

Galway City Centre: 24th out of 40 towns / cities. Moderately Littered.

Several heavily littered sites saw Galway City lose its clean status this time round. Top-ranking sites included Bohermore Community Centre, the residential area of Carraig Bán, Recycle Facility (Dyke Road), many of the approach routes and St. Mary's Dominican Priory, Claddagh – these were not just good with regard to litter but were well presented and maintained. The Newcastle Approach Rd, Tower House Centre (unusual for a shopping centre), Market St Car Park and the front of Holy Trinity N. S. were heavily littered. Several sites just missed getting the top litter grade, with a little extra effort this could be attained e.g. Cooke's Terrace, Galway Hibernian's Football Club, residential area at Glenanail Drive and Eyre Square – the latter was adorned with a 'Christmas Market' and looked very well.

University Hospital Galway, Grounds: Grade B+. This site just missed getting the top litter grade. Considering the size of the site and the fact of the extensive building work, there was still an air of a very well-tended site with carefully tended grass and open areas with very little litter. The litter bins were fresh and clean looking.

Car Park 1 at University Hospital Galway: Grade B+. Some sweet papers, fast-food wrappers, cigarette butts and face-masks took away from an otherwise well-maintained car park environment.

R864 Newcastle Approach: Grade D. The side of the road with the shops / cafés was freshly presented, clean and well attended. It was the side adjacent to the hospital grounds which was heavily littered – many food related items but also larger items e.g., black sack, duvet, pillow, blankets.

Liosban Business Centre: Grade B. A small business park with a mix of retail and production units, one of which had significant graffiti on the shutter and along the red brick wall. Litter items were mostly food related, along with single use face masks.

Glenanail Drive: Grade B+. The main thoroughfare and properties were generally very good with regard to litter. A variety of litter at the grassy area, lined with wooden bollards, harboured some litter. This area will need a careful eye to ensure that it doesn't harbour more items.

R336 Tuam Road: Grade B. Casually discarded litter items prevented an otherwise well presented and maintained route from getting the top litter grade. Road surface, markings, signage and paving were in very good order, with substantial grasslands to the side.

Tower House Centre: Grade D. Where does responsibility for this shopping centre lie? It is highly unusual for a shopping centre to get such a poor litter grade, the only one in this round of surveys. While the areas immediately in front of the individual shop entrances were fine, the peripheral areas of the forecourt / car park harboured significant levels of litter. There were no visible litter bins or litter awareness notices.

VTOS – GRETB – Education Training Centre: Grade A. A very well-maintained site with picnic table, grass area and substantial planted area – the latter looked great. The adjoining rusty red railings could be improved upon. This site was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

R338 Approach to G Hotel: Grade A. (from Joyce Roundabout) Colourful planting at Joyce Roundabout was a lovely feature. There was a virtual absence of litter along the remainder of the area surveyed.

Bohermore Cemetery: Grade A. An excellent site in terms of litter and overall presentation and maintenance – all elements were in very good order.

Cooke's Terrace: Grade B+. There were simply too many small items of casually discarded litter, mostly food related but also alcohol cans, for the top litter grade. With a little extra care this could easily be achieved.

Bohermore Community Centre: Grade A. The immediate environs of Bohermore Community Centre was spotless. Bicycle parking and bollards were very fresh, and the large wall mural was very colourful.

Galway Hibernian's Football Club: Grade B+. The frontage / access points to the facility were surveyed. Visible litter items included glass bottles, fast-food wrappers, sweet papers and a shopping trolley at the base of some steps. Peeling paint on a number of surfaces was very much a feature of this facility, along with significant weed growth.

Coolough Road / Menlo Road: Grade A. An exceptionally freshly presented route with road surface, markings, signage in very good order. It was excellent with regard to litter.

Carraig Bán: Grade A. The large grass area of this residential area was well maintained, and signage was in very good condition. The overall impression was of a very well cared for environment. It was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

St. Peter and Paul's Church, Coolough: Grade A. All aspects of the grounds were excellent. It was spotless throughout.

Galway Watermains Rehabilitation: Grade A. The exterior of the facility was well maintained and very good regarding litter.

Recycle Facility, Dyke Road: Grade A. Excellent signage relating to the use of / CCTV monitoring of the facility. The glass / can bins were freshly presented, the clothing bins less so. There was no dumping of items as so frequently happens at such facilities.

Holy Trinity National School / Radharc na Mara: Grade D. All appeared in good order in the area immediately surrounding the buildings and open grass space. The litter problem was at the wood / shrubbery along the road frontage – heavy levels of a wide variety of food and alcohol litter were present. This didn't appear overnight.

Market Street Car Park: Grade C. There was no improvement on previous IBAL survey. The main surface area was freshly presented but a corner area / perimeter fencing were in poor shape – all manner of food and alcohol related litter were present.

Shop Street: Grade B. The overall presentation of Shop Street was very good with attractive paving, some outdoor seating, large, covered street bins with separate cigarette butt unit attached etc. Fast-food litter, sweet papers and face-masks took away from an otherwise good site.

Wolfe Tone Bridge to The Claddagh: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter along this waterside environment. Bin feature was solid and covered with separate 'litter awareness' signage further along. An electricity type box had a painting of a Galway Hooker, very much in keeping with the immediate environment.

St. Mary's Dominican Priory, Claddagh: Grade A. Not only was this a very clean and tidy environment, but the colourful red planting also looked very well. All aspects of the grounds were in very good order.

Eyre Square: Grade B+. The main square had been fenced off to accommodate a Christmas Market. It was very attractively laid out and appears to be well managed. This site just missed getting the top litter grade - food related items took away from an otherwise very well presented and maintained environment.

Costello Road: Grade A. This residential area was very much deserving of the top litter grade. Road signage, bollards, black seat and planer boxes were in very good order.