

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Donnybrook - Domhnach Broc** Ref: **1346**
County: **Dublin** Mark: **370**
Category: **D** Date(s): **06/06/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	46	48
Streetscape & Public Places	80	52	54
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	53	55
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	37	38
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	23	24
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	63	64
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	44	45
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	41	42
TOTAL MARK	600	359	370

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.”

Welcome Donnybrook Tidy Towns to the 2026 Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your entry form and supporting material. We notice you are a committee of 9 with 11 volunteers which is a good turnout. The group is well organised in terms of communication. You find WhatsApp is great to share quick updates and probably works much faster than holding a meeting for small things which makes a lot of sense. You can send photographs, times and quick notes instantly. Use meetings for bigger projects and to gain ideas or problem solve. Attending presentations and sharing ideas with other TT's groups is a very good way to engage. This active approach connects you directly with people who share your specific interests. Working with many agencies can help with more funding and you will build connections with those best placed to help the community.

The best way to encourage residential groups is to pair them with a tangible neighbourhood project and use personal outreach rather than digital. Keep events short – host a coffee morning on a single driveway or a front lawn and ask people to do tiny things like bring a few scones, sugar etc.

Your entry mentions strong links with the younger generation with online art competitions and street art projects with Donnybrook Youth Club.

Particular focus this year has been placed on the completion of the 'Peace of Mind Garden' in Herbert Park. Officially opened by The Lord Mayor of Dublin it looks wonderful, fitting perfectly into the space and removed from busy noises. Lush tree ferns make a stunning and lush focal point. The way the light and plants work together creates a true sanctuary. It is a peaceful place to pause and unwind. Love it !

After 18 years, it's great to hear participation has resulted in year-on-year improvement and you have achieved great success with numerous awards. We congratulate all concerned.

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

Working alongside DCC and the Office of Public Works, refurbishment and conservation works in Donnybrook Graveyard have been completed. It now has improved accessibility, new interpretive signage, soft landscaping and new columbarium walls added at the main entrance. As you mention it has enhanced the visitor experience and you will be able to resume walk n talks and occasional guided tours.

The ground floor creche in Donnybrook House is a positive development for local families with a lovely outdoor play area.

The plaza makes a fantastic central meeting spot as it sits in a prominent location and brings people together in the

heart of the town. It offers shade with a great big oak and it would be nice to see a pollinator friendly perennial flower bed towards the rear as it would look lively from spring to fall adding long lasting colour. We appreciate the dark green whiskey barrels outside the Morehampton creating a classic and warm look for the business.

A small amount of street debris and weeds in pavement cracks breaks the orderly look of the plaza area, some sidewalks and side streets.

Large black planters divide traffic moving in opposite directions and create a stylish and modern look in many spaces. Bright white daisies spill over and feel fresh and clean and we admired more colourful floral displays enhancing the comfort of street benches. Most with evergreen plants giving constant structure during the winter months and in summer layered with colourful flowers underneath making stunning year-round features.

At Belmont Avenue, the handsome street façade of Donnybrook Manor Youth Club makes a strong impression.

Outdoor trees at the Courtyard Bar and Grill green up the streetscape and make it more relaxing for guests.

Seeing the fire station with nice floral displays is a wonderful sight that brightens up the neighbourhood and reflects a strong sense of community pride. The Garda Station is a neat, utilitarian building with a plain façade.

Well maintained shopfronts of Spar, Tesco's and O'Briens create a positive image. Arthur Maynes window display was very intriguing to look at, so too were the floral displays at Branching Out.

As we walk past Donnybrook Bikes wooden planters and trellis have lost their rich colour and would make a stunning visual at this location with some maintenance. Planters were packed with sunflowers and nasturtiums which will bring lovely colour later in the summer.

Anglesey Bridge 1832 is a historical crossing over the Dodder and a nautical themed utility box mural grabs our attention with colourful swimmers. At the steel foot bridge, we get a close up of the gushing river and observe life along its edges which was an engaging experience.

Ornate street lamps add elegance and artistic character to Broc's cottages. The street signage for Marlborough Road needs replacing.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

Herbert Park provides physical, mental and social benefits for residents of all ages and is great for neighbourhood interaction. A nicely planted perennial flower bed will be a haven for wildlife. Well done on engaging with the Parks Department of DCC to complete the Peace of Mind Garden this year. It will certainly offer higher levels of health well-being. We look forward to seeing your piece of sculpture in the years ahead when a suitable location is found.

