

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

Cork City, Mahon: Overall 2018 result – 37th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.

What was most striking about Mahon was the contrast between the many top ranking sites which were excellent and the lower ranking sites which were very poor. The Line (walking trail) has been further enhanced since first included in IBAL Litter Survey and it looked very well. City Gate, Mahon Point Retail Park and Mahon Point Shopping Centre were all excellent. The poorer ranking sites were Avenue de Rennes, Lakelands Avenue and The Maples – these areas were heavily littered with The Maples subject to dumping. Broken glass featured at a few sites (e.g. Avenue de Rennes and Lakelands Avenue).

Avenue de Rennes: Grade C. Litter persists along this road,.. It was most obvious on the northern half of the area surveyed. The most prevalent litter items were sweet papers, cans, fast food wrappers and plastic ties on poles with lower levels of plastic bottles, coffee cups and cigarette butts. Broken glass, alcohol related, was a significant feature. Weeds were also pronounced, especially near the large boarded up premises.

Lakelands Avenue: Grade C+. This was marginally less littered than neighbouring Avenue de Rennes. It was most noticeable at the entrance to the area. A wide variety of food related litter was present, especially sweet wrappers and broken glass, alcohol related.

The Maples: Grade D. The Maples wasn't just littered but subject to dumping including soiled nappies strewn about. There were very heavy levels of all manner of litter throughout.

St. Michael's Lawn: Grade B. The large grassy area in front of the houses presented well and was generally quite good with regard to litter. Much of the litter to be found was close to the XL shop.

City Gate: Grade A. A pristine site. This built environment of this commercial area was very fresh in appearance with attractive signage and bollards. Paving, road surface and markings were in very good condition – it was spotless throughout. The area was further enhanced by tree planting.

R852 Lough Mahon Road: Grade A. (From Mahon Point to Skehard Road). Very busy approach road / access off the N40 with a mix of new and relatively new buildings. All aspects of the area surveyed were immaculate, generating a fresh and welcome atmosphere. It was pristine throughout.

The Line: Grade A. (Disused railway line converted in to a walkway). A really beautiful addition not just to Mahon but to Cork in general. Since last included in IBAL Survey it has been further enhanced with wooden seating and excellent new tarmac surface. Steep banks were covered in mature vegetation, including many oak trees. An excellent with regard to litter and is clearly being respected by the users of same.

Mahon Point Retail Park: Grade A. The paving, road surface, signage, markings and bollards were in excellent condition. The grass and planted areas were very well maintained. The overall impression was of an exceptionally fresh environment. It was spotless throughout.

Mahon Point Shopping Centre: Grade A. Substantial planting areas were very colourful and a welcome addition in a built up environment. All aspects of Mahon Point Shopping Centre were in very good order and clear of litter.

Skehard Road – Mahon: Grade B. (From Blackrock Ave to Ringmahon Road) Small items of litter along the road, with increasing amounts close to Ringmahon Road – the majority of the litter was food related.