

**Limerick City: 26<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered.**

In common with most other cities, Limerick has slipped since last year to moderately littered. The quayside / riverside environments presented particularly well e.g. Clancy Strand, Bishops Quay and Georges Quay – they were not just good with regard to litter but overall streetscape e.g. paving, bins, bollards, planting etc. Colbert Train Station created a very good first impression of Limerick City for any visitors arriving by train – it is a lovely, welcoming environment. Other top ranking sites included the Hunt Museum and St. John's Castle. The two recycle facilities / bottle banks at Honan's Quay and Dock Road were seriously littered and presented poorly. Other examples of poor sites included the residential area of Pike Avenue / Fairview Crescent and Greenhill Road and Liddy Street (vacant area at the bus stop). Cigarette butts were a real problem at Environs of Henry Street Multi Storey car park and Shannonbridge Roundabout. O'Connell Street was heavily littered - quite unusual for a main shopping street.

**William Street: Grade A.** A much improved site which presented well, with very little litter to speak of. The built environment was in good order e.g. paving, bin, bollards etc. Care needs to be taken that cigarette butts don't build at the base of the ornamental trees.

**M7 – Exit 28 to Exit 29: Grade B+.** (Castletroy exit to Ballysimon Road exit). There was good maintenance of this route but it was let down by the presence of coffee cups, plastic bottles, cans and sweet wrappers on both the driver and passenger side of the road. With a little extra care and attention this could easily be a top ranking site.

**R527 Ballysimon Road: Grade B.** The road surface, markings and signage were in good order but there was a definite mix of both casual litter and industrial litter items, especially at entrance to various industrial estates. Litter was most notable on approach to Childers Road turnoff.

**Environs of Henry Street Multi Storey Car park on Mount Kenneth Place: Grade C.** A poor impression was created at this area with very heavy levels of cigarette butts and lower levels of other litter items, some of them alcohol related. There is clearly a need for more facilities / notices re disposal of cigarette butts.

**Shannonbridge Roundabout and Environs: Grade B+.** This site would have got the top litter grade if it wasn't for all the cigarette butts to be seen. It is not the first time the cigarette butts were noted at this site. There didn't appear to be any visible facilities for the disposal of same – the provision of same and signage relating to the disposal of same could make a difference here.

**The Hunt Museum: Grade A.** High grades of previous IBAL litter surveys have been sustained at this site. Not only was it very good with regard to litter but it was very well presented and maintained. A nice feature is the tie in with 'Limerick Tidy Towns' - Pollinators Garden at the Hunt Museum.

**The Bishop's Quay: Grade A.** The streetscape was excellent along Bishops Quay with the paving particularly fresh in appearance. Street bins, colourful floral displays, bicycle parking, seating, bollards etc. were all in very good condition and created a very positive impression – the area was very good with regard to litter. A strongly worded dog fouling notice reads 'Protect Public Health, Scoop the Poop, Max fine €4,000'.

**Georges Quay: Grade A.** Despite plenty of pedestrians and outdoor eating, Georges Quay has scored well. The paving, colourful planting etc. were in good order – it was excellent overall.

**Clancy Strand: Grade A.** As with the other riverside / quayside environments, Clancy Strand was very well presented with paving, colourful planting, railings, visitor information notices, sculpture etc in very good condition – there was a virtual absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

**Arthur's Quay Park: Grade B.** Much of the litter at Arthur's Quay Park was food related e.g. heavy levels of sweet wrappers, with lower levels of fast-food wrappers, plastic bottles and coffee cups. Cigarette butts and face masks were also seen. The overflowing bins only exacerbates the litter problem

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

**Boherbuoy: Grade A.** The overall impression was a positive one with nice use of floral displays. The new paving creates a very fresh impression and there was a virtual absence of litter throughout.

**Colbert Train Station: Grade A.** The large paved area to the front presented very well and created a fresh impression with the substantial planter boxes adding plenty of colour. Seating, bicycle parking, railings etc. were very fresh in appearance. There was negligible litter throughout the area surveyed but care needs to be taken behind the gate with steps leading to a basement.

**Pike Avenue / Fairview Crescent and Greenhill Road: Grade C.** There was a heavy litter presence throughout this residential area but particularly on the grass beside the steps. The main litter items were plastic bottles and sweet wrappers with lower levels of coffee cups, cans and face masks. There didn't appear to be any litter bins or 'anti-litter' or 'dog fouling' notices in the area surveyed.

**Dock Road: Grade A.** An improved site in terms of litter with Dock Road creating a generally positive impression.

**Dublin Road to Parkway Roundabout and on to Castletroy: Grade B+.** The road surface, markings and signage presented well and much of the route was good with regard to litter. However, there were simply too many food-related items and cigarette butts to get the top litter grade.

**Henry Street: Grade B.** It was good to see the butt disposal facility on the large street bin being used so much but it does need to be emptied. There were no butts on the street. Much of the litter at this site was on the kerbs and car parking areas, including that in front of the Garda Station.

**King John's Castle: Grade A.** The entrance and area immediately surrounding King John's Castle was excellent both in terms of presentation and litter. Paving, statues, hanging baskets, signage, bins etc were in very good condition.

**Liddy Street and Bus Stop: Grade C.** The vacant area at the location of the bus stop presents poorly and has gathered heavy levels of a wide variety of litter items at the front. This will only deteriorate further if not addressed.

**Nicholas Street: Grade A.** Nicholas Street scored well with regard to litter and the paving / road surface created a very fresh impression. An old and rusty cigarette butt unit presents poorly and had been stuffed with other non butt items.

**People's Park; Grade B+.** The carelessness of a few took away from an otherwise very well presented environment. The grass, planted areas, seating, monument, signage etc. were in very good order. With a little extra care and attention this could easily be a top ranking site.

**O'Connell Street: Grade C.** It is quite unusual to see a main shopping street so heavily littered but this was the case at O'Connell Street. Bar the heavily level of cigarette butts, there were heavy levels of food related items, most notably at the seating areas outside Centra and Burger King where a very casual attitude to litter prevailed.

**R526 O'Connell Avenue: Grade A.** A welcoming impression for anybody arriving into Limerick along this route. It was clean and tidy with some colourful low lying planting.

**Recycle / Bottle Bank at Honan's Quay: Grade C.** The recycle units were very grubby and the overall impression was an untidy one with some dumping in evidence. Health hazard due to inappropriate disposal of nappies.

**Recycle Facility on Dock Road: Grade C.** On first impression this facility appears fine but closer inspection reveals dumping behind and beneath the recycle units with a bag of rubbish right underneath the signage relating to the usage of the facility.

**N18 – M18 – Ennis to Limerick Connecting Road: Grade A.** This was an excellent route, with both county areas freshly presented and well maintained. The recently cut grass verges created a good impression.