

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rosslare**

Ref: **503**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **224**

Category: **C**

Date: **17/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	37
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	25
Litter Control	40	35	33
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	15	15
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	224	220

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for all the information sent with your entry form and for the map which was most useful on adjudication day. It is indeed gratifying to read that you are receiving assistance from so many organisations which is a clear indication as to how they view your efforts and your success to date in the competition. Your plan is excellent. It clearly identifies what needs to be done in environmental terms in Rosslare. One wonders, however, if it is somewhat over-ambitious for one year as sometimes, in the event, lack of total achievement can lead to frustration. However, this is a matter to be decided by your committee and group and indeed the Adjudicator looks forward to seeing the results of your endeavours during next year's adjudication. You received an in depth report from the Adjudicator last year. The following therefore is by way of comment on perceived further progress to date and should be read in tandem with last year's report.

The Built Environment:

Commercial premises, including hotels, guesthouses, etc. all looked very well again this year and are being highly maintained. There is a huge amount of building taking place in Rosslare at the moment which will add greatly to its stock of premises for future years. The Church, School, Car Parking areas, RNLI Monument and Post Office are all nicely presented again this year as was the Sport and Recreational Centre and the Watersports Centre. Public toilets, while being clean, nevertheless are somewhat shabby inside with an extraordinary amount of graffiti.

Landscaping:

Rosslare must be one of the most extensively landscaped centres in South East Ireland. It will take too long to mention all the different areas only to say that the landscaping extends throughout the entire village in one form or another. Trees, shrubs, plants and flowers abound and create a wonderful appearance throughout the village. This was particularly noticeable at hotels, the Church, the Rosslare Recreational Centre and the French Connection, just to mention a few. This reflects the tremendous work which has been carried out by your committee over a number of years and the interest which your residents have in the preservation of their environment. A very big "Well Done" to all concerned. Please do however take note of the comments made by last year's Adjudicator under this heading as some of the problems which were mentioned still exist.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

In this respect Rosslare is so well endowed with facilities and wildlife habitat. It would be difficult to recommend what further projects you might undertake under this heading. However, it might be interesting, and in the long term educational interests of your school children, to encourage them to provide, say within the school grounds, if they have not already done so, nesting boxes and feeding tables for birds which would create a nice additional feature there.

Litter Control:

On adjudication day, Rosslare was practically litter free and again this reflects greatly on the efforts being made by your committee to solve what is a national problem. Congratulations to all concerned.

Tidiness:

While some of the comments of last year's Adjudicator are still relevant under this heading, nevertheless, the village was presented in a very neat and tidy manner. The Railway Station is being well maintained and was well presented. As mentioned, extensive building work is taking place around the village which lends itself to untidiness but this will pass. In the event, this disruption has been allowed for in the adjudication.

Residential Areas:

For a village of this size Rosslare has a substantial number of housing estates and self-catering complexes and while they could not all be visited, those that were visited looked extremely well, reflecting the great pride which their owners have in their environment. Many are very well landscaped throughout with open spaces being maintained to a very satisfactory level. If you have not already done so, perhaps you should encourage the formation of Residents Associations and invite representation from them on to your committee. It is appreciated that many of these houses are perhaps just holiday homes but, nevertheless, there is probably still an indigenous population in these estates which could be encouraged to join your efforts.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Approach roads to Rosslare from both Wexford and Rosslare Harbour are very nicely presented. The roundabout on the main entry from Wexford into the village is being beautifully maintained and was much admired. Road surfaces are good and footpaths are being well looked after. The condition of approach roads are an important aspect of the competition as they tend to set the tone for the rest of the village.

General Impression:

It is getting to the stage where Rosslare can no longer be called a "Village". It is rapidly becoming a town in its own right. This expansion causes difficult problems in terms of the competition and the amount of time and work required to maintain standards. In this respect, you are lucky to have so many people involved in your group. Future progress will depend on planning and attention to detail but side by side with this you must never lose sight of the maintenance of what already exists which, after all, is the backbone of your entry. Excellent work is being done and the Adjudicator looks forward to returning again to Rosslare next year to see further progress made.