

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Santry**

Ref: **86**

County: **Dublin**

Mark: **203**

Category: **C**

Date: **06/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	29
The Built Environment	40	26	26
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	18
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	24	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	203	197

Overall Developmental Approach:

The committee is to be commended for their ongoing work and commitment and for the background information supplied with this year's submission. Santry faces many challenges as a very busy urban area, with much development work still in progress. In addition, bordering two local authority areas requires more committee time than usual. As the development works are coming to an end, the committee should consider preparing a three year strategy to tackle specific issues involving the local schools and groups which would support their work. This would result in additional marks in future competitions.

The Built Environment:

The stone wall entrance to the public park is attractive and kept to the highest standards. The building of low walls with railings would help screen off industrial areas and give a streamline, neat appearance. Omni Park was well presented and the planters enhanced the area. Shops were generally well presented. The Comet Bar looked well. Consider organising a competition to encourage businesses to repaint and upgrade their premises; this could also include floral displays which would greatly add to the overall impression of the village. There is an unused existing planter out side T. O'Reilly's which could add a welcome splash of colour.

Landscaping:

Landscaping can really enhance a busy urban area, giving it more of a village atmosphere. There are several areas with potential for landscaping, including the embankment in front of Megeinta Hall, the entrance to Santry wall end estate and several other green areas. Clever use of shrubs and hedging could also assist in upgrading the presentation of the more industrial properties.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Congratulations to all involved in cleaning and developing Santry Park. It is a wonderful amenity and is such a rare asset in an urban village environment. Every effort should be made to maintain and develop the park. Information panels on the wild life flora and fauna of the park would be a welcome addition. Litter control was good on adjudication day. This area would be perfect for a local school project. Perhaps the committee could organise a mulch bank for grass, leaves, etc which could then be used for planters for the village.

Litter Control:

In the village, litter control on the day of adjudication was very good with only incidental pieces to be seen. The committee's efforts in encouraging shops and business premises is reaping rewards and marks. The new cast iron bins are a welcome addition. The residential areas were almost totally litter free, but there was some litter on the approach roads.

Tidiness:

Despite the current roads and development works Santry is presented as a tidy village. However if the committee proposals and plans were implemented, the overall impression of tidiness would be greatly increased.

Residential Areas:

The standard of presentation in the residential areas is extremely high. Trees, shrubs, kerb sides were all maintained and cared for. Regular clean-ups are clearly effective. The committee should try to harness this talent to support their efforts in other areas of work in the village.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Given the huge volume of through traffic and roadworks, the approach roads are well maintained and signage in the area is good. Attractive "Welcome to Santry" signs would help create the village identity. The streetscapes would be improved with attractive street lighting, some seating and footpaths replaced where required.

General Impression:

The ongoing development works in the Santry area has increased traffic volume which affects the village. The mix of industrial, retail and residential buildings in relatively close proximity to each other poses challenges and can give a disjointed appearance. These challenges are recognised in the submission. The opening of the public park is a very welcome asset to the area. Omni park is well maintained and provides a vibrant economic and service to the community. In preparation for the completion of works, a three year plan would be worth spending time on now for next year's competition.