

Drogheda: 39th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Heavily Littered

The dearth of top-ranking sites places Drogheda towards the bottom of the league. The Bring Facility at Trinity Car Park was significantly improved on previous IBAL surveys. Unfortunately, this progress was cancelled out by the very poor state of the facility at Ballsgrove estates, where there was considerable dumping. The Laneway at the rear of the residential area of Moneymore was in a very poor state – not just casually littered but significant levels of large household items had accumulated in a corner site.

Laneway at rear of Moneymore residential area: Grade D. The general litter levels were Grade B throughout, but it was the accumulation of discarded household items, including children's toys and furniture in one corner which brought the grade down to a Grade D level.

N51 from Collen Road Roundabout: Grade B. (to roundabout to R132 junction) The most obvious litter items along this road were coffee cups, fast-food wrappers and sweet papers with lower levels of plastic bottles, plastic bags and mineral cans. Face masks were also present. Much of the litter was along the hard shoulder and the levels were such that if not addressed could quickly deteriorate further.

R132 Dundalk / Dunleer Approach Road: Grade B+. Scatterings of food related litter and cardboard took away from an otherwise well presented route. Road surface, markings and signage were in good order.

Bring Facility at Trinity Street: Grade B+. A much improved site compared to previous IBAL litter survey. The previous dumping issue has been addressed. This time around there were loose items e.g. plastic bags, face-masks, mineral cans and sweet papers. Recycle bins and signage relating to the use of the facility were in good order.

Riverview: Grade A. The residential area of 'Riverview' was exceptionally well presented and maintained. Colourful planting at the entrance created a welcoming impression – it was spotless throughout.

Riverwalk at Willowgrove: Grade A. A clean and tidy impression was created along this Riverwalk environment. There was no litter at the waters' edge. 'Dog fouling' images had been painted on the pathway.

Donore Road Approach: Grade C. There were very notable levels of a wide variety of food related items along this road, a mix of recent and 'long-lie'. Much of it was at the base of the hedges / shrubbery and at entrances to various housing estates.

West Street: Grade B+. The paving creates a very fresh impression along this town centre street. Street bins were in good order, a mix of older style and newer 'PEL' solar style. Street sign at Father Connolly Way was old / difficult to read. Litter items, though not heavy levels, included plastic bottles, promotional flyers, cigarette butts and other food related items.

St. Lawrence Street: Grade D+. As well as the old and new litter along the kerbs and pavements throughout, it was the dumping in various basement and poor state an adjoining laneway which really brought down the litter grade – sites don't get into this state overnight.

Recycle Centre at Ballsgrove estates: Grade D. This small facility wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping – at least 3 black sacks of rubbish had been discarded to the rear, miscellaneous items to the front and cardboard boxes stuffed in between the units. There is no shortage of 'anti-litter' / 'anti-dumping' signage here including a sign '*Why are you dumping your rubbish here? I'm a jerk; I don't care about this community; I think other people should pay to clean up after m – Don't be a tosser, Dispose of your rubbish responsibly*'.