

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Enfield**

Ref: **498**

County: **Meath**

Mark: **232**

Category: **C**

Date: **08/01/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	43	42
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	33	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	28	28
Litter Control	40	27	28
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	23	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	8	7
TOTAL MARK	300	232	226

Overall Developmental Approach:

Enfield Environmental Group is one which shows a great level of interest in its surroundings and in the future development of its town. Your developmental plan was prepared in 1999 and so has reached its final year. As some of your planned projects were not completed, you should use these in addition to the comments contained within this report to prepare your new development plan for next year's competition. Your work in relation to developing indigenous water amenities is indeed commendable as are your efforts in relation to the practical requirements for an expanding town, namely your proposals relating to a new Town Hall, Secondary School and Library. Your development of an internet site is also to be commended. Your problems in relation to advertising hoardings, broken bollards and dereliction were noted and it is hoped that these will improve in the not too distant future.

The Built Environment:

Both public and commercial premises in the town were generally well cared for on the day with one or two exceptions. The Bank of Ireland was well maintained as was Wells Hotel in a bright orange colour. Flattery's looked extremely fresh in yellow with red trims. Carey's Auctioneers were well presented and the new Garda Station looked extremely fresh. However, the building adjacent appeared quite neglected - is this the old Garda Station and can a new purpose be found for this building? The Post Office was quite fresh but the Midland Bar appeared quite flaky and should be freshened up before next year's competition. The nicely mature trees at the Primary School created

a good impression.

Landscaping:

This is an aspect of the competition in which you obviously relish. The village pump with its attractive planting on the Dublin approach looked extremely well, as did the landscaping on the Trim Road with its magnificent planting, water feature, rockery, relatively mature trees and picnic area. The Royal Canal Harbour area was admired for its use of attractive limestone kerbing, indigenous trees, appropriate street furniture and well maintained grassy areas and permanent planting. Concrete tubs filled with petunias at the traffic lights made a colourful splash. The neat car parking area at the Railway Station looked well.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Enfield is fortunate in relation to its provisions in this category, such as the Royal Canal Leisure Park and Millennium Wood. The new signage at the canal area will be a positive development, as existing signage appeared to be damaged. A pile of gravel was also evident to the forecourt area - building materials should be removed once construction work is complete! It was disappointing to note that wildlife in the form of rabbits had caused damage at Millennium Wood!

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day could have been better. A scattering was evident throughout the town and was particularly bad at the row of shops incorporating Suds and the Hair Studio on the Dublin side of town, at the Shopping Basket, at the Post Office, along the Galway Road and the Trim Road.

Tidiness:

Weed control was a problem at kerbs on the Dublin Road. A (possibly empty?) house adjacent to the Shell petrol station appeared quite overgrown. Rusty railings to the Bridge House created a bad impression in its prominent location. Perhaps some landscaping could be considered to its car park area? However, despite these problem areas the town generally looked quite neat and tidy on the day.

Residential Areas:

The standard in this category of the competition was very good. The Delmere Estate is maturing very well with some good planting in the form of trees and well maintained grassy areas. There are a large number of new housing estates springing up as the town rapidly expands. The New Inn Estate was well maintained with its green area and Baynefield Estate was also well maintained. The attractive houses with mature gardens on the Galway side of the town were admired. Glenn Abhainn is a new housing estate and was admired, and the trees at Johnstown Way will mature well in time.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Dublin approach was fine although the verges could have been neater and some weeding was necessary to kerbsides. The roundabout on the Galway approach appeared very weedy - is this meant to be a wild flower roundabout? Some of the plants looked rather formal in appearance for this to be the case. As you have recognised yourselves, advertising hoardings create a very bad impression as they give approach roads a rather cluttered appearance. The road surface on the Trim Road was not in good condition and litter has been commented upon elsewhere in this report as was its magnificently maintained landscaped area.

General Impression:

Enfield is a busy and vibrant centre which is expanding rapidly. Its by-pass will give the town a new lease of life, and the adjudicator looks forward to seeing your progress in this regard.