

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ENNISKERRY**
County : **WICKLOW**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	32
Litter Control	40	24
Tidiness	20	13
Residential Areas	30	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	300	201

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the new format of the 1996 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for detailed questionnaire and map which were very useful during the course of adjudication. Enniskerry has an excellent developmental approach with a commitment to ensuring a good presentation of the built environment, the litter control management and promotion of wildlife and natural amenities. The adjudicator looks forward to the submission of the five-year work programme next year and we look forward to seeing the projects develop over the coming years. One of your key projects should be the completion of the Bog Meadow area and the under-grounding of the overhead cables. Overall, Enniskerry was looking very well this year.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Enniskerry is blessed with having a number of options in wildlife and nature conservation. The fact that Knocksink Ecology Centre is located nearby is a good bonus. At the entrance a new wall was being built, try to have the graffiti on the sign removed or replace signs. Enniskerry is also fortunate in having a number of other natural amenities, including the Bog Meadow area, which still has not been completed. Cookstown River is also a valuable amenity, as are the wooded areas throughout the town. It is also very nice to see that the majority of residents have a pride in their gardens, which are very well maintained. Perhaps a good starting point in the area of nature conservation would be to identify the wildlife habitats in your catchment area and see what species of animals, birds and fish these attract. Why not invite your local environmental experts and groups to get involved and to advise you and provide you with the specialist information you require.

LANDSCAPING

Enniskerry is also fortunate in having a good variety of mature trees and shrubs throughout the village. The area around the clock tower was looking very well on day of adjudication with the roses in full bloom, well done here! Flower baskets on the poles were a nice feature and it was nice to see they were in bloom and appeared to be watered regularly. The area around the Bog Meadow/Sports Centre has still not been completed - you might include proposals for landscaping in your five-year programme. On the approach from Kiltarnan the flower bed and grassed area was well maintained and generally most open spaces were well maintained.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Enniskerry has a tremendous variety of well presented buildings, both new and old. The majority of the buildings were very well presented. Both the Catholic and Church of Ireland churches were excellent, as were their grounds. St. Gerald's, St. Mary's and Powerscourt National School were also well presented. The Garda Station was looking well. Many other fine examples exist throughout the town including Pine Crafts; Poppies; Enniskerry Trading Company; Objects; Rustic World; Village Butcher; Stepping Stones; Harvest Home and Powerscourt Arms was freshly painted. It was also nice to see that the public toilets had been painted this year, well done! The use of traditional materials in some of the old premises is something that should be continued. The overall objective should be to improve the urban environment in a way which further develops the natural features and inherent qualities of each building. In this regard, Buttercups was singled out as one premises that has, through the use of planting, presented a very attractive appearance. The adjudicator would also like to commend the cone outside the shop, as opposed to using unattractive plastic advertising, it was nice to see that this feature was in-keeping with the premises, yet it achieved its purpose. Overall, an excellent presentation this year.

LITTER CONTROL

Overall, a very good appearance was portrayed throughout Enniskerry this year, particularly in light of the

number of visitors who pass through the village on a daily basis. Small amounts of litter were noted in a number of places, however, for example, between the gateway at Mill Park and the toilets and also on the hill coming down from Glenree. Very small sprinklings were also noted at the Bus Stop. You must be vigilant in this regard to ensure that litter is not a problem.

TIDINESS

The overall appearance of the village of Enniskerry was one of neatness and tidiness, with litter and weed control quite well taken care of, apart from the areas mentioned above. It is also encouraging to see that there is not over-use of signage on the premises. Surfaced areas are overall quite good as are footpaths and approach roads.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Again, there are excellent examples of care of residential areas throughout Enniskerry this year, particularly in the individual houses. The new development of houses opposite Bog Meadow are a major improvement on the former eyesore which took from Enniskerry's appearance for many years. It is also nice to see the trees planted outside this area as well. The new development at Eagle Valley is magnificent and should be very nice once complete. Kilgarron Park was relatively well maintained, while at Millfield grass needed to be cut at time of adjudication, try to screen off the ESB box with perhaps trellising and climbers and replace the Yield sign.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The main streets in Enniskerry were presented to a very high standard. The car parking area to the rear of the Powerscourt Arms was also well maintained. On the approach roads from Kilternan, it was nice to see the grass verges had been cut, the triangle area was also noted again this year. Very good stone walls all along coming in this approach towards the Parish Church and the nice tree-lined area. Small sprinklings of litter were noted near the 30 MPH sign. But overall this is very attractive. Approaching Enniskerry from Glenree verges were also quite good, it is nice to see wild flowers growing. Further in, verges were very neat in appearance. Unfortunately, litter was evident coming down the hill on the right hand side. Finally, approaching from the N11, again, good appearance and litter free. It is nice when you come around the corner into the square it opens up a very attractive vista for the approaching visitor.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Overall, the adjudicator was impressed with the appearance of Enniskerry this year, apart from one or two items such as litter in some areas. The efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee to involve all sectors of the community in the presentation of Enniskerry are commendable. The presentation of buildings throughout the village, which is an important fabric of the overall urban environment, is very commendable. Try to come in with some innovative, practical suggestions in your work programme for next year and we look forward to further improvements.