

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CAVAN**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	31
The Built Environment	40	35	35
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	14
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	22	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	208	203

Cavan Town, County Cavan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your partnership with Cavan Urban District Council is working extremely well and the contribution from the Council's Horticulturist is visible throughout the town. The strategy as outlined in your entry form under the various headings is most positive and provides you with a clear focus as to what is required to achieve progress. The contributions being made by local development associations, residents groups, gardening club etc. is equally important and ensures that all aspects of the competition are included in your annual work programme. You have achieved steady progress again this year and the adjudicator is very pleased to offer congratulations.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There are many buildings of great historical interest in Cavan Town and it pleased the adjudicator that in the main most of these are being maintained in pristine condition. More modern commercial and private properties are also being kept well and despite a small number of premises still requiring attention, the built environment of Cavan Town has been significantly up-graded in recent years. The Cathedral with its lush green open lawns, Garda Station, Church of Ireland, Cavan General Hospital, County Council Offices and Urban District Council Office with colourful floral displays were all admired and have important and prominent locations in the town. The continued increase in the number of new traditional shop fronts is most encouraging and An Sibin is a fine example of what can be achieved. Other well presented premises included Quinnsworth, Burkes Medical Hall, Timmy's, Murray's Print, Joe Dunnes, Linus McDonnell, Stockmans and the Reflections. The urban renewal programme in the area of Post Office and the fountain at James Connolly also add greatly to the presentation of the streetscape. The main street would be more attractive and user friendly if cars were prohibited and a pedestrian way developed. An idea that obviously would require discussion with the Chamber of Commerce and Urban Council. The Franciscan Friary is of great historical interest and should be signposted as a major attraction in tandem with Liferforce Mill. The many displays of hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs also contribute to a sustained performance under this heading.

LANDSCAPING

As already mentioned the Council's Horticulturist is playing a leading and influential role in the implementation of a

worthwhile landscaping programme which has enhanced greatly the overall presentation of Cavan Town. Con Smith Memorial park is maturing well and this area of the town has developed greatly in recent years under this heading and represents a welcoming introduction to Cavan. The grounds of the Cathedral and General Hospital are magnificent in presentation - maturing trees, lush green lawns and an excellent variety of shrubs and flowers. Greater use of trees should be encouraged particularly on the Virginia and Arva Roads.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The adjudicator has noted your comments regarding Con Smith Memorial Park and Green Lough. Identify and encourage wildlife habitats in these locations and have them signposted and easily accessible. Seek the advice of ENFO (the Environmental Information Service) and Conservation Volunteers of Ireland in formulating a Wildlife Management Plan as an integral element of your overall 3/5 year development programme.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was reasonably good except for incidental litter at James Connolly Street, Bus Station and Post Office Plaza. Litter bins were presented well except for some that needed repair. The new mechanical sweeper will be of great help and is very necessary to support the litter control requirements of a large town.

TIDINESS

An entrance beside the car park on College Street was most untidy looking with litter and dumped materials. A number of commercial premises in the main shopping areas are badly in need of up-grading or even a fresh coat of paint. However, despite these shortcomings, Cavan Town has a neat and tidy appearance with well presented commercial and private properties and many displays of hanging baskets, window boxes and planted areas creating an attractive ambience. The bus station has a very prominent location and could be presented better - the flower garden at the side requires attention. In general Cavan Town has improved in presentation and attention to detail under the requirements of this heading, will ensure a sustained tidiness.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private and local authority houses were well presented and many with very attractive and colourful gardens. Some private houses on the outskirts of the town were much admired with overall excellent presentation and well manicured lawns. Carrick Fern Housing Estate was

presented to the highest of standards with extensive planting, well maintained footpaths and open spaces and a nice environmental feature at the entrance. The local authority housing estate opposite the GAA Park also looked well, however, the back area is in need of attention - poor road surface and boundary areas being the main problems. The adjudicator noted major new developments taking place within the housing sector and makes the point that the boundary areas including entrances to all new houses should be properly landscaped and finished as soon as work has been completed and all building materials removed. A good performance under this heading deserves an increase in marks.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Enniskillen Road was much admired and with a high density of landscaping including Con Smith Memorial park which has a nice welcoming appearance. The Dublin Road is not quite as good with many open spaces in front of Commercial premises in need of better presentation. The Cavan Crystal Visitor Centre is coming along nicely and when finished will establish itself as an important landmark. In general all approaches are improving except for the Arva Road which is untidy with many poorly presented boundary areas. The planting and display of hanging baskets, window boxes and flower tubs add greatly to the overall presentation of shopping areas. Signposting, however, does need some attention. Cleaning and repairs necessary in many areas. Town nameplates should not be obscured from view by long grass or overgrown hedging.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

An active and energetic Tidy Towns Committee working in partnership with the Urban District Council has achieved much in recent years. You now have a high ranking in the competition and a sustained effort over the next few years should bring you into serious contention for a major award. Congratulations on the excellent performance this year which has been rewarded with an increase in marks. Thank you for the detailed questionnaire and accompanying map - of great help to the adjudicator on adjudication day.