Tidy Towns Competition 2026

Adjudication Report

Centre:	**Glenealy - Gleann Fhaidhle**	Ref:	**903**
County:	**Wicklow**	Mark:	**334**
Category:	**B**	Date(s):	**20/06/2026**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2025	Mark Awarded 2026
Community – Your Planning and Involvement	80	46	47
Streetscape & Public Places	80	43	45
Green Spaces and Landscaping	80	46	49
Nature and Biodiversity in your Locality	80	26	28
Sustainability – Doing more with less	80	19	20
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	62	63
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	55	39	40
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	55	40	42
TOTAL MARK	**600**	**321**	**334**

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 for including some lovely pictures and map as well as you 3-5 Year Plan. It would be useful to mark project on the map as New or Maintenance if possible. You have good communications with the use of social media, newsletters, word of mouth etc. in addition to your meetings and strong engagement as needed on work that needs to be carried out. There is also strong liaison with the local schools and also have a Junior Schools Tidy Towns Committee, which is excellent, and I loved the colourful poster created by St. Joseph’s National School showing the ‘St Joseph’s Green Code’ espousing the need to reduce, reuse and recycle, well done to them! We also wish you luck in your plans to develop the donated parcel of land in the centre of the village behind the bottle bank and your habitat study, and also with your hopes for some traffic calming measures to be introduced.

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

Glenealy is a lovely village in a fantastic setting surrounded by green rolling hills and is kept to a very high standard. Some of the commercial premises that looked particularly well included The Gate Lodge Ice Cream Parlour which was most attractive, as was The Hurler’s bar with its clever name sign incorporating a hurley in it and was beautifully painted with is fresh white and green colour scheme. The Church’s are well maintained, they are fine buildings, and nice to see pollinator friendly lavender on the approach to St. Joseph’s Church.
All the street furniture in the village as well as signage was cleaned and maintained to an excellent standard, and there was a really lovely bench bookended with some vibrant planters donated by Timbermasters to Glenealy Tidy Towns. I also really liked the Glenealy Tidy Towns information sign showing the various places of interest in the town, not to mention the lovely posters, presumably created by the schools urging people to ‘pick your dog’s poop up’ as well as how to recycle, and similar to the rest of the village, the planting under here was very vibrant and complementary.
Your plan to explore the roots of the names of all the townlands to preserve for posterity is a really lovely one and we wish you luck with this, perhaps this is something that the local schools could also get involved in?

Green Spaces and Landscaping / Spásanna Glasa agus Tírdhreachú:

I absolutely loved reading the inspirational messages from the children of St. Joseph’s National School to keep the area clean, what a really lovely idea, some of my favourites include ‘the Greener, the Greater’ and ‘we will be living the dream if we keep our community clean’.

There were some really striking colourful planters to be seen throughout your village, all look extremely well maintained, and the new wooden planters along the bridge were absolutely gorgeous but make sure to include plenty of pollinator friendly plants.
The car park was immaculate, one of the nicest I have seen with the colourful planning, hanging baskets, planters etc.
The old vintage equipment was very attractive and informative, and the traditional black water pump area was beautifully landscaped with a riot of colour and created a lovely focal point here.

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

You are doing what you can for our pollinators, ensuring that you use pollinator friendly and native flowers wherever you can, and the Bumblebees of Ireland sign was full of information and located in a great place for people to read and learn more about the work of these amazing insects. Some of the native species you are growing include hawthorn, crab apple and gueldor rose to help with habitats and encourage wildlife. You also adhere to the 'No Mow till May' philosophy in order for the bees to feed off dandelions in spring before other pollinator flowers are in bloom. It is heartening to hear that there is so much interest in this category by the school children, and that they often explore the local fauna and compare notes, and also that they maintain the herb garden and have also established a garden with fruits, vegetables and flowers, TidyTowns leaders of the future for sure.

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

The river water tank for use for watering plants was noticed, and the battery operated mobile container sounds very helpful to your work, a sustainable way of ensuring that your many floral displays are well hydrated.
Congratulations to the school on achieving their first Green Flag, and that they are very aware of the need for sustainability and the circular economy.
Some ideas you could look into in this category would be having 'swop shops' for pre loved items such as old sports gear, books, clothes etc. one man's trash can be another ones treasure! I have seen some really lovely little 'free libraries' where people can leave a book they no longer want and take one they have yet to read. Also you could engage with local cafes and restaurants about encouraging the use of 'keep cups' or refilling water bottles to avoid the use of single plastic ones which often end up in landfill. In relation to energy efficiency, there is some very useful information to be found on the website of the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland https://www.seai.ie/

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Your village looked immaculate on the day that I visited (apart from a very few items on the approach road) absolutely great work. This is due to your diligence including regular litter picks and well done to the pupils from St. Joseph's School for doing a scout out for any litter blackspots in order for these to be tackled. There is very little 'visual clutter' to be seen, thanks to your no poster policy. The Recycling Bank area was absolutely pristine on the day that I visited. Do you take part in the An Taisce National Spring Clean day? Perhaps this is something that you can consider for the future.

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

In general the residential areas are presented to a very high standard and there are some lovely gardens to be seen throughout your village, I particularly like some of the houses around the Chapel Lane area, which had a lot of character. The Hargrove estate had some lovely mature trees and was well tended and neat, and the granite sign was lovely. Likewise, Annsbrook had a lovely entrance sign with some nice landscaping and was in a lovely setting with an abundance of greenery and trees. Would there be any interest by residents in having an area of their green areas devoted to a 'wild' flower meadow or area to help increase biodiversity and help habitats?
Another idea would be to have some friendly competition with a best estate or best garden, or best pollinator friendly area to encourage residents to up their garden game with some light hearted rivalry.

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

The Welcome to Gleealy sign as you enter the village looks very attractive and gives a great first impression on entrance, and the Slán Abhaile/Safe Home on the back of it is a nice touch. Overall the approach roads all looked very clean and well kept, though there were a few stray drinks cans just outside the village unfortunately as you entered the village.
There is a gorgeous corridor of green on the approach to the village with shrubbery and plants such as ferns and foxglove. You do a lot of dedicated work in this area with regular trimming of the verges, maintaining 'No Mow May' as well as your regular litter picks etc. great work!

Concluding Remarks:

I was unfamiliar with Glenealy village prior to my visit, but I thoroughly enjoyed walking around this lovely spot and seeing all the work that you are doing and wish you all the best in your future endeavours.