

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LUCAN**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **F**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	33
The Built Environment	40	27	25
Landscaping	40	27	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	21
Litter Control	40	26	24
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	26
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	206	195

Lucan, Co. Dublin

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Well done to the Tidy Towns Committee on your very structured and ordered approach. Your work with the Residents Associations is certainly showing results as is your weekly litter pick-ups. The column in the local newsletter should help to bring in more volunteers and increase awareness amongst the public. The way you involve the entire community is an example to other Tidy Towns Committees. Obviously Lucan is a much developing area and a review of your Three Year Plan may be necessary. We understand the frustration of having so much change in your environment and commend your work in keeping Lucan a pleasant place to live.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Many of the businesses in your area have put an exceptional amount of effort into improving their premises. We particularly noted Courtney's Pub, Ball Alley House, O'Neill's Pub, Kenny's Bar, Vesey Arms, AIB, The Medical Hall, Liffey Bridge House, Ross McParland, Veterinary Surgeons and The Citizens Information Bureau. The Garda Station also had some lovely shrubs and trees planted in front of the Station although the grass needed cutting. The terrace of shops which include Tighes Solicitors and Gunnes also looked well. Lucan Hire Services could do with some attention, as could the area surrounding the Methodist Church. It is a shame about the derelict building beside the Roma Takeaway which takes away from what is otherwise a very impressive built environment in the centre of the village.

LANDSCAPING

Well done on the concept of Residents Associations adopting areas close by for landscaping which is certainly showing results. We were also particularly impressed with the landscaping surrounding the Lucan Shopping Centre. The Barnhill Crossroads could do with some landscaping, especially the area immediately in front of you as you cross the bridge, as could the area to the right of Ballydowd Grove. The Lucan Institute of Further Education is another building which would benefit from some frontal landscaping. The new waterside development in the middle of the village is beautiful and an excellent addition to the area. You might however consider washing the paving stones on a regular basis to prevent the build up of bird droppings.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The preservation of wildlife is obviously important to you in developing your town. We noted the developments that have taken place beside the river in the past year with pleasure. However, there was a lot of rubbish thrown into the river close to the bridge in the centre of the village where growing duck population of Lucan resides. The maintenance of hedgerows on the access roads into Lucan is also to be commended as it provides a natural environment for wildlife in the area. When you succeed in solving the litter problems in the area the wildlife

and natural amenities will also improve.

LITTER CONTROL

Well done on your efforts to combat the litter problem in your area. Your initiative to provide bins around the village is an excellent one and certainly the results are showing in the residential areas. Generally it is a good idea to place litter bins beside bus stops and public seating and we would recommend you do this. This would prevent the spread of litter in areas such as the Lucan By Pass where there was litter in evidence opposite the Maxol Garage and also around the bench opposite the entrance to Ballydowd Grove. Do be careful of overflowing litter bins such as the one outside the Presentation Convent and near the bridge in the centre of the village. We would also suggest placing a litter bin at the entrance to Esker Cemetery.

TIDINESS

Lucan is generally quite a tidy village. The recycling facility in Lucan Shopping Centre is an excellent community facility so it was disappointing to see that it was overflowing thereby giving an untidy appearance to the car park. There was graffiti in evidence outside the Sewerage Works, on the lampposts on the Lucan Bypass, at the entrance to Lucan Heights, on ESB boxes on Esker Lawns and on the information panel in the town centre. Some signs in the village were also in need of repair. The removal of weeds from the kerbs is also necessary on some of the approach roads to the village.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There were many beautiful gardens in the residential areas of Lucan. Lucan Heights had a nice communal area, as had Beech Park and Esker Lawns. The stone signs at the entrance to these areas were also attractive, eg. Chalet Gardens and Lucan Heights. Do be careful to keep kerbs clear and free of weeds in areas such as Cherbury Park Avenue, Mount Gandon and Beech Park. The Tidy Districts Competition is obviously helping you in your efforts to keep the residential areas of Lucan tidy.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The new bilingual signs in to Lucan are lovely and are a welcome addition. The Newcastle Road, Adamstown Road and Main Street looked very well on the day of adjudication. Some work is needed on the base of the walls along Newlands Road and there was some rubbish thrown in the lay-by off the Lucan Road. Do watch for litter on the approach roads into the village as it gives a somewhat negative first impression. Maybe you could position some bins on these roads. The shrubs planted on the Lucan Road opposite Woodville Downs were lovely.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Your efforts have been excellent over the past year and the benefits are certainly starting to show. Despite all the building works and the growing population you are managing to keep a generally tidy and clean village. We look forward to seeing further developments next year.