

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BALLYFERMOT**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **F**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 13-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	21	21
Landscaping	40	26	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	14	15
Tidiness	20	11	10
Residential Areas	30	17	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	18
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	159	147

Ballyfermot, County Dublin

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your responses to the questionnaire and map both of which were useful on adjudication day. Do endeavour to formulate a three to five year work programme. This document need only be a few pages long outlining your future plans for the area and setting them against a timeframe for their implementation. This will not only be of use to the adjudicators when assessing the town but will also help you to better plan your strategies as well as see your progress over the years.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both public and commercial premises of the town generally looked well on adjudication day. The schools were fine - the boundary wall and railings at the National School on the Kylemore Road should be painted before next year's competition. St. Dominick's secondary school had well maintained grounds – however, its gates appeared to be quite scratched and should be freshly painted. The railings at the church on the Dublin side of the town looked quite flaky. The Palmerstown side of the town is attractively landscaped. Do encourage the removal of projecting plastic signs and their replacement with more traditional timber ones. The interesting new development beyond the Health Centre should be a fine asset to the town. Both Molloy's Liquor Store and Iceland were well presented, as was Kileen House in its bright yellow colour.

LANDSCAPING

This is an aspect of the competition in which you obviously excel. The attractive planting at the National Training and Development Institute was admired. Attractive trees were noted on the Dublin approach to the town and at the Resource Centre. Your planting at the roundabouts was coming along nicely. Hard landscaping such as trees, bollards and paving at the terrace of shops looked well. The parks were generally maintained to a high standard although some graffiti and a lot of litter was evident in both locations. Le Fanu Park looked well – its grass had been recently cut and its buildings were freshly painted. It sported some fine mature trees. Markievicz Park was also well maintained. Unfortunately graffiti was evident at the buildings within the park and at the entrance pillars on Garryowen Road.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Ballyfermot is most fortunate in this regard having as it does a

wealth of green space such as the parks and open spaces to the houses. Your encouragement of the children in relation to participating in this aspect of the competition is highly commendable and their wildlife gardens are a wonderful idea.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard in this aspect of the competition could have been higher on the day. Quite a lot was evident outside the church on the Dublin side of the town and scattered along by the main streets, in particular by the shops on the Ballyfermot Road. Some more, though less was evident, at the Palmerstown side of the town. A lot of papers were evident by the fence at Aisling and also by the railings at Le Fanu Park, along the Kylemore Road and on the Garryowen Road.

TIDINESS

As mentioned by last year's adjudicator graffiti is a problem in the area. It was evident at the mural adjacent to Paddy Power's Bookmakers and at the school boundary wall at the roundabout as well as those mentioned elsewhere in this report. Do try to discourage the practice of fly posting as it detracts from the town's overall appearance. The perspex at the bus stops appeared to be quite scratched and looked unfortunate. Quite a lot of nettles and weeds were evident at the fence of the green space by the bus stop near Cherry Orchard Avenue and weeds were also evident at curbsides in this area.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Ballyfermot has a wealth of mature houses and gardens. Those around Le Fanu Park being particularly admired. Convent Lawns is an attractive new brick development with a well used green space and new trees. Cornamona Court in brick was also in good condition although its boundary wall looked rather grim and should be repainted. A couple of lush attractive gardens at the junction of the Ballyfermot Road and O'Hogan Road were particularly admired.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

You should consider putting in place some town nameplates such as those adjacent to Palmerstown. There is a need to announce the visitor's arrival to the town. Both the Dublin and Palmerstown Roads are attractive approaches to the town with fine green spaces. The Kylemore Estate and other industrial estates appear quite grim and unwelcoming. Weeds were evident at the bases of the boundary wall below the fence to the former. Quite a lot of graffiti was evident at the archway of the bridge at Kileen Road. The well maintained mature trees on the Kylemore Road, particularly as one nears the town form an attractive entrance canopy to Ballyfermot.

However, some litter was evident below the trees.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ballyfermot has a dedicated and hard working committee. Your plans are progressing – however, do try to develop a more structured approach by means of developing a three to five year work programme.