

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

Maynooth: 32nd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately littered.

Maynooth has slipped from its Clean to European Norms rating. Top ranking sites in Maynooth included NUI Maynooth, St. Mary's School and the Harbour Park – not only did these areas score well with regard to litter but they were also freshly presented and maintained. By far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Maynooth was the Main Street. Many of the remainder of the sites were moderately littered – e.g. Maynooth Train Station, Aldi Car Park and the Recycle Facility at Aldi.

Approach from Kilcock: Grade A. This road created a very good and welcoming impression – signage indicating 'North Kildare Tourist Route'. Road surface, signage and markings were in good order and there didn't appear to be any visible litter.

NUI Maynooth: Grade A. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order. There was plenty of planting in large wooden boxes. Despite very high numbers of students there was a complete absence of litter throughout.

St. Mary's School: Grade A. All appeared in good order with regard to litter at St. Mary's. The whole school environment was well kept.

Main Street: Grade C. The overall presentation of the street was good but it was badly let down by casual litter. There were very heavy accumulations of cigarette butts at the base of the ornamental trees, with lower levels of sweet papers and fast-food wrappers. There were plenty of litter bins throughout. Perhaps it might be worth considering a 'Bin your Butt' campaign?

Maynooth Train Station: Grade B. The train station was moderately littered with a wide variety of food related litter, cigarette butts and train tickets. The litter was both outside the station and on the train tracks. The platforms were fresh in appearance.

The Harbour Park: Grade A. This waterside facility was being used for a variety of activities, including fishing and picnicking. It was in good order and there didn't appear to be any visible litter. Spring flowers were being replaced by more seasonal flowers.

Recycle Facility in grounds of Aldi: Grade B. This facility lies opposite Maynooth University. The overall impression was of a littered environment with heavy levels of sweet papers, fast-food wrappers and cigarette butts with lower levels of cans, plastic bottles and coffee cups.

Approach from Saggart / Celbridge: Grade B. The road surface, signage and markings were in very good order but the area was let down by heavy levels of fast-food wrappers and lower levels of other food related litter.

Aldi Car Park: Grade B. This environment was freshly presented with car park surface in good condition. It was let down by cigarette butts and a wide variety of food related litter – fast-food wrappers were the most prevalent.

N4 Maynooth – Dublin Link Road: Grade B. This road was moderately littered with a wide variety of food related litter present. The litter was most obvious along the stretch of road by Islandbridge / Inchicore.