

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CAVAN**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 19-07-2001

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2001 | Mark Awarded 2000 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 36 | 36 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 35 | 35 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 32 | 32 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 15 | 15 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 29 | 31 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 14 | 14 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 23 | 23 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 25 | 25 |
| General Impression | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 216 | 218 |

Cavan, Co.Cavan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Cavan is commended for its overall developmental approach. The documents enclosed with the entry form were most informative and presented a comprehensive programme of activity in regard to improving the environmental attractions of the town. Much has been done in regard to its physical appearance. At the same time attention to detail, particularly in regard to maintenance and specifically litter pollution in the Cavan River should not be overlooked.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Cavan is going through a time of remarkable change. A number of new housing and commercial developments have already taken place or are in the course of construction. Cathedral of St. Patrick and St. Phelim is impressive and its grounds look very well with cut lawns and clean presentation. The Garda Station looks extremely well with small lawn and maturing trees in front backed by cobbled forecourt. The Courthouse is well presented with trees to front and well kept garden inside the railings. The new Jacksons show rooms represent an attractive piece of modern style which blends in well with the old. Farnham Street generally is a nice Georgian style street. The building in which the Hibernian Insurance have offices is not an attractive building but there are floral planters in its front forecourt to counter its austere lines. The Bus Station is nicely presented as is the School and its fine mature trees and garden. Opposite the school is an old detached building in Georgian style. Plastic has already been introduced to some windows and on the first floor one window is broken and another boarded up. Bridge Street is a very attractive street with a cobbled road surface and has a very attractive selection of small shops and pubs. While not pedestrianised it does have potential as a pedestrianised area. The Cavan Urban District offices look really well with their profuse displays of hanging baskets and window boxes. Some of the windows require maintenance. College Street is essentially a terrace of small commercial buildings and houses. Its attractive architecture is somewhat spoiled by some bad presentation and in one case, dilapidation. There are a number of vacant premises. The trees at its northern end lift its appearance. Church of Ireland and its surrounding mature lawns and trees at the junction of Farnham Street and Main Street is delightful. Disappointing to see the old St.Felim's Hospital building on the Belturbet Road showing boarded up windows. Looks an interesting building.

LANDSCAPING

Nice to see the replacement of the industrial style lamp standards by more attractively designed globes taking place along Main Street. Apart from a few set in front of the Post Office, there were virtually no trees the length of Main Street but there was a fine display of hanging flowers. The Market Square is well presented with colourful planters and lamp standards with hanging baskets. The fountain is in working order with its piece of sculpture. Townhall Street is attractive

with small business premises and good floral displays. The corner of Townhall and Farnham Streets displayed a very fine rose garden.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Con Smith Park looks attractive with trees and shrubs. The grass looked as though it could do with trimming. There was a nice decorative railing which runs the length of the park. The river which runs through Con Smith Park was badly polluted with litter. There is a wildlife area towards the Cootehill Road side but there was no interpretation. The grounds around the Abbey also offer town centre wildlife development but in its current state the lawns were weedy, and the memorial plot in a state of disrepair. There was some graffiti on the wall of the Abbey itself.

LITTER CONTROL

Cavan still has a litter problem. This is not seen so much on streets and footpaths where there were good levels of control but attention needs to be given to some high profile areas of the town. For example, two litterbins were full to overflowing in Market Square. At the Life Force Mill, the Cavan River was very badly polluted with rubbish. River Street was badly littered as was the Abbey in Abbeylands. The water fountain at the junction of Main Street and Connolly Street was also littered.

TIDINESS

Cavan Town is quite tidy but some of the surrounds need attention. There is a high level of construction work in some areas which brings untidiness associated with the development process. However, some encouragement should be given to businesses along the Dublin and the Ballinagh Roads where a number of premises are very untidy in their presentation.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The terrace of small houses along River Street look quite well. Meadow Park is a new estate where the public lawns were nicely trimmed and there was a fine variety of shrubs and trees. The Killeshandra entrance to the town was well presented with mature trees and private gardens. The frontage to a new apartment development has to be attended to. Between the old railway bridge and the Farnham St. roundabout is a nice terrace of new houses with well-maintained plants to front. Rocklands Estate presents well.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads to Cavan from the Killeshandra, Belturbet and Cootehill roads are excellent. The approaches from Dublin and Ballinagh are disappointing. On the Belturbet side Con Smith Park looks very well with fine footpath frontage and lamp posts with hanging flowers and tubs. To the right is an open green area with large stones forming the road front boundary which extends towards the town with nice floral plantations featured. On the Dublin Road approach Quinns Direct, The Kilmore Hotel, Dun Ui Neill are fine but generally there is an impression of untidiness amongst a number of premises closer to Cavan Town. The Cavan Crystal premises looks very well and although its gardens and fencing are well maintained

there is a lot of kerb weed where the kerb meets the road. The Cavan Town sign is obscured by uncut hedging. While some landscaping work is taking place the co-operation of business premises is essential. The car park at the Liferforce Mill has very unattractive views towards the back of Connolly Street buildings.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Cavan is making excellent strides in improving its environment. The town is characterised by a large number of small business premises which gives it an attractive variety of individual shop fronts and colours. There are some very impressive town centre improvements taking place. The Bridge Street area, the road surfacing and street furnishings along Main Street are good examples.