

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kincasslagh** Ref: **1876**
County: **Donegal** Mark: **233**
Category: **A** Date(s): **24/06/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	32
The Built Environment	50	30
Landscaping	50	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	20
Litter Control	50	35
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	18
Residential Areas	40	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	28
General Impression	10	7
TOTAL MARK	400	233

Overall Development Approach:

Thank you for your entry into this year's TidyTowns Competition. It is very good to have Kincasslagh still involved in the TidyTowns project. The adjudicator was pleased to read of the benefits your group feels that the village has accrued from involvement in TidyTowns. Thank you for the information you supplied with your entry, including the very interesting background information on the village. Your 3-year plan will be most useful in helping you plan your work. A good idea would be to split this up into months and allocate tasks as accurately as possible. That way, you'll be in good time to do weeding, planting etc. as the seasons allow. Thank you for the map which was very useful.

The Built Environment:

The 'Cope' shop and Post Office looks very well. The art gallery looks very interesting but was closed at time of visit. Iggy's bar looks extremely well with nice bright paint and clear mural signage. The church looked great and had a lovely paint job. The parochial hall was also fresh and bright. The national school looked very nice with bright fresh colours. Is this school involved in the Green School programme? This could be of great benefit to both school and village. The wooden fence here is very nice.

Landscaping:

Well done on the tasteful but bright planting around the road signs. The name stones for the village are very well done. A little more decoration would be no harm around some of the buildings in the village. The work at the national school was admired. The picnic area is very nicely done and a lovely place to sit. The viewing point is lovely. There is perhaps space here for some information on the area.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The beach was visited and much enjoyed, the adjudicator had a beautiful day on which to see Kincasslagh. Make sure that future entries indicate some more of the wild places and spaces in and around the village. See if you can find a local expert to help you with this as you have suggested in your plan. The idea of a connecting walkway is a good one but the adjudicator could not see where the mountain trail began. Be sure to indicate this on future maps.

Litter Control:

Well done on all your initiatives to tackle litter. It is great that the national school is also involved with this. Very little litter was seen anywhere around the village. Litter-free status is great to achieve and you should all be justifiably proud of this.

Waste Minimisation:

Well done for carrying out recycling in the village. However, waste minimisation is about reducing and perhaps eliminating items from the waste streams. Ask the County Council environmental awareness officer about this. Some simple projects can really help. These include re-using items such as packaging, refusing to buy in non-recyclable items in the shop or, as last year's adjudicator suggested, composting. A community composting scheme is a great way of reducing waste and also learning about the environment.

Tidiness:

As your entry states, this is generally a very tidy village. There is little clutter and there was a complete absence of graffiti on day of visit. This is demonstrative of the amount of care that is taken by both residents and visitors to Kincasslagh.

Residential Areas:

There was generally a very high standard of presentation of both houses and gardens. There was good use of colour throughout. It appears that a high number of the houses are in permanent occupation and not holiday homes.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The roads are in generally good condition. The long winding approach to Kincasslagh from the south is very pleasant. Weed control was excellent and there was no roadside litter to be seen.

General Impression:

Kincasslagh is a very pleasant village. On day of visit it was very bright and looked very sharp and clean. Please do address some of the areas that are outlined above. Why not include pictures of some of your events such as clean-up days? May I take this opportunity to thank you for your work until now and wish you the best of luck with your continued TidyTowns project.