

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CARRICK-ON-SUIR**
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**
Category : **E**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	206	203

Carrick-on-Suir, County Tipperary

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you indeed for all the information sent with your entry form and for the map which was most useful on adjudication day. In recent years Carrick-on-Suir has grown considerably which, in turn, creates environmental problems. It has to be said however that the Tidy Towns group are doing excellent work and in this connection it is encouraging to note that you have the continuous support of the Urban District Council, County Council, FAS, SERTA and local groups for your efforts. You received an in depth report last year. The following therefore should be read in the context of that report.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Public buildings such as the Library, Garda Station, Courthouse, Heritage Centre, Tudor Manor, most commercial premises, banks and hotels were very well presented. Work on the Garda Station was noted. Unfortunately there was evidence of litter in the grounds of the Tudor Manor. Shop fronts are generally attractive. Some however need refurbishing. The development at SuperValu and its car park greatly enhances that area of the town.

LANDSCAPING

Over many years vast areas of Carrick-on-Suir has been landscaped notably Sean Kelly Sports Complex, Sean Healy Park, Castle Park and the Fairgreen. In line with the information supplied all sites were visited again this year and further progress is noted. The Sean Kelly Sports Complex is developing very nicely and will be entered for the Landscape Award. Carrick-on-Suir is fortunate in having many open spaces but this in turn creates the problem of maintenance. However, to date, this has been well handled and great credit is due to all concerned. Floral displays throughout the town and in the housing estates also create a very nice ambience and should be encouraged where possible.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

All the areas mentioned on the entry form were visited. Unfortunately, and probably because of the weather, there was little or no evidence of wildlife. The comments made in last year's report regarding interpretation should be noted.

LITTER CONTROL

The centre of Carrick-on-Suir was practically litter free on adjudication day. Unfortunately, there was evidence of litter in the Tudor Manor grounds, the Park (opposite the Garda Station), some side streets and on the Quays. This is an important

part of the competition which needs constant monitoring.

TIDINESS

In general the town was presented in a neat and tidy manner. Inevitably some areas were untidy due to commercial activity. Perhaps there is a greater need to create an awareness of this aspect of environmental control.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of the housing estates in Carrick-on-Suir were visited and, in general were well presented. New housing developments are progressing well with the majority of open spaces being well maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Streets and pavements are being well maintained. The access road however from the Tudor Manor area to the Quays was badly pot holed and in urgent need of repair. Adjudication normally takes place from either between the speed limit signs or the town nameplate signs which ever you opt for. In most cases this year, while there was some evidence of trimming this seems to be an aspect of the competition which is being neglected. The condition of the verges on approach roads is important as it tends to set the tone for the rest of the area. In this connection consult the Tidy Towns' handbook which gives guidance on how this cutting should be carried out in terms of the preservation of wild flowers

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Overall Carrick-on-Suir creates an impression of a vibrant commercial town but which, nevertheless, has a feeling for the preservation of its environment. It will be important however and recommended that you will produce a 3 to 5 year plan for your Tidy Towns effort and in doing so try to identify what can be achieved over that period within you physical and financial resources. In this connection you might consult with your regional Tourism Authority based in Waterford who have long experience of this competition and will be only too glad to advise on all aspects of it. In the meantime, keep up the good work.