% this year, the second highest growth rate among all sectors in Ireland.

Stewart further added "it is great to see the industry regain confidence and allow companies to invest in the future by investing in talented teams delivering high calibre projects for a diverse pool of indigenous and multinational clients".

Stewart has been successful at a number of other awards this year being named Contractor of the Year 2016 at the Irish Construction Industry Awards and a Deloitte Best Managed Company 2016.

They brought home four awards from this year's Irish Design and Build Awards including a further two for Roscommon County Council Headquarters and one each for Grifols International Logistics Centre in Grange Castle and the large scale refurbishment of Knock Basilica. And finally, were runner's-up in the Irish Property Excellence Awards and the BIM Innovation Awards just recently.

Stewart continue to push the boundaries, establishing new industry benchmarks in construction and performance and identifying areas of innovation within the built environment. One of the top 15 Irish Contractors, the company's portfolio is growing steadily with projects of up to €70 million delivered for some of Ireland's most prestigious clients. This can only be expected to grow further as they reap the benefits of the incline in the sector and continue to build their reputation in the Eastern region. ■



Presentation of Roscommon County Council Headquarters Fit Out Award - Best Public Fit Out at the Double Tree by Hilton, Dublin 24th November 2016. L-R: Matt Farrelly, PM Group, John Parker, ABK, Sean & Rachael Stewart, Stewart Construction, Award Sponsor, CRM Interiors Fit Out.