

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kill Avenue/Deansgrange-Ascaill na Cille/Gráinseac** Ref: **1331**
County: **Dublin** Mark: **252**
Category: **E** Date(s): **15/07/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	36	40
Streetscape & Public Places	80	32	35
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	32	34
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	22	24
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	16	20
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	47	49
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	26	27
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	21	23
TOTAL MARK	600	232	252

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 to the SuperValu Tidy Towns Competition 2026. Thank you for participating in Ireland's longest-running environmental project and helping to make Ireland a better place. We really appreciate all the great work that you do and the effort you put in, year on year.

Thank you all very much for the work that went into your entry this year. This included a detailed entry form, a very useful map and some absolutely fascinating signboards. The adjudicator will admit to probably too much time spent reading these! We are always grateful when entrants share the history and heritage of their area with us. This always makes our visits more worthwhile and memorable. Thank you.

Here in this first category, you give us an account of how your group works. It is great to read that you are supported by local businesses. The donation of your certificate is a nice touch. You are also working in cooperation with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, the churches and the Dun Laoghaire lions and Foxrock historical Society. Very good. It is hard to believe that this is only your third year in the competition, and you are taking on very significant projects such as your heritage trail. We have no doubt that this trail will be appreciated by many people over the years. We also read that you are planning a science project with IADT. No doubt you could ask them for help in making your results look spectacular!

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

Thank you for your information on your mural projects. These are always so worthwhile. They can also prove to be a great antidote to unwanted graffiti. Your key project for the year is your Heritage Trail. This is most appropriately assessed under this category. Your extra points in this category therefore include our appreciation of this project. We also commend here your shop and business owners for their great work in maintaining their premises. It was such a pleasure to be here on such a sunny day and enjoy the floral displays and gleaming paintwork.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

Here you tell us that you secured Grant funding to plant your first ever flowerbed in Clonkeen park. You have also secured funding for a second complimentary bed on the opposite side of the bridge entrance. We are pleased to hear that you sourced your plants locally and that you followed the rule of three! Planting for effect in a built

environment that is dominated by hard surfaces can be difficult. May we advise you to ask Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council to lend you one of their horticultural experts for a half a day? You could perhaps get a little tutorial in what species do well in such environments and which species have the greatest visual effects. We would also advise that you have a look at the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and the Royal Horticultural Society publications on plants for pollinators. This will allow you to plan your species mix for best beneficial effects for native invertebrates and birds. These can also be stunning plants for human appreciation too! We think that we can identify *Rudbeckia* in one of your photographs. This is one such example of a flower that has it all!

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

You have lots to tell us about in this category. Last February you created a new Pocket Forest in Clonkeen Park in collaboration with Trees on the Land. This saw you plant 130 native species – fantastic. Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council park staff assisted you in this regard with the preparation of the site and this surely made things much, much easier for you! This is why collaborations are so valuable. You tell us that you had 20 volunteers on the day and that was a super turnout. We know that not every group uses the same planting methodology and therefore we would be very interested to find out how your Pocket Forest is doing. In future entries please remember to give us an update, thank you. You have also worked with your local college during Green Week (the month after the above – a busy Spring for you all!). Here you assisted the college in planting 3,000 native Irish plants and this will be part of the creation of a new Biodiversity space – fantastic! We look forward to hearing how this is developing as well.

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

You begin your entry in this category with a very interesting account of how you see yourselves as environmental advocates for your area. This is excellently put. Indeed, TidyTowns groups are exactly that and your recent experience has shown how valuable this can be. As you describe new play areas, tree plantations and flower beds you rightly point out that these “came out of nothing more than Active members tirelessly advocating”. We are delighted that a young group such as yours has established itself in this role. It is very important and central to what TidyTowns is all about.

This category is sometimes seen as the most difficult. However, many actions and activities are valid for entry here. We advise you to have a look at the TidyTowns website. Here you will find links to the TidyTowns handbook and other resources. A good deal of time has been spent on defining what is applicable in this category and listing examples of valuable projects that may be undertaken. If you are in any doubt, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council has an environmental officer who is an expert in such things we advise you to contact them if you are stuck. We doubt that you will be though!

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Thank you for all the details on your anti-litter actions. It is a very impressive statistic to have collected up to 700 kg of litter! While it is distressing to think that that much litter can be out there to be collected you do give us another valuable statistic. It would appear that the amount you collected in 2025 is less than the previous year. Are we going in the right direction...? Well done for your focus on the black spots. These will only disappear with dedicated work such as yours, so thank you. An annual event for you is the cemetery clean-up. This is a rather unique event, given the unusual location. No doubt the many hundreds of visitors to the site every week are grateful to your group for this special event. Well done for paying such good attention to a site that means a lot to so many. You will be pleased to hear that very little litter was seen on the day of adjudication. The litter that was seen was recent and there were no accumulations noted. Well done

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

The project that you describe for us here relates to the control of graffiti. This is a problem in every urban centre. As you say yourselves, your community is no different in this regard. We would encourage you to continue with the wall art project and also to communicate as quickly as possible the location of new tags and other graffiti as you find them. Once again, we would advise you to have a look at the TidyTowns handbook for applicable projects and actions for this category. We know that within your area there are so many residential estates and streets. We acknowledge here again that yours is a young group and that you may not yet have had the opportunity to make contact with Residents groups and similar organisations. In time we would hope that you might make contact with them and work together on shared projects.

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

In this last category you tell us about a very useful piece of work that you have carried out over the last year. This relates to public safety and in particular to electrical utilities boxes and their condition on your streets. With the aid of before and after photographs you let us know that these issues have now been resolved. Well done. You have a considerable road network within your area of operation. It is a huge task for any voluntary group to take on the stewardship of so many thoroughfares. We would recommend that you undertake a simple order of your main roads and draw up a schedule of items that could be included in your work or some that might be brought to the attention of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council staff. You will no doubt find some areas where new planting might fit in well and others where remedial work is necessary. We try not to add more work onto the wonderful voluntary groups that enter TidyTowns, so please only take on what do you think you can manage.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure visiting Kill Avenue and Deansgrange this year. We very much appreciate all of the great work that your team has taken on this year and since you have begun your TidyTowns journey. There is no doubt that your area is better for having you! Have a look at the TidyTowns Handbook for some inspiration for the years ahead. We look forward to seeing you again soon.