

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rush - Ros Eo**

Ref: **138**

County: **Dublin**

Mark: **384**

Category: **F**

Date(s): **23/06/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	53	55
Streetscape & Public Places	80	53	56
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	52	55
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	40	43
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	28	30
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	57	59
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	40	42
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	42	44
TOTAL MARK	600	365	384

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. Rush is welcome to the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition for 2026. Thank you for your application, maps and your action plan for the area for 2026 to 2029. As always, it is a pleasure to visit Rush and see all the improvements that have been made to the town, from various projects that have been completed, to develop and enhance the area. This work is being completed under the guidance of a committee of 13, made up of community members with various skills and a large number of volunteers, which includes sporting clubs and schools. Meetings are held as required with ongoing communication between the committee members through WhatsApp. Communication to the wider community is through Facebook and the notice board. Many events are held during the year, where the community help out and are rewarded for the work they are completing. There is ongoing support with advice and funding from Fingal County Council, all other agencies and supporting businesses in the area. There is great interaction between the clubs and schools, with a Transition Year student helping you with your work, during the year. Your main project for 2025, which is noted in the town, is the restoration of the water pumps. They look much smarter with all their caps on. Rush continues to gain awards for the work they have completed to improve the area and long may this trend continue. Keep up the good work.

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

Rush is rich in heritage, and it is good to see that the heritage buildings are preserved and made use of with modern day facilities within their walls. These buildings have been blended gracefully with the new build of the town, which has occurred over a number of years. This includes new houses, shops and businesses, which is very good for a thriving population. It is also commended that you celebrate Heritage Week and host walks and talks on those buildings to show your appreciation and also to ensure that the community builds on your work and keeps it on into the future. Like most villages and towns today there are a number of unoccupied buildings, but you are dealing with these, and they are included in your new action plan for the area. There are, however, a number of very well-presented buildings along the streetscape and the hanging baskets have really brought the area to life. Holding a best presented business does help to motivate and also to reward owners for their work. With the winners for 2025 looking splendid, the Community Centre is a beautiful building for the community to visit and use on a daily basis. The Harbour Bar was also admired for its beautifully painted facade and floral displays. Many businesses that caught the eye included the Theatre and car park adjacent to the church. The Church was also looked resplendent. The tower and grounds were also admired and so too were the GAA and the Schools together as was the cricket club. Recreation is very important for the community, and it is great to have so many facilities available to them and maintained to such a high standard. The town is also fortunate to have beaches available for the community to enjoy and they are maintained to a high standard. There is also Kenure Woods Park which is another

superb recreation facility for the wider community.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

This is a category that Rush are strong in and is noted as one drives through the area, the many hanging baskets bring great colour and brightness. There is a lot of effort in the planting and maintaining of those baskets. They help to soften the buildings along the streetscape. There is also a lot of ground planting noted, with more pollinator-friendly plants amongst the planting schemes. The planting of trees and hedging and particularly planting along walls to break the look of the concrete, was also admired. The new bed at the south beach gives a very good welcome to this area. The Community Centre was greatly admired on its colourful displays. The hard landscaping complements the soft landscaping throughout the town. The pumps are a great feature and help to maintain the heritage of the town. The signage: a new flower sign in the mud is a novel idea. The car park at Hands Lane was also admired for its landscaping. Car parks are a place that can be forgotten about, but this one is particularly attractive. The murals at Kenure Woods also bring their own colour to the landscaping. The many containers, including tree tier planters, which are placed at strategic points were admired. The many window boxes, hanging baskets and other containers at the businesses were commended and owners must be complimented on the displays. The planted boat at the Rogerstown sign looked superb.

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

Rush is rich in biodiversity in the landscaping of the town, which includes stone walls, woodland and of course, the sea. The management and protection of these areas is important. To ensure this is achieved, you work with specialised people to help you to maintain your habitats. You work closely with Birdwatch Ireland with bird boxes erected at various points, which are monitored for their movements. This is important as too often bird boxes are erected and just forgotten about. It is great to see the schools with such an involvement in the whole area of biodiversity. Showing appreciation of natural habitats and nature is important and Rush does this with the hosting of walks and talks at various events. This education also carried through with the installation of informative signs on nature around the shoreline. Allowing the grass to grow by delayed cutting in spring to ensure spring-flowering plants can blossom is important. Planting of wildflowers is also important. Many workshops are attended by the Tidy Towns to upskill them on biodiversity, with the various stakeholders involved.

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

Making the area more sustainable is important to most groups and Rush is no different. Many projects have been undertaken within the town to make the area more sustainable, which is important for the environment. The schools play a big part in learning, from an early age, ways of saving, reusing, and recycling. The reusable cup is one of your biggest projects and has taken off and continues to grow, reducing the number of cups used, and people have learned how important this is. The other three headings, in which mainly savings are made, are: water, energy and transport. You're also doing your work in addressing and saving in these areas. Harvesting rainwater with the installation of water butts in community areas and in private homes, has become very popular, using water for watering flowers and other tasks within the community. The installation of water fountains to reduce the number of bottles being used and also save people money is very popular with a lot of groups, particularly GAA clubs where there is a lot of footfall. Cycling, walking, and using public transport are also being used more as a means of saving on emissions. Installation of solar panels to both homes and community buildings, and the use of LED lighting, is also growing. Planting of seeds and using cuttings from flowers and swapping with one another is also on the increase.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Rush continues with their plan of reducing litter and making the area more attractive. There is ongoing litter picking with the help of a large number of volunteers. The town not only has to maintain the streets but there are also the beaches, which are busy with many visitors to them on a daily basis. Graffiti has been a problem, but you are dealing with it. A lot of groups use artwork on service points, which are very attractive and help to reduce graffiti. Pets have become very important to the community, but they can also cause problems, which you are hopefully addressing with your many signs discreetly placed to remind dog walkers of their obligation to clean up after their pets and keep the streetscape nice and tidy. Adopt a patch and encouraging people to keep their own areas tidy is very helpful for groups, the community at large and those visiting. It encourages them to bring home litter and helps in maintaining the area.

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

The houses along the approach roads and throughout the town bring great colour and charm to the streetscape with brightly coloured facades and neat gardens. The housing estates were particularly admired, with well-planted entrance signs and green areas. There is great interest in biodiversity and nature, with bird boxes and several other items noted throughout the estates. The pollinator friendly plants which included bright sunflowers bring sunshine to their surroundings. Hosting a best-kept estate competition is a great way of motivating and also rewarding the residents for their work. Well done to all the winners in this competition. It is good to see the Tidy Towns committee and the residents working so closely together, sharing equipment and helping with planting. This shows a well-committed community. The residents are commended on the work they do in maintaining and presenting their homes to such a high standard, as well as the work they do in maintaining other projects throughout the town. Play areas for the younger members of the community are also very well maintained.

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

The approach roads to Rush give a very good first impression as one enters. There is good signage, which is well maintained, with good landscaping. Verges are neat while retaining a corridor for wildlife. Welcome to Rush signs were particularly admired. All entrance roads offer their own interest in their landscaping and design of beds. The planted boat at Rogerstown entrance was particularly admired and is in keeping with the location of the town. Road surfaces are generally good, and the car parking areas were also well maintained.

Concluding Remarks:

Rush was a pleasure to visit and adjudicate. You are doing ongoing work in the various projects to improve all areas of the competition. Biodiversity is very strong in the area, and you are doing good work here. Keep up the good work and you are wished well for the future.