

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DULEEK**  
County : **MEATH**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 01-07-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	26	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	23	25
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	24
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>189</b>

## **Duleek, County Meath**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Duleek has a fascinating history and many interesting features. It is encouraging that in your Development Plan you are conscious of your heritage and are taking positive steps to conserve it. You are to be complimented on the information plaques which add enormously to the enjoyment of a visit. Duleek is experiencing considerable development and it will take time for the town to settle down. However, much more attention needs to be paid to basics, e.g. litter. Your clear map was most helpful.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

St. Mary's Abbey with its stone towers add interest to the skyline as you approach the town. The Francis Johnston Courthouse with its Doric door case and fanlight is magnificently set off with the mature trees and well-kept green. The Catholic Church on the opposite end of the Green also looks well. The Presbytery is another fine building. The modern Council Offices in their own way complement the Courthouse. Several of the business premises have been renovated and a number of new shops with wooden frontages are in the course of completion. However there are still numerous unsuitable frontages and several buildings which require painting. Stone walls are another good feature, e.g. around bridge and at entrances, etc.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The central green is one of the highlights of Duleek. The mature trees are splendid, the lime tree with its history stands out. The stone wayside cross is a lovely feature. More regular cutting of the grass surrounding the cross would show it off even to better effect. Public seating should be considered for this location. The grassed areas and planting on the Drogheda road and at the entrance and in housing estates are praiseworthy. New flower beds were noted in several locations. There is scope for considerable additional tree planting throughout the town, e.g. at the river approaches, Abbeylands, in the grass verges of the footpaths at the new housing estate adjoining St. Cianan's and in the vicinity of the Garda Station, etc. A number of recently planted trees have failed and should be replaced, e.g. on the Trim road. The many flower-tubs and hanging baskets are also noteworthy.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The river is an important wildlife habitat and should be used more as an amenity. A riverside walk is one possibility.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control is bad. Duleek has a serious litter problem. Excessive amounts of litter are present in the Main Street also on back streets and approach roads. More frequent emptying of litter bins would help. A major effort must be made to tackle litter.

## **TIDINESS**

Excessive amounts of litter considerably detracts from the many positive elements in the town. Attention to detail would also pay dividends - more regular cutting of grass e.g. around Wayside Cross and weeding gravelled areas.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are many attractively presented houses throughout Duleek. St. Cianan's Villas stands out with its high quality landscaped work. Other estates are also praiseworthy, e.g. Mill Race, Abbeylands, etc.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The side lanes are another of Duleek's interesting features, however, road surfaces are in need of attention especially the side roads. New footpaths were noted in the Main Street but need to be upgraded in other areas. Several gravelled areas need weeding particularly the large parking area in front of the bungalow on the opposite side of road to Garda Station.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Duleek is a town with many assets. A good start has been made but much remains to be done. Concentrate on the basics.