

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Roscommon**

Ref: **433**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **214**

Category: **D**

Date: **12/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	37
The Built Environment	40	29	27
Landscaping	40	34	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	17
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	214	202

Overall Developmental Approach:

Roscommon is welcome to the 2003 Tidy Towns Competition. There have been many fine developments in the town over the past few years and these have enhanced the cultural, social and physical fabric of the town. Scenic views both into the town and out are one of its more valuable features and these should be protected. We note your work in partnership with the county council and the schools. Congratulations on your urban renewal designation and we look forward to the ducting of service cables from the town centre completely. Roscommon is being considered for many awards this year.

The Built Environment:

It was a pleasure to note the refurbishment of commercial properties on the N60. The Cash and Carry property here looks set for refurbishment also. Commercial properties marking the entrance from the Longford road are excellent in presentation, well done. Congratulations to 'Bear An Raille' for their new bilingual shop sign. Your work along Brogans lane has been noted and we look forward to the completion of this project. The entrance to the Sacred Heart Home and Hospital is excellent as is the presentation of Teach-De-hIde and the Western Health Board premises. A number of dilapidated buildings were noted along Castle Street, hopefully these will be refurbished soon. It is wonderful to see that the Castle is now accessible and developments here look well. The Roscommon West Business Park is being considered for the architectural award and both the Castle and Brogans lane are being considered for heritage awards.

Landscaping:

The entire town together with its approach roads and entrances from approach roads together with roundabouts are tastefully landscaped and enjoy an excellent standard of maintenance. The small flowerbed at the bridge on the Galway road is a nice touch. Congratulations on the development of the Town Park, this is a fine amenity for the town and is beautifully landscaped it can only improve over the years as trees and shrubs mature. We look forward to the erection of a wildlife information panel and the Bird Walk mentioned in your submission.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Loch na nEan is a valuable wildlife amenity and it is good to note the measures that are being taken to promote an awareness of this fine facility as well as to protect it from the encroachment of further development. Stands of wild flowers which could be seen from the Loch road presented a sea of colour. The area is an important wetland habitat to several species of bird. It is ideally located and visible from both the Creggs and the Castlereagh road. Your initiative in this regard is being considered for the wildlife award as is Mote Park and the forest walk.

Litter Control:

Well done on designating Goff Street as a litter free zone. No doubt your designation of Church Street will also pay dividends. It is good to note the support of the business community in this regard and also the valuable work of litter wardens. Litter control was quite good throughout the town although some was noted on Castle Street.

Tidiness:

There are still a number of undeveloped sites on the entrance from the Longford road which present a problem under this heading however, no doubt these will be developed in time. We noted problems of untidiness on the ring road. Other untidy sites included some in the vicinity of the Railway Station and one at the top of Convent Road. Ensure that all building materials are removed upon completion of work. Well done on the recycling initiative.

Residential Areas:

Residential properties are presented to a high standard in general. Keep reminding people about the importance of the presentation of their boundary walls. Some in particular were noted out along the Athlone road and in Hawthorn Drive that were in need of attention. Work in progress on new housing developments were noted both on Convent Road and on the road to the Castle. These looked promising and no doubt will make an important contribution to the town in terms of both the built environment and its social fabric.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approach roads to Roscommon are excellent in presentation, particularly in respect of maturing trees and shrubberies together with well maintained grass verges. Roundabouts are beautifully presented, flower displays were very much admired here. Name plates are well presented also. A stretch of concrete block wall on the entrance from the Longford road could be stonefaced. The wirescape on Goff Street and the Main Street is still unsightly; is this to be ducted with ducting in the Square? We hope so. Footpaths on the Curraghboy road are nicely presented and road surfaces here look well.

General Impression:

Roscommon is a town that is improving steadily each year, going from strength to strength, which makes it a pleasure to visit and an important cultural venue. Thank you for your continued participation and your enthusiasm. We wish you well in the future.