

**Monaghan: 27<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.**

**With six top ranking sites you would expect Monaghan to be in the top half of the League. However, three seriously littered sites impacted quite negatively on the overall ranking. These were the Recycle Facility at Long Term Car Park, the Monaghan – Cavan connecting Road (most notably, leaving Monaghan) and The Diamond Centre. The contrast between ‘The Diamond’ town centre environment and ‘The Diamond Centre’ was stark – the former was beautifully presented and maintained and clearly well respect, the latter the complete opposite. Monaghan Shopping Centre and Monaghan Court House were also top ranking.**

**The Diamond: Grade A.** This was an excellent site – as was the case in many previous surveys. This is a beautifully laid out town centre environment. Seating, bins, ornamental trees, paving and monument were in very good condition.

**The Diamond Centre: Grade C.** The presentation and maintenance of this small environment was a poor one. This is all quite surprising considering there is a HSE site within the grounds. It certainly lacks the care and respect of ‘The Diamond’ directly outside. Right beneath a ‘No Dumping’ sign was a myriad of dumped items. Colourful and humorous ‘Anti-Litter’ notices are not having the desired impact. Where does responsibility for The Diamond Centre lie?

**Recycle Facility Long Term Car Park: Grade C.** On first impressions this facility didn’t look too bad with recycle units fresh & clean with signage intact and minimal items on the ground. The area to the rear was a completely different story – it would seem that items have been building up for quite some time. It was in a very poor state. This will only deteriorate further if not addressed.

**Monaghan Shopping Centre: Grade A.** The car park and entrance to the shopping centre presented well with minimal litter throughout. Bins were in good order and the overall impression was a good one.

**Monaghan Court House: Grade A.** This was an excellent site in terms of overall presentation and litter. Seating, bins, signage, paving, picnic tables, visitor information notice and new astro-turf surface were in excellent order – a top ranking site throughout.

**Cluain Lorcan: Grade A.** A clean and tidy impression was created at this residential development with play equipment in good order. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout.

**Old Armagh Road approach: Grade A.** There were no visible litter issues along this road, creating an excellent first impression of Monaghan town.

**N2 Castleblaney Approach: Grade A.** Road surface, markings and signage were in very good order and the overall impression created along this road was a positive one with a virtual absence of litter.

**Car Park on New Road: Grade B+.** Not exactly a fresh-looking car park but not heavily littered either. Some items around the perimeter fencing and in the car park proper prevented the top litter grade. Uneven car park surface has resulted in several puddles throughout.

**Cavan – Monaghan Link Road: Grade C.** (Not including stretch in NI) Let down by the severe litter problems as one leaves Monaghan. Litter in large amounts has become visible from the grass verges which have been freshly cut i.e. chopped grass has resulted in chopped up litter.