

AnTaisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 1, 2019

Cork City - Mahon: 36th out of 40 Towns / Cities surveyed. Littered.

Mahon has failed to improve since first featuring in the League couple of years ago. Top ranking sites included Loch Mahon (public park space), City Gate Park (office / commercial) and Blackrock Castle Car Park C & Environs – these were all in very good condition as well as scoring well with regard to litter. The derelict site at Lakelands View was not just a litter blackspot but in a shocking state – the area to the rear has been used as a dumping ground, one of the worst found in IBAL surveys. Two residential areas were seriously littered, Lakeland Crescent and The Maples. The latter saw a slight improvement on previous IBAL surveys.

Avenue de Rennes: Grade B. There was a variety of litter along this road, most notably sweet wrappers and dog fouling, with lower levels of other food related items. The area around Red Cove Inn was much cleaner than the surrounding areas, especially the commercial area and along the railings of Nagle Community College.

Derelict Site & Car Park at Lakelands View: Grade D. The front of this property was boarded up but it was the car park area to the rear which was responsible for the Grade D status – it was in a shocking state, clearly used as a dumping ground for domestic rubbish e.g. PE Equipment, soiled nappies and several dozen black sacks. This is a health hazard. Where does responsibility for this site lie?

Loch Mahon: Grade A. This public park space was in very good order with regard to presentation and litter. Some of the signage relating to the park had been defaced. Apart from the signage, all aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order.

Lakeland Crescent: Grade C+. The overall impression created at this residential area was of a very definite litter presence, with little change on previous IBAL Survey. There was a wide variety of litter present but the most prevalent were plastic bottles.

The Maples: Grade C+. A slight improvement on previous IBAL Surveys with the recently cut grass creating a positive impression. However, there is an on-going litter issue, especially in a corner site where other items had been discarded.

Blackrock Castle Car Park C& Environs: Grade A. The car park has a newly erected sign welcoming one to 'Cork Harbour Greenway'. The car park was fine with regard to litter and the Recycle Facility was spotless. The surrounding green area was in very good order, very well maintained and clear of litter. There was one overflowing bin, overflowing with bag of dog fouling. Perhaps more facilities for same need to be installed given the popularity of the location.

Ferney Road: Grade A. A top ranking residential area within Mahon. It wasn't just very good with regard to litter but it was also well presented and maintained.

City Gate Park: Grade A. A shiny new commercial development, it was sparkling throughout. Paving, bicycle parking, water feature, planting, seating etc. were all in exceptionally good condition. It was spotless.

Skehard Road: Grade B. This was a moderately littered route, with a wide variety of litter present, much of it food related. It was most pronounced next to Avenue do Rennes and Castle Meadows.

Sean Cronin Park and track between Ringmahon Road and the Park: Grade C. Whether this is a 'natural' environment or 'unmaintained', either way, it was heavily littered, with cans and glass bottles the most prevalent.