

Stradbally, Co. Waterford

Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 – 2014

Stradbally Tidy Towns Committee

May 2012

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Contents

ANALYSIS OF RECENT PERFORMANCE IN TIDY TOWNS	3
CURRENT SITUATION	4
Overall Development Approach	4
SCHEDULE OF PLANS AND TARGETS 2012 – 2014	5
Overall Development Approach	5
The Built Environment	6
Landscaping	7
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	8
Litter Control	12
Waste Minimisation	13
Tidiness	14
Residential Areas	15
Roads Streets and Back Areas	16
General Impression	17
TARGETS FOR PERFORMANCE IN TIDY TOWNS	18

Analysis of Recent Performance in Tidy Towns

	2009	2010	2011
Overall Development Approach	47	47	46
The Built Environment	37	38	39
Landscaping	39	40	41
Wildlife and Natural Amenties	30	32	33
Litter Control	39	39	39
Waste Minimisation	10	10	10
Tidiness	20	19	19
Residential Areas	29	28	28
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	39	39	39
General Impression	9	9	9
Total	299	301	303

Current situation

Overall Development Approach

The three year action plan 2007-2009 compiled by Donaldson tourism and heritage consultancy set out clear recommendations and targets for Stradbally Tidy Towns. The plan was very successful in identifying areas to concentrate efforts over the three years of the plan.

Most of the recommendations and projects suggested in the 2007-2009 Action Plan were successfully carried out by the committee. Between 2007 to 2010 points awarded to Stradbally consistently increased from 288 to 301.

In 2009 the Tidy Towns Committee produced a Biodiversity Action Plan outlining projects and targets in this area for the next 3 years.

The purpose of this plan is to clearly set out future projects and targets and to facilitate consultations with the community and county council staff. Comments from the adjudicators reports are appreciated and help to guide the Committee.

Schedule of Plans and Targets 2012 – 2014

Overall Development Approach

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Review tidy towns action plan in November each year	✓	✓	✓
Set up Stradbally Tidy Towns website	✓		
Continue to develop working relationship with County Council officials	✓	✓	✓
Implement Biodiversity Action Plan	✓	✓	
Assist setting up of Playground development committee	✓		
Investigate availability of volunteer help	✓		

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

The Built Environment

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Maintain painting programme	✓	✓	✓
Replacement of tool shed	✓		
Sign poles to be painted	✓		✓

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Landscaping

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Investigate cutting back some trees on Cove hill ✓			
Improvement of picnic area at Stradbally Cove, gravel area, prevent vehicle access to area.		✓	
Five Cross Roads, excessive use of weed killer on banks			✓
Assist St. James's National School with planting of trees or hedgerow to rear of school. ✓			
Consideration of planting scheme at back of green, with more emphasis on colour ✓			
Phased replacement of roses in the village green with younger plants ✓			
Small landscaped area at bottom of Church Lane to be refreshed ✓			

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Wildlife and Natural Amenities

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Implement of actions set out in the Biodiversity action plan (see below)	✓	✓	✓
Review weed controls methods to minimise use of herbicides	✓	✓	✓
Assist St. James's National School with planting of trees or hedgerow to rear of school.	✓		

Biodiversity Action Plan

Objective 1- Promote the biodiversity of Stradbally to the wider public

Action	Timeframe	Lead	Partner
1.1 Village clean up	Annual (April/May)	Stradbally Towns	Tidy Schools, village community, Waterford County Council
1.2 Wildflower walk	Annual (summer)	Stradbally Towns	Tidy Botanical Society of the British Isles
1.3 Bat walk	Annual (August)	Stradbally Towns	Tidy Bat Conservation Ireland
1.4 Wildlife Walk	Annual (May, National Biodiversity Day)	Stradbally Towns	Tidy

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

1.5 Heritage in Schools		Stradbally Towns	Tidy	Heritage Council
1.6 Dawn Chorus	Annual (May)	BirdWatch Ireland	Stradbally Towns	Tidy
1.7 Erect interpretation signs	2009/2010	Stradbally Towns	Tidy	Heritage Council
1.8 Produce and distribute wildlife map of Stradbally	2009/2010	Stradbally Towns	Tidy	Heritage Council
1.9 Promote gardening for wildlife	March 2010	Stradbally Towns	Tidy	An Taisce Green Communities, Stradbally residents associations

