

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **OUGHTERARD**
County : **GALWAY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16
Landscaping	40	18
The Built Environment	40	17
Litter Control	40	16
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	16
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	139

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your submission which was most helpful. We would recommend that you draw-up a five-year development plan in co-operation with your local authority and other interested parties which would provide you with a detailed programme of work over the coming years. We note your success in getting sponsorship for litter bins and the FÁS course, however, a longer term programme would be useful to you.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Oughterard has a lot of potential in this area. Your river park and island are good examples. You might consider seeking guidance from your local environmental advisors who could direct you regarding habitats and provide specialist information that would be useful to you.

LANDSCAPING

While the Maam Cross approach road presents the excellent river park area which is very well landscaped, the village itself presents much more opportunities for tree and shrub planting. The river area in front of Waterlily Restaurant needs attention.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the commercial premises are well maintained and presented with the hotels setting a very high standard. Continue to encourage the use of traditional shop-fronts rather than plastic signs. Buildings like the Corrib Hotel, O'Flaherthas Restaurant, the Post Office all set the standard, however, you do have problems with the Maxol Station which was littered with gas bottles and in need of upgrading. The derelict building in front of the Garda Barracks needs attention, as does the courthouse / Council building.

LITTER CONTROL

Some evidence of litter was in evidence on the street, in the car park and particularly in the area of the river access near Waterlily's Restaurant.

TIDINESS

The general impression of Oughterard is one of a busy commercial tourist centre. More will have to be done to facilitate car parking and improve the appearance of the commercial area in particular which is currently congested.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the residences are well presented with few exceptions. The home opposite the Welcome Inn is most attractive. Some towns use competitions to get improvements in home and garden presentation, and you might consider this.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main access roads are attractive. The stone walls, some of which need attention and weed control, are very attractive features. Consideration should be given to new footpaths which allow access for the disabled and the car parking issues need attention. In general, back areas are not a problem, save for the Maxol Station and the site adjacent to the launderette.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

You will have to do more to win the co-operation of the local community and agencies in order to do well in this highly competitive competition. A five-year agreed plan of work will assist your committee. Oughterard has a lot of potential and we wish you every success.