

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **RAHENY**
County : **DUBLIN**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 04-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	34
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	206	203

Raheny, County Dublin

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Raheny is welcome to the 2002 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your application and map, together with details of work accomplished. It is good to note that you work in co-operation with the Heritage Society, The Business Association and Residents Associations and Near FM, not to mention the Dublin City Council and local schools. The village enjoys a good location close to the amenities of Bull Island and St. Anne's Park. Your approach to planning applications is thoughtful and your concept of the Committee as a partner is commendable. We wish you well in the preparation and implementation of a plan for the conservation and development of Raheny. We acknowledge the problem presented by car parking, particularly in the environs of the DART station, and wish you well with any initiatives to address this problem. Your suggestion that the entry form should be on the Department's website will be considered. Thank you for your observation.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church of Ireland is magnificent and other public buildings are well presented also, e.g. the Youth Club and, of course, the Catholic Church. Business premises, for the most part, enjoy a good level of maintenance. The village centre redevelopment is attractive, however on the day of adjudication, an overflowing litter bin was noted, which spoiled its appearance somewhat.

LANDSCAPING

Many flower beds around the village had not yet been planted on our first visit. No doubt this was due to the amount of rain that we have experienced in early June. The grounds of the Hospice is exceptional in its presentation, and stands of mature trees along both the Watermill Road and the Howth Road are magnificent.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The enhancement of the Santry River amenity as identified in your three year plan is noted. We look forward to its successful completion, however we realise that this will take some time as it is a major task. Perhaps a wildlife project might be undertaken, such as a species survey to identify any protection measures that may be necessary for wildlife. The Bull Island Nature Reserve and St. Annes are, of course, wonderful amenities to have on your doorstep. Your participation in the ESB Bird Watch Ireland Winter Garden Bird Count has been noted. Perhaps you can submit details of the outcome and of your activities in next year's application.

LITTER CONTROL

As noted above, an overflowing litter bin featured in the village centre. Litter was noted also inside the footpath on the James Larkin Road and in Belmont Park. The area around the shops in the village centre was lightly littered also. We note your mention of regular clean-ups by your group on your application. Perhaps these need to be conducted more frequently to combat the litter problem.

TIDINESS

It is good to note that the group takes immediate action on illegal dumping and keeps a watchful eye on the area, well done. Many service boxes featured an amount of graffiti and sections of the footpath along the James Larkin Road looked untidy with deposits of mud, which may have been the results of flooding.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Residential estates are presented to a high standard and greens are being nicely maintained. Litter was not a problem in residential estates in general. Most boundary walls however throughout the village need to be upgraded. There are some fine houses with interesting architectural details on the Howth Road. The thatched cottage on Fox's Lane continues to impress.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Well done on the new nameplates and signs identifying residential estates. A road sign on Fox's Lane might be refurbished. Some litter bins along the James Larkin Road are defaced and could be upgraded. The wirescape in the village centre at the Youth Club and Station House looks quite bad and hopefully will be ducted in time. It is good to note that the group attends to back lanes also.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The overall appearance of the village is exceptionally good for such a busy area and the Tidy Towns Committee and partners are to be commended.