

Tidy Towns Competition 2025

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Lisryan - Lios Riain** Ref: **2171**
County: **Longford** Mark: **313**
Category: **B** Date(s): **15/07/2025**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2024	Mark Awarded 2025
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	40	42
Streetscape & Public Places	80	40	41
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	39	41
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	55	27	28
Sustainability – Doing more with less	55	20	21
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	64	66
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	33	34
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	39	40
TOTAL MARK	550	302	313

Community – Your Planning and Involvement / An Pobal - Pleanáil agus Rannpháirtíocht:

Fáilte chuig Comórtas Bhailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2025. Go raibh maith agaibh as bhur iarratas a chur isteach. Maith sibh don obair atá déanta agaibh in bhur cheantar go dtí seo - guímid gach rath oraibh i bhur dtionscadail amach anseo. Ádh mór.

Thank you for entering the 2025 Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition, you are a small village with a very active community and this is apparent as one arrives to and passes through your village. With twenty-five committee members and a volunteer base of twenty members, this is huge voluntary commitment from your community based on your population base. You meet once a month to plan and manage Tidy Towns activities across the area, also your members get involved in different community projects throughout the year. Things like improving green spaces, litter picks. Working with local groups such as schools, GAA clubs where everyone is encouraged to join in, including new residents, which makes you a very social inclusive community.

You work closely with a wide range of partners and supporters who help bring your projects to life. These include: Longford County Council, Pobal, CLÁR, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, the Department of Rural and Community Development, Street Wildlife Club, Street Parish Community, local schools, local GAA, Granard Men's Shed,

You are active on WhatsApp, Facebook, Tik-Tok, and Instagram, which appeals to younger residents and those who prefer to get their news online. To make sure no one is left out, you also deliver a printed newsletter twice a year to every home in the area. This is especially important for some of your older residents who may not use social media, and it helps them stay informed and feel part of everything that's going on.

Your main project at present is the creation of a new Sensory Garden whereby you have formed a team of older and new residents to develop this venture.

Thank you for your map which was clear and easy to follow, but you may consider a sketch which can be drafted by your gifted volunteers map rather than a satellite image.

While no plan is in your application you may consider forming a three- year Tidy Town plan to guide you in your objectives.

Streetscape & Public Places / Sráid-Dreach & Áiteanna Poiblí:

On arriving into Lisryan one is greeted by a charming cross roads that is the centre of the village and the focal point of the community. You have few public buildings but the local pub while undergoing careful refurbishment, in keeping with the original characteristics of this attractive stone building.

As you state, your public spaces are well looked after, thanks to a brilliant team of volunteers including our valued CE worker, whereby out regularly tidying up, planting flowers, and adding touches like seating and stone planters. You also keep watch out on rundown buildings and monitor any issues.

Your signs and place nameplates are kept clean and easy to read. You may monitor your signs, where you have

planters and vegetation on the roadside that it does not obstruct the sign, this can often happen over summer months.

You mention making the use of Irish language in the locality it is good to see this being done in a fun fashion. At your Defibrillator you may include an Eircode at the location and print this on any social media or future printed material.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

When one arrives in Lisryan one is greeted with the “Lisryan”

Box hedge planter which is carefully crafted and manicured giving a good impression of this lovely green village. Your new stone planters are authentic stone planters that are more in keeping with the traditional look of the village. We must commend the volunteers who worked on this project for the work you put in to these wonderful feature planters. Making a planter wheelchair accessible reflects the social inclusiveness of your community.

Your choice of perennial planting is good, the plants are colourful as they brighten up the planters and the village, and are also an attraction for the pollinators. As you state adding spring pollinators is very important as they too brighten up a dull early spring day. Having invested in your planters as you consider winter and spring planting this makes use of the planters, brightens up the area and is very useful for pollinators such as solitary bees during the winter season.

