

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **LOUGHREA**  
County : **GALWAY**  
Category : **D**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	30
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	20
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	22	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>184</b>

## **Loughrea, Co. Galway**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your very detailed and comprehensive entry form. There is such commitment and dedication by the people of Loughrea. One can almost feel the pride that you so obviously have in your town. It just goes to show what can be achieved when everybody works together. Your involvement by the children is indeed commendable as these are the Tidy Towns committee of tomorrow. Your overall approach and development plan is excellent. You have set realistic targets and ones which I know you will achieve. Having the services of a full time gardener will be a great asset to Loughrea, and you should be able to capitalise on this.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The business premises are all presented to a high standard. However, there was a great lack of flower baskets in part of the main street. Tony's, Garrett's and Connolly's have made a great effort with their floral displays. Also, O'Dea's Hotel looked splendid as did the Olde Mill and Kinsella's and Cunnane's Jewellers. The Post Office could do with a bit of a facelift. Pity about the derelict premises (E. Morrissey); it is one of the first buildings you see as you approach the town. If the owners cannot be located or if they will not co-operate perhaps the committee would undertake to do something with it. You should take a look at the way Kinvara have treated some of their derelict buildings in the village. Grey Plant and Tool Hire premises should be screened off if possible. Also the Schools are all well maintained and Supervalu looks great.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The tree planting at the car park at Barrack Street is commendable, and again the involvement of the school children is great to see. However, there was some litter here and the litter bin was overflowing. Perhaps the children who received the silver birch trees should keep an eye on this area. The grounds of St.Brendan's Home are beautifully maintained and what a pleasure it must be for the residents to enjoy the beautiful gardens and also the wonderful view overlooking the lake. The gardener deserves special praise. The Fair Green is well presented but again there was evidence of litter here. The work at Corry's Field is noted.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your progress under this category is excellent. You are fortunate to have such wonderful natural amenities and you are utilising them to their fullest advantage. The lake is such a great amenity for both residents and visitors alike and was very much being used on the evening I visited Loughrea. The information board is nicely located and a great idea: its a pity other towns do not follow your example. Loughrea is rich in wildlife and well done on retaining the blue flag. This is very important as strangers to an

area will always look for the blue flag symbol.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control in the town is very good. There is no shortage of litter bins. Some problem areas have already been mentioned; the car park also had a lot of litter. Grant it I visited Loughrea at the end of a busy working day and no doubt the car park was utilized very much. However, that is no excuse. The problem may be due to the fact that there are no litter bins in this area at all. Provision should be made for at least 2 litter bins to be put in place here.

## **TIDINESS**

Generally the town is presented to a good standard. The area where the re-cycling containers are sited is a little untidy looking; perhaps they could be screened off, while ensuring that their location is well signposted. The tennis court is well maintained and looked very tidy on adjudication day. The equipment at the playground looks very nice since it was re-vamped. While, the street furniture was not touched up, your plans are noted. The facade of the public toilets looked interesting to say the least.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

A great effort by everybody here. The houses on the approach roads are all beautifully maintained. I saw some beautiful gardens. Also the houses in the town are bedecked with beautiful window boxes and look most colourful. There is a great individual effort. The entrance to Donnellan Drive looks particularly good. The floral decorations and the lovely nameplate are commendable. The area at Garrybreeda is nice and the seating area near the graveyard looked good. Also the playground area is very nice. Congratulations on your initiative to encourage residents of new housing estates to erect suitable nameplates etc.

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

The approach roads are well maintained and presented to a good standard. The wall restoration throughout really adds to the area. The stone planters at the Welcome Signs look very attractive. Your side streets and back areas are well maintained. Also it is a great advantage to have all of the streets named; this certainly was not the case when I last visited Loughrea.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

I enjoyed my visit to your lovely town. You are making great progress and you have great plans for the betterment of your town. You are a great community working together. Be careful with the black spots and the derelict premises, the litter etc. You are doing a great job and you deserve your extra marks. Continued success for the future.