

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **FERMOY**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **E**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	32
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	22	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	21	22
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	21
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>174</b>

## **Fermoy, Co. Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for submitting the detailed maps, which proved very useful on the day of adjudication. It is encouraging to note the close involvement of the Urban District Council and the positive relationship which exists between yourselves and other statutory bodies. Your actions in recruiting dedicated personnel for landscaping and litter control underlines your positive approach to the competition and is commended.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The standard of presentation of buildings was good. The business community in Fermoy are complimented on the continuous improvement taking place. A number of business premises were greatly admired, most notably the Credit Union, Cavanaghs, Hickeys and OSullivans. Denis OMahoney Furniture, Carlton House, BUPA and the Leader premises also looked well. There were a number of shop fronts which were very well presented. However the use of stickers in the shop windows detracts from their overall appearance. There were some excellent examples of old buildings being re-employed for business purposes such as Avondhu Motor Factors and Fermoy Pre-Cast. Your policy of dealing with derelict sites and buildings is commended and should be maintained. There is a rich ecclesiastical heritage in Fermoy. Buildings such as St Patricks Church and the Loreto Convent were very well presented. The Church of Ireland church is an impressive structure and should receive some attention. The facades of the Court House and the police station should be cleaned. The improved access to the Court House is noted, as are the works being carried out on the Cork road.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The use of window boxes and flower tubs throughout the town added great colour. Care should be taken not to overuse flower tubs. These can give a cluttered appearance to an area. An example of such is the use of flower tubs at the green space on St Patricks Avenue, where the tubs are set among the trees. The landscaping on the approach roads is commended, particularly the Cork road. The town park looked very well and is an excellent amenity for the local community. The area around the leisure centre is also well maintained. The new retirement residences at Cluain Don were greatly admired. A number of trees on Patrick Street require attention. The seating areas in the vicinity of the town were spoiled by the amount of litter present.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

You are complimented on your development plans for the

Knockananig Reservoir. The riverside area is an excellent local amenity and is well presented. There is great potential to develop this area. You should consider consulting a local wildlife expert and incorporate his/her suggestions in future development plans. These suggestions should complement your activities at the Knockananig Reservoir.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Your overall approach to this category is commended. The employment of a litter warden is a very positive step towards tackling this problem. It is also important to work with the local schools. There were a number of areas in the town where litter is still a problem. Some of the approach roads require attention, most notably the Cork road, the Duntahane road and the Killarney road. There were a number of discarded boxes at the landscaped area on the Dublin road. There was a substantial amount of litter on the hill road down from St Marys Crescent and also in the car park in front of the Roman Catholic church. It may be a worthwhile exercise to work with some of the local juvenile clubs or scouting organisations with a view to organising a sponsored clean-up. This is carried out to good effect in many centres.

## **TIDINESS**

In general Fermoy was tidy in appearance. The grounds of the BUPA administrative centre were greatly admired, as were a number of residential areas. The riverside amenity area was also very tidy. The railings enclosing the riverside picnic area should be repainted. Graffiti was evident on the public toilets and a number of walls around the Mac Gerailt Place estate were also badly defaced. The riverside area at the back of Mac Gerailt Place looked very untidy and requires work. Weeds are very prevalent in a number of areas, most notably the area around the hospital and the area around Forest View on the Duntahane road.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are some excellent examples of well presented houses and gardens throughout the town and the surrounding area. The Image Improvement Group is obviously having the desired effect. There were superbly presented properties on the Duntahane road. Residential areas were extremely well maintained, most notably St Patricks Avenue, Wolfe Tone Place, St Josephs Square and Cluain Dara. While the houses in the Mac Gearilt Place estate were well presented, the graffiti detracted from the area. The difficulties with Oliver Plunkett Hill are noted. A colour scheme for existing properties in this area is recommended. This is an area of great character and every effort should be made to maintain it.

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

A number of speed limit sign poles need to be cleaned or repainted on the approach roads. The speed limit signs on the Duntahane road were dirty and one sign is hidden by overgrown bushes. The grass verges on the Killarney and Dublin roads need to be trimmed. The damaged wall on the Dublin road should be

repaired and the roadside bench should be repainted. The road to the hospital was very untidy with a lot of overgrowth and weeds in evidence. The wall along this road also requires attention. The Cork approach will be greatly enhanced when the footpath is completed. The main streets and footpaths in the town centre looked well. However, it should be recommended to a number of shop owners to avoid leaving too much produce outside their premises. This can look very untidy and access problems can arise.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

There is a good effort being made throughout the town. The many initiatives you are taking to tackle many of the problem areas are commended. It is important to approach the competition in a co-ordinated manner and your links with the Urban District Council are proving beneficial. You are complimented on your efforts and wished continued success.