

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Raheny** Ref: **176**  
County: **Dublin (City)** Mark: **248**  
Category: **E** Date(s): **08/06/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	40
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	29
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>248</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Raheny is welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition, thank you for your submission with additional support information which facilitated the adjudication process, however perhaps a better map could be provided next year with projects clearly identified. Your Heritage Panel was admired and the plan appreciated. It is good to note that you work in conjunction with business interests, the Gardai and other statutory bodies and that you communicate successfully with a variety of publicans. Well done on links with the Raheny Business Association Committee and on your liaison with the principal and students of second level schools.

### **The Built Environment:**

A number of new projects have come on stream in 2007, the Heritage Panel has already been commented to above and the SuperValu office block will enhance the village centre considerably. We look forward to the visual impact of the removal of wirescape and service poles later on this year. The Station House is beautifully presented and has been considered for an award, most public buildings such as churches and schools are presented to an excellent standard also. The roadside boundary wall of the Shieling Hotel could be upgraded and the number of signs here reduced. We look forward to the completion of future projects as outlined in your submission.

### **Landscaping:**

The new entrance to St. Ann's estate is a wonderful enhancement of this part of the village and has also been considered for a Landscaping Award. Your many expanses of well maintained grassed areas plus stands of trees at various stages of maturation have been admired. Good summer colour has been achieved both in

flower beds and in container plants. The management plan for St. Ann's Park is an excellent initiative and we anticipate a wonderful outcome of its implementation.

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

Well done on your work with the Bull Island group on the survey of winter wild fowl and other birds, perhaps the next step now might be to adopt an awareness campaign for the public, this might be achieved through brochures, displays, photographic competition or other initiatives. We look forward to the completion of the Raheny River project particularly in the village centre, well done on the Scouts Den Project and the Supervalu project.

#### **Litter Control:**

The overall standard of litter control was good however there were a few lapses. These occurred at St. Paul's school, the boundary hedgerow of St. Ann's park, the Library and the Shieling Hotel. These outbreaks were not very serious and consisted mostly of plastic bottles and newspaper. New bins have been noted and a bag of rubbish on the riverbank beside the CBSI hall was a little disappointing given the involvement of the scouts in the Tidy Towns effort. Do try to segregate litter to assist in waste minimisation and reuse. Well done to all who take part in the Wednesday to Saturday clean ups and of course the student blitz is not to be forgotten.

#### **Waste Minimisation:**

Your performance under this heading seems to have deteriorated a little since last year, no evidence of a decrease in waste was noted and the bags, boxes and rubble located beside the recycling point have brought about a decrease in marks which hopefully will be regained next year. Do keep in mind that the overall goal under this heading is to reduce the amount of waste produced, with this in mind a waste audit might be undertaken and ways of reducing waste identified; perhaps a good place to start would be with the business community.

#### **Tidiness:**

Your efforts regarding the elimination of graffiti are acknowledged and appreciated and the only graffiti noted was that on street furniture such as utility boxes. We look forward to the removal of the overhead service cables. Some weedy stretches of footpath on the Howth Road across from the Shieling Hotel were noted and a weedy traffic island opposite the funeral parlour looked particularly bad especially in view of the recycling point nearby which was quite untidy in appearance.

#### **Residential Areas:**

Residential developments were presented to a very high standard in respect of well maintained green open spaces, flower displays, maturing trees and shrubberies and overall appearance. Raheny is blessed with a good variety of house styles ranging from simple single storey cottages which are charming to quite stately period houses. Well done on your initiative to get residents to adopt a particular road.

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

The problem of graffiti on street furniture has been noted above, overall footpaths and roads are quite well surfaced and are being well maintained. Car parks are also presented to a high standard. Reference has already been made to the proposed ducting of overhead service cables. Well done on the regular inspection of local areas and black spots and your continued work on graffiti removal. The refurbishment of the railway bridge is an excellent initiative and we look forward to the outcome of that together with the proposed improvement of the main street for later on during the year.

#### **General Impression:**

The overall impression of Raheny is one of a most attractive village with an important heritage and wonderful recreational amenity facilities for both residents and visitors. There is obvious community pride in the village.