

Tidy Towns Competition 2013

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Tramore** Ref: **228**
County: **Waterford** Mark: **278**
Category: **E** Date(s): **17/06/2013**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2012	Mark Awarded 2013
Overall Development Approach	50	38	39
The Built Environment	50	38	38
Landscaping	50	40	40
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25	26
Litter Control	50	32	32
Sustainable Waste And Resource Management	20	10	10
Tidiness	30	16	17
Residential Areas	40	33	33
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	36	36
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	400	275	278

Overall Development Approach:

Supervalu Tidy Towns welcomes Tramore to the 2013 competition. Thank you for your comprehensive submission, clear images, excellent map and supporting information. Please ensure that your three-year plan is being updated annually – the one included with your submission refers to 2011, 2012 and 2013. The contents can be adjusted year on year as initiatives and timelines change. It is surprising that a large town like Tramore has a relatively small committee of only eight. In saying this, your frequent meetings and collaboration with Waterford County Council, Supervalu, Tramore Tourism, Tramore Chamber of Commerce and Waterford Leadership Partnership lends itself to a clearly structured and planned approach to the overall management of the town. In addition to this you are commended for joint ventures with the ICA, Schools, Bus Eireann and local sports organisations. You mention in your submission that your committee hopes to attract more members. One way to do this is to develop a junior committee, which could be mentored by the main committee. Often the younger generation can provide innovative ideas but also the time and energy required to bring small-scale projects to fruition.

The Built Environment:

Your persistence with the Railway Station Project has certainly paid off. This was a substantial project needing the input of multiple organisations and the results are amazing. Well done to all involved. Many of the newer premises in the Riverstown Business Park were neat in appearance and set the standard for the area. The Church of Ireland in Doneraile is an impressive building and was undergoing maintenance on the day of adjudication. We look forward to its new look when the scaffolding is removed. Holy Cross Church too and playground were neat and tidy. Many business premises were admired for their fresh appearance including Vee Bistro, the Post Office, Victoria House and Family Practice Medical Centre. Similarly Voujon Café, Pine Rooms, O'Shea's Hotel and Murphys looked well. The Promenade and Strand Road area as ever impresses. It is grat to see continued renovation of old or vacant properties like the former fishing tackle shop and Urban Beauty Clinic.

Landscaping:

Congratulations on the completion of the Waterford Leader Partnership funded Crooked Path development. The recent addition of the flowerbed has further enhanced a wonderful amenity. Your wild flower area and daffodils will ensure that there is interest in Tramore traversing the seasons. The lavender planting at the GAA grounds is an attractive feature. Numerous sponsored black planters were noted at various locations. Recently planted

containers brightened up the Promenade. We look forward to the completion of the cobbles, which was in progress as adjudication was being conducted. The vast green at Roselawn was neatly presented. Maturing climbers were admired on the boundary wall of Westbrook. The Supervalu sponsored Moyvey roundabout looked fantastic. Mary's garden and adjacent landscaping are a delight. You mentioned the allotments in last year's submission and again this year – when to you envisage progress here?

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Information boards on the Natural Heritage of Tramore and Waterford Cycling Trials were noted. The Tramore Back Strand publication in association with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is both educational and a useful guide for walkers. Please ensure that you include details of the 20 species of wildflower identified as the Doneraile Project develops. You are commended on including local children in this initiative.

Litter Control:

Being a busy tourist destination you have to contend with the seasonal pressures of litter management. Your multiple and varied initiatives have been noted. However, there were a few outbreaks on the day of adjudication one along the Promenade and another at the bus stop at Corbally Heights. Also an overflowing industrial bin was noted in Riverstown Business Park. A scattering of empty drinks cans was noted in front of the Ritz. The large new blue bin along Strand Street are a significant benefit to a busy pedestrian zone.

Sustainable Waste And Resource Management:

Please be advised that this section of the competition has changed this year from the former 'Waste Minimisation'. Information is available in the handbook. It is fantastic to see that five of the towns schools and Youth Reach are participating in the Green School Programme. Your other initiatives include dog-fouling, segregation and recycling. The new electric car charging point was noted at the Crooked Path. Perhaps you could consider hosting a themed workshop in association with the County Council Environmental Officer in the coming months?

Tidiness:

Freshly painted yellow and white kerbing was pristine on the Old Corbally Road approach to the Promenade. The Promenade itself, as ever, is impressive but unfortunately the waste ground opposite with rusted railing is a major eyesore. Your submission refers to the damaged seating close to Splashworld. Unfortunately, a purple seat was still in situ on the day of adjudication and this detracts from an otherwise impressive vista. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator there are significant outbreaks of kerbside weeds in a number of locations, for example, Somerville, Tramore Heights and Roselawn.

Residential Areas:

In general properties in The Estury, The Strand and Tramore Heights looked well. Similarly, Ballycarnane Woods, Primrose Hill and Springmount were well presented. Seafield Holiday Homes was neat and freshly painted. The Doneraile Woods development stood out due to the excellent management of kerbside weeds. Perhaps trellising would assist the climbers that have chosen to cover the ground instead of the wall! The mature properties at Newtown Rise were admired as a whole. The period properties at Richmond are a wonderful asset to Tramore.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Tramore is quite an expansive urban area with main approach and ring roads affording the highest standards. As with any large urban centre this are areas suffering from uneven surfaces, damaged paths and this ultimately leads to weed growth. Your ongoing lobbying of the County Council is an intrinsic part of this management.

General Impression:

Tramore is a vibrant tourism hub that has to adapt with unprecedented influxes of visitors when the sun shines. Your committee and other local groups are doing a fine job in optimising the towns' presentation. Your structured approach will continue to play an important part in the towns' development.