

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TRIM**
County : **MEATH**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	35
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	30	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	21
Litter Control	40	26	27
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	210	209

Trim, County Meath

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your completed application, map and Environmental plan. The plan concentrated on a particular aspect of the competition. There are a number of good ideas including the wildflower area and the arboretum. It is commendable to see maintenance included as this area is so often forgotten. Other areas of the competition should now also be addressed. These should be set out in a rough time framework and liaison with your local authority is important.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The built environment is usually presented to a high standard in Trim and this year was no exception. The hospital was fine and there was some nice planting in the school opposite. The church was also well presented. There are many fine shops and commercial buildings in Trim and examples of these include; the Old Stand, the Credit Union, Bank of Ireland, June Rafus, Griffins, Royal Auctioneers, Regan McEntee, the Heritage Centre and Tourist Office, Brogans and its carpark, the Bounty Bar, McCormack and the UDC building (fantastic windowboxes) in Castle Street. There are however a number of shopfronts that do require attention and perhaps a more traditional approach. The industrial estate on the Athboy road had some well presented premises.

LANDSCAPING

Some of the landscaping around Trim is excellent. Hanging baskets and tubs looked very well though sometimes plants such as Tagetes and Salvias give poor show due to the poor weather. Single colour displays tend to give better impact. The Norman Pratt Amenity Park looked well. There seemed to be a deficit of trees in some parts of Trim ie the Ballivor and Navan roads. The amenity area off Castle Street was clean though the road requires resurfacing. The landscaping at the traffic lights was very nice. The landscaping in the area beside the river opposite the swimming pool is excellent and congratulations to those involved. It is also important as set out in your plan that trees are maintained and cared for so that they flourish.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The richness of wildlife and heritage in Trim is surely the envy of many other towns. Your plans for future environmental aspects are commendable and will enhance the town. It is important to strike the right balance between the urban and rural environment and wildflowers should be used accordingly.

LITTER CONTROL

There was a disappointing amount of litter noted on the day of adjudication. An anti litter blitz is required. Some litterbins need replacing. Litter was noted outside SuperValu and the swimming pool area, also Mornington heights and in the estate off Haggard

Street.

TIDINESS

The lack of attention to approach roads and the litter detracted from the tidiness of the town. New developments - and there are so many springing up - will inevitably make it difficult to keep the outskirts tidy. The centre of the town and many of the older estates were clean and tidy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There are so many new developments in Trim that it is difficult to assess them until each are completed. St. Patricks Park was well kept. Griffin Park required the removal of a dead tree. Mornington Heights had some bad litter and grass needed cutting back. Sarsfield avenue is well presented. The estate on the Dunderry road requires attention. Pinebrook looks well. Out the Kildalkey road, the houses were well kept though attention should be paid to weeds in gutters and a few more hanging baskets would enhance the estates. The area opposite Butterstream Gardens could be cut back. The estate off Haggard street had a lot of litter even though there were plenty of litter bins in evidence. Many of the houses with fine architecture opposite the UDC had some lovely floral displays.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads need further attention. The Dublin road required further cutting back in places, however there was no litter or weeds in evidence. The sign on the Navan road required cleaning. The Athboy and Kildalkey roads also requires cutting back. The by pass was well kept. In some of the back areas, the road requires resurfacing. Weeds were noted in some of the gutters. Dunderry road also required cutting back - and grass needs cutting around the signs. The bollards needed repainting.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Trim is progressing well in the competition. More attention is required for approach roads and litter removal. Good luck with the rest of the plan.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (10/8/97)

There are so many areas of interest to follow and explore in this town that the onus of ensuring a high standard of finish and maintenance throughout the whole town is a difficult achievement. However, Trim is well on the way to ensuring that the whole town is being well handled with extensive areas (such as the ring road, grounds around the castle and specific housing areas) easy to maintain. Essential ingredients requiring greater control are that of litter and ensuring that road surfaces are free of loose gravel. The report submitted does not focus on how these elements should be tackled but rather on the creation of new areas to visit. There are already a lot of places available and it would seem pertinent at this period of time in developing a method statement to ensure that maintenance can be better handled. The new tree plantings, flower beds and hanging baskets are a great example of what the Committee can easily achieve providing high results

for specific elements. The Town Hall is a model of this ability while some of the recent commercial renovation works are another example of the commitment to appropriate urban improvements.