

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Drumsna**

Ref: **624**

County: **Leitrim**

Mark: **185**

Category: **A**

Date: **25/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	19	19
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	22	21
Tidiness	20	11	10
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	19	19
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	185	182

Overall Developmental Approach:

The Drumsna Development Plan is very comprehensive and identifies clear objectives to develop the village in the years ahead.

A good working relationship with all stakeholders such as the local authorities, residents, businesses and community groups are essential if you are to progress further in this competition. Many thanks for your entry form, detailed map and support documentation which the adjudicator found most helpful.

The Built Environment:

The built environment of Drumsna is generally well presented. However, derelict buildings like TJ McLaughlin's and the area adjacent to the XL shop mitigate against you under this heading. The Catholic Church was nicely presented with the entrance painted and floral display. Shannon Lodge and the Wood Carvers also looked well. Completion of building works enroute to the harbour and the construction of the new community resource centre is awaited with interest. The new stone wall at the old school is very attractive.

Landscaping:

The trees, flower beds and hanging baskets on Quay Road are attractive as is the planting and landscaping at the Fair Green. While the landscaping around the harbour has been upgraded some containers at the entrance need attention. The Strawbridge Monument is well presented and access to graveyard behind has been improved, however, some residual litter was visible. The Garden Centre was again looking well. Seating in this area still needs to be replaced. Improvements under this heading have been awarded with an increase in marks.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Shannonside walk was nicely trimmed with seating. This is a valuable asset which should be developed further. Additional signage should also be considered.

You have an excellent location on the banks of the River Shannon, with the Shannon Bridge and the harbour amenity area which if utilised should earn you a significant increase in marks under this heading.

For further advice and guidance refer to the Tidy Towns Handbook and liaise with local wildlife experts to identify wildlife habitats and select a suitable approach for your group.

Litter Control:

Drumsna was relatively litter free on adjudication day with only incidental litter visible along the Main Street and on approach roads.

Tidiness:

As mentioned in last year's report derelict buildings and back areas are the issues that need to be addressed under this heading. Some private and business premises appeared tidy and cared for although some work has still be to done on improving the condition of boundary walls and verges. The presentation of the harbour area has been upgraded as requested last year. Well done. The appearance of the petrol station beside the XL shop is still untidy.

Residential Areas:

There are a number of new residential developments underway in Drumsna. It is hoped that these will be finished to a high standard with particular attention to boundary areas, fencing and landscaping which compliment the rural village character of Drumsna.

Well kept and landscaped gardens were noted on approach roads and in the village. The houses near the bridge were again nicely presented with planting and floral displays.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approach roads were reasonably presented. Some verges need trimming and boundary areas tidied. Weeds on the Bridge are unsightly. Footpaths and road surfaces especially along Quay Street and Quay Road in the area of the harbour have greatly improved. Well done. Back areas particularly along the Main Street are still in need of attention. The Leitrim approach was again looking well. A coordinated approach by both local authorities are essential if you are to progress under this heading.

General Impression:

An annual work programme in relation to key issues raised in tidy town reports and projects outlined in the Drumsna Development Plan is now necessary to prioritise and set realistic goals for the coming year. Circulating your tidy towns report to residents is a good way to get community support for the work required.

Improvements have been acknowledged with an increase in marks.