

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ringsend - An Rinn** Ref: **2279**
County: **Dublin** Mark: **288**
Category: **F** Date(s): **07/06/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	41	43
Streetscape & Public Places	80	38	40
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	41	43
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	22	24
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	16	17
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	51	53
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	35	36
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	31	32
TOTAL MARK	600	275	288

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 Irishtown/Ringsend to the 2026 Supervalu Tidy Towns competition and many thanks for your history of both townlands so we could get a better feel for the area. The images of the iconic Poolbeg Chimneys are awesome and it's the first thing we look out for on arrival.

Saturdays are regular meetup days and we are grateful for over 18 volunteers and 6 committee members who help you run initiatives. Numerous businesses liaise with you throughout the year and we are particularly impressed with the Aviva Stadium and Covanta for annual sponsorship. Strong partnerships with several other local groups, businesses and organisations support you in your endeavours and shows a friendly link. Many establishments serve up refreshments after clean-ups which is praiseworthy. A new storage facility sponsored by the Yacht Club is also noteworthy. Clarke's window displays some of your awards and is a good way to boost local visibility and trust. You are well organised in terms of communication with updates on social media constantly. The youth carry out great work and the local students have received the Neighbourhood School Award again this year which is excellent.

You list planting in Ringends Park this year as your main project. Planting 160 whips and 2 standard oaks is great work for the children to complete. Sounds like they loved all the action and are keen to take on more. An activity of this nature combines hands on environmental education with community impact and is a worthwhile initiative. Success depends on regular watering in the first two years which would have been very difficult this summer and you are probably going to have some losses. Never the less, we are thrilled they enjoyed the day and we look forward to see what else they can achieve.

This will be your fifth year entering the competition and it gives the group an incentive to get things done and you are moving quickly in the right direction. Look at getting a simple 2–3-year Action Plan of what you would like to achieve in each category and note each (N) project on the map.

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

At the library greenery and flowers add a welcoming vibe while across the road a decorated boat highlights the areas maritime history and fishing heritage. More planted containers and painted bicycles brimming with colour make the space feel friendlier and more alive for pedestrians.

The bicycle cart is very useful for carrying water and collecting bags. Testing it on a short-term trial is a practical way to see if it fits your routine before you make a purchase. Information panels at Park entrances present very well and are a very helpful guide before we start our walk. Quick removal of graffiti by volunteers stops more vandalism as is commendable.

The new landscaping at Irishtown is looking extremely well and completed to a high standard, nicely finished with some shells and anchor, giving it a nautical touch. We owe our appreciation to the Aviva stadium and DCC for funding. Welcome planters are awesome too.

You have many fine buildings in both townlands and we especially liked the presentation of the Merry Cobbler in sea blue with the detailing around the windows painted white – very striking. There were many more vibrant facades that we loved; Tunneys, Clarkes, The Laundrette, Dominos and Irishtown House to mention a few.

St. Patricks National school is immaculate and we admired colourful boundary fencing and a wall mural.

A striking, well-preserved church looks like a proud and well-cared for landmark and immediately draws our gaze as we approach Thorncastle Street. The Memorial Wall looked very well on the day we visited and well deserves its recent Award. Hanging baskets in large numbers add instant colour and are a wonderful way to decorate and highlight the street. An outdoor space at the Yacht Tavern impressed.

The streets are mostly appealing and we understand this requires constant work because weeds, litter and debris always return. Help from Kennedys Law firm and St. Patricks School and volunteers is a valuable community effort that has improved the local area and will build civic pride – great work!

Poer washing is one of the fastest and most effective ways to dramatically improve curb appeal and make an exterior space look well maintained. Thanks to DCC - it makes quite a difference to footpaths and makes it look better and brighter.

The Men's Shed have been extremely helpful to the group and we commend them for their time and dedication. You are also grateful for the assistance of the horticultural staff of Ringsend College and it is good to be learning from the experts.

The slipway area looked very well thanks to Paul, with evergreen phormiums and cordyline surrounded by white lavender. Real artifacts like anchors and cannon here add strong design shapes and tell a visual story without reading long text. Thanks to DCC for fixing the lights. The Red Dodder Bouy adds another vivid touch and makes a great backdrop for photographs. The green area at Cassidy's Way could do with more coastal trees or a low hedge to add more green corridors.

