

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre:	Claremorris - Clár Chlainne Mhuiris	Ref:	514
County:	Mayo	Mark:	356
Category:	D	Date(s):	14/06/2026

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	48	50
Streetscape & Public Places	80	46	48
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	48	50
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	41	43
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	25	27
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	61	63
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	32	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	41	42
TOTAL MARK	600	342	356

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. Ádh mór. We were pleased to see the effort you put into your application form which included lots of illustrations and thanks also for your clear map and legend – all which highlighted your hard work and enthusiasm. You also have a very detailed plan which gives you a great blueprint to follow and record your completed projects. Good to see your committee and volunteer support is increasing and to know that you encourage inclusivity in your work. You work well with your business and community groups. You tell us and have good support from state agencies and expertise within your local authority. You use print media, radio and social networks to highlight your work, give information and to encourage participation. Great to see all your recent posts. You tell us of the value of your school community, and your photos provide plenty of confirmation. The commercial interests in the town are obviously appreciative of your enhancements, and this has resulted in special recognition by Mayo Chamber. You organised a float in this year's St Patricks day parade for which you are immensely proud as you select this as your priority project. We are delighted also to read that you have a long history with the TT competition which has resulted you say in a lot of positive things in your town and community.

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

Claremorris has a number of commercial streets that have a strong legacy of traditional shopfronts integrated with modern adaptations. You are rightly proud of these especially where owners have used colour to good effect. We were particularly impressed by PJ Byrne's and O'Brien's pub. This good standard has now been joined by your re-use of Kennedy's pub where your before and after photos convey a respectful transformation and a retention of the original fascia. Warde's contribute greatly to its key colourful corner spot on the square. La Belle Femme Tir na nOg and Redz are great too to mention just a few. Unfortunately, another inviting shop The Food Store was closed – it being a Sunday. Well done whoever decided on the painting pattern on the Town Hall – it is very quirky and suits the function. You tell us about the challenges of dereliction, which is in evidence in the town, similar to other towns of your size. Good to see that MCC are pro-active in this regard. The large structure on the corner of James Street and Ballindine Road presents a particular poor streetscape distraction. Your key community buildings look well. What a lovely library in the reused St John's Church. Your St. Coleman RC church opposite was a delight to visit and see more of the Harry Clarke collection of windows in Mayo. More contemporary community buildings such as the Garda Station, Fire Station and Leisure Centre convey a growing community and strengthening presence in the streetscape. We got to rest in the vibrant Square along with other visitors on your nice age friendly seating and heard the chatter of children under your event space canopy, your photos are telling of how useful this space is proving to be for community events. From here we caught a glimpse of the artistic treatment you have given to your

electricity mini pillars, a delight. A visit to your railway station revealed your refreshed children's artwork, a good legacy to preserve with its local literary connection.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

In this category you put particular focus on your two big parks and that is understandable as we had a great experience visiting them. The Land of the Giants includes access through your Clare Lake with the interesting sculptures and good range of facilities. Like all the children present we loved the friendly geese. The greenway route has an easy flat terrain, so it has good appeal for all. Great to see other facilities such as all the fishing stands. The giant sculptures provide a delightful trail, and you tell us that you even have plans in train for more additions, obviously a great success. We admired your busy playground at the entrance to the park that is fitted with a great range of equipment and appears is maintained well. A different character of park across the road in Mayfield looped walk. We didn't have time to do a full loop but had a taste of experiencing the open wildlife focus with good paths and boardwalk. The excellent information board is a bit damaged – maybe a more permanent panel is needed. Regardless the area was teeming with wildlife including beautiful birdsong. Great to have plans for native woodland along this loop. You tell us also of the planting along the new paths on Ballindine and Kilcolman Road carried out as a joint venture with MCC. Both the additional accessibility they provide and the colourful floral addition with trees creates a great landscaped public realm space that will encourage more active travel hopefully. We also admired all the permanent and temporary planters in the town a great mix of colourful pollinator friendly flowers and shrubs. Agree with previous years comments that additional street trees would be transformational. Great to see the replacement one on James Street.

