

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CASTLECOVE**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	24
The Built Environment	40	18	18
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	20	20
Tidiness	20	8	9
Residential Areas	30	15	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	147	147

Castlecove, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Can you please include a Map of your area with your entry for 2000 as this is most useful to the adjudicator. The adjudicator notes that you are working with FAS in the implementation of your Tidy Towns ideas. It is hoped that you will be in a position to work with the Kerry County Council Village Renewal Scheme in the not too distant future. Progress in the competition will be dependent on everyone working towards the same ends. With this in mind you should prepare a "3 /5 Year rolling Tidy Towns Work Programme". This programme should have the support of the community, local groups, the County Council and other agencies. It would therefore guide you Tidy Towns actions for the next three to five years. The Work Programme should detail the Tidy Towns objectives to be achieved by your committee in the years ahead. The preparation of such a Plan which is updated annually is now an important aspect of the Tidy Towns Competition. The new Tidy Towns Handbook, which has been issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government to all Tidy Towns Committees, is a highly useful document which will be a great help both to established Tidy Towns Committees and to all new entrants. It is divided into a series of seven Action Sheets which together cover all aspects of the Competition. especially for new entrants it might be most useful for a committee to run a series of seminar evenings based on the contents of this Tidy Towns Handbook.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As you are fully aware derelict buildings continue to be a major problem for your village. Try and see if you can get permission from property owners to white-wash external walls. Windows could be boarded up and painted matt black. In this way the original derelict property can become a feature of your village. The Church and the Post Office were both well presented. The Black Hip Bar and the M.J. O'Leary premises also were well presented on adjudication day early in July. However, the large green building adjacent to the O'Leary shop is in need of re-painting.

LANDSCAPING

The landscaped area at the entrance to the village on the Sneem side still needs a lot of work. Tall grass is growing through the boat and tall grass and weeds are taking over. Some landscaping at the Church would help to soften the appearance of this building. The area opposite the Post Office was generally well presented. An excellent stone wall along the Scairt House frontage was noted but long grass at the base of this wall should be removed.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your river area is potentially attractive and important also for wildlife. Do try to develop further amenities which will encourage wildlife to your

area. Your first step however is to identify the species which inhabit any such areas. Wildlife can be encouraged by the planting of native berry producing trees and shrubs. The provision of bird and bat roosts and nesting sites in any old buildings might also be considered by your Committee. Make sure that any wildlife areas to which the public have access are properly signposted. Remember the access needs of people with disabilities. The development of these amenity walks and nature trails will add greatly to your area in the years ahead. Has your Committee considered the erection of some information plaques about the wildlife to be seen in the area ? Your important work on beach cleaning is noted also.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter was noted on the Sneem approach before the 30 MPH signs - there was quite a lot of litter here. Elsewhere litter control in the village was reasonably good.

TIDINESS

There is a very untidy area below the bridge which has an abandoned car, old tyres, engines and sundry scrap. This could be an attractive landscaped area. The derelict houses have been mentioned elsewhere in this Report.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses were generally well presented. The prominent yellow house has been painted recently and looks very well. Good planting at private houses was noted also.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

New poles for your 30 MPH signs are required on both sides of the village. On the Caherdaniel side the poles for the village name sign require painting. Verges were some what overgrown here. On the Sneem approach the fence of the left should be painted matt black. The cycle lane is an excellent development and will be much welcomed by all cyclists.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Do please keep up your good effort. Good planning and co-operation from everyone involved will ensure future progress.