Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Eadestown - Baile Éide**	Ref:	**101**
County:	**Kildare**	Mark:	**338**
Category:	**A**	Date(s):	**06/07/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	43	44
Streetscape & Public Places	80	42	43
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	43	46
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	39	41
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	24	26
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	62	64
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	35	36
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	37	38
TOTAL MARK	**600**	**325**	**338**

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.

This was was my first visit to Eadestown. As the adjudicator for the Tidy Towns Competition for 2026 I was very impressed by your home town.
For 2026, Eadestown Tidy Towns have entered into Category A Village with a population below 200.
Your 8 active committee members and a core of 15 volunteers work regularly on your projects.

You have successfully taken part in the national Tidy Towns competition for the last 6 years. This participation has resulted in the community of Eadestown being drawn together. Your comment that your involvement in the competition has lifted spirits is very insightful and very welcome.
You have submitted a very comprehensive and detailed entry, responding to all categories, and including a number of excellent photographs particularly your photographs of the community garden.
You have also attached your very colourful and annotated Tidy Town Map which was of great assistance to this adjudicator, and also your very concise and excellent Plan for 2026-2029, brilliant in it's simplicity and clarity - you know what you are intending to do and there is every confidence that it will be done.
You have highlighted that many organisations and numerous committed individuals have contributed to the Eadestown submission.
The assistance and co-operation of the Church Committee and the Rathmore Eadestown Kilteel Local Biodiversity Group, the Cemetery Committee, Rathmore Natonal School and most importantly the Community Cafe is very much welcomed.
Funding received from Pobal is also acknowledged.
Without exception all of the entrants from Kildare, including Eadestown, identified the support and assistance of Kildare County Council - the high standard achieved by the county's Tidy Towns family both in the past and in 2026 are a testament to the ongoing commitment and energy of the County Council.

You use the Annagaul Newsletter, WhatsApp groups and public meetings to keep all in the community abreast of your work and your plans.

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

Eadestown Village is located on the junction of the R410 Regional road with the local L2021 in Kildare.
While the townland is spread out into the rural hinterland, the main area of activity for the town centres around the

Church of the Immaculate Conception and the adjacent house, the Tickell Memorial Fountain dating from 1899, the centrepiece Village Garden, and the Eadestown Cemetary.
The unique fountain was apparently used by dogs, horses and humans in previous days and is certainly worth treasuring and maintaining. Your submission mentions that the fountain is 16 foot high.
The fountain is set in front of a well presented 2-storey building with a Coopers Dip sign on the return of the house.
The Annagaul Bridge on the L2021 road is a protected local structure
The local Rathmore National School and the Rathmore Community Hall are on the L2021 road leading to the neighbouring village of Rathmore. There is an adjoining child care facility which was a hive of activity on the day of adjudication inspection.
Eadestown GAA Club have their facilities, including pitch, playground and tidy club house facility approximately one kilometre from the village centre.
All of the roads, street, and public places in Eadestown were in good condition and it was very pleasant to walk around.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

Your village garden complete with pergolas both old and new, bog oak sculpture and 1916 memorial garden, completed by seating and information board is the undoubted highlight of the Eadestown's work - it is excellent.
Your 2026 entry and last year's adjudicators report confirm your collective expertise in this particular competency, you have everything that any village or town would hope for in relation to choice of flowers and plants, planting and maintenance of spaces and landscaping throughout. You have chosen your flowers for colour, and also critically for their roles as pollinators, and also taken the need to take account of all 4 seasons of the year in your planting and maintenance programme.
It is also clear that you have been well advised and very well helped by the expertise of Blessington Lakes Garden Centre, Poplar Landsaping and Yellow Furze Nurseries.
The new pergola completed in October 2025 will in time have clematis climbers making their way up the frame - this will further enhance an already delightful space for the enjoyment of all who come to the village.
Two very minor comments regarding the your work in the village garden:- the collection point/compost bin for your cuttings might be tidied up, the timber frame is looking tired, and similarly the wooden frame for the information board for the Seven Trees for the Seven Signatories would be improved by the application of a fresh coat of stain.
It is emphasised that these comments are not to be considered as in any way critical of the fantastic done here and also at the graveyard further down the road.
You have also maintained and kept up your work with the 3 areas where you have previously planted trees, and also at the bridge and surrounds. Your work to the church grounds has also been noted.

