

**Tullamore: 12<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns surveyed. Clean to European Norms.**

Another excellent showing by Tullamore in what has been a fine year for Midlands towns. All three approach roads surveyed got the top litter grade, creating a positive first impression of the town. This high standard was maintained for many of the other sites surveyed, a couple of which deserve further mention e.g. The Square is a beautifully laid out town centre environment which was excellent with regard to litter. Columcille Street was very much deserving of the top litter grade and clearly a careful eye is kept on the boarded up white premises as there was no litter directly associated with it. By far the most heavily littered site in Tullamore was the Bring Centre, Council Car Park – it wasn't just casually littered but subject to significant dumping of black sacks to the front of the units and miscellaneous items to the rear.

**R6443 ring Road – towards N52: Grade A.** The overall impression created along this route was a good one, creating a positive first impression of Tullamore. This high ranking was sustained for many of the remaining sites surveyed.

**'The Square: Grade A.** This is a very attractive laid out town centre environment with excellent paving, lovely wooden seating, outdoor dining, flower pots / planter boxes etc. There was a complete absence of litter throughout the entire area surveyed. The street bin provides an opportunity for the 'separation' of waste, such a simple concept which should be rolled out throughout the country.

**Columcille Street: Grade A.** Much of the street presented well with paving and bollards in good condition. A nod to the events of 1916 was the slab of paving citing the inscription 'Columcille Street, A prelude to the Easter Rising, Site of the Tullamore incident, 20<sup>th</sup> March 1916'. Clearly a careful eye is kept on the white boarded up premises as there was no litter directly associated with it.

**Derelict building, Church Street: Grade B.** The boarded up two storey house with slates missing from the roof presented very poorly. The area that fronts onto the road was clear of litter, not so over the wall. This needs to be addressed to prevent a further deterioration in the situation.

**Recycle Facility, Offaly Council Car Park: Grade D.** This was by far the lowest graded site surveyed in Tullamore. It wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping. Upwards of half a dozen black sacks of clothing and other items had been dumped in front of the pink / purple unit. Miscellaneous items had also been discarded to the rear of the units.

**Harbour Basin: Grade A.** Care needs to be taken that litter doesn't build up at this waterside amenity. Minor items were present, but not enough to downgrade it.

**Old Market Place Square: Grade A.** A top-ranking environment with a complete absence of litter throughout the area surveyed. All background environmental factors (overall presentation of road / paving etc.) were in good order.

**Church of Ireland / Charleville grounds: Grade A.** The grounds of the church were spotless.

**R240 Portarlinton Approach Road: Grade A.** A clean and tidy impression was created along this route which passes through a mix of commercial premises. There were no visible issues throughout.

**R421 Kilbeggan Approach Road: Grade A.** An excellent impression was formed while travelling along this route. This was a clean, well maintained site.