

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **RATHMULLAN**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	20
The Built Environment	40	32
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	184

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Rathmullan stands on the cusp, it is important that you take last year's advice and put into place a plan which will take you further on in the competition. This plan will allow you to put before your community an agenda for the problems that exist and in a neutral fashion to get more people on your side. Our thanks for your application and for the useful map.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This new section within the Tidy Towns Competition offers you an opportunity to garner extra marks. Seek to identify an area which in a not over interventive way you could have the opportunity of developing. One area that certainly springs to mind is the very nice woodland along the beach where a series of habitats and information signs could be developed. This would add immeasurably to your blue flag status.

LANDSCAPING

The many areas in the town as listed in your map where planting has been undertaken were noted. The Letterkenny approach road flower beds were quite nice; unfortunately there were weeds growing from the wall in this area. Noted were the rather nice flower baskets in the harbour area and the nice flower tubs at the graveyard, also the flower beds at the picnic area. Well done on all of this. The hanging baskets at the Pier Hotel and the seating and flower tubs at the Garda Station were also noted.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The town centre is the heart of any village. The Garda Station was well presented and the Pier Hotel was also noted. There was a lovely terrace of housing very well kept. The Health Centre was extremely nice and there was an excellent flower display. Well done here to the Health Board. The beach area with its retained blue flag status could be significantly improved.

LITTER CONTROL

On the day of adjudication, litter was not too great a problem in Rathmullan. With your high level of visitors and transient population well done on this. Nonetheless, some litter was noted at various sites throughout the town and poor litter bins were noted also. Litter control is essential to the Tidy Towns Competition and you are encouraged to put more clearly presented litter bins throughout the village.

TIDINESS

This is quite distinct from litter and this is the overall impression of tidiness that a town gives. Rathmullan has only scored reasonably in this category because neglected buildings beside the harbour for instance together with a random littering throughout the village and the unsightly caravan at the football field together with the broken wall and the untidy fence on the road to the church all contribute to an overall absence of tidiness within the village area.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The private housing within the village was well presented. The housing estate looked particularly well; the green area and the floral displays together with the nice tree planting was noted. It was heartening to see the commercial and the public sector coming together so well with nice displays in the residential areas.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Generally speaking the approach roads were reasonably well kept with verges and hedges trimmed quite nicely. There were some nice stone walls noted on the Letterkenny approach and the tree planting in that area was also noted. Within the village itself, with the exception of the random littering already noticed, back streets and each areas were reasonably well presented.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Overall Rathmullan is at a decision point, it is important to put together a plan and to take all sides in your community on board if you are going to make further progress within the competition. Good luck for 1997.