

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LEGAN**
County : **LONGFORD**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23	23
The Built Environment	40	22	22
Landscaping	40	30	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	14
Litter Control	40	28	25
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	16	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	180	173

Legan, County Longford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Both from observation and from reading your entry form there is a great deal of activity in Legan. It would serve you well to make out a list of your priorities on a year-to-year basis in the form of a 3-year Development Plan, showing objectives for completion of specific projects in each successive year: in actually hundreds of other centres this has helped to focus attention and to act as a stimulus to the work (while incidentally increasing the marking under this heading) This adjudicator had not been in Legan before and was impressed by the vitality of the village and by its potential for improvement. Probably at no other time in the last hundred years has Legan seen so much change taking place, and it is essential that the community should have a strong influence on its own future.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The church and school are well kept. Whyte's shop is very smart, and the small stone-gabled house with floral decorations opposite is appealing to the eye. A handsome vacant house opposite the school needs attention. The beginning of the building of the Heritage Cottage was seen - it is hoped that this will not replicate several imitation traditional cottages in other centres which have cost a lot of work and have turned out to be of little interest to anyone - probably your plans will avoid that. The amusing murals at the ball alley were admired.

LANDSCAPING

The grounds of both church and school are neat and colourful. Lawns at the principal housing in the village centre looked well on the date of the visit, and the interestingly designed planters were well filled. The boat was seen to be prepared in readiness for the planting of annuals. Do lift grass (at the ball alley) immediately after mowing.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is a huge opportunity for tree planting along the Ardagh Road, similar to what you have done so successfully on the other two approach roads. Have you considered the NeighbourWood scheme, which is mentioned in your Tidy Towns documentation and is specially devised for community involvement? - you may have a location in the neighbourhood which would benefit. It was very good to read of the work done in cleaning the river bed. It might be worth considering the planting of tall flowering shrubs such as laburnum or lilac by the bridge - this would enhance the river area tremendously in a very short time.

LITTER CONTROL

There was hardly any litter in Legan on adjudication day - congratulations. Be sure that litter bins are provided at the new housing estates.

TIDINESS

With so much construction work under way it is surprising that the village remains fairly tidy. There is quite an amount of weed along the Ardagh Road. The frontage of the GAA park is very neat. A ruined building and an unsightly corrugated iron roof in the vicinity of Tiernan's detract from the scene in the village centre.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The older houses, particularly those with gardens, are very pleasing. The new estate next the church is promising - be sure there is provision for tree planting. The principal estate is well kept. The name sign at the Crescent was obscured by weeds on adjudication day. The new estate planned for the Rathowen Road seems unfortunately sited at quite a distance from the village; you should ensure that a footpath will be built along the main road for the safety of children, people with prams, etc.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The surface is poor in the vicinity of the Post Office and bridge, but not too bad in the village centre in spite of the heavy construction traffic. Verges on all three approach roads are trim.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A lively village of much charm undergoing unprecedented change. The Development Association will surely rise to the challenge of ensuring that these changes are for the betterment of the people and of the pleasant local environment. In this good work you are wished the best of success.