

Buncrana: 10th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms

An excellent result for Buncrana, and an improvement on earlier in 2021, with eight out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade. These included Buncrana Library, Castle Avenue and St. Mary's Oratory. There was a notable improvement at the Bring Centre, Super Valu – this time around it was very much deserving of the top litter grade. By far the most heavily littered site was Laneway in Ardaravan Square (Dr Denis McLaughlin Road).

R238 Approach: Grade A. (from speed limit sign to Fire Station at Roundabout) This was a very attractive approach to the town with plenty of planting throughout, including a 'planted' roundabout with striking 'Welcome to Buncrana' feature.

Railway Road: Grade A. While this route didn't have the same planting features as the R238, it was still a very clean and tidy route. There were no visible litter items.

St. Mary's Road: Grade A. There was a complete absence of litter throughout this residential road. Individual properties were very well presented, and the overall impression was of a very well cared for environment.

Buncrana Library: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter at this site. The building is in mature grounds which were very well maintained. The area immediately outside the library was very clean.

St. Mary's Oratory: Grade A. Great care has been taken with the overall presentation and maintenance of this environment – it was practically spotless.

Carndonagh Road Approach: Grade A. (from speed limit signs). Significant roadworks were taking place along much of the area surveyed, but they didn't impact in any negative way on the litter situation – clearly a careful eye has been kept on same. The remainder of the road presented well.

Recycle Bank at Super Valu: Grade A. There was a huge improvement noted at this facility. The glass and can units were freshly presented with clear and legible 'no dumping' notices. Signage at the shop indicates that it is 'Proudly supporting Buncrana Tidy Towns'

Castle Avenue: Grade A. This residential road leads to a 'viewing' area by the coast where a solid 'closed' bin was located. Most of the properties along Castle Avenue were well presented but one had boarded up windows – there was no litter associated with it.

Upper Main Street: Grade B+. There was lovely streetscaping along Upper Main Street with wide paving, seating, tree planting and street bins in good order. The colourful painting of a couple of hoardings took away the bare look of empty sites. Very little effort is required for the top litter grade.

Laneway in Ardaravan Square: Grade C. (Dr Denis McLaughlin Road). This was by far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Buncrana. There was some improvement noted, but the laneway was still littered – plastic bottles and plastic bags were the most obvious items with lower levels of fast-food wrappers and sweet papers. While some grass re-seeding appears to have taken place the planted areas were still overgrown and neglected.