

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LISMORE**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	46	43
The Built Environment	40	36	36
Landscaping	40	38	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	27	26
Litter Control	40	36	35
Tidiness	20	17	16
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	34	32
General Impression	10	9	8
TOTAL MARK	300	266	254

Lismore, County Waterford

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for all the information sent with the entry form and for the superb maps which made it so easy to adjudicate the centre. You are obviously taking a very methodical approach to your involvement in the competition and the development of Lismore in general, and this is to be highly commended. Your Development Plan is excellent. However, you should try to identify what you can realistically achieve within your physical and financial resources on a year by year basis. The objective is to have most items covered at the end of the 5 year period. Do not try to do everything together. This only leads to frustration. Your overall approach is indeed a very good example of what other centres should be doing and you are to be congratulated on it.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

All your main buildings were again visited this year – the Heritage Centre, Church, Library, Community Centre, and St. Carthage's Cathedral. Schools, Fire Station, Credit Union Building and, of course, your superb Heritage Park of which more later. The Garda Station looked well and public toilets are well maintained. The Public Offices on the Tallow road are in lovely condition and the Hospital and its grounds were superb. The standard of maintenance on these premises is excellent and is a credit to the various bodies which are responsible for them. Work on the Famine House was also noted and is progressing well. Most commercial premises throughout the town looked well. Some, however, looked tired and could do with refurbishment. The Lismore Hotel, situated as it is in the centre of town, is also being well maintained and the Monument is a lovely feature.

LANDSCAPING

The Millennium Park is superb. The highest congratulations go to all concerned. It is remarkable what has been achieved in the Park over the last twelve months and must now, side by side with Lismore Castle Gardens, be one of the major attractions in the town. Great credit is due to all concerned and the Park will be entered for the Landscape Award. All landscaping sites marked on your map and mentioned in your report were visited. The display outside Lismore Hotel is indeed magnificent and is complimented greatly by the landscaping carried out on the Cappoquin approach road, at the Grotto and its immediate surroundings, at St. Carthage's Cathedral, and indeed right throughout the town. The hanging baskets on the Millennium Park wall creates a lovely effect as indeed do window boxes, tubs of flowers and other hanging baskets presented by individual households and business premises. On adjudication day, they were a joy to behold. Well done to all concerned.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The sites at the Canal and the Tallow road were visited but, unfortunately, on adjudication day, wild life was not to be seen. This is not unusual particularly when the weather is bad. The interest of the Schools and the Gun Club are noted and are to be encouraged. By way of items that can be physically seen at all times, it is suggested that you might consider the provision, say in the Canal area, of feeding tables and nesting boxes for wild birds which would create a nice atmosphere and be of further attraction for visitors. Perhaps this is something that the school children could take on

LITTER CONTROL

Lismore was practically litter free on adjudication day. Congratulations to all concerned. Minor littering was to be seen in the car park attached to the Lismore Hotel (much improved on last year) and in the Upper New Street area. This is something which needs to be monitored constantly during the adjudication period.

TIDINESS

On adjudication day the town was presented in a very neat and tidy manner. Pallet storage was seen and your comments were noted. Hopefully this is a problem which will solve itself in due course.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The new housing estates at Mountain View, Lis An Oir and Beachgrove were visited. Hopefully these will be completed by next year and will be a tremendous addition to Lismore. The building sites are naturally untidy but this has been taken into consideration when adjudicating. Most houses throughout the town looked well. Some, perhaps, could do with a coat of paint. Lismore has a number of mature housing estates, most of which were visited and were found to be in good condition with their open spaces being generally well maintained. Due to the wet weather some open spaces were slightly overgrown and need constant cutting. Many individual residences had lovely gardens in full bloom which created a wonderful atmosphere and all concerned are again to be congratulated. Some derelict sites or closed up houses were noted but these were the exception, rather than the rule. Where derelict sites exist, you should make contact with Waterford County Council who, under the Derelict Sites Act, are empowered to take action against site owners where necessary.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads were again very well presented and street furniture has been well maintained. Road surfaces and pathways were excellent and, in this respect, great credit is due to Waterford County Council.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The wonderful improvements in Lismore over the past number of years are a credit to your Committee and your community and your interest in the preservation of the environment in which you live. You are fortunate to be so well endowed with many fine buildings and a lovely rural setting which makes Lismore a joy to visit on each occasion. As mentioned last year, good planning and attention to detail can only lead to national recognition.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (03/08/02)

The positive comments of the first adjudicator are heartily endorsed by the second.

The Lismore of the present day probably possesses a greater sense of confidence and prosperity than at any time in its varied history. Good taste and imagination go hand in hand. There is both dignity and entrepreneurial panache.

(Incidentally, there must be a huge demand for a first class coffee/teashop in this highly visitor-motivated town; the choice at present falls short of the standard expected.)

While there are still some blemishes, these are known to the committee, and are minor. All the voluntary groups and the official bodies listed, as well as individual householders and business people, deserve the highest commendation.