

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre:	Springfield - Achaidh on Tobair	Ref:	2357
County:	Dublin	Mark:	233
Category:	E	Date(s):	17/07/2026

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	33
Streetscape & Public Places	80	33
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	33
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	23
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	22
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	43
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	23
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	23
TOTAL MARK	600	233

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 Springfield Tidy Towns Residents Association to the 2026 Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition, this is your first entry as a newly formed association and we are delighted you are taking part in the competition. Tidy Towns is very much about community participation and involvement as well as environmental consideration. In this category we look at your community planning and involvement and how you and your community are involved with communicating and connecting with each other. Thank you for your application which is very concise, accurate, brief and to the point. Your map is very good and well laid out, while the red line demarcates your area of operation it doesn't include some of the estates. We took a look at some streets as residential areas of the competition as there is a lot of good work going on here and the signs and entrances are included in your application. Next year you might like to look at this and alter your line as and if necessary. Thank you also for your three year plan which is a good starting point guide. As a new group "your focus is to build strong foundations, get more structured and expand your actions in a realistic and sustainable way through community involvement, partnerships, maintenance, biodiversity actions and visible environmental improvements across your beautiful estate which really deserves to be looked after and cared for". This is a very good mission statement and outlines a strategic plan. What you might do is refine your plan to each of the Tidy Towns categories as a management implementation plan for short, medium and long term realistic goals. You may also look at funding and finance proposals, volunteer recruitment and training and how you manage and resource new projects. As you say reviewing your plan annually or periodically is essential as good plans must be adaptable and or changeable as needs and circumstances may arise. Building supportive relationships with local and public authorities is a key element in having a good relationship with staff across different departments, management and councillors where appropriate. With your engagement and support with local business this cuts both ways by them supporting you where possible, supporting them as a Tidy Towns group as well as promoting residents to shop locally. For some businesses supporting you with goods and services may be more prudent and cost effective for them and also beneficial for yourselves. As a new group with three committee members (Chairman, Secretary, Treasury) and seventeen volunteers is a great start. As a committee, think and act like a team working together for the common good. When looking for members and volunteers, people will gladly join a team. Your strategy of a person in charge for each of the categories Litter Management, Biodiversity Projects/Green Spaces, DIY Projects, Communication is a very good proposal and this is where your team can help, example litter team, biodiversity and communications team. Look at having a volunteer charter for the benefit of both the organisation and the volunteers. Not all people are able to do manual work but some people can be very good at support and administration work and can be very valuable members to have. Communication and meetings are crucial for a successful Tidy Towns Campaign. Use your Facebook Page for

communication and look for ideas and comments, post regularly on its news items in relation to Community and Tidy towns issues, Autumn / Winter items like garden bird diversity care for example. Public meetings, gatherings and word of mouth are the best social engagement for any community.

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

This category looks at public buildings, business appearance in shop fronts and signage, how you as a group interact with them in terms of influencing conservation, also in maintaining public spaces. In future applications you may put in a sentence or two on how you influence this category. As you state in your application you do not have any heritage buildings on the estate. Your architecture in general are good contemporary modern buildings that are worthwhile and functional and all very well kept. The church is a unique style of its time well placed in the community and designed to meet the needs of a modern suburban estate of its time. The School is again well placed in the community and has good clear road markings and road safety features with the church car park supporting both buildings. There is no mention of a community centre or hall in your application, do you have one or a place where the community can meet? You might like to mention this in your future applications. Noted are the projects in the school grounds but not able to view them properly. Street furniture also noted and age friendly benches in the Alderwood Green area. The shops in the area again are of the small convenience shopping centre style and cater very much to the local needs. They are clean to European standards but it would be nice to see individual shopfront signage that would stand out. Also viewed was the adjacent Supervalu Shopping Centre and wondered is it not part of the same estate?

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

You have nine greens as you mention in your application with a lot of maintenance done by South Dublin County Council. As the adjudication took place during a spell of dry weather and drought all green spaces in the country were struggling with moisture deficits. Grass areas were well mown and some greens were used for local residents enjoyment and recreation. The trees planted around the area particularly in Alderwood green area are showing signs of stress with their tree ties and stakes. These should be checked regularly adjusted, or with stakes and ties removed if no longer need,

There is a lot of interesting planting of signs around the entrances of the estates with bedding and perennial plants. Maplewood road has a lovely floral display, The planters on the green opposite Centra look very effective. In some cases, planting plants directly into the ground in a contoured mound can be very effective. Some entrance stones and signs are now blocked by the plants and are not visible, which defeats the whole purpose of a sign if it can not be read! Remedial action to correct this should be taken.

Alderwood Lawn is framed by a lovely green private hedge as a topiary frame around it, it is very effective with some nice blue lobelia plants at the base of the hedge, giving a nice contrast.

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

This category compliments the greenspaces and sustainability categories. You have done a lot of work on this with attending the Train the Trainer Workshops. One way of increasing Biodiversity in your neighbourhood is by encouraging house holders to put small diversity plots in their gardens. A bird bath can be very useful and entertaining over all the seasons. Noted are your hedgehogs who hibernate for the winter and are mammal under threat. One reason is road kill as the animal's mobility slows pre and post hibernation. An awareness campaign for drivers to look out and slow down for these curious little ones may be looked at. Planting in dead corners pocket gardens native trees, shrubs and pollinating plants is a good biodiversity plan. With a new wild flower meadow, the range and variety of flowers may change from annuals to biennials and perennial flowering plants over the first three years of establishment.

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

In this category we are looking at sustainable goals doing more with less, reusing, recycling and upcycling scarce materials where possible. Noted is your excellent work on the raised beds and furniture within the school. Areas you may also explore here are energy consumption and awareness with your resident groups for example. There is excellent public transport in your locality. Look at active travel especially for the school, maybe organising a safe cycling workshop for the school. Good and safe road cycling skills for the young make a good and safe motoring culture for the future.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

On driving and cycling through the area it is very litter free and thanks to your good efforts in this category. Road gullies and shores are clean, no street clutter visible, all nature strips tidy and in good order.

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

There are some nice and interesting houses in the estates.

Alderwood Green is an interesting bungalow style of house.

There are different styles of two story houses around the estates; most are very well kept and decorated with interesting front garden styles.

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

The main road Maplewood Road is well constructed with a good road surface. For driving and cycling through.

Roundabouts at the shopping centre are newly surfaced and overall, there is good design on the road. There speed ramps as traffic calming measures and traffic flows freely and moderately though the estate, There are good road markings and especially around the school area. Nature strips are well maintained with no issues of low trees impeding traffic or visibility. Footpaths are good with good walking surfaces.

Concluding Remarks:

Adjudicating Springfield was interesting as it is nice to welcome a new entrant and hopefully, we will see you in all future competitions. Good luck with your endeavours