

Sligo: 21st out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.

Sligo has improved to reclaim Clean status. Top-ranking sites included Sligo Retail Park (exceptionally freshly presented and maintained), a couple of the approach roads, Sligo Library and the Church grounds beside Dunnes Stores / Aldi – these sites were not just clean but very well presented and maintained. The residential area of City View would have got the top litter grade if it wasn't for the bags of 'long-lie' litter in the shrubs. The Hospital Grounds have been littered on several previous IBAL surveys and litter was still very much an issue this time around.

Pearse Road: Grade B+. (from the roundabout at 'The Lighthouse' to Markievicz Park) The overall impression created along this route was generally quite a good one but there were too many random pieces of litter (e.g. sweet papers, plastic bottles and mineral cans) for the top litter grade. The greenery and planting at the roundabout looked very well.

Sligo Retail Park: Grade A. An exceptionally freshly presented and maintained retail park environment. The area was well served by litter bins and it was excellent with regard to litter, just minor amounts of cigarette butts.

Cemetery Road: Grade A. (from Markievicz Park to Racecourse). A very clean and tidy impression was created along this road, with a strong emphasis on cycle path.

Cleveragh Road & Tonaphubble Road: Grade A. (from R870 to Hollywell Road). Road surface, markings and signage were in good order and the area was further enhanced by colourful planting, creating a welcoming impression. There were no visible litter issues throughout the area surveyed.

Church grounds, beside Dunnes Stores / Aldi: Grade A. This was an impeccable site with a complete absence of litter.

Recycle Facility at Connaughton Road: Grade A. A clean and tidy and well maintained facility. Recycle units and associated signage were in good order.

City View: Grade C+. This residential area would have got the top litter grade if it wasn't for the accumulation of bags of rubbish in the hedge near the road – much of it looked 'long-lie', indicating a lack of cleaning for some time. The remainder of the area was very well maintained.

University Hospital Grounds: Grade C. There is still a serious litter problem within the grounds of the hospital. A wide variety of litter was present, but face-masks were particularly prevalent. The litter was consistent throughout the grounds. It can't be blamed on the building works as the area has been littered before in 2021 and 2020. There were no visible litter bins or litter awareness notices.

Sligo Library: Grade A. Planter boxes were a lovely feature outside the library building. There was a complete absence of litter in the immediate environs of the library.

O'Connell Street: Grade B+. A freshly presented main shopping street environment with some food related items and face masks taking away from an otherwise clean site.