

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Shankill - Seanchill** Ref: **1101**
County: **Dublin** Mark: **405**
Category: **F** Date(s): **15/07/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	58	60
Streetscape & Public Places	80	41	45
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	56	59
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	47	51
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	25	29
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	66	69
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	42	43
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	48	49
TOTAL MARK	600	383	405

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 for the work that so obviously went into creating your entry this year. This included a highly detailed and richly illustrated entry form, two maps and your TidyTowns plan. We appreciate you delineating your work area on the second map. This makes our visit on adjudication day much easier. You set out for us as a very good picture of how Shankill Tidy Towns works as a group. There can be little doubt that you are well organised and committed. We note that you prefer action to debate. Well put. It is good to see that you work well with other agencies including Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council staff (especially the Parks staff), the John Brady Group, Crann, SAGE and An Garda Síochána. It is also clear from your entry that you work well with schools and other youth groups. It is interesting to see that there is still a place for letter drops when necessary. The specific project that you have identified for particular effort this year is the Shankill Tree Trail in conjunction with SAGE. Shankill is coming up to 20 years of participation in the TidyTowns competition and that is just fantastic. We appreciate the work that you have been doing over this time and so to do your residents and visitors.

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

Thank you for the list of notable and important buildings of your village. Many of these are of heritage significance. You also note some older sites such as the ringforts and Medieval church at Rathmichael. You go on to tell us that your principal focus is the village from St Anne's Church to Quinn's Road. Indeed, this is where our visit began. This adjudicator is quite familiar with Shankill as this was on a former cycle commute route (some years ago!). It was wonderful to return and see so many positive changes to the streetscape of your main street. The adjudicator was struck by how well your Main Street looked on adjudication day. Premises looked clean and sharp on this sunny day. There was lots of colour from premises such as Camile. Brady's looked really well-painted. The goat mural is a really eye-catching piece. The pavements were wider than the adjudicator remembered and there were lots of pedestrian footfall.

You also tell us that the DART station and Rathsallagh Park are key areas for you. Thank you for providing photographs of your work but also copies of your notices of your community works 2025 and 2026. The appreciation and conservation of our heritage is a very important role and it is great to see how you've taken that up.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

We very much like your description of Shankill as a garden suburb. Indeed you do have many large green spaces within your area of operation. Thank you for listing these here for us along with all of the details of your actions. We admire the honesty of your "scruffy bits", but in an area so large, this is going to be inevitable. We also praise your move toward more permanent and less seasonal planting. Our visit to Shankill was during a very dry and sunny period and we will have to prepare for periods of drought. We loved the planting at your village's core. The planters between your outdoor seating areas were stuffed with a lovely mixture of colours and textures. From the 'everlasting' geraniums to the very tall sunflowers, Main Street looked so good. The Seanchill Flúirseach project sounds excellent but also sounds like a long-term commitment for your group. Thank you for the many photographs of your planting for example on Shankill Road.

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

Here again in this category there is a high level of detail provided, thank you. The Tree trail is a 6 km venture and an ambitious project. However, you had expert assistance in this and we have no doubt of its quality. In another partnership you are working on the Shankill Biodiversity project. We are pleased to see you reference rivers in this. Do any of your coastal habitats fall within this project scope? Among your other activities are the maintenance of fruit trees including a historical Apple collection, promoting Shankill as a walking centre and indeed a trail head for the Bray Camino! In partnership with experts your volunteers are also making four hive locations for wild bee species. Fantastic. Your future plans may include a Nature Walking Festival. You are certainly not lacking in ambition!

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

This is a strong category for your group and you have supplied lots of pertinent information on your actions, thank you. We read that St Anne's Church & Resource Centre has received an energy upgrade with new installation doors and energy efficient lighting. You are practising perhaps the easiest form of composting with the conversion of leaf litter to leaf mould. This is a wonderful technique that we wish every group would take on! There have also been workshops on solar panel installations. Well done for highlighting this essential technology. You also describe your work in the Shankill community garden as well as the promoting of the Shankill zero waste page.

Thank you for the most detailed description of litter bag cleaning and reuse that this adjudicator has ever seen. This leaves us in no doubt that you practice what you preach! You go on to list a number of the recycling and reuse initiatives that take place around your village throughout the year.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

We are grateful once more for the high-level of detail provided by you here in this category. Here we find out about population figures and also the locations of your Annual Spring Clean-up Days. These you have been carrying out right from the start (that's nearly 20 years now). We read that the National Schools as well as Scouts/Beavers carryout beach clean-ups – brilliant. You go on to list your other (many!) activities pertinent to this category. These include the organised separate clean-ups for the different areas, the logging and reporting of damage to benches and the incidence of graffiti when it occurs.

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

Once again, there is very detailed and relevant information from you for this category. We recognise that having such large estates over a very wide area presents its own challenges. Your account of your activities in these areas gives us confidence that they are in good hands! Your approach to grassland management and overgrowth appears to be good.

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

As someone who used to once cycle through Shankill to and from work, this adjudicator is very aware of how long the approach roads to Shankill are. Frankly, it is amazing that your group manages to achieve all that it does. It was a busy summers day when we visited your village and there was all the traffic and foot fall that you can imagine. However, the signs were clean the kerbs were generally weed-free and roadside litter was not in evidence.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure to be back in Shankill once again. There were so many positive changes to be seen and described. It is clear that the village has really come on well over the (nearly) last two decades. We know that such improvements do not happen by themselves and the work that you have done to bring your village to this level is acknowledged here.