

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

Galway City - Ballybane: Overall 2018 result: 39th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Seriously Littered.

Some improvement on earlier in 2018 but Ballybane still suffers from too many heavily littered sites. A noticeable improvement at the perimeter of St. Brigid's Church – still some way to go but much of the shrubbery area had been cleared. There was no change in the litter grade at Fana Glas – while the individual houses were fine it was the communal areas which were in very poor condition; Ballybane Industrial Estate was badly let down by a side road where the communal / open areas were heavily littered. The two top ranking sites in Ballybane were the student accommodation at Glasán GMIT Student Village and residential care centre of Pope John Paul Second – both of these areas were not just good with regard to litter but overall presentation and maintenance.

Ballybane Industrial Estate: Grade D. Much of this industrial estate was not too bad with regard to litter. However, a side road, was very poorly maintained in its open communal / roadside areas. There were heavy levels of a wide variety of food related litter, plastic wrap and cardboard.

Lios ná Rún: Grade B. The main litter items to be seen at this residential area were a variety of food related items, old plastic piping and some cardboard. The majority of the properties were in good order, with just a few slightly run down.

Ballybane Shopping Centre: Grade B+. This site just missed getting the top litter grade. Many of the premises were locked up in the middle of a Wednesday but thankfully they hadn't become a magnet for litter as can so easily happen. With a little extra care and attention this could be a top ranking site.

Recycle Facility at Ballybane Shopping Centre: Grade B+. The area to the front of the recycle bins presented well with regard to litter but the area to the rear had some loose items between the bins and the wall. Care needs to be taken to ensure that there isn't a further build-up to the rear of the bins.

Glasán GMIT Student Village: Grade A. This residential area for GMIT students was an excellent site with regard to presentation and maintenance. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order and there was a complete absence of litter throughout. The planting was well maintained.

Ballybane Road: Grade B. In previous IBAL litter surveys Ballybane Road has been a top ranking site. This time around there was a slight drop – much of the road was quite good with regard to litter but there were a couple of locations where it was noticeable e.g. close to the GMIT entrances and the bus stop beside them. A wide variety of food related litter and cigarette butts were present.

St. Brigid's Church – perimeter: Grade C+. An improvement on the previous survey when the perimeter shrubbery area was in a terrible state. There was still some rubbish, including a bag of clothing. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout the remainder of the grounds of this site.

Fana Glas: Grade D. There was no improvement in the litter situation at Fana Gals. While the individual houses were fine it was the communal areas which were in very poor condition with regard to presentation and litter – an air of neglect pervaded throughout.

SCULL Enterprise Centre: Grade C. This was a very mixed site. Some parts were in very good condition e.g. planting and all open areas were clean and in good order. However, the area furthest from the entrance had quite a heavy litter presence in the shrubbery.

Pope John Paul Centre: Grade A. This care centre presented very well and was enhanced with attractive planting and well maintained open areas. The overall impression was of a much cared for environment with a complete absence of litter throughout.