

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BANDON**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **E**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 11-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	30	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	17
Litter Control	40	26	28
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>208</b>

## **Bandon, Co. Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The adjudicator would like to thank you for your Action Plan and is glad to note that you have detailed your objectives by year. Your liaison with the Local Authority is also noted. Your Committee of just six people appears to be very small considering the size of Bandon and the work programme which you have in hands.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The work on the Macroom ESB Sub-Station is noted. The painting of seats and benches is an on-going job and a necessary one that you Committee has undertaken. The undergrounding of cables is noted in your work programme and hopefully further progress can be made in the near future. Brogan Court is an attractive property well presented. Derelict property is a problem in Bandon. Try and see if you can get permission from property owners to white-wash external walls, Windows could be boarded up and painted matt black. In this way the original derelict property can become a feature of your town. In Watergate Street work was noted in progress at the Church dated apparently from 1843. Hopefully this building is being restored. On the Cork Road the Cork County Council Offices were impressive with their very appropriate landscaping. The Bandon Credit Union is another most pleasing building that uses appropriate materials and signage. The use of flowers has not been over done here. In some instances far too many flowers are displayed on an individual building. This detracts from the overall appearance. The TSB building looked really well, as did the AIB premises. The Bank of Ireland premises requires cleaning of the stone work. The excellently presented grassed areas at the Church of Ireland Church were most pleasing, The new toilet at Ballymodan Place is to be commended. Below the Church of Ireland a fine row of three storey properties was noted and good use has been made of colour. Scannell's Medical Hall is a traditional shop-front which is being very well maintained. In Oliver Plunkett Street a better use could be made of stronger colours on buildings. There are still some plastic signs in Bandon and more sympathetic signs using traditional materials should replace these. The attractive footbridge over the Bandon river should be painted.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The cleaning of stone walls has been noted. Bad weed growth was noted at kerbs in a number of areas on approach roads. There are many landscaped areas in Bandon and on the approach roads all of which contribute in a significant way to the overall presentation of the town. Attractive landscaping was noted at the entrance to the Hospital. The fountain in

Market Street is an attractive feature but weed growth at the base of the surrounding stone wall should be removed. Attractive landscaping was also noted at the entrance to the Catholic Church, near the steps.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The riverside Park on the Glasslin Road is a welcome project. However the presentation of the Bandon River and other streams in the town centre left a lot to be desired. At the fountain in Market Street litter was noted in the stream here. Weed growth is very bad and this area down to the next bridge requires an urgent clean out. At the road bridge over the Bandon River at the turn to Cork the situation was even worse as the river here was badly littered. Below the ramp that leads down to the river from Allin Gardens considerable quantities of litter was noted. The information boards on river wildlife and fish are a good addition. However the frames have become very dirty and need cleaning.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

The provision of additional litter bins was noted by the adjudicator. Litter control on adjudication day was generally very bad on practically all approach roads, and was better in the town centre. However even in the town centre litter was noted in several areas, including at the back of litter bins. Some of the litter bins on South Main Street are in need of painting.

## **TIDINESS**

You have identified the rear views of buildings as problem areas and this is correct. At the car park area opposite the Brogan, the surrounding walls should be repaired and painted. A tidy up is required at the BHOC premises. Further along Watergate Street at the Brewery Food Centre, the boundary walls need painting. Some of the poles for the Speed Limit signs need to be painted. An untidy area was noted on the Cork approach at the end Speed Limit signs. Weed growth was noted at Kevin O'Leary's on the Inner Relief Road. The attractive old water pump at Bridge Lane is due for repainting. A corner site at St. Finbarr Place is very untidy and should be screened off pending re-development. The barrels look very untidy here. A very untidy area was noted across the road from Christ Church.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Your Estates Competition is an excellent idea and it helps to get everyone in housing estates working towards the same overall objective. Generally private houses and estates were well presented. Occasionally road boundary walls need painting. Landscaping was generally of a high standard.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

In general approach roads looked well and banks and verges had been cut. However in a number of instances, for example the Kilbrittain and the Skibbereen/Clonakilty approach roads, cut grass had not been removed and looked untidy. On the Inner Relief Road strong weed growth at the concrete post and rail fencing was noted.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The issues of litter control and improving the presentation of water areas are two major projects which require additional attention in the year ahead. Good luck with your work!