

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Duagh**

Ref: **239**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **201**

Category: **A**

Date: **21/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	29
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	27	27
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>201</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

We regret that your entry did not contain any information on your activities or details of your committee. For this reason we were unable to assess the amount of voluntary work or any work being done under the FAS scheme, if any. You are in urgent need of a development plan that will chart the way forward for Duagh. We notice a deterioration in much of previous year's work and the only obvious environmental improvement is at Tobar Mhuire which is commendable.

### The Built Environment:

Like most centres you are undergoing significant house building, especially on the Abbeyfeale approach and in the village centre. Many of these developments are in need of landscaping and will not improve the overall appearance of the village until this has been dealt with. As usual the school and church looked well. The community hall is quite a mess and has been ongoing now for many years. Indeed the treatment of the rear of this building augurs very poorly for community effort. The Merry Christmas sign should be removed from this location. This area is being used for dumping old cars and is now a black spot. Likewise the side of the Gaires is really disappointing as the core building itself is well presented.

### Landscaping:

You have some good individual effort here and many areas were very colourful with attractive window boxes, hanging baskets and flower tubs. You have numerous areas ideal for landscaping and the development of small community amenity areas. The grass cutting at the village entrance from the Listowel side is good. You should consider a tree planting programme for the village itself and we suggest you contact the Kerry Co. Council for assistance.

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

You should highlight the wildlife of the area by liaising with the school authorities and get the children involved in a project that will list the popular wildlife of the area. You might then consider erecting some display boards that will illustrate the popular species of the area. We are delighted to see the recommended improvements to Tobar Mhuire and this area is now much improved and the stone walls and post and rail fence have improved the area significantly.

### **Litter Control:**

Well done on your performance with litter control. The village has no apparent problem in this respect and we commend you for this performance.

### **Tidiness:**

Because of the great amount of dereliction, unoccupied houses, abandoned cars, and poorly presented open spaces there is an air of untidiness about the area. This remedy will take time and patience and you will need to convince those with untidy properties to take action. Larry's Foodstore is too cluttered with signs.

### **Residential Areas:**

The many new houses now being built will give you an opportunity to recruit new members and get extra people involved in your work. A simple letter of invitation might have a very beneficial effect. Some houses in the village area kept very well and many have attractive gardens that further enhance. We commend those who are in full cooperation with your efforts. Many boundary walls need completion and in many cases the hard shoulder area between boundary walls and the roadside is very poor.

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

Road structure is very good and well maintained. The approach roads, without exception are in need of grass cutting. Many back and side entrances are untidy and many farm gates are in need of replacement, some are missing altogether. If farmers won't paint the gates you should do it yourselves. Well done on topping the village approach signs with a Fáilte sign on each approach. You should develop a small scheme at the bridge on the Abbeyfeale approach: this would strengthen the village entity.

### **General Impression:**

This distinctive village has potential for much higher marks. Its rural setting offers great opportunity to advance in the competition but you do need an agreed plan that will have the backing and commitment of the community.