

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

**Ennis: Overall 2018 result: 22nd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms**

**A small number of littered sites was enough to take Ennis down the rankings in 2018. By far the most heavily littered was Ennis Train and Bus Station – as well as scattered litter there were areas of heavy accumulations, especially where the buses reverse to park. Some of the top ranking sites included Ennis Tourist Office & Franciscan Church, Roselevan Shopping Centre, O'Connell Street and Market Square / Market Place / Lower Market Street – these areas were not just good with regard to litter but also well presented and maintained. A general observation in Ennis – there were plenty of 'Historic Town Trail' signage throughout. Also, some 'Please do not Litter, Thank You' signage on leading from Train & Bus Station to the centre of the town.**

**R352 Approach from Tulla Road West Roundabout: Grade A.** The signage welcoming visitors to Ennis with details of heritage, Tidy Towns success, Purple Flag and 'Twinning' certainly creating a very positive and welcoming first impression of Ennis. The recessed grass area on the right hand side was an attractive feature. All in all, this was a top ranking side throughout.

**Roselevan Shopping Centre: Grade A.** Paving, bins, car park surface, trolley bay, perimeter shrubbery etc. were all in very good condition. There was a complete absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

**O'Connell Street: Grade A.** There was attractive paving throughout this narrow shopping street. It was very well presented in terms of streetscape and many of the individual premises were very attractive. The street was practically devoid of pedestrians due to very very heavy rainfall. It was spotless throughout.

**Ennis Tourist Office & Franciscan Church Environs: Grade A.** All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order – it presented very well for any visitors to the town. The paving, bollards, bins, seating, bicycle parking and car park were clear of litter. The Historic Town visitor information was in good condition.

**Clare County Council: Grade A.** An excellent site in terms of presentation and maintenance. There was a complete absence of litter in the area surveyed.

**Clonroad Business Park: Grade B+.** With such a broad range of occupants ranging from education and training board / garden centre / business premises, it can be difficult to see who has overall responsibility for the maintenance of this business park. Some parts were poorly presented with a small litter presence.

**Ennis Train and Bus Station: Grade C.** The pedestrian pathway from the main road was moderately littered – alcohol cans, plastic bottles and coffee cups. A corner area near the Visitor Information sign had further accumulations of same. However, it was the area to the back of the station, where the buses reverse to park, which really brought down the litter grade – heavy accumulations of a wide variety of litter had gathered here. It seemed like all of the litter bins were clustered around the entrance area rather than spread throughout the station complex. There were colourful plant boxes at the train station entrance.

**Market Square / Market Place and Lower Market Street: Grade A.** There was nice paving in the pedestrian area. The bicycle parking and planted areas were clear of litter. The substantial humorous sculpture at Market Place is a big feature. There was signage relating to 'Alcohol Free Area; and reference to 'Historic Town Trail' on Lower Market Street. The whole area scored very well with regard to litter.

**N85 Approach from Ennistymon: Grade B.** (from Clareabbey Roundabout to Rocky Road Roundabout). There was a definite litter presence along this short stretch of road – mostly loose plastic bottles, cans and food related litter. This took away from an otherwise well presented environment.

**Limerick – Ennis connecting Road: Grade A.** An excellent route with regard to litter. There was no visible litter in the direction of Limerick to Ennis. Road surface, signage and markings were in very good order.