On Pigeon House Road, a low wall shelters many creative gardens along the street which sit comfortably in their surrounding landscape. This is a relatively quiet area and we sat and watched massive container ships in the docks and listened to the sometimes-noisy seabirds. Further up a small roundabout could do with a fresh coat of paint as the cottages are very picturesque. A planted Welcome box was delightful. There are great examples of character filled cottages once again at Ringsend Park, well cared for.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The biodiversity garden looking out onto the docks creates a striking, peaceful and unique contrast between nature and industrial life. No doubt pollinators adapt well to maritime air and find refuge here.

Neighbours connect with nature at the Stella Community Gardens with herb planters tended to in this area. Planters with orange geums and geraniums look vibrant against a background of mature trees. We noticed a small bird bath and wondered could you add a mini pond in an upcycled container? Keep up with maintenance of green and white planters so they look their best. Consider herb inspired workshops like Home Apothecary and Remedy making or could someone demonstrate how to make healing balms, or poultices for minor ailments. It may interest the community.

The help from the Girl Guides with litter picking in Ringsend Park is noteworthy.

Promoting local walks like the Parks and Trail Challenge in Sean Moore Park supports community sustainable goals SDG 3 ((Good Health and Well-being), SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and SDG 15 (Life on Land).

To help, spread the word which will boost sign-ups or add temporary educational markers pointing out wildlife or wildflowers, trees along the route.

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

Participating in the Pride of Place competition has offered volunteers and community groups a valuable opportunity to showcase their local initiatives. On the day you collaborated with the Charity WORK EQUAL and collected work clothes for the event. The judges were impressed with what they saw and the strength that is in the community. It would have required a lot of time and effort to organise and we hope it will open doors for future support. Thanks to the many businesses who catered for the event.

The handy work of the Stitching Sisters was on display at Christmas – it's an eco-friendly creation and a fun way to decorate. It's a fabulous and rewarding project.

Learning about innovative drainage and water filtration systems developed alongside Trinity College sounds very promising to alleviate flooding. We are pleased to hear wildlife is thought to be returning as a side effect of all these enhancements. Thanks to Ali for installation of your new water system. Keep us updated on progress. Thanks to Catching Rainbows for their expertise.

The importance of trees cannot be overstated as natural climate solutions and pocket forests would make ideal initiatives to be included in this category.

You could consider asking the national school children to carry out some wildlife or bugs surveys which they'd be delighted to oversee – maybe along Pigeon Road.

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

The group shows a good understanding of initiatives in this category with water harvesting, recycling, knitting projects and planting initiatives. We also know you implement a comprehensive litter program which limits the environmental impacts of waste. Do you segregate Litter?

Walks, talks, workshops and training are all great ways to learn and afterwards you can plan an activity to spread the word. Energy saving and food waste tips are useful topics.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Keeping on top of litter is very difficult but it does create a very good image if you can achieve good maintenance. Litter control was good with just a few spots in the park areas mainly. We did see dog fouling as a bit of an issue but you have an awareness campaign and as the poster says 'its everyone's business'. We applaud the school children, girl guides, local businesses, DCC, local residents and volunteers in their continued participation in litter picking activities. Keep up all your initiatives and promotions in this category. Overall, it presents neat & tidy – great turnout!

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

The residents all work to maintain their homes and gardens to a good standard. Awards like 'Best Vegetable Garden' or 'Best seaside Garden Hideout' would keep residents more motivated. We are delighted they support your work and a good working relationship is evident.

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

All welcome signage is inviting and a good first impression is achieved. Roads are busy with a constant flow of traffic with many resurfaced recently. Road safety signage was clear. Your communication regarding Sean Moore Road and Scout Hall is noted. Congratulate all concerned.

Concluding Remarks:

You are making big strides towards sustainable living and your work with DCC has added real value. We know it is a lot of hard work but you have created a cheerful welcome for this adjudicator and we thoroughly enjoyed our trip. Great work in all categories. Keep it going now.