

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CASTLEBLAYNEY**  
County : **MONAGHAN**  
Category : **D**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 18-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	15
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	5
Landscaping	40	10
The Built Environment	40	20
Litter Control	40	20
Tidiness	20	10
Residential Areas	30	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	10
General Impression	10	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>109</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is good to see Castleblayney back in the competition again and to find you addressing some of the problems in your area. The proposal to have a plan drawn up is absolutely essential if you are to progress. You must draw up a plan, sent it to the commercial, the industrial and the residential interests in the town and have it endorsed by them all as a policy and as a potential goal. Then you can put a time frame on it and manage your plans effectively. Castleblayney has the opportunity to be every bit as successful in this competition as your notable neighbour Carrickmacross. Do not for a moment despair, be positive and you can achieve it.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is a new category within the Tidy Towns Competition and with the Castle and its lovely grounds there is an ideal opportunity for the community to co - operate with the new management there. A wildlife trail highlighting the wild fowl, bird life, grasses etc., through some of the woodland area down to the lake would be an ideal project. Maybe it should be taken on by some of the local schools.

### LANDSCAPING

Landscaping refers to the development of planted areas and colour within your townscape. The Alms Houses and the Church Street houses, so beautiful, deserve a lot more colour - hanging baskets, window boxes etc. It was sad to see neglected planters in some of the islands and junctions around the town, notably at John Bogue's Garage.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Your streets are in very good repair and your infrastructure is sound. It was nice to see the Garda Barracks looking well with flowers outside it, The Glencairn Hotel likewise. Saint Mary's Hospital grounds were very impressive and among the shopfronts admired were Failte Ui Ceallaigh, the Credit Union and Digby's. These and a host of other shopfronts need to be carefully retained and deplasticised. You have lovely shops and they can be one of your glories. The industrial buildings throughout the town, notably opposite The Glencairn Hotel leave a lot to be desired and the Market House needed painting.

### LITTER CONTROL

Generally speaking litter was not a problem on the day of the visit and what litter bins etc. that were available appeared to be in good use.

### TIDINESS

This is an amalgam of litter, good husbandry, clean streets, an image. Castleblayney was marred somewhat by the use of the footpaths for the storage of everything from carpets to Calor Kosangas to children's beachballs. This is not necessary and your streets should be clear and clean at all times.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Beach Drive area was particularly attractive together with Oliver Plunkett Park etc. However, many of the side streets were dull. You really need to encourage everybody to use window boxes, better colour, hanging baskets etc.

### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads generally could have been much better presented. The Crossmaglen Road was badly presented. The junction the Dublin Road was very untidy and the Shercock Road had very

neglected lay-bys etc. The Tidy Towns impression begins at the signposts for the town, the welcome signs, and must be built upon from there in.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

Castleblayney has everything going for it; it just needs the will of its people to do well in the Tidy Towns Competition. Your lovely shops, your wide streets, your marvellous old castle (although the grounds could have been better kept on the day of adjudication); all can combine to make Castleblayney a serious contender within the Tidy Towns Competition.