

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Athy**

Ref: **411**

County: **Kildare**

Mark: **207**

Category: **E**

Date: **04/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	30	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	22
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>207</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for your submission that included an excellent map of the town and a long-term plan. Your submission should include a schedule of work completed during the year. This will allow you to monitor your progress and achievements on a regular basis.

The Athy Tidy Towns Committee remains strong and they have been working in cooperation with other local community groups and with the local authority.

### The Built Environment:

Athy is a medieval town that consists of a central core that straddles the river Barrow and is surrounded by a large number of residential areas. The town has been designated as a 'Heritage Town' and contains an interesting body of historical buildings from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries - most of which are located in the main core of the town.

### Landscaping:

The town has two main integral landscape features: the Barrow and the Grand Canal. Both of these offer considerable scope for landscaping, but so far only small sections of the river have been landscaped and open to the community. The Main Street has a number of flower baskets and tubs that help to brighten the street. The Main Street could benefit from a detailed landscape programme, perhaps linked to the river and the canal.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

The river and canal offer considerable opportunity to develop a wildlife or nature trail.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter remains a problem in the town. Considerable litter was noticed in the Main Street, the secondary streets and on the approach roads.

### **Tidiness:**

During the inspection the town was extremely busy and colorful. Despite this, the overall presentation lacked tidiness, particularly around the canal area. The street-scape looked dull and many of the premises could benefit from upgrading and painting.

### **Residential Areas:**

There are a large number of housing developments around the town. Many of these are nicely presented, with well kept houses, attractive gardens, well managed open spaces and planting. Other areas, however, fail to live up to this standard.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The approach to the town are very good, with well managed verges, hedges and trees, as well as areas of stone walling. However, weed control was a problem in some places, as were derelict sites. The number of road signs on the Kilcullan Road was very distracting.

### **General Impression:**

The sheer scale and spread of Athy presents difficulties for the Tidy Towns Committee. Overall, some areas of the town have benefitted considerably from the efforts of the group, while others have not been so fortunate.