**Tidy Towns Competition 2020**

The National SuperValu Tidy Towns competition was cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Republic of Ireland.

The competition was due to be launched towards the end of March but was deferred by almost a month as the public health crisis escalated.

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Michael Ring said it is not possible at this time for communities to work on Tidy Towns projects.

“I know that many Tidy Towns Committees have been wondering if the competition will proceed this year and I believe it is important to provide certainty to all of the Committees around the country at this stage,” he said.

“For me, the health and welfare of the volunteers on the Tidy Towns Committees is paramount. Given the current restrictions around public gatherings, travel, and adherence to social distancing, it would not be appropriate to ask voluntary groups to work on Tidy Towns projects in their communities at this time. I have therefore decided that the Tidy Towns competition will not go ahead this year.”