

Tidy Towns 1997

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DONERAILE**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	32
The Built Environment	40	22	24
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	21
Litter Control	40	20	22
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>183</b>

## **Doneraile, Co Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for submitting your development plan. You have identified the problem areas that require attention, most notably the derelict buildings and development of natural resources. To progress with this development plan, consultation with the county council and the involvement and co-operation of the other statutory bodies should continue to take place. It is also important to maintain your litter awareness programme in the local schools in view of the comments made hereafter.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

A number of buildings in the town are very well presented. The Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland churches are both very impressive structures. The Nagle Rice school and primary school also looked well. The standard of presentation among businesses in the village should be improved. Commercial business owners should be encouraged to return to the traditional shop front style and to remove plastic or neon signs from their premises. This should be an central element of any development plan. The main street is full of character and such actions would only enhance it further. The St Ledger Arms and Cronins looked well. Your programme for dealing with derelict buildings is commended and this programme should continue. Doneraile is fortunate to possess some fine historical buildings. You should consider developing a town trail. This could also incorporate your developments under the wildlife category.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The use of hanging baskets and window boxes throughout the town is very effective, particularly as a means of livening up derelict buildings. Once again you are complimented on the landscaping work on the main approach road. This creates a very favourable first impression. The works on Old Folks Lawn and the Mill Green are noted. There are still a number of sites around the village that offer further potential for development.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Doneraile Park is an excellent facility and a very popular attraction. The caretakers of the park are complimented on its excellent appearance. The plans for the riverbank are noted and encouraged. This project could involve the local school in developing a town trail. This should incorporate both the heritage and nature resources of the village.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter is not a serious problem in Doneraile. However, there were a number of black spots in the village on the day of adjudication. There was a lot of litter on Main Street and at the top of Convent Road. This was in spite of your best efforts to provide additional

litter bins. There was also litter on the approach roads and around the graveyard. It is vital that you continue with your litter awareness programmes in the schools.

## **TIDINESS**

Overall Doneraile looked tidy. However, it is unfortunate that one of the first sights that greets you as you enter the town, is the timber stack beside the Church of Ireland grounds. This whole area should be attended to as it detracts from the village. The church grounds were tidy and the appearance of Doneraile Golf Club is commended. The grounds of the Nagle Rice secondary school and the entrance to the Doneraile Park were also well presented.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are a number of excellently presented houses and gardens in Doneraile. The houses and gardens on the Mallow approach road were greatly admired. The row of terraced houses on Convent Road was brightly painted and well presented. A number of derelict houses on the lower end of Convent Road detract from the efforts of many house owners in this area. This is an important category as it enables more residents to become involved. Your plans to organise residential competitions are encouraged.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach roads to Doneraile looked well and are commended. The boundary walls are an impressive feature of the approach roads and are well maintained. More attention should be paid to weed control on the streets. There were a lot of weeds on the Convent Road.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Doneraile is obviously a very progressive community and committed to its continued development. Its participation in the competition has helped give the village a specific focus and if the commitment and enthusiasm are maintained the village will continue to make significant progress.