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

The increased importance of Nature and Biodiversity is recognised in the increased scoring for this category for the 2026 Tidy Towns competition.
As the 2025 adjudicator noted your collaboration and liaison with the Rathmore Eadestown Kilteel Local Biodiversity Group will prove to the benefit of all particularly with regard to raising the awareness of all. For example, your role in the communication to your community of the risks and damage caused by the use of pesticide is very much encouraged. The sample extract from the local newsletter was excellent, was very informative and accurate and most of all interesting. The role of the Tidy Towns as an advocate for nature and biodiversity can not be under-estimated.
Water is the starting point for all of nature, it keeps us alive and yet it is often undervalued and taken for granted.
Last year's adjudicator identified the possibilities of using water butts in Eadestown. It would be very interesting to see if for example your promotion of rainwater harvesting has resulted in any increased use of water butts by householders or by for example the school, the community hall or the church, all with good roof gathering potential.
Your maintenance projects during the year included the ongoing care of your planted native trees and also the increased number of bird boxes and bug hotels in your locality, well done to all.
In relation to bird boxes please make sure to clean the boxes out later in the year, please do not use chemicals, and it goes without saying please avoid disturbing active nests during the spring and summer.

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

The increased importance of Sustainability for all communities is recognised in the increased scoring for this category for the 2026 Tidy Towns competition.
Many groups are very active in encouraging community members to make their area more sustainable by their actions and there is a wide variety of actions that can be positioned under the sustainability umbrella.
Eadestown has focussed on the need for waste reduction by installing and using clothing recycling bins continue to operate from Rathmore National School and Eadestown GAA where textiles can be recycled. The area around the recycling bin at the school was accessible and in clean condition. The Cash for Clobber initiative is also very much encouraged. Globally, about 80% to 87% of discarded clothing ends up in landfills or incinerators, with less than 1% recycled back into new clothing. Every piece of recycled clothing counts, as well as helping the funding for the school and the GAA club. Many sports clubs operate a boots and jersey drop box which again reduces waste and has the added benefit of reducing unnecessary costs for families.
You have also identified the benefits of active travel, particularly in relation to cycling to schools. It is appreciated that the school is located away from the village but it might be worthwhile exploring the Safe Routes programme which has been implemented in many of the towns and villages throughout Kildare.
Congratulations to Rathmore National School on maintaining their Green Flag status, an award that has to be earned by the students - very well done.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Eadestown Tidy Towns Committee and the volunteers together with the employees of Kildare County Council have ensured that your village and surroundings continue to have a high standard of tidiness and litter control in all of the public areas visited.
In addition to your weekly maintenance programme, and programmed regular community clean up days scheduled several times a year, and along with many other Tidy Towns groups, you have continued to maintain kilometres of roadside verge in the Eadestown, Rathmore, and Kilteel areas over the past nuberbe of years under the very successful KCC “Green Kilometre” initiative.
Your village was in pristing condition on the day of inspection.
Congratulations on your work

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

In addition to one-off housing throughout the area, Eadestown has a limited number of relatively small housing estates close to the village centre, namely Newtown Grove, Caureen View, Annagaul View and Carters Hill.
The residents and community of Eadestown and surrounds continue to maintain and keep their homes, gardens and streets to a very high level.
The photographs of the blooming planting during the year at Caureen View are an accurate reflection of this adjudicator’s experience visiting the housing in Eadestown.
The roads, paths and kerbs to the housing areas are generally in good condition.

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

This adjudicator arrived into Eadestown by the R410 from Naas and left by the R410 route to Blessington. Both approaches provide pleasant entry into the village with good signage and road markings.

All approaches including the L2021 to Rathmore had neatly trimmed grass verges and well maintained hedgerows.

The general condition of roads and paths was excellent and it was a pleasure to walk around the village.

The decorative “Welcome to Eadestown” signs all appeared to be fresh and very visible.

Concluding Remarks:

This adjudicator was impressed with the presentation of your village and the work the committee has carried out.
You are establishing a great legacy for your tow - it is great to see.

Go raibh maith agaibh go léir. Comhghairdeas Baile Eide.