

Dublin City Centre: 33rd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.

There was a welcome improvement in the cleanliness of the nation's Capital, but not enough to present a clean city as the peak season for visitors approaches. The number of clean sites actually decreased, but this was offset by a sharp fall of over 50% in the number of blackspots. Areas of Parnell Sq, Abbey St, Werbergh St and Chancery St were heavily littered. As usual, the shopping areas of Grafton St and O'Connell St and were clean, as was St Stephen's Green.

O'Connell Street: Grade A. O'Connell Street created an excellent impression. It is very well served by new street bins. Not only was it excellent with regard to litter, but it looked freshly cleaned. Ornamental trees / planting presented very well; paving / brickwork underfoot were in very good condition – to attain this level of cleanliness and maintenance requires constant work.

Playing / Astro Pitch at Mary's Lane: Grade D. The DCC signage relating to pitch rules was defaced. This very much set the tone for how the facility has been treated. Huge levels of a wide variety of food related litter and alcohol cans had accumulated around the perimeter of the pitch, with no improvement on previous IBAL visit.

Palmerstown ByPass: Grade A. A clean and well maintained route into Dublin with no visible litter issues throughout. Road surface, markings and signage were in good order and the grass verges had been recently cut.

St. John's Road: Grade A. A freshly presented route which was excellent with regard to litter. This is no easy feat in such a well trafficked route.

Smithfield: Grade A. An attractively laid out environment (some paved, some grass) which, apart from cigarette butts, was clear of litter. The area is well served by litter bins. Most of the built environment was in very good order, with some boarded up properties – clearly a careful eye is kept on these as there was no litter directly associated with them.

St. Patrick's Park: Grade A. A wonderful town centre park environment which has been carefully laid out and very well maintained – it was spotless throughout, despite plenty of activity within. Grass planted areas etc. were in very good condition – a credit to those responsible for same.

Dublinia: Grade A. A freshly presented cultural amenity – there was a virtual absence of litter in the immediate vicinity of same.

O'Donovan Rossa Bridge: Grade B. There was a very definite litter presence along this short bridge space – all of the litter was food related.

Inns Quay: Grade A. The pavements were clear of litter with minimal amounts at the bicycle parking area. There was significant graffiti on the series of green post boxes.

Chancery Park: Grade A. This small park environment was immaculate. Not only was it clear of litter throughout, but the park environment was also impeccably maintained. Seating, railings and signage were all in very good condition.

Church Street: Grade A. Despite heavy vehicular / pedestrian traffic, Church Street presented very well. Pavings were clear of typical chewing gum / cigarette butts. The residential area was characterised by house proud residents with plenty of hanging baskets and planter boxes.

Beresford Street: Grade C+. There was a very definite litter presence along Beresford Street. It was characterised by heavy levels of food related litter (e.g., fast-food wrappers, sweet papers, coffee cups, plastic bottles etc.) on the kerb, on the car parking side of the street and litter at the base of the trees. Disposable face-masks were also present.

Bottle Bank, Chancery Street: Grade D. The design of this 'Bring Bank' is such that the unit are behind railings with the aperture facing out – it should be one whereby litter / dumping is kept to a minimum. Heavy quantities of a wide variety of litter lined the base of the units, along with black sacks dumped on top and to the side. Various other miscellaneous items had been discarded. Much of the litter appeared 'old', indicating a lack of thorough cleaning for quite some time. There was no improvement since this site was last included in IBAL survey.

The Coombe: Grade B+. Much of this area was good with regard to litter but there were too many sweet wrappers / plastic bags for the top litter grade. Not much effort is required for the top litter grade.

Basement at Lamb Alley: Grade D+. A carpet of litter, much of it alcohol related, lined the basement of this red-brick building. It has been in a similar state for a number of years, with just a modicum of improvement noted, not enough to shift it up to Grade C or higher.

Green Street / Little Britain Street: Grade C+. The Court House side of the street was clear of litter, not so the opposite side. Litter lined the kerbs along the car parking side of the street. The most obvious litter types were sweet papers and cigarette butts with lower levels of plastic bottles and alcohol cans.

Vacant site at Mount Brown, Kilmainham: Grade B+. There was a notable improvement compared to IBAL 2021 visits. The old hoarding has been replaced with a fresh grey metal one, creating a far fresher and cleaner impression. Main litter items were dog fouling with lower levels of face-masks and food related items.

Anglesea Row: Grade B+. This site just missed getting the top litter grade. Some of the litter was behind the railings of the construction site – with a little extra effort this could easily be addressed.

Loftus Lane: Grade C. Loftus Lane is no stranger to poor litter grade with no notable improvement on previous surveys. An overflowing commercial bin was contributing to the poor litter situation with items strewn around the base of same. As well as casual litter, some larger household items had been dumped. There was significant graffiti on one surface.

Dominick Lane and Dominick Street Flats: Grade B+. A much improved site compared to recent IBAL surveys. The dumping issue has been addressed – this time around there were just smaller items of litter throughout. The signage at the start of 'Dominick Lane' was old, almost illegible.

Car Park at Werbergh Street: Grade D+. There has been no notable improvement at this site – it has been a heavily littered one for a number of years. Not only was it heavily littered, the overall presentation and maintenance of same was very poor, with broken billboard creating a very negative impression. And yet, somebody is claiming 'ownership' of the car park, based on the 'This is a Paid car Park' signage.

Henrietta Place: Grade B+. A much improved site with minimal litter issues throughout – this time around there were coffee cups, sweet wrappers, face-masks and cigarette butts. It looks like a new 'No Dumping' sign has been erected. Graffiti was pronounced on a few different surfaces.

Vacant ground on corner of Paradise Place & St. Mary's Place: Grade D. There is no change to the litter / dumping situation since last included in IBAL survey. Dumping has taken place on a large scale. However, it would seem that works are taking place to address the site.

Basements on Parnell Square, West: Grade C. There was a very slight improvement but not enough to shift the grade any higher than Grade C status. It wasn't just casual litter but the very deliberate discarding of various miscellaneous item. No. 56 was particularly bad.

Derelict site on Middle Abbey Street: Grade C+. Another site which has seen a slight improvement, but it was still a heavily littered site. Black sacks and other items were present in the stairwell / basement. Signage on the building indicates that it was 'Sold'.

Grafton Street: Grade A. Grafton Street was exceptionally clean. Clearly a careful eye is kept on the various vacant / closed down premises as there was no litter directly associated with them. The paving and planting look great. Grafton Street was one of the first streets to offer on-street recycling – this has been rolled out more widely throughout the country over the last year or so.

St. Stephen's Green Park: Grade A. There was a complete absence of litter throughout the park at St. Stephen's Green. It has been wonderfully presented and maintained. The closed street bins will reduce the likelihood of birds scavenging. The opportunity to separate waste for recycling would be a great addition to this 'Green Flag' park site.