

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Moville**

Ref: **159**

County: **Donegal**

Mark: **235**

Category: **C**

Date: **29/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	39	38
The Built Environment	40	36	34
Landscaping	40	34	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	22	19
Litter Control	40	30	32
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	235	227

Overall Developmental Approach:

The three-year plan adopted by Moville Tidy Town Committee demonstrates a very positive approach to achieving success in the competition. The excellent progress review is very useful and enables you to concentrate on the areas that require attention. You appear to have good cooperation from public agencies, which is essential to enable you to achieve the objectives set out in your plan. In particular, your efforts to protect and preserve the marvellous natural resources along the seashore deserve the support of the whole community.

The Built Environment:

Moville still retains its old-world charm and is one of the few towns in Ireland that has not yet been overrun by modern shopping arcades. The Market Square looked very well and shop fronts were generally neat and tidy. However, there were a couple of premises that could do with a coat of paint - in particular some business premises in Market Square and along Main Street. You have made good progress in developing some of the derelict buildings in the town. It was good to see the Temperance Hall, which is a landmark building, being renovated. The terrace of houses overlooking the seafront with their strong traditional colours looked very well. Commercial buildings such as the A.I.B. were well presented. You should work with shop owners to get rid of plastic signs, as they detract from the essential character of the town.

Landscaping:

Generally all open spaces are very well maintained. The Sli Na Slainte walk and the green at the seafront were presented to a very high standard. There are some lovely mature large town house gardens that are very well maintained. Hanging baskets and window boxes throughout the town look very well. The tree-planting programme contributes to the overall good appearance of the town. There is a nice floral display in the open space opposite James Street. There is a beautiful shrubbery and a lovely display of lilies in the grounds of the Catholic Church. The grounds of Merville Community College are very well maintained and enhance the Derry road entrance to the town. Merville Tool Hire on Quay Street has a beautifully maintained garden on one side but it is let down by a cluttered and untidy commercial premises on the other side.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The proximity of Merville to the sea, as well as the Sli Na Slainte project, offers a major opportunity for the protection and interpretation of wild life. As mentioned in last year's report, the river also offers potential. You should continue to work with environmental groups, as well as getting the local schools involved. The provision of information stands will enable visitors and locals alike to have a better understanding of the flora and fauna of the area.

Litter Control:

You are achieving success in your efforts to eliminate the problem of litter. However, some litter was noted around the town, particularly in Main Street and also in the vicinity of the pier. Continued vigilance is essential, and the cooperation of everyone is required. Shopkeepers should continue to be vigilant in ensuring basis that all litter is collected outside their shops on a daily basis.

Tidiness:

There is a good standard of tidiness throughout the town. The Market Square sets the tone. However, there are some areas that need attention. Some seating and dustbins need painting, particular the seat at the school on the Greencastle Road. The shop on the corner of Main Street and James Street presents an untidy appearance. Some shops continue to clutter the street with their merchandise. Again you should take account of last year's report in ensuring that projects are well finished off before developers leave the site.

Residential Areas:

Residential areas are generally well kept. It is good to see how individual house owners take pride in their homes. Town houses are very well maintained and add greatly to the fabric of the town. The row of houses leading from Quay Street to Main Street is attractively maintained. Estates show a good standard of maintenance with some nice flower planting and shrubberies. Again, as mentioned in last year's report, every opportunity to plant trees and flowers should be availed of.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

There was road widening in progress on the Greencastle Road on the day of inspection. However, road surfaces and streets are generally good. The approach road from Derry is particularly enhanced by the old Coastguard houses, which are maintained to a very high standard. There is a nice shrubbery on the Culdaff Road, which sets off the entrance to the town.

General Impression:

Moville is a prime example of a town that is successful in retaining its old character as well as meeting the challenges of the modern development. This achievement is reflected in the mark awarded. The town is also blessed with natural resources, examples of which can be viewed along the Sli na Slainte walk. You have set out laudable priorities in your plan, which if achieved, should set you well on the way towards achieving a prize in the competition.