

Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre:	Lecanvey - Leic an Anfadh	Ref:	2232
County:	Mayo	Mark:	297
Category:	A	Date(s):	01/07/2026

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	31	33
Streetscape & Public Places	80	34	36
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	45	47
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	30	31
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	23	24
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	60	62
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	30	31
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	32	33
TOTAL MARK	600	285	297

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. Fantastic to read that you are sustaining a great level of voluntary support for your Tidy Town committee of 6 and you are now in your 9th year in the competition. Well done. You are making great strides to involve all ages including your young population where you have support from tiny volunteers to TY's. You also indicate that businesses and local farmers are a good source of help and advice. You also have the support of the local authority and state agencies. You communicate a number of ways, print media, meetings and your Facebook page – we noticed your lovely proud photos of all your work posted here in June. Your application conveyed your work well and good to see photos attached including seasonal ones. Your map was good also indicating topical projects new and maintained. You tell us that your village streets have been disrupted for a long period with water infrastructure works which seemed to have been completed by the time of our visit, to your relief, I am sure. Other projects mentioned in this category are referenced later in more appropriate categories.

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

You tell us that you have 85 houses in the village many with seasonal occupancy. The village is a traditional street village, with dispersed buildings laid out along the main access road between Westport and Louisberg. This linear pattern gives sweeping views over Clew Bay, and the village is backdropped by the towering Crough Patrick, such a scenic setting for your community. Your St Patrick's Church commands a central place in the village and along with the community centre creates a hub for the village. These are both so well maintained and paintwork on the centre reflecting good care. The Grotto was in perfect shape you tell us you repaired the cross recently. Staunton's pub with its clean and uncluttered façade is nicely decorated with flower baskets and provides opportunities to linger on the outdoor seating, not to mention the adjacent quirky little pub garden. The other significant public space near your village is the tidal pier, which is set in a horseshoe shaped bay and fed by the local stream that skirts the little garden in the village. Some were availing of the seating here and walkers strolled along the nice stone pier with a lovely arched access the shore. The school commands the corner access road down to the pier and is a delight painted blue and pink and was full of life on the day of our visit with summer camp activities. Nice gesture to provide a seat at the bus stop.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

The lovely large bank of planting on the Westport approach is a nice unique feature, and we saw that much of this includes pollinator friendly plants and wildflowers. The buzzing activity and flitting of butterflies are testimony to its

contribution to nature. We walked the loop of the high walkway and the route through the grass. The benched wall on top was a great place to rest and take in the view. However, there is a need to cut back on the vegetation on the upper level, fix the collapsed walling and rehabilitate the route surface to make it accessible. Another nice area is the linear park with the seating, hedging, large, planted areas and trees that offer a nice set back from traffic and a nice route to school too. Loved the roses, watch out from the encroachment of the very invasive horsetail, it is taking over one of the beds. Great to see new trees planted on the other side of the road – watch the ties may need to be loosened and one tree is missing a support. The planting along the road to the rear of the pub near your Peace Garden is lovely, what a view here. The pub garden which appears accessible to all is a real treat with the mini orchard, nice layout, carved sculpture, nice bedding and a swing too. All very well maintained. Bedding at the church was in great shape. We read from last year's adjudicator report that you have a great display of daffodils in springtime – insert a phot next year. The bedding in the old boat could do with a little bit more care and some more bright annual bedding, perhaps a casualty of the watermain construction work. However, your verges were regenerating well and MCC was busy maintaining these on the day of the visit.

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

Without any intervention your fantastic rural location is already nurturing nature and maintaining a rich biodiversity in the village. It is important that you continue to spread this message as you do on your nature information panels near the wildlife bank and at the pier. You take on the tough task of resisting use of pesticides and managing weeds manually, well done. We saw your bright bird boxes and bee hotel – you say you are monitoring these, let us know if the results and maybe link in with a school project. Your teachers and scout leaders are obviously encouraging appreciation of your local environment and lucky to have a living classroom on the walks to the pier. You also support 'no mow may' and as we mentioned earlier have selected pollinator friendly species especially on the approach bank. Wonderful that Staunton's pub garden is continuing to host wild honeybees, even saw orchids here. We read elsewhere that almost the entire world population of light-bellied Brent geese, which are protected species winter in Ireland. You are blessed to have some of these unfortunately dwindling species visiting your pier area. Keep your community on alert.

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

In this category you tell us that you maintain a live tree for use as a Christmas tree annually and indeed we did see it located centrally in the village. Your community centre too seems to encourage sustainable habits – you tell us that you encourage a reduction in single use plastics during events – have you a water station in the centre or at the school sports space? You also tell us that you recycle food waste and compost green waste – elaborate on this next year – location, how it is re-used etc. You have used re-cycling practices in your landscaping, you tell us about the pots, and we see the boat reuse. It is a real community value to have pioneers like the Harpers demonstrating good sustainable habits, lovely to see their rose plants for sale in recycled containers too beside the honesty box. Any chance they would give a class in the community centre to teach other their skills in vegetable growing activities – great for offsetting food miles. We see many on the community have installed solar PV's including the school and pub. There were lots of bikes in the bike shed at the school, great that active travel is encouraged. Hopefully, there will be progress on the extension of the Greenway soon that you can benefit from too. There are many other great ideas online, you should look at the Tidy Towns Handbook which has a section on this category and also contact MCC environmental section for more ideas and supports in this category.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

It is fantastic that for such a small group you manage to take part in the An Taisce Clean up and also the Clean Coasts clean up. You also continue to monitor litter regularly within the village and you tell us that your swimmers keep an eye out for coastal litter. We noticed your sign welcoming visitors to your litter free village. It was not imagined as your village was practically litter free, small areas of weeds growth but hardly noticeable. A great achievement for your communal effort and reflects great pride. Great to have had initiatives at metal and electrical goods waste collections, are these annual events? You have a couple of derelict properties. Good if you could clear up vegetation on the boundary of these and encourage painting of elevations to reflect the pristine nature of your village. Like last year's adjudicator we would recommend the cleaning and painting of the gates and railing on the property on the Westport Road – they actually look quite interesting in design also. Some benches need a paint refresh. Overall, applaud you community for the tidy nature of your village.

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

Lecanvey being a small village has just the one main street and the small road to the pier. These support a mix of detached houses predominantly on individual sites. It is true what you say residents take good care of their properties this was apparent with good renovations and fresh painted elevations and nice gardens. Loved the single storey house on the Louisberg approach with the rose canopy. Great to hear about the renovations to the old parochial house looks wonderful and the old convert property too. These restorations of older properties reinforce the value of living in your village and the attractiveness of your community. Public and commercial buildings mark the street too and with your landscaping all reflect a well cared for environment.

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

The village is clustered mainly on the R335 and supports a lot of traffic being on an attractive tourist route with rewarding vistas. You welcome all travellers with your bespoke name signs supported by ground planting, an especially nice swathe of verge on the Westport approach complemented by your planted embankment. Although there are safe access points to walk throughout the village some surfaces are rough and undefined. We can only

assume that there is some rehabilitation due after the utility works and that a more structured layout and improved standard for all movements will come with the greenway extension. Road surfacing and painting needs some attention too. In contrast the L18331 was a joy to walk with attractive landscaping and good surfacing. Great to see advance warning for school site, more traffic calming might be advantageous here too. The pier road and pier itself as a landing area is very neat and a nice narrow slow approach to the village.

Concluding Remarks:

Lecanvey is an attractive village with a lot of positive work taking place which is making a real difference. We note your challenging plans for the future and hope they come to fruition. Keep up the good work and hope you have a lot more successes.