

**Sligo: 14<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.**

**Another excellent performance by Sligo with seven out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade and no heavily littered sites – an improvement on the previous survey. Examples of the very good sites included Sligo Retail Park, the river amenity at Rockwood Parade, Sligo Court House and O’Connell Street – the footpath works didn’t impact in any negative way on O’Connell Street. These sites were not just good with regard to litter but also in terms of presentation and maintenance.**

**R287 Approach: Grade A.** (from Carraroe Roundabout to traffic lights at Cairns Road junction) A welcoming approach to the town with well tended grass verges and some nice planting. All properties are well maintained - both public and private. Only litter was a few pieces at the outer end of the road and a recently lost wheel hub. Colourful artwork ‘Be Green, Keep Carraroe Clean’.

**Sligo Retail Park: Grade A.** A clean and fresh impression was created at this retail park with paving, silver bollards, bins etc. in good order. It was excellent with regard to litter, bar some cigarette butts.

**Oak Lawn: Grade B.** The approach road to this residential development let the area down as quite a lot of litter was scattered amongst the plants and stones of the shrubbery / rockery in front of the ESB substation. This area was in stark contrast to the remainder of the site which was exceptionally fresh in appearance with excellent road surface / markings and attractive tree planting and grass area.

**Markievicz Park GAA Stadium: Grade A.** The entire area of the club grounds visible from the road was clear and litter free. While it is a very 'plain and 'utilitarian' site (nothing in its presentation to enliven the aspect), all elements were clean and tidy and signage relating to the stadium was in very good condition.

**Our Lady of Mercy School: Grade A.** Apart from a few small pieces of litter at main gate this school was excellent with regard to litter. The tarmac and grass areas were both clean and litter free. All appeared in good order at the play equipment. The perimeter wall looked somewhat tired and would certainly benefit from freshening up.

**Sligo Court House: Grade A.** A clean and tidy site in very good order. Well cared for with pleasant planting in a small courtyard to the front of this historic building. Signage relating to the building was in good order and there were four very prominently positioned cigarette butt units at either side of the two entrances.

**O’Connell Street: Grade A.** There were extensive works taking place along O’Connell Street (looked like paving to pedestrianise the street) – there was no visible litter directly associated with these works. The remainder of the street was virtually litter-free. Litter bins, poles and new paving surface were in excellent order. The older paving was cracked and uneven.

**Rockwood Parade: Grade A.** Overall, this was a very pleasant riverside amenity running both sides of the river in the town centre. There was some pleasant planting, ornamental trees, seating and a pedestrian bridge across the river. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order e.g. railings, seating, low planting, bins,

**Ballytivnan Approach Road: Grade B+.** Old Bundoran Road. Ballytivnan Road - from beginning of road in town out to speed limit signs. If it weren't for the litter caught in the growth at the inner end of the road this site would have been a Grade A. Unfortunately an amount of litter on the pavement and in the growth at the side resulted in a downgrade – sweet papers, fast-food wrappers, cans and plastic bags. This took away from the remainder of the road which was clean and very well cared for with attractive planting and well tended properties.

**N4 / N17 / N5 Sligo - Castlebar link Road: Grade B.** Overall, this route was only moderately littered closer to both Sligo and Castlebar the litter was heavier, also at Collooney. The verges were generally pleasant and only scattered litter along the route.