

Midleton: 12th out of 40 Towns / Cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms

Seven out of the ten sites surveyed in Midleton earned the top litter grade, placing the town towards the top of the IBAL table with no seriously littered sites. Two of the top ranking sites surveyed were in natural settings – Ballyannan Woodland Walk and Riverside Way – both were sensitively presented and maintained. Market Green Shopping Centre was exceptionally well presented and maintained with a complete absence of litter throughout.

St. Mary's Approach Road: Grade A. A clean and tidy road into Midleton, creating a positive first impression of the town. This high standard was maintained for many of the remaining sites surveyed. It was well maintained, with a virtual absence of litter throughout.

Youghal Approach Road: Grade B. Much of this route was in very good order with regard to litter and maintenance – creating a good impression. The road was badly let down by the former service station which has become a magnet for litter – this will only deteriorate further if not addressed.

Distillery Road Car Park: Grade B+. The car park presented well with good road surface, markings signage and some attractive low lying planting. With a little extra care and attention this could easily be a top ranking site – a variety of small litter items took away from an otherwise very good site.

Main Street: Grade A. The attractive paving along some stretches of Midleton Main Street creates a very fresh impression. Ornamental trees were also a lovely feature. There were some derelict / vacant properties but they didn't impact in any negative way on the litter situation. Overall, this street was deserving of the top litter grade.

Bailick Road: Grade B. Much of this road was in good order but the accumulations of litter (a wide variety of food / drink related litter) at the open area near Dark Road / Quay Road brought down the litter grade. This isolated area presented poorly and risk becoming a magnet for litter if not closely watched. The remainder of the road presented well.

Ballyannan Woodland Walk: Grade A. Clean and freshly presented visitor information notice - 'Welcome to Ballyannan Woodland Walk' Pathway, wooden seating, fencing and bridge over estuary were all in good order. There was a virtual absence of litter in this lovely natural setting.

Riverside Way: Grade A. The grassy area parallel to the creek was well maintained and the surrounding mature trees in bloom. Picnic tables, sculptures, 'Midleton Biodiversity Trail' notice, etc were all in very good order – there was a complete absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

New Cork Road – Residential: Grade A. There were no litter issues along this road, home to a series of terraced houses. Individual properties appeared in good order.

Market Green Shopping Centre: Grade A. Not only was this shopping environment very good with regard to litter but the overall presentation was a very fresh one. Car park surface, pedestrian pathways, trolley bays, planted areas etc. were in very good condition.

N25 Link Road from Cork: Grade A. The stretch of road from Dunkettle to J4 Carrigtohill generated a very positive impression of East Cork. The area between J4 was not as fresh. Overall, the road was deserving of Grade A status.