

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kiltimagh - Coillte Mach** Ref: **533**
County: **Mayo** Mark: **367**
Category: **C** Date(s): **15/07/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	45	47
Streetscape & Public Places	80	52	54
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	51	53
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	45	47
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	19	20
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	70	72
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	35	36
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	37	38
TOTAL MARK	600	354	367

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. We are delighted to welcome you to the competition on your 21st year participating. We hope this has benefited your town both socially and environmentally. You tell us your business community is impressed by the work you do and so they should be. You work well with them and state bodies too. You have a core committee of 4 and can rely on 12 constant volunteers but have a broader reach on your WhatsApp and Facebook page which we see is highly active highlighting all your wonderful work throughout all seasons. You engage with your young community through the schools, scouts and local Foroige group. You have chosen your name sign project as one where special effort was expended this year, this included putting up bilingual signs on boreens, laneways and circular walking routes around the town reflecting the historical naming of these places.

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

Kiltimagh has good street network which includes a long central spine with a number of secondary streets and interesting lanes off it. You tell us that many of these lanes did not have signage and you embarked on an historical project to re-introduce the old names and enlighten both your own community and visitors. This was a great idea, and the signs look very well. This could lead to a formal heritage trail in the next phase. It was also fantastic to see your new murals on James Street and the Main Street. The artist was busy on the Supervalu gable adding to the very extensive mural there – all provide for great animation and a tale of local interest. We visited your Holy Faith Church which has a lovely interior and wandered into the large campus of St Louis' Community SS which must bring great life to the town during the academic year. You have other key community buildings on the main street including the former historic cinema which would benefit from a paint refresh. Like small towns everywhere you have your share of dereliction and vacancy, and we see you have painted some, the yellow house on Thomas St being your most recent. However, there are many thriving properties and businesses that tell of a town on the up. We admired a number of pubs including Langan's, Kitty Mc Greail's, and O Horas. The Cill Aodain Court Hotel looks well presented with lovely paintwork and generous hanging baskets. Other notably shopfronts included Heneghan's Pharmacy, Wild Mayo Rose flower shop and Postbox Coffee with welcoming outdoor seating. The Market Square has benefited from renewal in the past. It's a great public space and you tell us of all the recent maintenance of the fountain. You have given the space great character with poetry, sculptures and history boards and delightful seating. Elimination or even a reduction of car parking spaces would as suggested last year too make this a better space and allow for more community use. The community park is a good reflective space and echoes your strong commitment to art and literature in the public realm. It is well maintained, weed free, clean surfaces and has a delightful nature mural. Well done to all who dedicate time to keeping it looking so smart.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

How wonderful it was to experience the variety of open spaces that you have in your community. It is a credit to you that your town having lost an operating train station channelled energy into transforming it into an amenity space that again combines art, literature and history. We admired the quirky sculptures, noted the museum, commemoration space, exercise equipment and thoughtful "Blue Tree". There was something for everyone with lovely, mature trees, bright seating and flowers on the periphery and your most recent project the Velorail. We appreciated the nicely maintained embankment which must be a challenge to keep tame. The lovely historic railway stone buildings were in good condition and maintained well and give architectural value to the park context. The adjoining Emigrant Park was a contrasting treat with an emphasis on creating a wildlife space. Nice to wander around the various routes and enjoy the buzzing and bird song. You tell us that you have developed this park with expert ecological advice, that it is 6.5 ac in scale and includes over 2000 native Irish trees, and sand martin nest boxes. We liked your seating and more poetry. The Enemy of Fear is a great poem. Liked the demonstration of heritage stone wall building too, This is a great project to build on year on year. Your Wetlands Park offers another different experience with a great emphasis on the richness of such habitats. Elsewhere in the town you maintain a number of planting beds and planters, including your colourful three-tiered planters. Nice to see the Scouts flower patch on the church grounds is still hosting the Scouts planting. Maybe time to put in pollinator friendly perennials here.

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

An important aspect of management for biodiversity is to raise the awareness of the people living in the vicinity and also of visitors to that area. Your Emigrant Park contributes to this, and it is a great way to increase awareness of the benefits of enriching biodiversity and protecting native flora and fauna. You tell us it is being used by school children as an outdoor classroom and TY students have also been involved in elements of construction. You also are using the fallen trees for insect habitats. We loved the sand martin nesting towers. Have you any feedback on occupancy? It is important to organise public talks, guided walks to this area for the general community also so that they feel ownership of the park and learn to appreciate the town's rich natural heritage. Let us know how this is being encouraged. The Wetlands Park offers another great experience of habitats and wildlife. Pond dipping, bird watching, tree identification opportunities all here in this creatively curated little park, fantastic. We did take care and avoided the bees but were in awe of the numbers hovering near the hive here. At the Glor Mills Arts centre near the river you tell us you have collaborated with Trees on the Land once again and planted 2,000 native trees. We read on your Facebook page that this is designed to be a tree lined labyrinth with dual benefit for biodiversity recreation, tell us more about this riverside recreation project next year. The picnic area at the river was being used at the time, a nice spot. The mill buildings are lovely structures, we read that they are used for biodiversity workshops, it wasn't clear if these still operate as an arts centre. We note that your school have participated successfully in the Green School Program, have you linked in with any projects?

