

**Fermoy: 8<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.**

An excellent top ten performance by Fermoy, with seven of the ten sites surveyed receiving the top litter grade. The one blip on Fermoy's landscape is the Recycle Facility at Mart – it was a poor site in 2019 and remains so. It is in sharp contrast to the remainder of the town. Fermoy is not immune to boarded up properties (e.g. Emmet Street and Oliver Plunkett Hill) but clearly a careful eye is kept on them as they didn't harbour litter, as can so easily happen. Patrick Street and Pearse Square were excellent town centre environments, both in terms of litter and presentation.

**R369 Cork Approach: Grade A.** An excellent introduction and first impression of Fermoy – this high standard was maintained for the majority of the sites surveyed. Road surface, signage and markings were in very good order and grass, trees and low planting were well maintained.

**Duntahane: Grade A.** There was a virtual absence of litter at this quiet, residential area.

**N72 Mallow Approach Road: Grade A.** There were no visible litter issues along this well presented route into Mallow. Summer planter boxes contribute to the positive impression created here.

**Bottle / Clothing Recycle Facility at Mart: Grade C+.** There was little change to the presentation of this site since surveyed for IBAL in 2019 – it remains a poorly managed environment. The glass bottle units were full - bags of bottles were left at the base of the bins and items had been stuffed between the units.

**Patrick Street: Grade A.** An excellent main street in terms of presentation and litter. Colourful flower boxes and planting are a lovely feature and paving, bollards, signage were in very good condition. Fermoy's win in IBAL 2018 was proudly displayed in one of the shop fronts – Keep Fermoy a Cleaner Town, Fermoy Tidy Towns Group.

**Pearse Square: Grade A.** A well presented town centre square, where the majority of the buildings were in good order. Tree planting and large planter boxes add to what is otherwise a car dominated environment. It was excellent with regard to litter.

**Emmet Street: Grade A.** Clearly there is great pride in Emmet Street, particularly with regard to the presentation of many of the buildings (especially No. 11) and the small grass / planted area which has been lovingly tended. There was a boarded up house but thankfully it wasn't littered, as can so easily happen. Emmet Street was excellent with regard to litter.

**Oliver Plunkett Hill: Grade A.** There was a good use of trees along the central median and pathways of Oliver Plunkett Hill. Clearly a close eye is kept on the boarded up property as there was no litter associated with it. There were no visible litter issues at Oliver Plunkett Hill.

**Cork Co Council Business Growth Zone / Industrial Estate: Grade B+.** If it wasn't for the very heavy levels of cigarette butts this site would have got the top litter grade. There didn't appear to be any facilities for the disposal of same – perhaps the installation of such facilities and signage could make a difference?

**M8 – R639 Connecting Road from Cork: Grade B.** Overall, this route was deserved of a Grade B, however, there were differences in litter levels along the route. Much of the area close to Fermoy / Watergrasshill was good with regard to litter but there was a definite litter presence along the stretch of road close to Dunkettle Interchange – there was a wide variety of food related litter close to Dunkettle