

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **DUNDALK**
County : **LOUTH**
Category : **F**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	40	38
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	33	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	26	24
Tidiness	20	15	12
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	7	6
TOTAL MARK	300	223	210

Dundalk, Co. Louth

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Dundalk is very welcome to the 2001 Tidy Towns Competition. There are wonderful scenic views of gently rolling hills across Dundalk Bay, which act as a backdrop to the town. The plethora of maps, both for the town and the amenities of the surrounding countryside, make a visit to Dundalk an enjoyable experience and facilitates the exploration of the town and its hinterland. It is easy to negotiate one's way around Dundalk.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The new Fire Brigade station is an attractive development. There are some excellent buildings in the town, but there are also many buildings that need to be refurbished to their roadside façades at least. First Active is to be congratulated on its facility for disabled access. The town is a successful mix of single, two, three and four storey buildings and a wide variety of architectural styles. Public buildings and civic offices in general together with ecclesiastical buildings are presented to the highest standard. A very good all round effort, congratulations. A number of premises are being considered for awards.

LANDSCAPING

The Ice House Hill Park is a wonderful development, it serves a valuable recreational amenity purpose and it is also an important visual amenity. The O'Hanlon Park Walk, with its range of mature and semi-mature trees and shrubberies, is delightful. The civic amenity facility is the best that this adjudicator has seen anywhere in the country, congratulations. Most industrial properties, particularly those on the outskirts of the town are beautifully landscaped. The same can be said of the Louth County Council offices. Landscaping along the ring roads is also maturing nicely. Dundalk is being nominated for the landscape award. You really are to be congratulated for your tree survey.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Graveyards are being nicely maintained. The entrance to the Riverside Walk on the Fair Green road is attractive in its presentation and complements the scenic view of the bay and the hills beyond. There are many wildlife habitats in the town and its environs, might these need to be protected in the face of on-going developments.

LITTER CONTROL

A small amount of litter was spotted at the railway bridge and near the Freight Depot and some near the shops on the Carrickmacross road. A small area under the low bridge in O'Hanlon Park was quite littered as, indeed, were some

stretches of O'Hanlon Park. Litter control along Bridge street, Church street and Clanbrassil street is excellent, well done! Trees have established themselves beautifully along these roads and complement the wonderful lampstandards. Unfortunately there was a lapse in litter control in the town square.

TIDINESS

The site at the junction of the Castletown road and Bellewstownpark road looks untidy in its present state, no doubt this is only a temporary arrangement pending development works here. A derelict site on the Castletown road is another problem under this heading but this is probably due for redevelopment soon.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The new Castle Ross residential development is impressive in its presentation as indeed are most new developments. Town houses look elegant. The town is a successful mix of architectural styles.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The vintage lampstandards along O'Hanlon Park road and running along the perimeter of the Ice House Hill Park are stunning. The newly surfaced road and footpath along the Castletown road and carparking bays are noted. It was good to note the street names throughout the town. These are not only useful but, of course, attractive also and it was good to note that they were bi-lingual. Old Irish namesigns should be retained, for example, the one on St. Alphonsis road. Car parking is well organised around the town.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

There has been a generous increase in marks this year for your appreciation of the importance of landscaping throughout the town and the high degree of maintenance in this respect. The civic amenity plant together with your overall developmental approach in relation to street signs, town maps, maps of the town in relation to its hinterland and other interpretative facilities have also earned extra marks for Dundalk.