

Roscommon: Joint 8th out of 40 Towns / Cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms

Roscommon regains its rightful place in the top 10 of the IBAL rankings, let down only by the Recycle Facility at Tesco Car Park, which has been a poor site in previous IBAL surveys. Several top-ranking sites deserve a special mention. Loughnaneane Park, a wonderful expanse of green space, just moments from the Main Street, was excellent with regard to presentation and maintenance. The Pedestrian Approach to Loughnaneane Park was much improved on previous IBAL surveys, when alcohol related litter had been a real issue. The Main Street was well presented with all aspects of the area surveyed in very good order. Despite some 'vacant' premises at the Harrison Centre it was a very clean and tidy environment.

Approach Road from Longford: Grade A. There were no litter issues along this road.

Harrison Centre: Grade A. A fresh and tidy impression was created at this small shopping area - all aspects of the area surveyed were in good order e.g. paving, seating, bins and signage. Clearly a careful eye is kept on this site as there were several 'closed down' premises and there was no litter directly associated with same. It was very good with regard to litter.

Main Street: Grade A. The well presented shop fronts, paving, planter boxes, street lamps etc. create a great impression along this main shopping street. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout.

St. Ciaran's Park: Grade A. This residential area was well cared for and litter free.

Pedestrian approach to Loughnaneane Park: Grade A. There was no evidence of alcohol related litter at this site – as was frequently the case in previous IBAL litter surveys. This time around it was immaculate with regard to litter but graffiti was still a feature.

Loughnaneane Park: Grade A. This park is a real jewel in Roscommon town. Just minutes from the Main Street it provides a vast expanse of green space with plenty of mature trees, PE equipment, playground, water feature, seating etc.. The 'pedal bin' was in excellent condition, offering the opportunity to dispose of rubbish without having to use a handle. Dog Fouling notice reminds the public that this is litter. There was good visitor information notice at Roscommon Castle, within the park. The whole park was very good with regard to litter.

Recycle Facility at Tesco Car Park: Grade C. On first impression the recycle units and low planting surrounding this facility were in good order. Signage relating to the use was clear and clean. Closer inspection, especially to the rear, revealed a different situation. This was further highlighted once a contractor came to 'empty' the units, revealing the quantities of items left at the site.

Castle Road: Grade A. Some, but not all, of the paving was in good condition, creating a fresh impression. Apart from some dog fouling, this was a very clean residential environment.

Derelict site at Castle Street: Grade A. Clearly a careful eye is kept on this premises which appears to have been 'For Sale' for a considerable length of time. Paint is now peeling but no evidence of same on the ground and there was no litter in the immediate vicinity.

N63 Link Road to Athlone: Grade A. All appeared in good order with regard to litter along this route, which was somewhat rural in appearance.