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

You tell us in this category that you have commenced your native tree planting at Mayfield lake and also planted a great quantum of spring bulbs. Please photograph to include in next years application. We greatly admired the attractive bedding outside Supervalu store. However, in contrast the beds along the extensive walls in the car park were devoid of plants, you will need to give them encouragement to match the local authority investment at the entrance. Your refresh of the planter at the library is gorgeous and with the blue seat creates a nice space for people to linger and chat. The graveyard restoration project is a great example of community group collaboration and has secured the graveyard as a biodiversity wildlife haven noting the bird and bat boxes, bee hotels and your judicious planting. You tell us also of the continued mowing regime which you practice throughout the town and approach roads which favours biodiversity. Do you intend encouraging the extension of areas set aside for wildlife, perhaps on school or sports grounds? Great to plant more trees in the town too, how many did you sell during Tree Week? Did you follow up on the sunflower seed distribution – maybe a more structured project you could do with your schools next year. Wonderful to extend the value of your Insect information board with a follow up talk by the ecologist.

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

You have embraced this category which is embedded too in a lot of other categories too. You tell us of the-use of the container as a shed for your purposes. We did admire the Clar garden where we see the composting facilities available to all, do you use harvested rainwater for your planters / baskets? We sat on the seat over the railway bridge to focus on your eye-catching art piece made from re-cycled materials – any more projects like this in the pipeline? Great to have installed the water refill station at the playground – are there others in schools or at sport facilities where single use plastics can be discouraged? Do you get involved in any SEAI initiatives to encourage sustainable energy actions? Good to hear about the book swap and dress swaps. Your TY students might be interested in the Junk Couture a fashion competition challenging schools to design, upcycle and create high-end sustainable fashion from recycled junk! Great that you have access to a train and bus service in the town. Are there ways that you can encourage usage and cycle linkage – we did notice that none of the bike stands at the station were in use, perhaps the day. Fantastic that you used the St Patricks Day parade as a platform to sell you message and encourage a litter free environment. We know of other TT committees who do this too but with only using recycled or upcycled materials this could be an idea for next year's float.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Thank you for your details that you submitted in this category. We did notice on your Facebook page that you do rally the troops for your Tidy Tuesday. Great to herald this in Spring with you big An Taisce Clean-up and make it an all-inclusive event too. You have a particular focus on anti-dog fouling, and we saw your encouragement on signs throughout the town. Your litter champions initiatives must work well too and good to spread responsibility for cleanliness throughout the community, very important. We did notice dumping at the recycling centre in the car park near Supervalu. The idea of the ballot bins is a humorous touch for butts and as they say, "you catch more flies with honey than vinegar." All these efforts are working as your town looked very well almost litter free and noticeable good care of street furniture.

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

You tell us that you have a residential estate competition with 11 associations participating. What proportion of housing estates is this? Is there capacity for expansion? It is great that you have generated this enthusiasm. There might be potential for you to give advice and maybe guidelines and include for biodiversity criteria in the competition also. You have a good level of housing located along your main streets. These apart from the vacant/derelict properties present well, noting those on Lr James Street. Cuir na Ciarraidhe shows some nice open space, and Elm Park also shows good housing presentation and careful attention to open space.

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

Thank you for your spring photograph and letting us know that your spring bulbs now present a welcome to the town on the Castlebar Road and the flyover area from the bypass. We noticed the new pedestrian crossing along the Ballinrobe road and it is an essential addition to this approach location to calm traffic near the popular playground. We have already made comment regarding the attractive planting along the Ballindine and Kilcolman road which creates a good visual amenity and first impression. Good to see an upgraded bus stop – is a shelter due here too? Buses certainly have increases in popularity with increased frequency on rural links. You tell us of the welcome gable mural too, generous of the house owner to permit same. A good substitute here for where you couldn't find a suitable location to match your attractive welcome signs located at other entry points

Concluding Remarks:

Claremorris Tidy Town committee and volunteers have a lot to be proud of and thank you for making our visit an interesting adventure