

An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 1, 2018

Kilkenny: 16th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.

All approach roads to Kilkenny scored well and many of the town centre sites were also top ranking. Some of the sites were particularly good with regard to litter e.g. Kilkenny Train Station (Exterior and Interior) was spotless, High Street presented very well and despite plenty of activity still managed to be a top ranking site; Kilkenny Castle Formal Gardens were excellent, with a complete absence of litter throughout the area surveyed. There were two heavily littered sites in Kilkenny – Tubs and Tiles (Dublin Road / Sion Road) and Bring Centre at St. Canice's Car Park – both of these sites require a more thorough approach to cleaning and maintenance to bring up the litter grade.

N10 Approach Road: Grade A. Overall, this motorway filter to / from M9 presented very well with kerbs, hard shoulders, metal barriers etc. in very good order. There was a virtual absence of litter along this route.

R712 Approach Road: Grade A. Apart from some sweet papers, plastic bottles and remainders of literature relating to recent Referendum this was a good road with regard to litter. The path / cycle way was in good order and the overall impression created here was a positive one.

Tubs and Tiles, Kilkenny: Grade C. (Dublin Road / Sion Road). Since this site was last included in the IBAL litter survey the overall presentation was much improved with some attractive planting around the perimeter and some raised flower beds – there was a virtual absence of litter at these planted areas. However, there were heavy levels of a wide variety of litter at the base of the low wall, where weeds were also quite considerable. This was like a site of two halves.

Kilkenny Train Station – Exterior: Grade A. The exterior of Kilkenny Train Station was impeccably clean. Not only was there an absence of litter throughout but the maintenance was excellent e.g. paving, railings, ramp, planting etc. It is a credit to the users and those responsible for the maintenance.

Kilkenny Train Station – Interior: Grade A. The waiting area within the train station was spotless. It was bright and fresh with white seats (all in very good condition) and plenty of bins.

Derelict 3 storey premise at start of 'Irishtown': Grade A. Clearly a careful eye is kept on this premises (which presents quite poorly) as there was no litter directly associated with it. Weeds were growing from the gutters and fascia and the paint was beginning to peel on the upper floors.

'Bring Centre' / Recycle Facility at St. Canice's Car Park: Grade C. There were 7 bottle / can disposal units and one for clothing – the units themselves were in very good order, clean and fresh in appearance. There was plenty of clear and legible signage relating to the use of the facility. There were heavy levels of litter at the front and to the rear of the bins - amongst the litter items were broken glass, bottle tops and fast-food containers.

High Street: Grade A. The wide paving on either side of High Street creates a great sense of space and the overall impression was very positive. Seating, planting, bollards, bins and bicycle parking were in very good condition. Despite plenty of activity it has scored remarkably well with regard to litter.

Kilkenny Castle Gardens: Grade A. The formal gardens of Kilkenny Castle were in excellent order. There was a complete absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

M9 Carlow – Kilkenny Connecting Road: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter along this route. The overall presentation was very good with verges neatly trimmed and bushes and trees not impacting on carriageway.