

Tidy Towns 1997

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **YOUGHAL**
County : **CORK**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	34
The Built Environment	40	25	22
Landscaping	40	29	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	17
Litter Control	40	27	27
Tidiness	20	11	12
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	27
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	200	191

Youghal, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for submitting the detailed map and entry form which were of great assistance on the day of adjudication. Your action plan is very comprehensive. However, you are encouraged to undertake a three to five year development plan, setting out yearly targets. It is encouraging to note that you are working very closely with Youghal Urban District Council and the other statutory bodies. This partnership is proving mutually beneficial. Youghals selection under the pilot scheme of Renewal for Seaside Resorts will enable you to progress further.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The aforementioned Renewal Scheme will be of tremendous assistance in counteracting the problems which derelict buildings can pose for a community. You are commended in the works being carried out in dealing with derelict areas. It is very encouraging to note the conversion of some old buildings into business or residential premises in the town. The level of presentation among the business premises in the town is very high. A number of buildings have used brave colours to good effect, most notably the Perfect Blend Restaurant and Nursery World. Nursery World and Doyles public house also deserve praise for their use of the Irish language. You are complimented in providing greater access facilities for the disabled, most notably at the Town Hall, post office and the footpaths around the tourist office. Other buildings which were greatly admired include the Town Hall, Youghal Visitor Centre, Colaiste Eoin and St Raphaels. The Roman Catholic, Church of Ireland and Methodist churches were also well presented. The walls are an impressive feature of the town. However the erection of goal-posts in front of them, detract from their appearance, as did the remains of a bonfire. It is important to note that when you nominate shop fronts for awards, ensure that the upper storeys are as well presented as the street frontage.

LANDSCAPING

You are congratulated on the fine work carried out on the Waterford roundabout. It certainly makes a striking first impression as you enter Youghal. The post box is a unique feature. The landscaping work carried out on the Cork road was admired. There was effective use of street furniture around the water pump. The use of window boxes and planting around the town add great colour to the town. The hanging baskets in the car park at Dominic Collins Place are a good example of what can be done to enhance an open space. The planting at the road junction adjacent to the car park was also very effective. The works carried out on Windmill Hill were admired as was the flower planting in the boat on the Cork road. The Green Park area looked well, although some of the benches on the Lighthouse road should be repainted.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The quarry is a fine natural amenity and is well presented. Together with the development of the Ballyvergan Bog, they will prove valuable additions to the town trail. At some future point you should consider erecting a map-board. This should identify the flora and wildlife species, that are to be found in the area. This may prove a worthwhile project for a local school to undertake.

LITTER CONTROL

In view of the volume of traffic and visitors to the town, litter is not a major problem. The main streets were relatively free of litter. However, there was a lot of litter around the bottle bank in the car park. Litter control is a category that requires constant vigilance. Your litter awareness programme should help you progress in this regard.

TIDINESS

Overall the appearance of the town was tidy. The public areas around the town were all tidy, most notably the bandstand area, the seafront and the area around the amusements. The Seafield Business Centre also looked very tidy. The area at the top of the Quarry should be tidied. The debris from the bonfire at the town walls should also be cleared. A number of litter barrels looked untidy and should be repainted. The pedestrian area near the clock tower was admired. The benches at the Neville Fleming Memorial should be repainted.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are some excellent examples of well presented houses and gardens throughout the town. The competition that is run for residential areas is reaping rewards and you are commended on this. The bungalows adjacent to the Hilltop Hotel looked well, as did O'Reilly Terrace and the brightly painted houses on Windmill Hill. The residences at Seaview and Dermot Hurley Estate were admired. The water wells located at the entrance to Dermot Hurley Estate were noted. The name signs of the estate need to be repainted. This is an important category in the competition, as it enables more people to become involved. You are commended on your good work in generating interest from so many residential areas.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Cork and Waterford approach roads are very well presented. The good work on the Waterford approach has been commented on, as has the work at Dominic Place. The back streets and lanes were well maintained. The wall on the road opposite the Quarry needs attention and there are also a lot of weeds in this area. The traffic barriers on the Quay need to be repainted and the damaged barrier needs to be repaired. The paint on the footpath outside the Chiropody Centre is unfortunate.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Youghal is a very pleasant town with tremendous potential for

further development. This potential will undoubtedly be realised if the momentum of your efforts is maintained and your action plan implemented. You are complimented on your efforts and wished continued success.