

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

Mahon – Cork City: 32nd out of 37 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.

Mahon has slipped slightly after an improved result last summer. One of the real jewels was Loughmahon Park – it is a wonderful resource and has been very well cared for. Both Mahon Point Retail Park and the Bottle / Clothing bank within were excellent, not just clear of litter but very freshly presented and maintained. Some of the poorer sites had been highlighted in previous IBAL surveys and there was little improvement this time around – the Pedestrian link off Ringmahon Road to Aldi (opposite Ashwood) was by far the most heavily littered. Lakelands Car Park and Lakelands Crescent were both poor.

Skehard Road approach: Grade B+. The road surface, markings and signage were fresh in appearance. Much of this road presented well with regard to litter but it was let down by a wide variety of food related items from the junction off Ballinure Avenue to Ringmahon Road.

Avenue de Rennes: Grade B. While there was a notable improvement along Avenue de Rennes (especially next to the residential units), it was still a moderately littered site, particularly close to the Ringmahon Road and outside the takeaways. Almost all of the litter was food related, as well as cigarette butts and disposable face masks. Colourful, dog fouling notice was eye catching.

Lakelands Car Park: Grade C. While the boarded-up property presents poorly it was the heavy accumulations of a wide variety of litter which is primarily responsible for the poor litter grade. This site has been poor in previous IBAL surveys, with little change this time around.

Loughmahon Park: Grade A. The park opening hours signage was defaced, but apart from this, all aspects of this park environment were in very good order e.g., paving, basketball court, playground, grasslands etc. It was excellent with regard to litter.

Lakelands Crescent: Grade C. This area presents poorly with accumulations of litter in the brambles beside the low ESB type box and graffiti on adjoining box. As well as heavy levels of a wide variety of food related litter there were significant numbers of discarded face-masks.

Recycle Facility at Mahon Point Shopping Centre: Grade A. An exceptionally freshly presented and maintained glass and clothing bank – it was spotless.

Mahon Point Retail Park: Grade A. Despite plenty of people about, this was an excellent site with regard to litter. Great care has been taken with the landscaping and overall presentation – all aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order.

R852 Mahon Crescent: Grade C+. This is a road of two halves. While the road surface, markings and pavings were in good order throughout, the side of the road with City Gate was immaculate and the opposite side was heavily littered at many different locations - the bus stop, at the base of some railings and a recessed area behind lower railings, the Vet premises, Cork SPCA and Bird Sanctuary.

Pedestrian link off Ringmahon Road to Aldi (opposite Ashwood): Grade D. Noted in previous IBAL surveys, this remains a very poor site. It is clearly used as a 'drinking spot' with much of the litter alcohol related, particularly in the vegetation. Other litter items lined the grass below the grey wall.

Junction 10 & Environs: Grade B. There was a noticeable litter presence on Jacob's Ladder side of the flyover with lower levels immediately surrounding and a total absence on the side next to Mahon Point.