

An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 2, 2020

Cavan: 23rd out of 37 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered.

It is disappointing that a town which has been perennially clean like Cavan has slipped to moderately littered. There were several sites which just missed the top litter grade – an improvement at some of these would make a difference to the overall ranking. Examples include SuperValu shopping centre, Car Park at Tesco and Church Street. By far the most heavily littered site was a miscellaneous storage area off Main Street – this had major levels of litter and other miscellaneous items. N3 from Dublin Road Roundabout to junction with the R18 had significant levels of food related litter, particularly at the makeshift lay-bys.

Con Smith Memorial Park: Grade A. A lovely park environment with colourful playground equipment, litter bin outside the playground brightly painted and bicycle parking in good order. The large expanse of grassland and other features within were well maintained – it was excellent with regard to litter.

Miscellaneous Site off Main Street, a lane leading to Tesco Car Park: Grade D. This was by far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Cavan. Most of the problem was in the vicinity of large industrial bins. As well as significant litter levels (some alcohol related) other items included discarded electrical appliance.

N3 from Dublin Road Roundabout to junction with R188: Grade C. There was a significant litter presence along the passenger side of this route and particularly at make-shift laybys where food related litter has been discarded on the grass verges. Other miscellaneous items included substantial pieces of wood.

Keadue - residential: Grade A. A particularly freshly presented and maintained residential environment – all aspects of the area surveyed were in very good condition and it was excellent with regard to litter.

SuperValu Shopping Centre: Grade B+. (at N3) Much of this site was good with regard to litter but the grade was brought down due to the obvious litter close to the clothes washing laundry area. The main shop entrance and immediate environs were very clean.

Recycle Centre adjacent to supermarket on R212 / N3: Grade A. A freshly presented and maintained facility with signage and units in very good condition.

N3 and R212 - Dublin / Virginia Approach: Grade B+. Food related litter e.g., plastic bottles, cans, fast—food wrappers and sweet papers were the main litter items along this stretch of road. It was a mix of recent and 'long-lie'. The litter was most obvious on the passenger side of the road.

Main Street: Grade B. Cigarette butts and chewing gum were particularly obvious along the Main Street, with lower levels of coffee cups, cans, plastic bottles and other food related items. The steps leading to a basement area of a food premises (beneath lovely black railings) had a very noticeable presence. The area immediately surrounding the sports shop was also littered.

Church Street: Grade B+. Church Street just missed getting the top litter grade. The street bins, planting, street lamps and seating were in good order. The area immediately surrounding the wooden bench had significant cigarette butts. Chewing gum prevailed throughout, with other minor litter items.

Tesco Car Park: Grade B+. A freshly presented car park environment with road surface and markings in good order. Not much effort is required for this to get the top litter grade. The recycle facility within was much improved on previous IBAL litter surveys.