

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **HOSPITAL**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-1999

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1999 | Mark Awarded 1998 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 27 | 27 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 25 | 25 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 28 | 28 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 15 | 15 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 19 | 18 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 9 | 9 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 21 | 20 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 23 | 21 |
| General Impression | 10 | 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 173 | 169 |

Hospital, County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the completed application and sketch map of the town. Hospital like many other towns of its size has expanded considerably over the last few years. There were a number of construction projects ongoing on adjudication day most notably among these was the magnificent new St. John the Baptist Community School on the Knockainey Road. The committee, which is very small in number, needs to get other sections of the community involved in the Tidy Towns effort if Hospital is to progress in the competition.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The town has many different architectural styles with many fine examples of traditional shopfronts. Unfortunately there is too much dereliction for a town of this size and it is unfortunate to see fine shopfronts such as Denis P Walsh and McElligotts in such poor condition. I can appreciate that a Committee can only do so much but it is important that owners be encouraged to improve their premises. The new cut stone fountain at the junction of Knocklong and Bruff roads is an excellent addition to the streetscape. Moore's, An Seanachai, O'Sullivan's and Kenny's all deserve credit for the standard of presentation of their premises. A number of plastic signs were observed, again owners should be urged to revert to traditional type signs.

LANDSCAPING

The park on the Limerick side of the town was in splendid condition as was the riverside park, both of these schemes are examples of prudent planting. The trees that have been planted at the Enterprise centre on the Emly Road are maturing very nicely. This type of tree planting should be replicated in other areas of the town and its environs. The committee should seek the advice of the County Council horticulturist to devise a planned landscaping programme that could be put in place over the next few years. What has been done to date has been very effective.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There are plenty of natural amenities and potential wildlife in Hospital and steps should be taken to encourage wildlife. The committee should consider involving pupils from the progressive Community College in putting together a wildlife programme for the town and its environs. I appreciate that your committee is small and that your involvement is very much on voluntary basis so it is important to try harnessing all the support that is available to you within the wider

community.

LITTER CONTROL

The litter situation was good and there was very little to be seen on adjudication day except on the main street. Keep up the good work in this category and make sure that individual businesses become involved the Limerick Anti-Litter campaign.

TIDINESS

The standard in this section was good. Signs were in good condition and visible. There was not too much flyposting to be seen which was positive, although an election poster of a well known local European MP seemed to have been missed in the post election cleansing operation!

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

This was a category in which the standard of presentation was quite good. St Johns Terrace, which is an old established residential area, was in fine condition. The terraces on the Knocklong and Bruff roads were also presented to a high standard. The Knockainey Road houses were for the most part well presented although a few boundary walls looked a little tatty and were in need of a coat of paint.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Knocklong Road has improved over the last number of years primarily because of the new road surface. This coupled with the number of new houses that have been built on the stretch opposite the Tennis Court has made the entrance more interesting. The Limerick Road with its landscaped areas was in good condition. The Emly Road has been transformed since this adjudicator travelled it a few years back. It was nice to see stone walls, verges all maintained to good effect. There are a number of very impressive, in size anyway, houses on this approach. Golden Vale and the owners of the truck depot on the opposite side should tidy their respective premises as they were a little messy. The Knockainey road was a little overgrown and the ongoing work on the school meant that the road was a little untidy. No doubt it will be in pristine condition when the work is complete.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Hospital, even though its main street is narrow and busy, creates a good impression. The Committee should try and recruit new members, as it is next to impossible to succeed in getting through a heavy workload with such small number.