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

It is important to know that sustainability relates to how we try to minimise our use of all resources within the community so that we reduce our environmental impact. It relates to a number of areas such as waste recycling, water conservation, reducing energy use, encouraging active transport, food and 'food miles' and even equipment, and reusable items. Some Tidy Towns committees find this category challenging but in reality, you can take many steps to reduce the level of resources used and to become more efficient at using resources, while at the same time reducing waste generation. You are already engaging in some such as recycling glass, clothes, paper. You indicate that you have chosen planters made from re-cycled materials and that some of your seating chosen for their low maintenance and lasting quality. We sampled your water from the re-fill station at the Emigrant Park – are there others at the sports pitches and schools? Are there plans to have a community garden, we did see a polytunnel etc at the Emigrant Park – this would allow for propagation of seeds, including seeds you could harvest from wildflowers and also could accommodate vegetable growing. Composting and harvesting rainwater are also great sustainable actions. We noticed solar PV panels at the S.S. – are there plans to increase sustainable energy use elsewhere in the town? We see you have just celebrated Coillte Come Home Festival – do you re-use any of the bunting, signs? Do you also have measures to discourage single use plastics at the festival. We see you are encouraging active travel with the cycle stands and pump repair kit at the Emigrant Park – that's good. Do your schools encourage walking/cycling to school or for those at a distance without bus services car-pooling – all good sustainable measures. What is your rural link bus service like – do many in the community use it? Tell us more of the actual actions the school engage in this regard next year as you relay that the schools are involved in the An Taisce Green Flag Programme. We saw lots of seating especially on the circular walk – do you use recycled timber for these? Loved your book swap library on the Knock Road and the community pocket herb garden. Also, we see on your Facebook page you reused old bicycle as a floral stand, made bird boxes and encourage sustainable actions. Well done – elaborate more next year and perhaps look at the TT website for guidance, there is generally a lot of advice online.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

You tell us that you have a weekly clean up. You don't appear to participate in the national An Taisce Spring Clean – this would be a great initiative to introduce in the town and possibly environs as it would result in an annual "deep clean" and involve the greater community and increase consciousness of the importance of clean streets and also increase awareness of the work that you and your CE workers carry out for the balance of the year. You tell us that you do involve the TY students, Foróige and the scouts in your litter control measures too – this is important to embed good habits in all. You tell us also of your recent painting of a derelict house – which we saw your "yellow

house"- good to have a schedule to improve the visual impact of dereliction. We noticed your repainted seating along the streets and the good general approach to tidiness. We noticed your signs guarding against dog fouling . Weed control was good along most streets and signage is being maintained and cleaned. Admire your ambition to keep Emigrant Park clean but there are too many small bins for collection here, the bin at the Sculpture Park was almost overflowing. In general, Kilimaigh was looking well and almost litter free – well done.

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

You tell us that you work closely with your residents in the housing area and convey that they take care of their public areas very well. We were impressed by our visit to Albawn Crescent, a lovely, mature estate with an attractive green space and benefiting from large trees and well-kept gardens. At Station View the entrance had nice signage, planters. The housing and lawns are well maintained, and we liked the picnic seating. Thomas Street has some lovely older detached housing. Rath Cluain entrance signs were very legible and sweet, and the individual gardens hosted some nice shrubs and flowers and in general has an air of pride. There are some lovely houses on James Street with colourful elevations and some with nice railings. We noted that in general there is potential to plant more trees in the newer estates and perhaps leave a small portion of uncut grass in the open space areas to encourage wildlife.

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

We noted that your approach roads are being well maintained by the CE workers – they certainly need an applaud. Liked your signs and planted beds too at Kilkelly Road. Great if the vacant garage on the Balla road could be improved visually – perhaps trees in planters along the entrance instead of plastic bollards.? Your grotto looks very well and a nice welcome along the Knock approach. Your latest project erecting name plates on the various lanes and back streets was a good move, these lanes in general looked very well and have benefited from some upkeep. The Circular Road we noted has been enhanced by your recent seating project well done these seats add to all the other seating opportunities in the town offering a spot to rest and contemplate your poetry and words of wisdom included throughout the town.

Concluding Remarks:

It was a pleasure to visit your town and experience all the efforts you have made to preserve its unique heritage, to enhance the environment and also to expand on the amenities for your community and visitors. We would advise that you include more details of your work as is recorded on your Facebook page and more photographs of seasonal planting and relevant events. It would be good too to have a more structured long-term plan aligned with the categories in the competition. Overall, you are doing great work and best of luck in all your future projects.