

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

Mullingar: 33rd out of 37 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.

A very disappointing result for Mullingar , which has slipped dramatically since the previous survey. By far the most heavily littered site surveyed was the car park at Lynn Road Roundabout – heavy levels of a wide variety of litter prevailed around the perimeter of the car park; Seriously littered sites included Carey Bridge / College Street, Recycle Centre at St. Brigid's Terrace and Ashe Road. Market House & Environs and Royal Canal Greenway were the only clean sites surveyed, not just good with regard to litter but very well presented and maintained.

Market House & Environs: Grade A. A lovely town centre environment which has been attractively laid out – paving, planting, seating, sculpture etc. were in excellent condition – there was a complete absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

Pearse Street & Oliver Plunkett Street: Grade B. The streetscape is well presented with paving, bins, ornamental trees in good order. There was no one area which was particularly littered, just a scattering throughout, mostly food related with significant levels of chewing gum.

Car park at Lynn Road Roundabout: Grade D. There was significant litter, most particularly around the perimeter of the car park - heavy levels of a wide variety of food related items e.g., coffee cups, plastic bottles, fast-food wrappers and cans with lower levels of other litter. Some of it was on the car park surface and some at the base of the shrubbery.

Carey Bridge and College Street: Grade C. College Street had fresh looking road surface and small amounts of litter with increasing amounts closer to Carey Bridge. The area around Carey Bridge was heavily littered, with dumping behind the green fences.

Royal Canal Greenway: Grade A. A lovely amenity in the heart of Mullingar. This was well maintained and generally good with regard to litter. Very clear 'No Dumping' / CCTV signage. Royal Canal Greenway – Code of Respect signage was in very good condition.

Dominick Street: Grade B. The street signage for Dominick Street was difficult to read (black font on blue background) and some of the buildings were in better shape than others. The overall impression was of a somewhat littered one, mostly food related with heavy levels of chewing gum.

Dublin Road Approach: Grade B+. Much of this route presented well with road surface, markings and signage in good condition and grass / trees looking well. Road works didn't impact in any negative way on the litter situation. Any litter issues were at black bin / derelict site opposite Petitswood Manor.

Lynn Road Approach: Grade B. Litter was varied and scattered along an otherwise well presented and maintained environment. O'Brien Centre deserves a special mention, an excellent addition to the area with lovely planting.

Recycle Centre at St. Brigid's Terrace: Grade C. As well as items stuffed between the units, there were larger items, out of range of the CCTV which had been discarded. Loose litter items were scattered on the ground.

Ashe Road: Grade C. There were heavy levels of a wide variety of food related items along this route. Most obvious items included cans, bottles (both glass and plastic) and lower levels of fast-food wrappers, coffee cups and plastic bags. A corner site, at the base of large stone wall was 'Managed for Wildlife' – this was appropriately cared for.