

Tidy Towns Competition 2007

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dingle** Ref: **334**
County: **Kerry** Mark: **240**
Category: **C** Date(s): **26/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	42
The Built Environment	50	36
Landscaping	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	19
Litter Control	50	29
Waste Minimisation	20	4
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	240

Overall Development Approach:

Dingle is welcome to the 2007 National Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your submission and your 3 year plan. It is good to see the support you are receiving from the local community and your interaction with the school

The Built Environment:

Dingle presents a picturesque view of traditional shop fronts in a seaside setting. It is wonderful to see the high level most shops have been maintained to. Dingle has some very unique shop fronts that whilst keeping their traditional elements, have also obtained a more artistic feel through their use of colour or artistry.

Landscaping:

Landscaping plantings were well done and maintained throughout the town. As outlined in your plan, the focus now needs to be on signage and reducing the impact of derelict homes, particularly the one on the entry road from Castlegregory. The green area to the west side of Mill Bridge is a good space for people to relax. However, families would not feel comfortable allowing their children in the area with the amount of bottles (some broken) that were visible on the day of adjudication.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Dingle contains Dingle Ocean world aquarium and its attraction of Fungi the dolphin. With its strong focus on the sea it is good to not additional signage at the pier pertaining to this. The Dingle way also passes through this area and is well posted.

Litter Control:

Dingles main streets were reasonably free of large litter. However, there were a few areas that need to be maintained. The public toilets by the waterfront were relatively clean, but the surrounding area contained significant amounts of rubbish. There was quite a bit of ordinary rubbish in bags dumped down the site of the recycling bins. The car park in front of the post office contained quite a lot of rubbish. The grass area to the west side of Mill Bridge was quite littered with bottles and cans. Residential areas were generally litter free

Waste Minimisation:

It is very good that local businesses get involved with segregation of waste and that your litter clean up is always segregated. It would be worthwhile investigating a community compost scheme, especially taking into account the amount of restaurants and subsequent food waste Dingle would accumulate. Recycle bins for cans and drink bottles in high traffic areas would also assist in reducing overall landfill rubbish. The recycle bins included plastic bottle recycling which is good to see. However, several of the glass bottle bins were full to capacity allowing nowhere to put green glass bottles.

Tidiness:

The shops in the main Dingle area are generally very well kept and brightly painted. The public toilet blocks detract from the otherwise wonderful surrounds and the fence in this area is also missing some planks. Some of the town signs have been defaced and require replacement most noticeably those at the roundabout near Mill Bridge. The area surrounding the recycling facilities contained broken glass and there were quite a lot of weeds. It would be good if the fast food vendors had a more formalised area. They are an unique food product and it is envisaged that products such as American Hot Dogs would appeal to tourists. Perhaps a paved area with benches and bins (including recycle bins) could be provided?

Residential Areas:

The new estate on the road to the hospital is well done and the stone work goes well with the more traditional buildings. It is good to see green space has been left for residents in the area. Several new estates on the approach roads were visited and these were all well kept and landscaped. In general residential areas were well maintained.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The road leading to the hospital is very well done with the stone wall helping to retain the integrity of the area. It is good to see the construction of footpaths to the outlying estate areas. In general the roads and footpaths are well kept with a few areas requiring resurfacing. The use of paving stone keeps the authentic feel of the town.

General Impression:

Dingle is a very popular tourist destination and was quite busy on the day of adjudication. Generally the town has done very well to keep its traditional look with out being overshadowed by new developments. Well done on this. There are just some areas that have been unkept or are littered that have resulted in lower marks in this area. If these areas can be improved and the waste minimisation strategy Dingle will do extremely well in the Tidy Towns competition. Well done on all you have accomplished so far.