

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TEMPLE BAR**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	22
The Built Environment	40	24
Litter Control	40	15
Tidiness	20	8
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	155

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The Temple Bar Tidy Towns Committee illustrates an evenness of attention and community involvement. Important links have already been developed with public and private agencies as well as the local business community and residents. Your committee must be complimented on the efforts made especially as a new entrant to the Tidy Towns competition. Thank you for the detailed entry form and maps which proved to be very useful on the day of adjudication.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As pointed out in your entry form, Temple Bar is a densely built environment and, therefore, you have undertaken steps to encourage wildlife through installing bird and bat boxes as well as window boxes which act as butterfly banks. These projects must be commended and should be extended to more of the buildings in the area. A suggestion for your development programme could be to signpost these natural features once they are fully developed.

LANDSCAPING

Due to the lack of open space for planting the scope for landscaping is quite limited. However, the planting of small gardens on derelict land has occurred and this should be extended to the other derelict sites in Temple Bar. It is important to undertake appropriate selection and siting of trees, shrubs and flowers for year round effect. Maintaining planted areas and trees is equally important both in small pocket gardens and larger open spaces.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As pointed out Temple Bar is undergoing incremental development of its built environment. There is still quite a lot of construction work being undertaken and planned for the future. Naturally this affects the overall presentation of buildings and streetscapes and we look forward to its completion. A great deal of conservation has occurred in terms of restoring historic buildings and adapting old buildings for new usage e.g. IFC, Design Yard, the Ark. The two new public squares are very attractive and a welcome addition to the area. However, incidental litter was present in these locations on the day of inspection. There was also quite a lot of litter in the area at the front of the Central Bank. More litter bins are required for this area. The facades of some buildings on Sycamore Street, Adair Lane, Prices Lane and the laneway off Bedford Row need to be brightened up by repainting and perhaps installing hanging baskets and window boxes. Many of the buildings and shops on Crow Street, Eustace Street, Anglesea Street and Crown alley look very well with their hanging baskets and window boxes. Continued maintenance of the flowers and shrubs is important. Where derelict buildings are not scheduled for development in the next few years we would suggest screening them or the use of camouflage which will help them to blend in more easily. We acknowledge the planning permission for the Telecom Eireann building on Temple Bar which will hopefully improve its facade.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter and dumping was very apparent on the day of inspection. The provision of more litter bins is very important and a suggestion might be to encourage local businesses to sponsor a bin. Continued consultation with Dublin Corporation is necessary. In addition, promoting anti-litter awareness and encouraging businesses to take responsibility for their immediate area will contribute to reducing litter and dumping.

TIDINESS

On the day of inspection the two Rehab bottle banks could not be located. It would be important to reinstate them and to provide signage so as to pinpoint their location. There was quite a lot of flyposting

in Temple Bar, all of which needs to be removed. Weed growth on buildings and at the base of walls needs to be controlled. Some of the disused buildings also suffer from graffiti.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The residential areas of Temple Bar consist mainly of apartment schemes. The majority of them are more recent developments and therefore appear very clean and tidy. Although many of the roof gardens are not visible from the streetscape, their development is important in terms of creating a good living environment. The apartments and communal garden area on Asdills Row are very attractive.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The cobblestone streets of Temple Bar are very attractive and should be preserved and extended where possible. As previously mentioned litter is a problem affecting all of the roads, streets and back areas of Temple Bar. Crampton Court and walkway are in need of attention. There is a lot of rubbish outside the restaurants on Sycamore Street and the private car parking area needs to be cleaned up. The barbed wire on the wall at Merchants Arch needs to be removed or replaced. The laneway off Bedford Row, Adair Lane and Prices Lane are all very unattractive and need urgent attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Temple Bar Tidy Towns Committee presents itself as an integrated group representing a wide spectrum of interests from the community. Building on this strength, the committee will be able to achieve a better standard of presentation for future competitions.