We would encourage a landscape plan to cover a few years as a small amount of planting done annually will provide year-round interest in colour, form and texture through the planting of hedges, shrubs, bulbs and trees.

Well maintained colourful containers are very beautiful giving the area a welcoming aspect.

Non native plants easily colonise stone walls and path verges and their unchecked spread reduces overall plant diversity. Controlling them is a useful community conservation action to protect local biodiversity.

We applaud your ongoing enhancement of the area and congratulate everyone involved.

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

Managing the Greenway with organised litter picks is a great way to keep the area clean and protect local wildlife.

Working with local TT's groups make the workload a lot easier to manage and brings neighbours together to care for their local area.

In 2017 the Buzz Shelter project was completed to educate the wider community on the importance of biodiversity.

A comprehensive upgrade and a full visual refresh have been granted. A gold panel with a black bee motif is a great choice. Gold catches the eye easily in outdoor light and black graphics create high contrast. Use large simple letters so children and older adults can read it easily from a short distance. One of the benefits of the greenway is that it is car free – invite trail users to log rare species sightings via local biodiversity bases.

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

Your entry shows the group is very conscious of living a more sustainable lifestyle. We applaud the use of a living oak tree for the Christmas celebrations which is much more sustainable than cutting down a tree and uses very little power as you are using low energy LED lights. Protect the oak by wrapping lightly and do not screw anything into the trunk, use soft rope or cable ties. Set a timer to turn off late at night to save power and let local wildlife rest.

We thank you for your ongoing efforts to reduce single use plastic. Going plastic free is a positive sustainable goal that reduces waste and builds community engagement. Achieving complete reliance on green alternatives will require swapping materials to glass, metal or paper and setting a realistic target of 7-10 years.

A workshop on energy saving for households or an awareness campaign to inform of possible savings in a climate of constant price hike announcements might suit this category if not already completed.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

It is marvellous to hear the lock up on Mulberry Lane has revitalised the area and is now a valuable space shared with your local TT's group. Its success has inspired you to advance other areas which we look forward to next year. Your participation in Spring Clean Up 2026 bring residents together and results in an awareness of the benefits of a collective contribution.

There was very little litter noted on the day so well done to all for achieving good standards in this category. You are fortunate to have the help of CE workers to help with activities and we acknowledge their support and dedication – great work.

Some kerb weeds were visible along paths and we understand this is difficult to manage. Good result overall.

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

As you mention a blend of Victorian, Edwardian and modern-day housing is very appealing and creates a unique neighbourhood character. We can see a lovely visual variety with different roof shapes, brick colours and window styles.

We admired many residential gardens and watching a garden change through the seasons surely brings a quiet joy to daily life. At Donnybrook Close mature trees and foliage adds instant greenery and natural beauty. At Brookvale Road two toned brick houses were attractive. The community at Beech Hill maintains an amazing community space with flowers, shrubs and seating giving neighbours a place to sit and chat. Pembroke cottages were adorned with hanging baskets and window boxes. It is obvious many residents make a great effort and take pride in their areas and we commend the owners for all their efforts.

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

Black and gold welcome signs look very elegant and high end. The colour pairing feels timeless and gives the neighbourhood a premium identity. Tree lined city streets look very nice and make it feel safer and pleasant for everyone.

Rest areas are attractive and a valuable addition to the streetscape when you use well maintained furniture, decorative planters and proper placement along your popular walking trail. They support local foot traffic and provide essential resting spots for elderly residents, parents with young children and people with mobility needs. Donnybrook church enhances the local landscape at a very busy junction.

A long wall around Donnybrook Bus Garage draws our eyes and a fresh coat of paint in the near future will improve the space.

We thank all the community for their continued support of activities.

Concluding Remarks:

We really enjoyed looking at your work and we look forward to more projects next year. We are pleased to see the Peace of Mind Garden become a reality in such a fast-paced community and we hope it will offer users a peaceful place to slow down and decompress from a busy environment. We thank you for your ongoing support of the competition and wish you all the best for 2027.