

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLINAMORE**
County : **LEITRIM**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 13-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	29	27
Tidiness	20	12	11
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	202	199

Ballinamore, County Leitrim

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Following last year's very significant rise in marks, Ballinamore is holding its own well this year, possibly looking forward to another substantial rise in 2,000 when the new buildings at the Canal Market are completed and Waterway landscaping is hopefully given more attention. Next year a map, or a sketch plan should be included, with all the improved sites marked in the space provided in Section D of the entry form. It is very difficult for a visitor to find the sites referred to in the questionnaire, especially when few of the streets and estates have name signs, and local people do not always know them either.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The principal public buildings and the churches and schools are very well maintained as usual. Industrial premises near the canal are well presented. The development at the old canal market looks exceptionally promising, and its completion is eagerly looked forward to – it will be assessed next year. The area at the side of the Centra supermarket will be similarly assessed. The majority of business premises are well looked after, though there are still a considerable number of mass-produced and plastic signs.

LANDSCAPING

The neighbouring planted areas at the RC Church and the Library looked very well on adjudication day. It is good to read that vandalised trees and shrubs have been replaced. Planting and lawn maintenance at the crescent road was again admirable. Planting at the Marina on the Carrick Road is impressive and has come along very well, but at the time of adjudication was surprisingly weedy. Imaginative planting of this order would be necessary if the Canal Basin were to be considered for a Waterside award, as proposed; both areas are certainly potential winners, given the extra care and attention.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Because of its favoured situation between waterway, field and woodland, Ballinamore has enormous potential in this category. It is very bad news about the ducks; perhaps the new flock will be luckier.

LITTER CONTROL

There was very little disposable litter on adjudication day. Your leadership in this matter has proved most effective – congratulations.

TIDINESS

Kerbside weed, graffiti and illegal billposting were virtually absent. In general, the town has a tidy air, and this would be improved even further if there were fewer projecting plastic signs and if the poles and wirescapes in the town centre could be removed as has been done in some other towns – a costly operation, but one which can make an enormous difference.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many town centre houses, and older painted terraces such as on the Corraleehan and Belturbet roads, give the town character and charm. The estates off the Belturbet road are very well kept. A number of individual houses with pleasant gardens contribute a great deal.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Paving is very good. Road surfaces in the town centre are less good than on the principal approach roads. The car park by the old Railway Station is well looked after.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A pleasant town to visit. Work in progress, if it turns out as expected, should result in a favourable upturn in marking next year.