

An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 2, 2018

Castlebar: Overall 2018 result: 12th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

With 70% of sites surveyed getting the top litter grade, Castlebar has again scored very well and come a long way from a few years ago in the IBAL litter league. There were no seriously littered sites. Some examples of top ranking sites included Market Square, Market Street, County Council Car Park and the residential area of Maryland – these sites were not just good with regard to litter but also overall presentation and maintenance.

The Willows: Grade A. The large open park / play area to the rear of this residential development was in good order and the overall impression was of a well maintained environment.

N5 Approach: Grade B+ (from 60km sign to Moneen Roundabout) A small amount of food related litter took away from an otherwise well presented road. Obvious attention is being paid to the maintenance of the road with trees, hedging, planting, grass etc. all in very good order. Any litter which was present was 'fresh' rather than long-lie.

Market Square: Grade A. This was an excellent site in terms of presentation and litter. It was clean and tidy with a prominent sculpture and seating – all aspects of the area surveyed were in very good condition.

Market Street: Grade A. A freshly presented shopping street with paving, furniture and business shop fronts all looking very well. The nice planting contributed to the overall appearance. Market Street was very clean with regard to litter.

County Council Car Park between Main Street and waterway: Grade A. This large town centre car park was very well maintained with a virtual absence of litter throughout. The overall impression was of an exceptionally clean environment.

Maryland: Grade A. There was a complete absence of litter at this residential development. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order.

Breaffy Approach Road: Grade A. There was little visible litter along this road which was in good order. There was considerable leaf fall throughout.

Recycle Facility at Dunnes Stores: Grade A. All elements of this recycle facility were clean and fresh – it was top ranking throughout.

Barcastle Commercial Enterprise Complex: Grade B. A variety of activities appear to take place at this site ranging from Movies World to Hog's Heaven Bar, Garbo's, to name but a few. This was a mixed site in terms of presentation and maintenance. Some of the individual properties were in much better condition than others. One derelict site is causing a very negative effect on the overall impression created here. There was a definite litter presence in the communal area of this development.

N84 – Castlebar – Galway Link Road: Grade B. (via Headford) A moderately littered route with no discernible difference between the two local authority areas. The main litter items were sweet papers, fast-food wrappers, plastic bags and plastic bottles. The overall impression was of a somewhat improved route compared to IBAL Survey 1, 2018.