

Limerick City: 35th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.

Fewer than half the sites surveyed in Limerick City were top ranking, with five of them deemed blackspots. It was disappointing to see that some of the poorer ranking sites noted in previous IBAL surveys have seen little change in the overall litter status e.g. Derelict site at Thomandgate, Mount Kenneth Place, Entrance to Cruises Street Car Park, Miscellaneous site at 7 Lower Mallow Street, Bring Facility on Dock Road and Con Colbert Train and Bus Station. Even some of the moderately littered sites weren't just littered but had bags at the base of various street bins / wheely bins. Sites deserving of the top litter grade included People's Park, (a wonderful resource in the centre of the city), the riverside environment of Clancy Strand and city centre streets at Cruises Street, Little Ellen Street and Rutland Street.

Roches Street: Grade A. The overall impression created along this street was a clean and tidy one. Street bins were in good order and attractive planting was a welcome feature.

Coonagh Roundabout to Clonmacken Roundabout: Grade B. The overall presentation of this route was a good one with grass verges, roundabout in good order. It was let down by a variety of food related litter and face masks.

Con Colbert Bus & Train Station: Grade C. The front of the train station has been attractively laid out with lovely paving and seating but a very casual attitude to the discarding of litter has prevailed. Heavy levels of a variety of food and alcohol related items were present in different locations e.g., at the base of various seating areas, approach to the bus station, at the base of some railings and in the basement of the service area.

Bring Facility, Dock Road: Grade C. On first impressions, this seemed like a freshly presented facility. Further exploration revealed a variety of bags / dumped items to the rear of the purple clothing units. The 'Do not leaving packaging or other items in this area, CCTV' signage has been completely disregarded.

Greenpark Roundabout to R510 at Ard Aulin Approach: Grade A. This route was very much deserving of the top litter grade. Road surface, markings and signage were in good order and the overall presentation and maintenance was good.

Clancy Strand: Grade A. The high standards of previous IBAL surveys have been maintained along Clancy Strand. It is a lovely riverside environment which has been attractively laid out and enhanced by street furnishings e.g., seating, railing, signage, sculpture feature, boardwalk etc. – all aspects were in excellent condition.

Wasteground at Thomandgate, leading to High Street: Grade D. This site was featured in previous IBAL surveys and there has been no improvement. Very large accumulations of alcohol cans had gathered, along with other food related items. Based on the signage, this site appears to have official 'derelict site' status.

Thomandgate: Grade C+. There was a constant stream of food related items along the kerbs and pavements of the residential area at Thomandgate.

O'Connell Street: Grade B+. (from Patrick Street to Mallow Street). A much improved overall impression prevailed along this stretch of O'Connell Street. In particular, cigarette butts were not nearly as pronounced. Fast-food litter was being nibbled at by wildlife. There were plenty of bins throughout, some of which needed cleaning. Outdoor seating and associated planting looked well.

O'Connell Street: Grade C+. (from junction with The Crescent to Mallow Street). Alcohol and cigarette related litter featured along the footpath, along with a variety of miscellaneous items in various basements. Some of the street bins were overflowing, untidy and in need of washing.

Miscellaneous site at 7 Lower Mallow Street: Grade D. There has been no change in the state of this site since highlighted in a previous IBAL survey. Such environments only encourage further discarding and dumping.

People's Park: Grade A. This wonderful park has frequently been a top-ranking site in previous IBAL surveys and things were no different this time around. Signage, seating, planted areas and overall presentation and maintenance of same were excellent. The freshly painted red and white feature looked very well. It was spotless throughout.

Mount Kenneth Place: Grade C. A heavily littered site in previous surveys with no significant improved noted this time around. The overall impression was of a casual attitude to the disposal of food and alcohol related litter, with chewing gum and cigarette butts also significant. This is in an area where there are street bins.

Basement of 20 Mallow Street: Grade D. Very large amounts of a variety of food / alcohol and other miscellaneous items have accumulated at this site. The 'wheely' bin at the hall door was overflowing and the lid was missing.

Hyde Road: Grade C. A poor impression was created here. A notably littered road, mostly food and alcohol related, with a definite face-mask presence. Litter was on the grasslands, at the bus stop and the car parking area outside the various business premises.

Back Lane at Parnell Street: Grade D. (between Asian Foods and Progress Launderette) This laneway presents very poorly. Not only were there heavy levels of a wide variety of face-masks and food / alcohol related items, the overall maintenance was minimal. Such a site only attracts further discarding / dumping as evidenced by mattress and significant other miscellaneous items.

Entrance & Environs to Cruises Street Car Park: Grade D. Another site in Limerick City which has seen no improvement on previous litter surveys. The industrial wheely bins were overflowing, with various bags of rubbish discarded at their base. Heavy levels of a wide variety of loose litter lined the remainder of the site. A corner area, behind double yellow lines harboured other miscellaneous items e.g., a chair.

Cecil Street: Grade B. While the pavements were generally fine regarding litter, there was bags at the base of a green wheely bin and in some basements.

Charlotte Quay: Grade A. The traffic light box art creates a fresh impression along Charlotte Quay. The area was characterised by litter free pavements, kerbs and road surface. Raised flower beds were in good order and the overall impression was a very good one.

King John's Castle: Grade B+. This site just missed getting the top litter grade. The overall impression was very good with regard to presentation and maintenance – it was let down by sweet papers and plastic bottles.

Nicholas Street: Grade A. Attractive paving and street surface create a very good impression along this street. Signage and bollards were in very good condition. It was excellent with regard to litter.

Rutland Street: Grade A. There were no visible litter issues along this street, with long stretch of blue hoarding not impacting in any negative way on the presentation of same.

Little Ellen Street: Grade A. A much improved site with street scape in very good order, e.g., paving, flower boxes, paving etc. It was spotless throughout.

Cruises Street: Grade A. Street bins provide the facility for the disposal of chewing gum and yet, ironically, chewing gum was most pronounced at the base of the bins. Apart from chewing gum, there were no other visible litter issues throughout Cruises Street.

N18 Limerick Tunnel Approach: Grade A. A template for a Grade A site. This was litter free and very well maintained.