

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Saggart - Teach Sagart** Ref: **1736**
County: **Dublin** Mark: **278**
Category: **D** Date(s): **06/06/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	40	43
Streetscape & Public Places	80	38	40
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	30	31
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	37	39
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	19	21
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	47	49
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	26	27
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	26	28
TOTAL MARK	600	263	278

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.

Thank you for entering the 2026 Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition. You are an active committee of 14 volunteers with 25 adult and 8 young volunteers. Your efforts in getting apartment volunteers is laudable especially in connecting the village with the wider community.

Thank you for your application to the 2026 Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition. Your application containing your targets and objectives under the eight Tidy Towns Categories is well thought out and interesting to read. Networking with other groups is true community spirit to get everyone working together and promotes sociability and inclusiveness. For a strong committee of eight you have a lot of volunteers to call upon. Your volunteer statistics make very interesting reading as you state marking 1,031 volunteer hours which is an impressive figure. Your constitution is sound and clearly laid out. Given the number of volunteers and voluntary hours worked a Volunteer Charter could be of benefit to the organisation and the volunteers. You network and work with a lot of public bodies, organisations and businesses within the community. You do well on communication and this evident from the support and volunteer effort you have. It is interesting to read that you record a 23.5% increase in digital communication and awareness, your demographics are interesting that you reach a predominately female audience of age range 25 to 64. Your strategy to communicate with younger age group 18 to 24 is interesting and will be hopefully successful in engaging with this group. You have a lot of events which is great to see as Tidy Towns is not just an environmental competition, it has a strong ethos on community philosophy to include everybody within the community. Thank you for your map which was easy to follow, you are in an expanding community geographically with new developments ongoing in your community and on your doorstep. In your plan and constitution, you may look at expanding them, for these developments or not and working with the residents and agencies going forward.

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

The visit took place on a wet day and yet Saggart looked good thanks to your good work in making the village presentable.

The Square looked well, clean and tidy with business ongoing in the various shops, a sign of a good community. The overall appearance of the masonry paint on some of the Square buildings is beginning to fade, freshening this up would improve the overall aesthetics of the Square. Appreciably this is a matter for the owners/management company who you may want to approach on this subject. The church is well presented with a large pay car park, not well used during the visit leading to noticeable parking congestion in the village.

The bollards and pole hardware are in good condition with some minor graffiti noticed around the church area.

Footpaths in and around the square are in good repair no weed trip hazards present thanks to your good work on this issue. Jacob's pub is well presented adorned with nice floral baskets, a nice building and name plate. The Tyre Centre and the Anvil premises are well presented. The murals look well and brighten up the town centre a nice art gallery for people to admire.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

There are some nice planters in around the town. Some with wooden surrounds need a lot of maintenance. Where possible and space allows planting into the open ground is a preferred option. There is an overuse of poor-quality Laurel species in schemes around the town and also around the new Swiftbank developments. This is an area that needs to be addressed as the plants are quite tall and spindly, of poor quality with leaf spot disease present. A radial relandscaping of these beds should be considered, with consideration given to good architectural low maintenance plants, with a better colour pallet and more seasonal interest. The services of a landscape architect should be sought for this purpose. This would not only enhance the landscape and give value to the buildings and environment but would also be more aesthetically pleasing to the viewer, residents and workers within the village. Some newly planted trees need attention of in tree tie and stake adjustment and removal where necessary. In general, where the Tidy Towns Group look after the planting tubs and landscape this is done to a high standard, with a lot of time dedication and care given to the selection and maintenance of the planting schemes. Good luck with the Community Garden Patch which should be of great benefit to the locality. The adjudicator would advise running this as a separate project but attached to tidy towns as the organisation planning and objectives for both may differ. Starting new projects takes a lot of committee time and focus that can have different objectives. A subcommittee or team for developing new projects may be considered.

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

This is a category where you have a great interest in with your various projects. With the recent switch in some of your land use from farmland to urban settings, biodiversity indicators have to adapt and change in order to survive and live to the future. You are putting extra layers of biodiversity management in recognition of this. Projects such as clean ups and monitoring water quality are very important on this matter gaining real time information. Species such as bats and hedgehogs our oldest native mammals are particularly susceptible to these changes, protection and public awareness like you are doing are crucial to their survival in the changing landscapes. One way of encouraging biodiversity is to get some of the gardeners in the estates garden to create a small biodiversity space, such as plant pollinators or even supply a birdbath in their garden which is crucial to garden nesting birds. Liaising with neighbouring groups and the work in identifying invasive weed species is crucial for the survival of nature and biodiversity. The issue with invasive species is their monocultural nature in that plants such Himalayan balsam smothering out native plants in their habitat. Notifying and allowing the proper authorities to control the pest with the proper skills and equipment is the correct procedure. By doing so this is a good example of Citizen Science in action.

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

This category looks at Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, you are already on this journey with the water station which is a good facility for the environment and consumer. Reducing food waste makes sure food is given to people and even necessary pets who might consume it. A big problem with food waste its emissions' if left to rot. As God is not making any more land as a society, we need to be reflective that both land, food and water are scarce diminishing resources that need to be protected and used properly as nature intended. The gunk pot campaign is an excellent project particularly for proper cooking oil disposal. Below ground concerns in our drains is both hygienically and environmentally important, getting homes to look at and change their habits is an excellent imitative on your part. The bus service through Saggart with linkages to nearby Luas and to Maynooth provides good interconnectivity. Electronic information on bus stops and bus shelters where possible to encourage commuters to use public transport is a sustainable measure, Saggart Tidy Towns could look at. As you have a diverse population a rent and use a bike scheme to and from commuter stations is a sustainable transport measure you may like to lobby for.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

On visiting the town on a wet cold day litter was not an issue, bins were in use, and little graffiti was spotted. Your litter patrols seem to work well in this regard. Working with neighbouring groups particularly along the river is good and beneficial cooperation with each other. On the issue of graffiti on bins and utility boxes one initiative to consider is for murals to be painted onto these hardware items, where it is done in some areas it works very well.

The See it? Say It! App is a good communication tool for Citizens Science to report unsavoury activity. The new booklet from SDCC on the dumping of garden waste and sharing it with community will hopefully inform people and reduce the problem.

Street Furniture was in good condition with seats clean and usable. Signage is clean. New and distinct and clearly legible

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

Millrace is a nice estate with evidence of people at home at the time of visit with a lot of cars parked in the hinterland. There is nice planting in the ground by the stone but the wooden beds are not being used, are an eyesore and should be disposed of with the area returned to grass. The utility station in this location could do with proper paint maintenance especially the door which has redundant posters, a mural may lighten up this building. Spring bank and Drury Mills have nice houses kept well. Signage at estate entrances is good and clear. Nature strips within the estates are well maintained with no grass edges protruding onto the footpaths. Trees are

well maintained for vehicular and pedestrian flow and visibility.

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

On the approach to Saggart it clearly indicated by the new and clear signs and plantings that you are in no doubt entering the town,

Road surfaces and are good, traffic speed is not an issue as during the adjudication visit traffic flow is very slow with a lot of waiting time at traffic lights. Parking was found to be difficult leading to congestion and engine idling by some vehicles.

The policy of the Tidy Towns group linking in with developers or the current and future enhancement of the town is novel and essential, particularly in terms of landscaping as previously mentioned

Concluding Remarks:

You are a young and ambitious Tidy Towns group with clear plans, goals and objectives. You are in a community that is expanding and you aims are good to meet these challenges. Work on all Tidy Towns Categories within the competition framework. Keep up your hard work there is a great future in Saggart,