



# Gold Member Áine Handmade Chocolate

## Spotlight Target Area: Packaging

Sustainability has always been an important consideration for Áine Handmade Chocolate as by minimising its impact upon the environment, has rewarded the company both economically as a business and socially in the local community. To build on its commitment to sustainability, the company has committed to sourcing only recyclable packaging to reduce waste in the market. This includes cardboard outer leaf, recyclable aluminium foil and recyclable plastic wrap. The company set a target to increase recyclable product packaging from **10% in 2018** to **100% in 2022**. As of **2021**, **99%** of the packaging used was reported as recyclable, meaning the company was **29 percentage** points ahead of its **70% milestone**, demonstrating an outstanding performance in this area.

## About

Áine Chocolate is an award-winning brand that produces premium quality chocolate. Located in Stradone Village, Co. Cavan, the company was founded by chocolatier Ann Rudden, whose experience spans over **20 years**. Ann had a vision for her business, to create premium handmade chocolate, with only the purest, freshest, natural ingredients sourced locally where possible. Established in 1999, the company has grown to become recognised as one of the finest producers of high-quality winning chocolates of distinction in Ireland. Áine Handmade Chocolate employs a team who shares that passion, evident from the company's **25 Great Taste Awards**. All products are free from artificial flavourings, colourings, preservatives, additives and GM ingredients. The product range is gluten-free, with sugar-free products also available - with an ethos that those with special dietary requirements should not have to compromise on taste.



Sustainability Programme  
**GOLD MEMBER**  
2021

## Membership Tier 4

Minimum Origin Green Targets Required Annually = 5

## Origin Green Target Areas

Raw Material Sourcing	Supplier Certification	
	Primary Producer Sustainability Initiatives	
	Packaging	★
Manufacturing Process	Energy/Emissions	
	Water	
	Waste	★
	Biodiversity	
Social Sustainability	Health & Nutrition	
	Employee Wellbeing	
	Community Engagement	★
	Diversity & Inclusion	

“The only way we are going to improve the quality of our environment is to get everybody involved. This is what we at Aines chocolates strive to achieve and we are delighted to have our efforts acknowledged with this Gold standard award.”

**Ann Rudden, Managing Director/CEO**