

Gorey: 30th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered.

Gorey has once again failed to improve on its 'Moderately Littered' status, leaving it lagging behind most towns. The sponsorship of planting / flower beds on various roundabouts leading to the town creates a positive first impression of the town and this is borne out by all the approach roads getting the top litter grade. Much of Gorey Town Park has been cordoned off for redevelopment (currently on hold due to Covid-19) but the area accessible to the public was generally good with regard to litter. The high litter grade on previous IBAL surveys has been retained at the Main Street. Sadly, the poorly ranking sites in IBAL 2019 remain so. The Recycle Facility at Tesco was very poor. The former car park within Gorey Sports and Leisure centre wasn't just littered but subject to dumping, with the remnants of a fire visible.

Esmonde Street: Grade B+. The paving on one side of Esmonde Street appears to have been recently laid and was in much better condition than the other. The side of the street with the poor paving harboured most of the litter e.g. face masks, cigarette butts and food related litter. Large and colourful flower boxes created a positive impression. One of the street names at the top of the street was very old, worn away.

Public Car Park at end of Esmonde Street: Grade B. (before entrance to Gorey Community School) The main car park area was good with regard to litter and the surface was in good condition with clear markings and signage. Food related items were scattered about the perimeter, as evidenced by scavenging birds. Cigarette butts were pronounced. Care needs to be taken that items don't further build up, especially at the entrance area.

R741 from Ballycanew Roundabout: Grade A. A lush and well maintained environment, creating a positive first impression of Gorey. All appeared in good order with regard to litter. Road signage and 'Welcome to Gorey' notices were in very good condition.

Recycle Facility at Tesco: Grade D+. Dumping continues at this site – not just loose items but also bags of rubbish. The base of the bins and area to the rear / side were heavily littered. Some of the units were in poor shape - rusty and the signage was so old that it was illegible.

R772 Clogh Approach Road: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter on this route to Gorey. The picnic tables / seating area on the left side was well presented and maintained with no visible litter associated with it.

Car Park at Gorey Train Station: Grade B+. The car park surface / markings / signage were in good order and the surface of the car park proper was clear of litter. Any visible litter items were on the grass and in the shrubbery around the perimeter. Main litter items were sweet papers, cans and plastic bottles.

Gorey Town Park: Grade A. Much of the park has been closed off for redevelopment (currently on pause due to Covid-19) but the area available to the public was very good with regard to litter. Minor items were found outside the skateboard park. There was plenty of dog fouling signage throughout and playground equipment was in very good condition.

Main Street: Grade A. Main Street in Gorey has consistently presented well over the last couple of years and things were no different this time around. There were plenty of litter bins throughout, visitor information signage was in good condition and the abundant flowering was very colourful. It was excellent with regard to litter.

Miscellaneous area to the rear of Gorey Sports and Leisure Centre: Grade D. This site has ceased to operate as a car park since last surveyed in 2019. The change of use has in no way improved its appearance and presentation – it wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping, with the added element of remnants of burnt items.

An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 1, 2020

N11 link road from Bray to Gorey: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter along this main stretch of road.