

Cavan: 3rd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

A return to the heady days of old for Cavan, with many top ranking sites and no poor sites. The Bring Centre (Tesco Car Park) was not just very clean and tidy but exceptionally well presented and maintained, a long way from its poor state a number of years ago. Abbey Street was not only clear of litter, but a very fresh impression prevailed throughout. The Main Street had been let down in previous surveys by litter in the basements of a few properties – not so this time around. It was a freshly presented and well-maintained environment. There was a notable improvement at two sites which had been poor in previous surveys: Laneway from Main Street to Tesco Car Park and Derelict site at steps opposite James Connolly Street – considerable work has taken place at both of these sites.

Bring Centre, Tesco Car Park: Grade A. This was an exceptionally well presented and maintained facility. Not only was it spotless throughout, the recycle units were in excellent order, fresh and clean. It has come a long way from a number of years ago when it was poorly ranked.

Abbey Street: Grade A. The lovely paving along Abbey Steet created a fresh impression. Bollards, cigarette butt units and lamp-posts were in very good condition and there were many attractive shop fronts. There was a complete absence of litter throughout the street.

Main Street: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout the Main Street. Litter issues highlighted in previous surveys have been addressed. Outdoor dining areas (adorned with colourful flower boxes) presented well. Paving, seating, street-lamps and bollards were in good order, apart from one bollard which was lying on the ground. Overall, the Main Street was deserving of the top litter grade.

N3 Dublin Approach: Grade A. An excellent first impression of Cavan, with 'ThisIsCavan.ie' signage. Road surface, markings and signage were in good order, with freshly cut grass verges and well attended floral arrangements. Area outside fast-food restaurant was clear of litter.

N55 Athlone Approach: Grade A. There were no visible litter issues along this wonderfully green route. Abundant planting at the roundabout was a lovely feature.

Moynehill Retail Park: Grade A. This site got the top litter grade, but only just. The car park and areas in front of the shops were spotless. There were minor litter items in the hedges.

Laneway from Main Street to Tesco Car Park: Grade B+. This had been poorly ranking site in many previous IBAL surveys. Considerable work has been done to shift it to a higher litter grade. The industrial waste area still needs attention. The pavement was grimy / greasy and could certainly benefit from a decent cleaning. This could further lift the overall impression of the laneway.

Crieghan Drive: Grade A. There were plenty of community awareness notices at this residential area e.g., 'Litter Free Cavan', 'Community Alert', Please Clean up after your dog etc. It was spotless throughout with clean pavements, recently cut grasslands and attractive floral arrangements.

Ballyjamesduff Approach Road: Grade A. As with the other approach routes into Cavan, this was very much deserving of the top litter grade. There were no visible litter issues.

Derelict site at steps opposite James Connolly Street: Grade B+. This had been a very poor site in 2021. Excellent work has been done here since the last survey - boarding has been put up at the windows / building entrance and the significant litter issues have been removed. There was plenty of 'Anti-Dumping' signage throughout the area. It would seem that a close will need to be kept on this site to prevent deterioration to previous status.