

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TRAMORE**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 13-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	28
The Built Environment	40	33	32
Landscaping	40	30	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	25	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	216	212

Tramore, County Waterford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Your attitude is admirable – in spite of having postponed your Development Plan due to construction work at a number of locations, it is clear that the committee has a progressive approach. Do not, however, delay this Plan (construction sites could be with you for a long time) because identifying annual objectives helps to bring those objectives into being; well conceived Plans may also result in increased marking under the above heading. Your Year of the Pedestrian and Starve the Landfill projects are farsighted and show civic-mindedness. Your map showing the chief advances since last year, and accompanying photographs, have been very helpful indeed.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Reference to Tramore's legacy of fine 19th and early 20th housing has often been made with justification, but some recent buildings add impressively to the stock: the marquee-like Exhibition Complex is imaginative and appropriate to the sea-front; the nearby Surf Centre and the Shop with polygonal units are almost as interesting, though their surroundings are not so well kept. The Shanty makes a strong statement on its corner and is specially smart. The Library, the Garda Station, the old Railway Station and the two Churches are well kept and imposing, though the Church of Ireland railings need repainting. Not all the shopfronts look as good as in the pictures: among those admired were Robinson's, Phelan's, Kelly's Classics and O'Neill's Bar. The Grand Hotel was being painted on adjudication, and the other hotels were also very well presented. The Sands House impressed particularly.

LANDSCAPING

The rockery with the horse trough is a pleasant feature on its corner; the grotto is well planted; the linear garden on the site of the old railway seemed rather neglected on adjudication day, but all the elements are present. Open grassed spaces at Riverstown need more effective maintenance in weed-cutting at the edges and removal of mowings. The little garden at the transformer station near the RC church is a delight.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The beach is magnificent, and evidently kept that way by concerned people. There is an abundance of marine, marshland and hedgerow wild life, but the excellent board illustrating fishes seems to be the only available source of

communicating these riches to the public. Last year's adjudicator's remarks are very relevant. Last year's mark seems rather high, but it will be left at that level in expectation of more information next year.

LITTER CONTROL

Control is good, considering the number of visitors, though there was litter in the vicinity of the Amusements. It was surprising to see some litter on the lawns at Riverstown.

TIDINESS

The main visitor areas are generally tidy, as are the shopping streets and residential areas. Kerbside weed was seen at a number of places, including The Reef. Three places could be described as black spots – the entrance to the landfill site (the committee's concern is well understood.), a corner opposite the Garda station, and an area between the South Shore and Strand Street.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Older terraced houses and cottages – many of them almost hidden away, like The Square – are almost without exception well kept. Such homes are essential to the attractiveness of Tramore. Mature estates like Elm Park have very pleasing gardens (it was a pity to see kerbside weed in several places – it should not take more than a few minutes for each individual householder to attend to this). Seaview estate is very well presented. New homes on the Waterford road, their profiles inspired by nearby older buildings, are very 'right' for Tramore. Meadowbrook promises well – it is encouraging to see young trees already planted.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Ongoing development has caused some roads to be unusually dirty. Street surfaces and paving are variable. Some back areas have been referred to above.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A town which seems brimful of energy, in a truly splendid natural situation. Only on close inspection are unsightly elements disclosed. This committee, aided by the relevant public bodies and individual business people and householders, are making improvements all the time: congratulations.