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### **TIDY N.I. & COOKSTOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL – TIDY BUSINESS AWARDS**

One Gold award winner was among the 10 businesses in Cookstown to receive Tidy Business awards at the recent awards ceremony held at Cookstown District Council.

Cookstown District Council are delighted with the success of their first year pilot of the Tidy Northern Ireland Scheme in which 10 local businesses took part. There was one Gold, 6 Silver and 3 Bronze award winners:

*Kee Clothing (Gold); The Streat (Silver); Falls Pharmacy (Silver); Sheehy's (Silver); McGovern Opticians (Silver); Penny Farthing (Silver); Thompson Footwear (Silver); Portfolio (Bronze); Boots Chemist (Bronze); Alliance & Leicester plc (Bronze)*

"We are pleased at the number of businesses who took up the challenge in this year's Tidy Business Scheme. These businesses have shown commitment to improving the visual appearance of their local environment, thereby making Cookstown Town Centre more aesthetically pleasing to residents, visitors and businesses, said Mark Kelso, Director of Environmental Health. "We would encourage any other businesses who are interested in applying for the awards in 2009 to contact the Environmental Health Department at Cookstown Council".

The award winners received their certificates from Cllr. Ian McCrea, Chairman of Cookstown Council who commended their success "The Presentation of these awards today to 10 local businesses has shown the commitment that each of you have demonstrated in developing commercial ventures which recognise the importance of the Local Environment. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts in taking forward this Programme, and hope that you will continue to strive to improve in the years ahead, and set a good example for the wider Business Community".

The Tidy Business Scheme is promoted by Tidy Northern Ireland, an anti-litter charity and facilitated by Cookstown District Council through the local Community Safety Partnership. Tidy Northern Ireland Chief Executive Officer, Ian Cole was delighted to see the response

**Tidy Northern Ireland is the trading name of Environmental Campaigns Northern Ireland**  
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from the local traders. "Tidy Northern Ireland has been very impressed with the standards show in today's awards. To have such a high proportion of Silver awards and even a Gold award winner is remarkable, considering it is the first year of the programme. The 2008 award winners now face the challenge of maintaining and improving on their standards and I hope that in the coming months we will see other businesses in Cookstown join the programme and reap the benefits of becoming a 'Tidy' Business.

The Tidy Business Programme aims to encourage businesses to improve their standard of refuse management and improve the image and cleanliness of their premises. There are three levels of awards attainable; Bronze, Silver and Gold.