

## **An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 1, 2019**

**Drogheda: 31<sup>st</sup> out of 40 Towns / Cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.**

**Drogheda just holds on to its Clean status to fails to match its strong performance of last year. The interior of Drogheda Train Station was a very fresh environment, completely clear of all litter, while the exterior was 'tired' looking and had some litter. Riverside (general environs of 'Shaft of Light' sculpture) presented very well and was very good with regard to litter. The Recycle Facility at Peace Bridge was in a poor state, with items discarded beneath, between and behind the units, as well as a very obvious graffiti presence both on the signage and to the rear of clothing units.**

**Derelict Site at Mill Lane / Bridge of Peace: Grade B.** This building has the appearance of being long abandoned and while it was littered, it was surprising that it wasn't in a worse state. A fairly recent planning application notice (December 2018) offers some hope for this site.

**Recycle Facility by Peace Bridge: Grade C.** A poor impression was created at this site, items were discarded beneath, between and behind the recycle units. Not only was this a heavily littered facility, there was graffiti on the signage relating to usage and on the rear of the clothing recycle units.

**Riverside: Grade A.** The area surveyed was in the general environs of the 'Shaft of Light' sculpture. The shrubbery / flower beds in the immediate area were well maintained and clear of litter. Beneath the bridge there was a 'graffiti wall'. Overall, this was a top ranking site.

**Trinity Road: Grade B.** There was a series of boarded up houses along Trinity Street and clearly a careful eye is kept on them as there was no litter in the immediate vicinity. Much of the remainder of the road was fine but it was the area around the pubs in particular which brought down the litter grade – heavy levels of cigarette butts, sweet papers and empty glasses.

**Entry to Drogheda Hospital: Grade C.** A HSE notice 'If you Smoke in this area, please respect the property of residents Do Not LITTER' is clearly not having the desired impact as cigarette butts were very pronounced. An overflowing bin and other litter also contributed to the poor impression.

**R132 Dublin Approach Road: Grade A.** This road was fine with regard to litter and overall presentation. Care needs to be taken to ensure that the overflowing litter bin doesn't become a litter issue.

**Drogheda Train Station – Exterior: Grade B.** Many of the surfaces at the train station had paint peeling / worn away e.g. seating, bollards, pedestrian crossing, road markings etc. These features created a 'tired' impression. Litter (e.g. coffee cups) had been discarded, at the entrance, not too far from a bin and cigarette butts were prevalent in various corners.

**Drogheda Train Station – Interior: Grade A.** An exceptionally fresh and cleanly presented environment with a complete absence of litter throughout. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good condition.

**George's Street towards M1, Dundalk: Grade A.** A clean and tidy impression was created along this road.

**N51 Navan Link Road: Grade A.** There was no visible litter along the stretch of road surveyed.