

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glengarriff** Ref: **676**
County: **Cork(West)** Mark: **310**
Category: **B** Date(s): **30/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	47	47
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	41	42
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	42	43
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	34	35
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	14	14
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	65	65
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	28	30
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	34	34
TOTAL MARK	450	305	310

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Welcome to the SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition 2017; it was a pleasure to see Glengarriff again and experience its delights. Thank you for the completed entry form with multi-annual Tidy Towns Plan and map; the latter would have been more helpful in the adjudication process if projects for this year had been colour-coded and crossed-referenced numerically with a brief description in the entry form. There is a sizable committee with a healthy number of volunteers to call upon supported by a network of bodies and other groups to help Tidy Towns in Glengarriff all of which is indicative of strong community involvement. The input of the Youth Drama Group is noted also; it is good to know of your use of social media to enable Tidy Towns news and events reach a wider audience. Wonderful seascape with islands on entering from the Bantry road are an attractive feature.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

As always shopfront presentation in Glengarriff is excellent and it is a pleasure to stroll through your main street in late evening and do a bit of window shopping without being impeded by window security shutters; this is an attractive element of your streetscape. Street furniture is nicely presented however overhead service cables look untidy and together with their associated timber poles diminish the visual amenity of the streetscape. Glengarriff Hall looks as if it had been recently painted and flower displays here are charming. The Sacred Heart Church was admired for the elegant simplicity of its presentation. The school behind the church enjoys a good presentation also and the grounds of the Garda station look very well.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Magnificent flower displays and shrubberies along Glengarriff's Main Street are complemented beautifully by mature trees. Flower displays along the bridge create an excellent first impression of the village centre. The grotto presents strong visual amenity and impact against its backdrop of bare rock. All green areas noted enjoy good maintenance. Some landscaping is suggested for the environs of the nameplate on the Castletownbere entrance. We note the proposed multi-agency plan for the Blue Pool and anticipate a successful result; try to incorporate universal accessibility in the design, log onto universaldesign.ie for information and guidelines. Perhaps a pollinator project could be undertaken for next year's competition; in the choice of plants be mindful of the requirements of pollinators and other wildlife and where feasible choose native species to support bio-diversity.

Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádúrtha:

The O'Sullivan Bere Park in the heart of Glengarriff with its playground and range of amenity features is a fine natural amenity; does it feature universal accessibility? Again the committee is directed to the website

universaldesign.ie for further information. The entrance to the sports field playing grounds could be landscaped further perhaps with native hedgerow or other appropriate planting along the fencing. The cemetery is neatly managed. Work accomplished to highlight further the wonderful Glengarriff Nature Reserve is commendable as is the range of initiatives to raise public awareness of nature and Glengarriff's wildlife. The success of the reintroduction of the Sea Eagle in 2016 is exciting!

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramháiola Inbhuanaithe:

The committee's move to paperless communication is an excellent example of prevention of waste at source which is what this section of the competition is all about. For optimum performance under this heading choose projects that prevent waste at source and those that show efficiencies in the management of water and energy; it is important also to quantify savings as this will provide important feedback and motivate towards future goals. Log onto localprevention.ie to see what other communities are doing and for ideas for future projects. The Tidy Towns Handbook and website are useful resources also. The recycling point enjoys good maintenance.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control is excellent in Glengarriff with no visible litter or dumping noted during adjudication. Weed control was a little less good with some stretches of kerb sprouting weeds and others that looked as if they had been sprayed and were awaiting removal. Participation in Cork Council Litter Challenge, regular street / approach roads / shore clean-ups are no doubt responsible for the litter free appearance of Glengarriff. Has an examination of litter collected been undertaken to identify its source, type, frequency and distribution? Armed with such information it may be possible to devise a strategy which will prevent litter at source thus cutting down on the number of clean-ups necessary. At least three undeveloped sites/waste ground were noted in the village centre which look untidy. Construction work in progress to a property on the entrance from the Castletownbere road will no doubt improve this area upon completion.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:

The majority if not all of Glengarriff's housing stock are beautifully presented and indeed some magnificent gardens were admired. The small residential development near the Church should have an identification stone or a plate. Well done to estate residents who manage their own areas. The Harbour View Holiday Homes development overlooking the village looks quite stately. Two rusted corrugated roofs on the Castletownbere entrance would improve visual amenity at this end of the village if refurbished.

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:

Car parking areas to a number of premises were in need of refurbishment and include; Quills, Casey's Hotel, the roadside car parking area at the Bamboo Park and more. Some stretches of road edge and hard shoulder need resurfacing too; a building at the departure for Garnish Island could be refurbished and the road surface of the car park here is poor also. On-street car parking appears adequate and well organised. A pedestrian crossing is suggested in the centre of the village as the continuous flow of traffic makes crossing difficult. Street furniture is generally well presented however a few finger posts need refurbishment.

Concluding Remarks:

Glengarriff is a beautiful and pleasant village in which to spend time with plenty to offer residents and visitors. Your adjudicator particularly liked the Glengarriff Nature Reserve.