

Wicklow Town: Joint 8th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

Again a strong performance from Wicklow Town, with six out of the ten sites getting the top litter grade and no heavily littered sites. The Glen Beach Cliff Walk – a wonderful cliff walk, getting plenty of use was spotless throughout. The 'Viewing & Picnic' Area on Dunbur Road was in much better shape than in the previous survey. The residential area of Marlton Court was excellent in terms of presentation, maintenance and litter. Other top ranking sites included the Main Street and Wicklow Town Council Car Park. Cigarette butt litter was very pronounced at South Quay and responsible for a downgrading from the top litter grade, while food-related litter was scattered along some of Dunbur Approach Road.

Rathnew Approach Road: Grade A. This route created a positive first impression of Wicklow town. All appeared in good order with regard to litter. Some building taking place on a derelict house on the left hand side on way into Wicklow – this should certainly improve the appearance of same.

South Quay: Grade B+. A riverside / dock environment. It is quite unusual to downgrade a site solely based on cigarette butts but this was the case with South Quay - several separate incidents of 'heavy accumulations' of cigarette butts outside various premises. There didn't appear to be opportunities for the disposal of same – perhaps signage reminding people that 'Cigarette Butts are litter' might help. The remainder of this riverside environment, including the river, was fine with regard to other litter. Seating area was fine, with little done to enhance the overall appearance..

Dunbur Road 'Viewing / Picnic' area: Grade A. A littered site in IBAL Survey 1, 2019 - not so this time around. Seating, bins, bike parking, signage were all in very good order. The whole area creates an excellent impression. Clear and clean dog fouling notices were on the litter bins.

Glen Beach Cliff Walk: Grade A. (This walk is accessed through the Dunbur Road Viewing / Picnic Area) A wonderful natural amenity (recently opened / re-opened) which was getting plenty of use the entire route was completely spotless – a credit to the users of same. Signage throughout was informative and in excellent condition. .

Dunbur Road, Approach: Grade B. There was noticeable food related litter, just after the 'Welcome to Wicklow' signage / after the Dunbur Road Picnic / Viewing area. A wide variety of litter items were present. The stretch of road closer to the town, by the houses, was noticeably cleaner.

Main Street: Grade A. The overall presentation of the Main Street was definitely enhanced by the provision of some colourful flower displays on painted bicycles. While there were still some 'vacant / unoccupied' sites, there didn't appear to be as many as previous years. Some of the remaining 'vacant / unoccupied' sites had 'façade' painting, taking away the bare look. The building of the new Library will be a welcome feature, once complete. There was a virtual absence of litter along this long stretch of main street.

Marlton Court: Grade A. A residential estate with a series of interconnecting roads, on a slight hill with great views. Plenty of autumnal colour abounds with trees shimmering on a bright day. There was a complete absence of litter throughout and the public grass areas were very well maintained. It was excellent with regard to litter throughout.

Bottle Bank at SuperValu Car Park: Grade B+. A smallish facility (approx 9 bins) in SuperValu car park. Units were tightly packed against the wall but there were some items stuffed to the rear of the units. Units themselves were clean. Several separate 'no dumping' signs, including a reminder that plastic bags are litter.

Wicklow Town Council Car Park: Grade A. Excellent with regard to presentation and litter. Seating, bins and visitor information notices were in very good condition. From the outside, the public toilet facility appeared to be in good condition. .

N11 /M11 Bray - Wicklow Link Road: Grade B. There was no ignoring the litter along this stretch of dual carriageway / motorway. As well as casually dropped food related items, there were several incidents of plastic wrapping, mostly along the central median. Also a dead fox and some car parts.