

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BUNDORAN**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 15-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	35
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	24	22
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	194	189

Bundoran, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is good to read of the assistance from both Local Authorities, and also from the VEC. Development is continuing apace in Bundoran; while the objectives are promising, it is not genuinely possible to judge parts of the town when construction sites are, of their nature, causing disruption and untidiness.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland churches are very well maintained; signage on the former Methodist church is overpowering and is not necessarily commercially essential; a new use should be sought for the former Presbyterian Church, as its boarded-up condition is undesirable. Buildings in the town centre are generally very well presented - among them the Allingham, Grand Central and Holyrood hotels; the Great Northern Hotel on its clifftop is well presented. Page's amusements new frontage is amusing and fits in perfectly well with the resort streetscape. The old Hamilton Hall is a prominent eyesore and every effort should be made to find a solution. Most of the building stock is residential and is considered below, but whether residential or otherwise, buildings seem to deteriorate at either end of the town, giving a poor first impression whether you come from Sligo or Ballyshannon.

LANDSCAPING

The river area did not seem to have been re-landscaped, though this is mentioned on the entry form. Grassed spaces and public lawns are well looked after but more shrub and tree planting, taking into account varieties which survive well in the marine environment would be an advantage.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Not a great deal seems to have been undertaken in this category. Suggestions have been made in the past, and a section of the Tidy Towns booklet would repay study. The mark has been left at last year's level pending further initiative.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control is really good, considering the size of the

holiday population. Congratulations.

TIDINESS

The town centre is conspicuously tidy, but further out there is much to be desired. The neighbourhood of the Caravan park is remarkably shabby, with broken walls, sagging fences and weedy patches: this is a poor welcome for the holidaymakers who should be provided with something better. A similar situation exists, though on a wider scale, each side of the Sligo road, where wires, poles and broken boundaries give a bleak effect inappropriate to the holiday image - though here there is some excuse due to the amount of building work in progress.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The colourful curved terrace beside Ocean View, the new terrace opposite the Imperial Hotel, several large new apartment blocks near Waterford - some of which are imaginatively designed to blend with the traditional terraces of guest houses - are a distinct asset. The task will be to see that they are maintained in first-rate condition. Many of the older terraces are nicely painted. Old cottages on the Sligo road have managed to retain their charm. The establishment estates are reasonably well kept.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Surfaces of the main roads were good. Impressive new paving was being laid on adjudication day and this will be assessed next year. The car park at the old railway station was unusually weedy. Several scruffy 'backs' are visible from the seafront near Waterworld.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A magnificently situated resort undergoing the pangs of major development.