

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **HOWTH**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	33
The Built Environment	40	27	28
Landscaping	40	27	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	24	24
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	6	7
TOTAL MARK	300	203	202

Howth, County Dublin

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Thank you for a highly comprehensive report, which you provided with your entry form. The management plan for the Howth Special Amenity area order is very comprehensive and once all the suggested developments have been made it will enhance the area greatly. Community involvement in the tidy towns project in Howth is good. The committee have a good relationship with Fingal County Council and involve the local schools in the project. This ensures overall community awareness of the development of the area.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Howth is full of character. The harbour area and many of the residential areas offer a wide variety of architectural styles. There is a wide variety of residential property, from housing estates to individual houses, all of which are well maintained. Howth harbour is nicely developed as both a leisure and working port. There is ample parking in the harbour road, which is an advantage to the businesses and restaurants in this area. The railway station as you enter Howth is presented well. It was a shame to see the Hotel St. Lawrence building, which has quite a prominent position on the Harbour Road, to be in such disrepair. Some work was been carried out on this area on the day adjudication and hopefully some work will be completed in the coming months. Howth Lodge Hotel was also quite run down and in need of some repair, however I do understand that objections have been made in relation to the development of both of these sites. Many of the shop fronts on the Harbour road and Abbey Street were well maintained, however the library on Abbey Street is in need of some maintenance.

LANDSCAPING

Many areas of Howth are beautifully landscaped. The green areas in front of the harbour are on the most part well maintained, with some lovely kerb shrubs. The area directly in front of the Marina on the Harbour Road was in need of some attention, however despite the lack of funding the local residents should be commended for their commitment to the revamping of this area. There are some lovely planters outside the apartment complex on the Harbour Road. The Summit area would benefit from some attention. Many of the private residents should be commended for the landscaping of their properties. Some kerb maintenance is required in some areas. Balkill Park and Nashville road are in need of some kerb maintenance. Involving one of the local schools in the landscaping project near their school is an excellent initiative as it encourages the children to become involved.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Howth has many beautiful natural amenities. The hill and cliff walk provide opportunities for residents and visitors. The information panels in Howth assist visitors and residents in appreciating the local environment. It is a great initiative to encourage the local children to become involved in the area with the wildlife section of the newsletter.

LITTER CONTROL

Overall, there was small evidence of litter on the day of adjudication - with a large number of people visiting Howth this problem has been tackled well over the last number of years. However, there was a large amount of litter stacked against the recycling area on the day of adjudication which was a shame. The Clean Up days is a good initiative to create awareness.

TIDINESS

The overall level of tidiness in Howth is quite good. The Howth Look Good Competition is an excellent idea, which encourages people to take pride in their area. Some elements such as the Lawrence Hotel building add to the untidiness of the area, as do the skips which were outside some residential properties whilst work is being carried out on them. These however are temporary measures and on a whole are well contained.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many of the residential areas are well maintained. With a wide variety of houses and apartment complexes in the area it provides Howth with a lot of character. Nashville Road is a lovely residential area, however some kerb maintenance is required. Kerb and tree maintenance should not be overlooked in the residential areas.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach road from Sutton into Howth is well maintained and the cycle lanes are well marked. There is adequate car parking in Howth. However the car park opposite Susan's Eye shop was in need of some pothole maintenance. Some of the smaller lanes and short cut lanes are in need of some maintenance.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Howth is a beautiful area that has developed well over the number of years. All committee members and people involved in the preservation of Howth should be commended for their hard work and dedication. All future development plans for the area are good, as they will not only improve Howth but also maintain the character of the area.