As you mention also planting straight into the ground where possible is very beneficial and saves time and labour on maintenance. Also checking tree ties and stakes regularly is an essential part of maintenance when establishing young trees.

The park and play areas are very well presented and kept very well

Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality / An Dúlra agus an Bhithéagsúlacht i do cheantar:

You are supporting biodiversity through practical, sustainable actions with your efforts in understanding of the importance of native species, pollinators, and natural habitats for a healthy ecosystem.

Your choice of plants that support pollinators, including wildflowers and other bee-friendly plants. You have a small variety of shrubs and hedging plants that give colour throughout the year. Where replanting avoids plants like Photinia “Red Robin” and Portuguese Laurel which are a monoculture plant and need regular trimming. Aim more for native plants such as Holly and Hawthorn. These plants suit biodiversity better, give a better mosaic of colour and seasonal interest throughout the year.

Your nature strips are well mown and we acknowledge your participation in No Mow May. As advised by previous adjudicators keep a strip uncut near a hedge for biodiversity interest. On narrow road strips you may mow these low if there is pedestrian traffic for road safety reasons

You mention that your biodiversity patch, which was severely impacted by fallen trees. If not a danger and if practical you may keep some of these trees or logs on the ground to support biodiversity, in terms of habitat for fungi and insects that will benefit the ecosystem.

When replacing bird boxes, you may like to do a bird survey as regards to the species and type of bird you have in the locality. Use bird boxes of different sizes and different hole apertures as different birds prefer certain size apertures, in order to nest in successfully. Birds like the Robin prefer an open box. Organisations like Bird Watch Ireland can provide information on projects like this.

The bird bath is very important and you may consider placing these as features also around some of your planting areas or in your pump area. However, check and clean regularly and in severe frosty winter weather place a small floating ball in it to prevent freezing over if a blizzard is forecasted.

Sustainability – Doing more with less / Inmharthanacht - Mórán ar an mbeagán:

Your rainwater butts for harvesting rainwater for reuse in watering your plants, is a good and practical step.

The Well-Pump area was a little sad on the day of visit, we understand this is work in progress. You may consider a water refill station here also for the weary cyclist or walker travelling along the way.

Other ideas such as talks over the winter on promoting sustainable living, such as energy saving etc could be considered. Is there a public or local bus service running routes nearby? Is it this something your community could investigate to solicit a demand for a service?

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Tidiness and neatness are in full display in Lisryan with no litter showing during the visit. Your regular litter picks are very evident in your success in this category. Your Love Lisryan poster with a “two-minute street clean” sends a very positive and motivational message in keeping the village tidy and litter free.

Roadside verges, road signs and information signs are clean, and easy to read and legible.

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

Lios na Gaoithe in a nice housing estate kept very well with interesting houses and gardens. The houses and gardens in the estate and well cared for. In general houses and gardens in and around the village are very well tended to. There is a sense of Pride of Place within the village you live in

We wish you well with your plans for the Community Garden and other residential project work that it will enhance the area for the benefit of all the residents of Lisryan.

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

All of the approach roads into Lisryan are well cared for with well- maintained grass margins. These are important to maintain as you are on busy straight road with both vehicular and pedestrian traffic observed during the visit.

We applaud your volunteers, CE Worker and farmer who helps maintain your excellent road system.

Road and approach signs are clean and in very good condition. Some signs are slightly hidden with vegetation that could be pruned back during routine maintenance. Road surfaces are smooth and good for vehicular, cycling and pedestrian traffic.

There is a bend in the village that could benefit from stronger traffic calming measures.

There's great pride among the people in the area, and it really shows — giving a warm and inviting feel as you drive into the village. This reflects the strong community spirit and pride of place that you are fortunate to have in your community.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure to visit and to adjudicate Lisryan this year.

We appreciate your effort and support for the Tidy Towns competition with your entry. The benefits of your and your volunteers and community workers work and effort are of great benefit to your village community, your visitors and to the passing traveller coming through Lisryan Crossroads and village.