

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dromahair**

Ref: **576**

County: **Leitrim**

Mark: **231**

Category: **B**

Date: **24/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	36
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	34	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	15
Litter Control	40	37	36
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	29
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>226</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

You continue to make steady progress and are commended for achieving many of your objectives for 2004. Your goal of creating a "Tourist Village" is possible with a sustainable and proactive work programme which the whole community needs to take ownership of.

Your detailed map and copy of the Dromahair Development Plan 2004 - 2008 was very helpful and much appreciated.

### The Built Environment:

Abbey Manor Hotel in the Main Street is very attractive and beautifully presented. The Depot was again looking well. The derelict "hostel" building beside Abbey Manor Hotel appears to have a planning notice displayed - a sign of new development the adjudicator hopes. The "Teaghlach" monument was very untidy with weeds and moss. Adjacent seating is in need of attention and please remove the abandoned car nearby. The Dervogilla Bridge and milestones throughout Dromahair were well maintained. Stansfords Village Inn was looking attractive with traditional frontage and foliage. It is important that all new developments are encouraged to engage in design and landscaping that is in keeping with Dromahair's linear layout and architecture.

### Landscaping:

The landscape setting of Dromahair is very attractive. Both approaches to the town give you a feeling of arriving somewhere truly beautiful. Mature and young trees add greatly to a rural atmosphere. Many private and commercial properties were well cared for and landscaped. The removal of overhead wires, new footpaths and resurfacing of the Main Street has greatly enhanced the streetscape.

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

The adjudicator was struck by the amount of wild flowers on approach roads - very welcoming. Your progress on the woodland walk and plans to upgrade the path to the Abbey for wheelchair users is much appreciated. For additional advice and guidance on this subject refer to Action 6 of the Tidy Towns Handbook and the literature produced by the Heritage Council "Conserving and Enhancing Wildlife in towns and villages"

### **Litter Control:**

Dromahair was litter free on adjudication day. Your work with all the stakeholders and especially the local authority continues to benefit you under this heading.

### **Tidiness:**

It was good to see that the OPW sign mentioned in last years report has been replaced. Unfortunately the Garda Station is still in need of attention. The recycling area was well presented with shrubs and flowers planted in the vicinity. A derelict building on the Sligo approach is unsightly. The entrance to Breffini Cottages as mentioned last year were again well presented and attractive. The area around the monument was very untidy and lets you down under this heading.

### **Residential Areas:**

There are many examples of well landscaped and presented estate and non-estate houses in Dromahair. Work is still continuing at Castlecourt which has a very prominent location. It is essential that this area is landscaped to give a positive impression on entering the town. Abbeyvale has an beautifully presented green open space with trees and shrubs while the entrance at Rock Valley is well landscaped and colourful. It is important that all new developments are completed to a high standard with boundary walls, fencing, landscaping and verges maintained on a regular basis.

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

Main approach roads are well presented, however, some work is needed on minor approaches. The Maxol Garage on the Carrick on Shannon Road appears untidy and takes away from the overall good presentation of this approach. The Sligo approach past the Woodland Walk is very attractive with mature trees and flowers. Back areas running parallel to the Main Street are beautifully maintained with some excellent examples of spacious and well landscaped private gardens. Some town trail signs are damaged and in need of attention. A rusty gate is visible on the Manorhamilton approach. Attention to detail is now required to progress under this heading.

### **General Impression:**

It is now essential that you prioritise key issues raised in this and previous reports. Consider assigning a member of your committee to liaise with relevant stakeholders to progress specific tasks which can be achieved within a year. Well done on achievements to date.

