

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LEIXLIP**
County : **KILDARE**
Category : **F**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 17-07-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	34
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	28	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	18
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	201	192

Leixlip, Co. Kildare

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Leixlip is a handsome town located on the banks of the River Liffey and can boast an interesting layout with quite dramatic rises and falls of its roads and streets. The town was well presented overall on adjudication day. Congratulations on your Green Town 2000 achievement and welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Public buildings were all nicely presented and were complemented by well maintained shopfronts, Hotels and Lounge Bars. Car parking is well organised into car parking bays on streets and in car parks for 'off street' parking. An important exception was Ralph Square which was congested with parked vehicles so much so that it was impossible to move through it. Shopping areas located away from the central area, e.g. River Forest were being well maintained also. The footpath which covers the small stream from Marshfield House is not finished to a high standard and needs improvement. The fountain amenity area looked well.

LANDSCAPING

Your Daffodil Day of last year sounds like a great success and great fun. It is this kind of initiative which engenders a strong sense of community spirit. It is gratifying to know that these flowers will continue to reappear each year without any further work on your part. Well done! Landscaping around the town was admired especially stands of mature trees and shrubberies. Your incidental seated amenity areas looked a little neglected. These items of street furniture need to be cleaned regularly, especially in a town with a high volume of traffic. Some of them could have been enhanced further by featuring container plants (not bedding plants).

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Congratulations again! This time for your wonderful Linear River Park along the banks of the River Liffey. This is a fine public amenity and was being thoroughly enjoyed on adjudication day. Your survey of wildlife along the canal bank will heighten public awareness. The 'Clean Up Day' in the wood sounds like an other fun and fruitful day. The Intel Ireland Butterfly Conservation Project is an excellent example of different sectors of the community coming together to promote, protect and enjoy our natural heritage. A big 'thank you' to all involved.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control could be stronger. 'Take Away' litter was

noted at St. Mary's Church and a light scattering was observed throughout the town centre and in particular along Captains Hill. The derelict litter bin at the latter location did not help as it was a bit of an eyesore itself (a yellow one secured to a pole). No marks were lost this year but if the situation is not improved by next year's competition, you may experience a substantial drop in marks.

TIDINESS

We wish you every success in your efforts to address the problem of derelict buildings. No doubt the derelict site beside Café Mila will soon be redeveloped. The area around the recycling points was tidy. The roadside area to the ESB sub station was a dreadful eyesore! Have you brought this to their attention?

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The presentation of some forecourt areas / small gardens to residential properties along The Mall was disappointing given their location on the Main Street of the town and their otherwise elegant appearance. Housing estates are being nicely maintained and presented and the Castlepark was beautiful.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Footpaths, road surfaces and street furniture all looked well and as noted above car parking was well organised into parking bays or into off street car parks. Approach roads to Leixlip are being well maintained with good nameplates. The bridge railing over the River Liffey should be refurbished / replaced. It was good to note wirescape free areas in the town centre. Site and back areas were reasonably well presented.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Congratulations on achievements to date. You may need to rethink your litter management strategy. A word of thanks to all the children involved in the Clean Up Day, the Daffodil Planting Day and The Butterfly Conservation Project.