Objective 2 – Conserve, protect, and increase Stradbally’s biodiversity

Action	Timeframe	Lead	Partner
2.1 Erect bird boxes	Winter 2009/2010	Stradbally Tidy Towns	BirdWatch Ireland, Probation Service
2.2 Erect bat boxes	Winter 2009/2010	Stradbally Tidy Towns	Bat Conservation Ireland, Holy cross and St. James’ churches, St. James’, Holy Cross, and the Convent national schools
2.3 Hedgerow planting	2010/2011	Stradbally Tidy Towns	GAA club, St. James’ national school
3.4 Tree planting	Annual (March, National Tree Week)	Stradbally Tidy Towns	Waterford County Council, Tree Council of Ireland

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

2.5 Removal of invasive species	Annual (Autumn)	Stradbally Tidy Towns	An Taisce Communities	Green
2.6 Leave areas of grass uncut for nature conservation	Annual (Summer)	Stradbally Tidy Towns		
2.7 Reduce use of pesticides and herbicides	Annual	Stradbally Tidy Towns		
2.8 Choose plants rich in nectar and pollen for flowerbeds and borders to attract butterflies and other insects	Annual	Stradbally Tidy Towns	An Taisce Communities	Green
2.9 Leave mosses, lichens and ferns on stone walls	Annual	Stradbally Tidy Towns		

Objective 3 – Monitor Stradbally’s biodiversity

Action	Timeframe	Lead	Partner
3.1 Irish Butterfly Monitoring Scheme	Annual	National Biodiversity Data Centre	Stradbally Tidy Towns
3.2 Daubenton’s bat Waterways Survey	Annual (August)	Bat Conservation Ireland	Stradbally Tidy Towns
3.3 Monitor bat boxes in village	Annual (March)	Bat Conservation Ireland	Stradbally Tidy Towns
3.4 I-WeBS (Irish Wetland Bird	Annual (winter)	BirdWatch Ireland	

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Survey)						
3.5	Countryside Bird Survey	Annual (summer)	BirdWatch Ireland			
3.6	Monitor Mackay's Horsetail	Annual (June- August)	(June- Stradbally Towns	Tidy	Botanical Society of the British Isles	
3.7	Monitor Invasive plant	Annual (all year)	Stradbally Towns	Tidy	Botanical Society of the British Isles	

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Litter Control

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Address cigarette butts issue. Installation of butt bins	✓	✓	✓
Dog fouling, consider poop scoops and signage, maintain stock of poop bags	✓	✓	✓
Seek to maintain street cleaning services from County Council.	✓	✓	✓
Seek assistance from Woodhouse Estate owners on litter control at Stradbally Cove	✓		
Continue annual Spring Clean and Beach Clean up events	✓	✓	✓

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Waste Minimisation

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Seek to work with local schools with waste minimisation projects. eg compost bins ✓			
Prevention of vehicle access above lime kiln at Stradbally Cove ✓			
Energy saver light bulbs in Credit Union buildings ✓			

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Tidiness

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Maintain neat appearance of roadside verges	✓	✓	✓
Ensure that hedge maintenance is done during appropriate seasons (during Autumn/Winter)	✓	✓	✓
Maintain painting on signage poles and barriers	✓	✓	✓

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Residential Areas

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Stradbally More and Cill Aodha to replant and maintain planted trees	✓	✓	✓
Replanting of standard trees on Nunnery Lane with native species		✓	
Improve contacts with residents associations in Stradbally	✓	✓	✓

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

Roads Streets and Back Areas

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Request road sweeping assistance from County Council ✓	✓	✓	✓
Continue work on footpath at Church Lane junction		✓	
Forge Lane keep weeds under control but maintain Red Valerian for summer colour ✓	✓	✓	✓

Stradbally Tidy Towns Action Plan 2012 - 2014

General Impression

Projects	2012	2013	2014
Maintain record of all public communications, newspaper clipping, press releases, photos.	✓	✓	✓
Maintain updated website and communications with public on tidy towns activities			

Targets for Performance in Tidy Towns

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Overall Development Approach	46	47	48	48
The Built Environment	39	39	40	40
Landscaping	41	42	43	44
Wildlife and Natural Amenties	33	34	34	35
Litter Control	39	40	41	42
Waste Minimisation	10	11	12	13
Tidiness	19	20	21	22
Residential Areas	28	29	30	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	39	40	41	42
General Impression	9	9	9	9
Total	303	307	310	313