

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Duagh**

Ref: **335**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **257**

Category: **B**

Date(s): **12/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	34	36
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	34	35
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	30	32
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	18	22
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	12	15
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	52	56
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	26	28
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	31	33
TOTAL MARK	450	237	257

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Duagh is very welcome to the 2017 SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition, it has been a pleasure to spend time in your charming village. Thank you for your submission with its artistic map which was helpful for getting one's bearings but not so helpful for adjudication purposes as projects to be judged this year were not located on the map; consult the Tidy Towns website for these requirements; we anticipate a Tidy Towns multi-annual plan with next year's entry. With six years' experience of participation in the competition behind the committee fruitful links with other community groups and statutory bodies have been created and are working well. The Facebook page is an effective tool for communicating Tidy Towns news and events in addition to the Newsletter.

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

Both the Family Centre premises and the adjacent petrol station create a very good first impression of Duagh for the first-time visitor. The church is beautiful in all respects together with the adjacent Parish House and the murals at the side of the church are a nice feature, the school looks well also. Work in progress is noted at the site for the new sports centre, we anticipate a handsome addition to the village at the time of next year's adjudication; hopefully it will feature universal accessibility, for more information on this issue visit universaldesign.ie/built-environment. Work achieved at the Grotto and the Holy Well has made a significant improvement to this area; the graveyard is charming, well done to those responsible for its maintenance. Improvements at the service station are favourably noted also.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Newly planted trees and nicely managed green verges are a feature of the Listowel entrance to Duagh. Landscaping within the church grounds is beautiful and that in the school grounds and other locations were admired also. It is satisfying for you to note that the whitethorn hedge planted previously is thriving, has it been explored for wildlife habitats? Newly constructed stone-work was admired as was the entrance to the GAA sports grounds. Keep in mind the requirements of wildlife and choose native plants where possible to support bio-diversity. Planting for year-round colour and interest is essential too for performance under this heading as is an emphasis on permanent planting rather than an over-reliance on annuals.

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

Duagh's burial grounds are being beautifully managed and the memorial to the Famine victims and unknowns is a poignant tribute to those who went before us, the stone here it's beautiful. Tober Mhuire is a charming feature also. Don't allow the Montebretia to thrive unchecked here as it will undermine bio-diversity. The site for the proposed

Butterfly Sanctuary at the bridge is noted and we anticipate enjoying this next year with a fine display of wildflowers too. The committee might consider a pollinator project for next year and invite the children to participate also.

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

The National School and its grounds look well and the (4th) Green Flag has been noted, the children ought to be delighted with their achievement. The recycling point is quite tidy, will the clothes bank in the site for the new sports grounds be removed/relocated. Well done on rainwater harvesting for watering the Community Garden and planted areas throughout Duagh. An energy management project might now be considered. The organic Community Garden is an excellent initiative that also works to enhance community cohesiveness. Visit zerowaste.ie for a global perspective on the issue of waste.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control is good in Duagh thanks to weekly clean-ups and participation in the county clean-up day in April (The National Spring Clean?) There are many untidy commercial yards which could be screened / or 'softened' with appropriate planting in containers or otherwise. Work on footpaths is noted favourably as is removal of inappropriate advertising. Weed control is good too along kerbs. Well done on the installation of new bins where necessary. The wirescape is not too visually intrusive as it runs parallel to the street rather than criss-crossing it at many locations. The treatment of derelict premises across from the school is good as far as it goes, it should be continued to adjoining sections.

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

Most residential properties in Duagh look really well however a few need to have their roadside boundary walls refurbished. An Tober (the unfinished estate) looks pretty bad, it's roads are not finished and there is a large area that should be featured as a well maintained green open space; the entrance to the site however looks well with the boundary fencing clothed in climbing plants. Cois Ard estate is well presented and neatly managed.

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

Verges of approach roads looked very clean and well maintained at the time of adjudication and entrances to Duagh create a good overall impression. Some stretches of road edge leading to the burial grounds need refurbishment. Street furniture is well presented and car parking neatly organised. Fencing and gates are reasonably maintained also.

Concluding Remarks:

The built environment of Duagh looks really well; it is now time to consider more projects under Wildlife and Natural Amenities and Sustainable Waste and Resource management that will enhance your performance in these areas further.