

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **WESTPORT**
County : **MAYO**
Category : **D**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-2002

| | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2002 | Mark Awarded 2001 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50 | 47 | 47 |
| The Built Environment | 40 | 37 | 37 |
| Landscaping | 40 | 37 | 37 |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30 | 25 | 24 |
| Litter Control | 40 | 30 | 29 |
| Tidiness | 20 | 18 | 18 |
| Residential Areas | 30 | 26 | 26 |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas | 40 | 36 | 36 |
| General Impression | 10 | 9 | 9 |
| TOTAL MARK | 300 | 265 | 263 |

Westport, County Mayo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your comprehensive supporting documentation accompanying your application, the Westport Tidy Towns 2002 Plan update shows the continuing commitment of all concerned. All participants appear to have a sense of purpose while endeavouring to be proactive and enthusiastic in their mission. The Tidy Towns 2002 Plan while outlying achievements to date also maps out in a user friendly way your objectives for the future with the local community, Tidy Towns Committee and Town Council working together.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As in previous years the majority of landmark buildings are well maintained and very well presented, however the restored Custom House at the Quay looked neglected, the two bank premises located on the Mall should brighten up their properties, the Post Office and Garda Station looked well as did the various Hotels with their abundance of bright and colourful flowers. The Octagon being in such a pivotal location in the town was also well presented.

LANDSCAPING

The various bedding of flowers and shrubs located throughout the town are resplendent in their colour and add an air of brightness and tidiness especially at the major intersections and adding a welcoming splash of colour. Westport House Estate, the Quay and Fairgreen are well maintained and presented to a good standard. The planting of semi mature trees in the various locations throughout the town enhance the streets and roads.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The overall programme of activities in this category as undertaken by Westport is very obvious and showing results, it is good to see the schools supporting the various initiatives both in this category and in litter awareness. On adjudication day a number of anglers were in evidence on the banks of the river, various wildlife on the river, active bird tables on dry land all combined to create an impressive sight.

LITTER CONTROL

Overall there is no major problem with litter in the Town, on adjudication day, the upper stretch of Bridge Street had some evidence of litter along the edge of the footpaths as did the rear of the Library Building. Council outdoor staff were in evidence throughout the town ensuring litter did not accumulate. Outlying approach roads looked well and had little or no evidence of litter, I am sure the Committee in their efforts with their clean

ups have helped in this regard.

TIDINESS

As a planned town Westport by nature lends itself to a neat and orderly appearance and combined with the support and work of the local Community the town looked well on adjudication day, notwithstanding the current temporary roadworks still taking place throughout the town. The storing of beer kegs in laneways should be discouraged. The walls and pillars on the lane between Mill Street car park and Bridge Street require painting.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private dwellings are very well maintained both in the town centre and in the estates with the majority having their gardens well presented. It is sad to see there are still some neglected houses in the town a case in point would be two properties located on the Quay Hill near the Octagon.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

As in previous reports Altamont Street road surface requires attention, as does part of the footpath on the Mall running parallel to the riverside wall. The work undertaken along the Carrowbeg River especially at the Crescent is bearing fruit and looks very well. The car parks were well presented. The lane ways at Demesne Road and Upper Quay Road/Moorings require attention.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The completed projects and work to date is a credit to all concerned as a national winner last year you have had to set your goals even higher this year. The town and its environs were very busy on the day of our visit, hopefully the town's character and achievements to date will not be lost with all the traffic passing through the core of the town, which looks likely to continue for the immediate future. In reviewing your achievements your strategies are well founded and practical, ensuring achievable and deliverable goals over the period of the five year plan. While one achieves success in the competition, even achieving the ultimate accolade as Westport has done, it is essential past achievements are not overlooked and standards are maintained. To all concerned continued success and keep up the good work.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (06/08/2002)

Westport looked superb for second adjudication. Flower displays were in full bloom, green areas had been recently trimmed, and the duck population was being enjoyed by the public! The majority of buildings were well presented. Those in need of attention included The Westport Washeteria and Walsh Enterprises both on High Street. The Ulster bank looked quite well but the Bank of Ireland premises needed to be cleaned or

painted. There are still a few dated plastic neon beer signs to be seen in the town. Buildings which are being considered for an award include; 'Jack Dylans', 'Carrig Donn', 'Henehans', the AIB premises and 'Matt Molloy's'. The latter premises is let down by the dated beer sign and the beer barrels on the footpath outside. An incidental area within the private open space of the A.I.B. premises which can be seen from the footpath was 'crying out' for a sculpture piece! Westport Quay is a wonderful amenity. We look forward to charting future developments here. The railway station was tidy and attractively presented.