

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **COBH**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **E**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	34	33
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	25	26
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	26	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	8	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>214</b>

## **Cobh, County Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Many thanks for your map and very clear application submission both of which were most helpful on the day. Your plans for the town's future are extremely thorough and well considered. You appear to have covered all aspects of the competition even those that are generally considered problem areas for entrants. Your tourist map of the town at the new superloo should be very useful for the many visitors that Cobh attracts. The Titanic trail should also provide a route of much interest for visitors and residents alike.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The brightly coloured shop fronts of the town looked extremely well on the day against the backdrop of the magnificent Cathedral on the hill. Generally shop fronts were in extremely good condition, although one or two were in need of attention in comparison. The Keen House and English's are both attractive traditional shop fronts. The Town Hall looked very fresh with its anchor displayed outside. The museum in the old church is quite charming, although its sign was in need of a fresh coat of paint. The Water's Edge Hotel was extremely fresh as was the Garda Station in its terraced position. The attractive bandstand on the promenade was greatly admired. In terms of buildings that were in need attention the Ceard Scoil and grounds is in extremely bad condition and appeared abandoned. This building would be well worth restoration. As indeed would the old brick customs house with boarded up windows at the waters edge.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The standard in this aspect of the competition was extremely good. The grotto was extremely well maintained and the relatively new trees in this vicinity were coming along well. The hanging baskets filled with petunias on lamp standards throughout the town looked extremely well. The adjudicator was particularly pleased to hear that these would be used in the Wintertime, also when they would be filled with heathers. The monument on the main square was well maintained. Your tree planting, flowerbed and barrel projects are certainly paying off. In terms of further improvement in this area, encouragement should be given to private premises such as the car show rooms at the Cork entrance to the town which would benefit greatly from some softening of its forecourt area.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The management plan for Cuskinny Reserve Area certainly made interesting reading. The document reads well and the proposals for school trips and information days are extremely

worthwhile ones. Your connections to the East Cork Bird Trail and Bird Watch Ireland are also to be commended. The adjudicator was pleased to hear of Scoil Iosaif Naofa success in terms of media coverage for their wildlife garden.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The standard of litter control on the day was reasonably good considering the numbers of visitors that Cobh attracts. A lot of litter was evident at Scoil Iosaf Naofa and car park for Cuskinny Reserve. However quite a few papers were evident on the Cork approach road. Your provisions for separate bins to cater for dog waste and chewing gum were read with interest.

### **TIDINESS**

The town generally gave a neat and ordered appearance on the day. One or two problem areas were apparent such as dead weeds to the base of the stone wall on the Cork approach road. Also on this approach the welcome sign announcing Cobh's twin town was in extremely bad condition, so much so that the name of the other town could not be read! Some rusty barrels and metal rails in this vicinity were also unfortunate.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The standard in this category of the competition was quite high with both individual houses and estates obviously being well cared for. The attractive houses on the Cork approach were greatly admired. Visitor accommodation such as Elmville B&B and others contribute very positively to the residential stock of Cobh. A pretty gate lodge with valerian over-spilling its stone boundary wall and magnificent view out to Cork harbour, was admired on this approach.

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

The streets of the town were generally well cared for on the day. In terms of the Cork Road, this is an attractive approach to the town looking out over Cork harbour across to Passagewest and Monkstown beyond. The planting at the Cobh sign and the snapdragons at the welcome sign looked most cheerful on this approach.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Cobh is an attractive busy town which has been improving steadily over its years in the competition. It looked very cheerful on adjudication day.