

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

Athlone: Overall 2018 result: 2nd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

One of Athlone's best results in the League, with eight out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade. Athlone Civic Centre was an exceptionally good site – not only was it clear of litter throughout but the overall presentation was excellent. Residential area of Woodville (Grange and Green) was excellent – clearly the residents area very house-proud as this area was spotless throughout. City Quarter Apartments & Environs was another excellent site – it presented very well and was clear of litter.

Moydrum Business Park: Grade B+. Much of this business park was free of litter and generally clean and tidy. However, it was let down by some plastic bottles, sweet papers cans and fast-food wrappers at the base of some planting and near the electricity type boxes – if these areas were addressed it could easily be a top ranking site.

M6 Approach – Dublin direction: Grade B+. Motorway maintenance was very good with grass verges recently cut and road surface, signage and markings in excellent condition. Some food related litter took away from an otherwise very good site.

SuperValu Shopping Centre: Grade A. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order – car park surface and markings, planting, bollards etc..The paving created a very fresh impression, with the wheelchair bays clearly defined in blue.

Athlone Civic Centre: Grade A. An exceptionally good site. This was an excellent site with regard to overall presentation and litter. The large statue of John McCormack sits proudly at the main entrance. The paving was superb and the grass area was spotless.

N55 Ballymahon / Cavan Road: Grade A. This road presented very well creating a positive first impression of Athlone. Grass verges had recently been cut and new road surfaces created a freshness to the environment.

Dublingle Street & Church Street: Grade A. The recently laid paving and road surface contribute to the very fresh appearance. Bollards and colourful planting also contribute to the positive impression created here. Stand alone cigarette butt units had been attached to street poles and yet some of the floral displays had noticeable butts within.

Fair Green Car Park: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter at this street level car park. The overall impression was a positive one with car park surface, markings and signage in good order.

City Quarter Apartments & Environs: Grade A. The overall presentation of this residential area was excellent and signage was in very good condition. Paving was clear of litter and ornamental trees and shrubbery were a nice feature.

Woodville: Grade A. The residential area of Woodville Green / Grange were surveyed. Clearly the residents are very house-proud in this area – it was a pristine site with regard to litter and the whole area was very well presented and maintained. The large expanse of grass was spotless.

N61 Link Road to Roscommon: Grade A. The recently cut grass verges along both sides of the road presented well. Overall, this was a very good site with regard to litter.