

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

**Newbridge: 10<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed.**

**Another top ten performance for Newbridge, where seven of the ten sites surveyed got the top litter grade and just one seriously littered site, at Whitewater Shopping Centre. Among the best sites was Bad Lippspringe Way, which wasn't just good with regard to litter but all aspects of the area surveyed were in excellent condition; The issue of cigarette butts needs to be addressed in Newbridge, as there were heavy accumulations outside Whitewater Shopping Centre and lower levels along the Main Street and Eyre Street.**

**Newbridge Train Station: Grade B.** There was some litter at the train station, both in the car park area and around the platform – primarily plastic bottles / chewing gum, with lower levels of sweet wrappers, coffee cups and disposable face masks. With a little extra care and attention this could easily be a top ranking site.

**R416 Milltown Approach: Grade A.** The road surface and markings were in good order and created a fresh impression. There was a virtual absence of litter along this stretch of road.

**Vacant site - Bridge Medical Centre: Grade A.** This facility appears not to be in use with blinds down / notices at the entrance. A lidless bin was  $\frac{3}{4}$  full – items could easily be picked out by birds. While not a littered site at time of IBAL survey, care needs to be taken to ensure that it doesn't become so.

**Eyre Street: Grade A.** Care needs to be taken to ensure that cigarette butts don't build up along Eyre Street as there were some scatterings. Other minor items didn't detract from the overall presentation.

**Bad Lippspringe Way: Grade A.** A wonderful waterside resource within the town of Newbridge – it was excellently presented and maintained. There was a complete absence of litter throughout, fitting for a site that flies the Green Flag for Park award. All aspects of the area surveyed were in excellent condition.

**Main Street: Grade A.** There was a virtual absence of litter along the Main Street, but cigarette butts were pronounced, the level was such that further quantities could result in downgrading of litter grade – most notably at the base of the trees. Apart from the cigarette butts, there was little other litter in evidence. Planting and paving were in good order.

**Whitewater Shopping Centre: Grade C.** The built environment was in very good order and the outdoor seating area looked well, with paving particularly fresh in appearance. However, it looks like the cigarette butts are simply swept or discarded to one side as they lined a gap between the nice paving and the wall of the building – very large quantities had accumulated. Other litter items included plastic bottles and cans.

**Recycle Facility at Lidl: Grade B.** This freshly presented facility was marred by the casual discarding of small items, most notably bottle tops, some fast-food wrappers and bags stuffed between the units. Behind the units were slightly larger items e.g. cardboard boxes and plastic.

**R445 Naas Approach Road: Grade A.** All appeared in good order along this route with regard to litter. It was a freshly presented and maintained environment.

**M7 Newbridge – Kildare Connecting Road: Grade A.** The overall impression of this stretch of road was a very good one with regard to litter – no major issues of note.