

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CREESLOUGH**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	26
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	19	20
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	20
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	160	157

Creeslough, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is good that you have been able to enlist the help of FAS - but without tangible local support your rate of progress is likely to be slow. Most committees organise fund-raising events, and these in turn lead to the involvement of the community at large. In spite of the difficulties you have encountered, it is clear that you have managed to progress under some of the headings listed below. Next year, *please be sure to mark on your map* all improvements which have been made over the previous twelve months. Very best wishes for further success.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Much of what relates to this heading will be treated under Streets etc and Residential. The unique Church, as usual, is beautifully maintained. The business premises are mainly well presented, but there are still too many plastic and mass-produced signs.

LANDSCAPING

Planting by the bridge will certainly improve the centre of the village as time goes on. A brave effort has been made at the railway arch, but this whole area needs a much more comprehensive - and therefore long-term - plan. Beds enclosed by each end of the new car park-wall had not been planted by mid-June, but the picnic area is a real enhancement. Private gardens, such as the one opposite the Community Centre, contribute greatly.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Little seems to have been done under this heading. The mark is nominal, to give time to address the topic. There are a number of suggestions in the Tidy Towns booklet which could be very helpful. The river area, and the village's special situation between the river and the sea, should provide considerable scope.

LITTER CONTROL

Disposable litter was quite -prevalent **on** adjudication day opposite Mace and the Hardware Stores, and below the new car park on the side road (this road is not shown on your map). Marks are not being deducted, as this is only your second year operation, but stronger action **is** needed.

TIDINESS

Poorly kept boundary fences (such as from the N56 sign all the way down the hill and on the Letterkenny road), the weedy forecourt of the Community Centre, the derelict cottage which could be so attractive and flyposting, are only minor problems when viewed individually, but added together they give a less than satisfactory overall picture. This is a great pity, because the majority of properties and installations are neat and smart.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The many private homes with attractive gardens are presented with much pride. The six new cream-coloured houses with dormers on the site of the old hall are an attractive addition to the streetscape. The terrace opposite these new houses is very well maintained, with attractive planting. The improvements at Muckish Terrace mentioned on the entry form do not seem to have happened it is hoped that they will be undertaken by next year. A small estate (not shown on your map) near the church is very well kept, and a terrace of three houses also shown) painted in pastel colours gives a real lift to this part of the street.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Surfaces and paving are good. The new bridge is a fine feature. The stone walls at the car park at the top of the town - and new stone walls at each end of the new terrace, are really excellent. These and other stone walls, as well as looking particularly attractive, help to draw the village together in a meaningful way. More of them at places where present fencing and boundaries are poor, would help tremendously, as one of your long-term projects.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A superbly situated village, where some welcome and appropriate developments have taken place, and which needs a more definite and cohesive plan to bring it up to the position which it deserves.