Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Delgany - Deilgne**	Ref:	**249**
County:	**Wicklow**	Mark:	**371**
Category:	**D**	Date(s):	**13/07/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	52	53
Streetscape & Public Places	80	48	50
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	45	46
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	46	48
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	20	21
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	67	69
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	45	47
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	36	37
TOTAL MARK	**600**	**359**	**371**

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.”Thank you very much for your entry into this year’s competition and including some photographs of your work along with a copy of your 3-5 Year Plan and map, much appreciated (though if possible can you please include a legend with your map indicating which projects are new and which are maintenance, thank you). You have strong engagement with a wide range of voluntary and statutory bodies and organisations such as Wicklow County Council, your local PPN as well as environmental groups. Communications are strong using a wide range of channels such as social media like Facebook and WhatsApp in addition to more traditional media such as local radio, noticeboards and libraries etc. Also, with the continued growth of housing development in your area, the welcome note to each new resident to your community is a lovely idea. You have also made sure to include the younger members of the community with strong engagement with local schools and your Junior Tidy Towns volunteers who assist with much of your work including the Santa Post Box initiative, and some members have been upskilling themselves in environmental awareness through the Free National Biodiversity Data Centre courses, fantastic!. Also, great work and congratulations on the completion of your Old Burial Ground Mapping Project, a wonderful way to keep the past alive for future generations.

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

Delgany is a mix of many new housing developments with a rich architectural heritage, and you are making great efforts to ensure that the character of the Architectural Conservation Area is maintained, including keeping track of planning applications and making observations as appropriate, and good work on the ongoing participation on the Delgany Public Realm Plan by some of your members. There is a lovely information sign showing the heritage and many historic buildings and features to be found in the area such as the Old Rectory, the Old Burial Ground, Bellevue House and Christ Church amongst others. You are doing sterling work on the management of the Old Burial Ground, and it is good to hear that you work closely on this with the Heritage Officer from Wicklow County Council. The QR Codes are a great idea to enable people to access information on these sites very easily and a more sustainable way of being able to change if needed rather than erecting new information signs, and we wish you well with your plans to continue to place the QR blocks on buildings of significant interest. It is good to hear that the local commercial premises are very keen to play their part, and some of those that looked particularly well presented included The Bear Paw, The Wicklow Arms, The Horse and Hound and the Delgany Mart.

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

A lot of work is being done by you to make sure that your green spaces are as pollinator friendly as possible as well

as encouraging wildlife and biodiversity. This is being achieved through the use of Pollinator Orchards, Native Wildflowers (though make sure that any seeds bought are from a good source using native Irish wildflowers) as well as your No Mow May campaign to ensure that the bees have sustenance from dandelions in early spring when there is little other food available. Public spaces such as the Church grounds, graveyard and the car park at the back of Centra were all clean and well maintained. Many of the residential estates had very good quality landscaping and planting and well done on your work with the various estates and encouraging the use of wildflower planting in these areas.

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

A lot of valuable work is being done in Delgany in monitoring the flora and fauna of the town and its environs and encouraging members of your community to participate. Not only do you encourage these to partake of the training provided by the National Biodiversity Data Centre, but you are also actively encouraging involvement with the 'Citizen Science' programme and logging data on surveys such as the National Garden Bird Survey. You have also documented the various wildflowers to be found in the area such as Bluebells, Foxglove, Marjoram, Primrose etc.as well as partaking in the New Year Plant Hunt and coming 14th out of 131 sites no less.
Congratulations on the commissioning of a Biodiversity Action Plan and for your ongoing work in implementing the recommendations of the plan.
You are also adhering to the guidelines to be found in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, maintain bird and bat boxes as well as a bee hotel and monitor water quality as well as tackling the invasive species to be found such as Japanese Knotweed, keep up the good work.

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

You have some interesting and social events in this category very much focussed on the circular economy and making sure to 'reduce, reuse and recycle'. You make sure to upcycle where you can such as the planters to give them a new lease of life. you are also making sure to incorporate as many pollinator friendly planting in the various landscaping and floral displays throughout the village.
Your green Christmas campaign is though provoking in encouraging people not to get carried away with unnecessary over consumption, and you have also covered such topics as food waste, energy efficiency as well as sustainable fashion. You are also making great use of The lovely Fairy Trail as a venue for events at key times of the year such as Samhain, Christmas and Spring, a wonderful way to promote all the work that you are doing in this category.
Well done on the ongoing monitoring of the water quality in the Three Trout Stream using the 'See it? Say It' app, is this in collaboration with the Local Authority Water Programme (LAWPRO)? There is also admirable work ongoing in helping to raise awareness and educate through the promotion of free online environmental courses, and we look forward to hearing an update on your plans to engage Transition Years students in this initiative when in train.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Delgany was practically litter free on the day that I visited bar a few stray snack wrappers, well done. This is in no small part to the strategic approach that you take to keeping your area clean. Your community clean ups have designated different zones (10 in total) each with their own coordinator to guide your volunteers where they are needed most. You have an impressive number of up to 50 volunteers that you can count on to assist with the task. Some of the other initiatives that help include the establishment of Delgany as a No Poster Zone, compostable dog waste bags freely available as well as other practical measures such as bin straps to prevent litter from being strewn all over the place in case of strong winds, a simple but clever way to keep your area clean. You also segregate waste in order to ensure as much of it as possible is recycled and also raise awareness of the issues of litter through the various media

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

There is a wide range of residential types to be found in Delgany, from the recently finished estates and modern apartments to more traditional cottages and older houses. Overall, the level of presentation is very high with many beautifully tended gardens to be seen. There was some beautiful landscaping to be seen at the entrance to the Bellevue estate, which included some striking purple Allium which are fantastic for pollinators. Convent Court was also very well presented and very clean and neat. I also admired the entrance to Riverfield with its stone entrance name sing and bridge effect entrance, and Littlebrook also had a lovely wall and name sign.
I saw a number of new residential areas such as Holly Hill, and Convent Place and hopefully the newcomers to your community will also get involved with TidyTowns, and your welcome letter to new residents is a lovely way to help them to integrate and make new friends out of neighbours. Many of the residential areas include wildflower areas as well as fruit trees, and you are very supportive of the estates through the loaning of equipment, provision of hedgehog boxes etc.
It is great to read that you do what you can to improve the appearance of vacant or derelict properties (such as those on Church Road) including making sure that the area surrounds the building is cleared of weeds

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

Your hard work on the main approach road as you approach from the N11 is paying dividends, there was no litter to be seen here on the day that I visited, and in general the various entrances to Delgany looked well. It would be lovely to see a picture of the Church Road in Spring when it must look most attractive with the Crocuses and Daffodils in bloom. Signage and street furniture was generally of a good standard and well maintained. As mentioned by last year's adjudicator the various footpaths to be found throughout your town are of varying quality

and some had weeds growing through the cracks of the paving. A homemade weedkiller from water, vinegar, dish soap and salt may help to at least reduce the appearance of some of these. Good work on doing what you can to improve the appearance of vacant buildings and their surroundings. There is a lot of development happening in the town with new residential estates, and we appreciate that this brings with additional challenges to your work, but you are doing great work, keep it up.

Concluding Remarks:

This was my first visit to Delgany and I was pleasantly surprised at the amount of heritage on offer that is co-existing with all the new development, and you are to be commended for all that you are doing to maintain the character of the area whilst embracing the new, great work to all on the committee and volunteers.