

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Balbriggan - Baile Brígin** Ref: **154**
County: **Dublin** Mark: **381**
Category: **G** Date(s): **27/06/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	57	59
Streetscape & Public Places	80	51	54
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	49	52
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	49	51
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	25	27
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	58	60
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	36	38
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	38	40
TOTAL MARK	600	363	381

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

Fáilte go Comórtas Bailte Slachtmhara SuperValu 2026. Go raibh maith agaibh as bhur n-iarratas a chur isteach. Maith sibh as an obair atá déanta agaibh in bhur gceantar go dtí seo - guíonn muid gach rath oraibh in bhur dtionscadail amach anseo. Balbriggan is welcome to the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition for 2026. Thank you for your application, map and copy of your plan for the development of the area in the future. These developments would not take place without the great work that the Committee of nine and a large number of volunteers, are constantly working to complete. Meetings to organise this work are held monthly but there is ongoing interaction between all members on a weekly basis. The work continues right throughout the year, which includes weekly clean-ups. There are also representative members on other groups that help with the overall development of the area. There is ongoing support in the line of advice and funding from Fingal County Council, all other businesses and groups in the area. There is also a good interaction with the schools, with all schools helping with your work. The schools and Tidy Towns work closely together and help one another with various projects. Communication to the wider community is through social media. Different events are held both to highlight the different projects, such as biodiversity, and also show an appreciation of the town's wildlife and natural habitats. The competition has helped to create a better community spirit, with the community having a greater pride in their area and welcoming all the environmental projects that are now part of the competition. There is also recognition of the work that the volunteers do, in the form of an appreciation night, held to honour and thank them for their work.

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

The town is rich in heritage with the arch bridge being an iconic feature of the town. Presently there are works being carried out at Quay Street, transforming and adding to this area, making it more amenable to the public. There has also been refurbishment work carried out at the boat houses, which are a part of the town structure. The town is also fortunate to have a Martello Tower as part of its built environment. Like most towns there are some buildings that are in need of repair but this you are also working on. There are many buildings throughout Balbriggan that bring great heritage and character to the town. The Church and car park is a beautiful area. The Library, Courthouse and the Hotel are all admired for their bright colourful presentations.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The Tidy Towns has a number of areas to maintain in green spaces and landscaping. These areas continue to grow with new locations being added to brighten up the areas. It is good to see so much ground planting taking place and also the use of fruit trees and pollinator-friendly plants in your planting schemes. It is also good to see that not only are you planting more fruit trees but you are also learning how to maintain them, which is very important. Those travelling from the railway station, their journey is more attractive with the planting that is installed there. The mural

really brings all this landscaping to life and the artist is congratulated. The car park area opposite the church was really admired for its fine presentation and landscaping, adding interest and colour to the whole area. The public car park was also brightened by its superb landscaping. Drogheda Street Junction had also beautiful colourful planters. Biodiversity Mrs O's was also admired. Planting along walls was also admired as it helps to soften the build and makes the area more attractive.

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

There is ongoing planting of native hedging, trees and pollinator friendly planting being undertaken within the town to help grow the biodiversity of the area. There are also biodiversity festivals being held. It is important that biodiversity is managed and protected. To ensure this is done properly, you are organising a biodiversity plan to be completed with a grant already obtained for the purpose. You also work closely with Birdwatch Ireland, carrying out a swift survey with a number of nests noted and more nesting boxes being installed. It is also important to host walks and talks with members of the community and the school to show appreciation of the nature and habitats that are in existence in the area. There are plenty of locations within Balbriggan where such walks can be held.

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

In this category groups are encouraged to make their areas more sustainable by their activities. Balbriggan are completing several projects in this area. Harvesting of rainwater continues in the poly-tunnel and this could also be adapted by the wider community. Seeds are planted and you make your own compost and leaf mould. Reusing and recycling is ongoing with most groups now recycling more, with the return scheme, making recycling more attractive. Encouraging more cycling and walking, which is good for health, and also using public transport are all other ways where savings can be made. The use of solar panels on homes is becoming more noticeable and there are also grants available to community groups to have solar panels installed on the buildings. It is also possible to check with the waste companies that collect the waste in the area, to see if the amount going to landfill sites has decreased over the last while, with all the recycling that's taken place.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

The town has a great plan in place around the area of Litter Control throughout the town and the beach, is also a very important area for them to keep clean. Each year you take part in the National Spring Clean day and in the Clean Coasts Big Beech Clean in September. Businesses have helped greatly with these clean-ups, with even businesses from outside of Balbriggan helping, which is wonderful to see. There are a number of volunteers who continue to maintain the town on a regular basis. Do you have any workers on CE Schemes that help with the maintenance of the town? If so this can be of great help.

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

The town has a mix of different types of builds, all blending, bringing their own charming characters to the streetscape. Like most towns it has grown over the last number of years with more housing estates built to accommodate a rise in population, which is good. The houses along the entrance roads and throughout the streetscape are all well painted with brightly coloured facades and neat gardens. The housing estates too are all well maintained with good entrance signs and green areas. The landscaping throughout has improved greatly with the planting of more perennials and pollinator friendly plants, which is encouraged. The planting of fruit trees was also noticed and this is also commended. There are very active residents' associations which are rewarded with the results from the best presented estate awards each year. This helps to motivate and also help to reward people for the work they do. The play areas for children are also well maintained. Residents are commended on the work they do, not only looking after their own areas but also helping with other projects throughout the town.

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

The approach roads to the town give a very good first impression as one enters. The roundabouts are carefully and colourfully planted. The signage is very good. Dublin Road has great planting of trees and even has gym equipment for those interested in recreation. The Harry Reynolds Commemorative route is a work in progress and will add greatly to the overall approach to the town. Verges are well maintained while retaining an area for wildlife. Landscaping along approach roads was also admired. The public car park also adds greatly to the overall appearance of the town, which sometimes does not happen. There is ongoing work on footpaths in other areas of the town, which will be welcomed. Murals also help to brighten up their areas.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate Balbriggan. You are completing good projects and continuing to progress in the competition. Please keep up the good work and you are wished well for the future.