

# Tidy Towns Competition 2010

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Cabinteely**

Ref: **1334**

County: **Dublin(DunLaoghaire-Rathdown)**

Mark: **247**

Category: **D**

Date(s): **09/07/2010**

	<b>Maximum Mark</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2009</b>	<b>Mark Awarded 2010</b>
Overall Development Approach	50	30	32
The Built Environment	50	30	31
Landscaping	50	28	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	30	30
Litter Control	50	28	29
Waste Minimisation	20	6	6
Tidiness	30	18	19
Residential Areas	40	31	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	30	31
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>247</b>

### Overall Development Approach:

Many thanks to Cabinteely TidyTowns for your completed entry form and action plan. I was very impressed with how your systematically addressed points raised in the 2009 report – this is an excellent approach. It is great that your experience in the competition has been so positive for you and it is hoped that this continues to be the case. You have a good number on your committee and are liaising with a wide range of stakeholders and support bodies. You are communicating well with the community and it is great to read that you are involved in the three local schools. Your three-year development plan is well laid out with specific and achievable actions. This should be a working document in so far as it should be submitted again next year showing which actions are completed and what, if any, difficulties you have encountered. Overall an excellent approach to the contest.

### The Built Environment:

Well done for painting some of the business premises. The building stock in the village centre looks very well and it is hoped that all the retail units will be occupied before long. The Garda station is particularly well adorned but in general the village looks great. The Horse and Hound looks great while Sam's barbers has a striking coat of black paint. The old style garage is a lovely feature while the Cabinteely library is a wonderful asset.

### Landscaping:

Planting at the entrance to Cabinteely park and at the N11 was admired. I was impressed with the number of trees in the village and these serve the function of very effectively softening building edges. Generally the scale and nature of landscaping in the town was top notch.

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

Well done for getting out of bed at dawn in May to hear the birds sing! Cabinteely park is an excellent amenity on your doorstep. Under this category you are expected to learn more about what you already have in terms of the habitats and species present. Contact Dun Laoghaire Rathdown county council Biodiversity Officer who will have lots of information with which to assist. You. Also look at [www.noticenature.ie](http://www.noticenature.ie) who produce guidelines on producing a Biodiversity Action Plan for your area. This would be integral to the habitat survey that you have earmarked for 2011.

There was no signage at the entrance to Cabinteely park. It was noticed that the Irish Wildlife Trust are holding wildlife awareness raising events for Heritage Week – will you be involved? (see [www.iwt.ie](http://www.iwt.ie) ). The park is very well presented and there seems to be big scope to enhance habitats by increasing cover for nesting birds etc.

### **Litter Control:**

It is great that you participate in the National Spring Clean with the school children. The routine litter picks are a great way of maintaining standards. You should wear high-vis vests with the TidyTowns logo to advertise your presence when doing this. It is important that the community realise that the litter is not just taken away in the night by pixies!

Litter control was excellent on adjudication day – well done! Cigarette ends outside the pub were the only problem of note.

### **Waste Minimisation:**

It is important to distinguish between waste minimisation and litter control. This category is about reducing the volume of waste that goes to landfill. What are the recycling facilities in the village? How well are they used? Do the schools have a Green Flag? This would be most important and full details should be given here.

### **Tidiness:**

Great work on cleaning the signage and removing old poles – these little things make a great difference to the overall impression of a town. Some of the parking meters need to be washed. The town is extremely tidy with good road surfacing and well-maintained street furniture. While some of your wires have been put underground you should maintain contact with the ESB to finish this off over the long term. St. Brigid's church is gorgeous and its garden is beautifully presented. Watch out for random traffic cones – one or two were spotted not serving any obvious function.

### **Residential Areas:**

You are encouraged to reach out to the whole community to get them involved. It is the duty of the TidyTowns inspectors to judge the whole town. It would be great if you could make contact with individuals in the estates in which you are not currently active to fully bring them into the fold. This category is not solely to do with presentation as estates can also play a significant role in waste minimisation, energy conservation or wildlife gardening.

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

The new village name place is excellent and really adds to the sense of identity of the town. As noted in last year's report the footpaths are poor in places so stay on top of the county council and hopefully you will get a resolution to this issue.

### **General Impression:**

Cabinteely has truly embraced the TidyTowns competition to the benefit of the town's appearance and hopefully the well-being of the wider community too. You are doing well on presentation categories but could improve your overall score by doing a wildlife and waste minimisation project, and including more residential areas in your remit. Best of luck!