

Reward your staff with “Shop Local Gift Vouchers” They can be spent in over 140 shops locally!

Now with approx. **140** participating outlets **Shop Local Gift Vouchers** are the ideal reward for your staff this Christmas. It is also ideal gift of choice for occasions such as Retirements, Birthdays and Christmas Bonuses and Staff Rewards!

This is money which is guaranteed to be spent in **Dundalk and surrounding areas** and will help support local business and jobs. By replacing a cash bonus with Shop Local Gift Vouchers you will be giving your employees more than double their bonus! The Gift Vouchers come in €10, €20 and €50 denominations and are valid for two years. You can spend them in more than 140 shops including hair salons, restaurants, toy shops, food and drink, travel agents and much more- all your needs are catered for!

See <https://www.dundalk.ie/> for more information.

- **Remember there is no commission on this voucher** –€100 is worth €100 and costs €100. By buying these vouchers you are keeping local jobs in Dundalk – jobs where family and friends are employed.
- **The Chamber makes no money on this** initiative –So we are sincerely asking you. If you are planning to giving staff bonuses this Christmas or buying presents for your family, then buy local and buy the Shop Local Voucher and **help Dundalk** Retailers to stay in business, and assist with the revitalising our town.
- We have sold over €10,000 worth already and plan to sell much more this Christmas with your help.
- Other Chambers have run these voucher for the past number of years for eg Letterkenny sold €750,000 last year, With Mullingar selling €120,000
- **Surely Dundalk can sell over €100,000 – come on--- get behind this initiative, keep the town moving forward into 2016 buy shop local vouchers and support your local Retail!**

Employers save yourself 56% on rewarding your staff!

Would you like to reward your staff with a €500 tax free payment? The good news is that you are entitled to give one each and every year.

Under the Small Benefits Exemption Scheme, company directors and employees can receive a non-cash bonus of up to €500 in value on a completely tax free basis each year. As the payment must be in a non-cash form, the most common way to avail of this scheme is by purchasing gift vouchers. **Shop Local Gift Vouchers** can assist you save money by taking advantage of the Government Small Benefit Exemption Scheme. Employers can save 56% on staff rewards now by giving employees a **Shop Local Gift Voucher** instead of cash. ***** This has been increased from €250 to €500 this Christmas! *****

WHAT ARE THE RULES?

The important conditions to be aware of are:

- **The gift voucher must be purchased from company funds** e.g. from the company bank account or company credit card. The director or employee cannot purchase a voucher themselves and seek reimbursement from the company.
- **A voucher can be purchased for each individual only once per year**, even if you do not take the full €500. For example, you cannot take a voucher of €150 earlier in the year and take a further €100 later in the year. The scheme allows for one voucher per year up to the value of €500. Therefore to maximise the tax relief available, you should take the full €500 voucher.
- **You can avail of the scheme once each year**, so put a reminder in your calendar to make sure you don't forget to claim next year too!

Cash Vs. Shop Local Gift Vouchers

BONUS OF €500 PAID THROUGH PAYROLL SYSTEM		BONUS OF €500 PAID IN SHOP LOCAL GIFT VOUCHERS	
Cash Per Employee	€500.00	Cash Per Employee	500.00
PAYE & USC (At higher rate)	€479.59	PAYE & USC (At higher rate)	NIL
Employee PRSI	€40.82	Employee PRSI	NIL
TOTAL GROSS PAY	€1020.41	TOTAL GROSS PAY	500.00
Employer's PRSI	€109.69	Employer's PRSI	NIL
TOTAL COST TO EMPLOYER	€1130.10	TOTAL COST TO EMPLOYER	500.00
Net Benefit to Employee	€500.00	Net Benefit to Employee	500.00

1. The gift voucher is also a fully deductible business expense for your company.
2. If you haven't availed of the Small Benefit Exemption Scheme so far in 2015, make sure you do before 31 December and use Shop Local Gift Vouchers for this.
3. The "Shop Local Gift Vouchers" are available to purchase online on www.dundalk.ie/vouchers or directly from the Dundalk Chamber Offices by calling Tel: 042 9336343 or email accounts@dundalk.ie
4. We also have the following shops selling them Grants Newsagents in Dublin St., Cuchulainn Credit Union, Central News Clanbrasill St., McCuskers Newsagents in Earl St. Dundalk, Centra in Blackrock, Finnegans in Louth, Sheelan's Riverstown, McCrystals in Jenkinstown and Valentines XL Carlingford.