

Ennis: 9th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

Another very strong performance by Ennis with seven out of ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade and no heavily littered sites. All approach routes were top ranking, creating a positive first impression of the town. This high standard was present at other sites, including Westpoint Retail Park, O'Connell Street and Ennis Recycle Facility – the latter was particularly good for a recycle facility, as they were often very poorly maintained. Clearly there is great pride at this 'managed' facility.

N85 Clareabbey Roundabout to Rocky Road Roundabout: Grade A. A freshly presented stretch of road which was very good with regard to litter. Road surface, markings and signage were all in good order.

Westpoint Retail Park: Grade A. An exceptionally freshly presented environment which was completely spotless throughout. Low-lying planting and blossoms were a lovely feature. Clearly a careful eye is kept on the vacant premises as there was no litter associated with it.

Gort Road Business Park: Grade B. Most of this large business park was excellent with regard to litter. A corner site, close to one of the entrances, has been littered in previous surveys and harboured all the litter there was within the business park. Work was taking place at a building to the rear of the business park – previously this building had presented poorly and harboured litter.

Ennis Recycle Facility: Grade A. This 'managed' facility was pristine – this is not always the case with other 'managed' recycle facilities. Even the electrical items were neatly lined up. It was a credit to those responsible for the maintenance of same.

O'Connell Street: Grade A. There was a complete absence of litter along this narrow, pedestrianised shopping street. Formerly quite congested, the pedestrianisation has allowed for much easier movement and a more relaxed feel to it.

Riverwalk: Grade B+. (from town centre to Sluice Gates) The main riverwalk area was clear of litter, albeit with a significant graffiti presence. As well as the large-scale graffiti, it was present on poles, life-belts, walls, seating etc. Plastic bottles, cans and other food related items were present at the caged area / within the water. There was attractive 'Tidy Towns' information notice in the small park area across the road – this area was spotless.

Scarriff Approach Road: Grade A. There were no visible litter issues along this route. The overall impression was of a clean, tidy and well-maintained route.

Ennis Bus / Train Station: Grade B. The main exterior of the station was quite clean but the shrubbery to the rear of the car park and the pathway leading to the station had a litter presence. The most obvious litter items were disposable facemasks, with lower levels of plastic bottles, food wrappers and cigarette butts.

Park Avenue: Residential area across from Dunnes Stores: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter at this residential area. The large stretch of grass was clear, not an easy task as there is pedestrian access / short-cut through this development.

Approach from Clareabbey roundabout: Grade A. Overall, this route presented well. There were some boarded up residential units and business premises on the right-hand side on the approach – no visible litter issues associated with this. Closer to the town there was a lovely tree-lined stretch of road.