

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LISDOWNEY**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16
Landscaping	40	23
The Built Environment	40	21
Litter Control	40	37
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	189

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is splendid to see so much being planned in a village of less than 200 people, especially in the first year of your entry into the Tidy Towns Competition, to which Lisdowney is a most welcome addition. Your approach to development is impressive. What will be more difficult will be putting the projects into action over the years. However, the local support described in your answers to the questionnaire, and your contacts with official bodies, may make this less hazardous than in many other centres. The FÁS scheme should be most helpful, to you as to the young people employed. Thank you for the very helpful and clear map, next year you should point out on it the locations of work achieved over the previous twelve months. Do not be dismayed if marking is comparatively low in your first year.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It is good to read of your involvement with conservation of rivers and streams. This is a new heading in the Competition and a nominal mark is being given to entries where little visible progress has been made. (can a nature trail or path be created along the stream which flows along the north-west of the village?).

LANDSCAPING

Planting at the car-park was favourably noted. The roadside garden at the shop was attractive. In your plans, tree planting should feature very strongly, both along approach roads and on private properties.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church and its grounds are very well maintained, recent wall-building is first class. The school is also well kept, floral displays in window boxes at the latter were admired. The school boundary wall might be freshened up with paint. The building which looks like a disused farm but appears on the map as "Old School" is unsightly, partly because of its prominent position.

LITTER CONTROL

There was no appreciable litter on adjudication day. Congratulations.

TIDINESS

This is a generally tidy village, elements which prevent it from being completely tidy are those which are already in your future planning, such as broken walls, overhead cables.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

All of Lisdowney is residential, and private dwellings are generally well looked after. Farmhouses in the immediate neighbourhood are most impressive. Lisdowney House is particularly attractive.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

There are few "black spots". Road surfaces are generally good. The car park surface is in fact quite adequate. As wall-building is so good in Lisdowney, would it be possible to enclose the car-park with a curved wall (with two entrances for vehicles) to complement the curved wall opposite. This would make a pleasing feature terminating the view as you arrive from Ballyragget, to give more of a sense of a Village Cross Roads, to conceal cars partially, and against which further planting might be undertaken? This is a thought rather than a suggestion. Approach roads are fairly well looked after. There was excellent hedge-clipping on the road to Freshford, and verges were reasonably trim on the road to Ballyragget. Be sure that weeds are absent in the immediate approaches to the village - that is, from the 30 MPH sign or the village name plate in each direction - and that grass is removed at the time of cutting.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A pleasant village in a most picturesque part of the country, with an enterprising committee ready to make improvements.