

North Inner City Dublin: 38th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.

There was a notable improvement overall in North Inner City Dublin with many of the poorer ranking sites in 2021 attaining a much higher grade. Examples included: Commons Street, Sheriff Street, Lower (from Commons Street to Amiens Street); Sheriff Street Youth Club, Gardiner Street, Lower, Vincent's / VDP Sean McDermott Street, Buckingham Street Upper and Ballybough Road. The number of Grade D sites (litter blackspots) fell from 9 to just 3, while Grade A sites more than doubled, from 5 to 11.

As a general observation, there was welcome planting / greenery e.g., at the top of Buckingham Street Upper and the junction of Commons Street and Sheriff Street, Lower. The 'green' spaces were very much deserving of the top litter grade e.g., Green Space beside Spencer Dock Luas, Diamond Park and Crinian Park / Astro Turf Pitches. Wall Murals added colour to Railway Street / Crinian Strand. Dog Fouling was very much a feature at many of the North Inner City Dublin sites, frequently large quantities of same.

Spencer Dock Luas: Grade A. An exceptionally freshly presented environment with a complete absence of litter throughout. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order and the stainless steel bins looked particularly well.

Commons Street: Grade B. There was some lovely planting at the junction of Commons Street and Sheriff Street in an area previously very much devoid of same and the litter grade was improved compared to previous surveys. This time around the most obvious items were dog fouling / cigarette butts and lower levels of food related litter.

Sheriff Street, Lower: Grade B. (from Commons Street to Amiens Street). With much of one half of the road 'boarded up' it has left less room for dumping, as had previously been the case along this street. The other side still had a very definite litter presence, dog fouling and food related items. Graffiti was very pronounced throughout.

Sheriff Street, Lower: Grade D. A new build to the rear of the church creates a fresh impression. The remainder of the street wasn't just littered but subject to dumping, and it wasn't limited to the 'boarded up' properties. Bags of rubbish and other larger miscellaneous items had been discarded on the street, the contents of which were strewn about.

Park Space beside Spencer Dock Luas: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter at this welcome 'green' space in a newly re-developed area. It has been attractively landscaped with two Bug Hotels and signage relating to Bio-Diversity. Overall, a lovely space, with all aspects in very good order e.g., seating, signage, litter bins, planting etc.

Park / Playing Pitches at Crinian Strand: Grade A. Much of this park space has been devoted to recent construction in the area but the remainder of the available space i.e., park / playground / pitches was excellent with regard to litter – just some dog fouling. Wooden playground equipment was in good order.

Crinian Strand: Grade D. A large mural on a gable wall was a welcome splash of colour. The residential area of Crinian Strand was in sharp contrast to the adjoining park space. Birds were scavenging the contents of black sacks of rubbish. Heavy levels of a variety of loose litter items lined the street. Dog fouling was pronounced throughout.

Sheriff Street Youth Club: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter in front of and in the immediate environs of this facility – a much improved site compared to 2021.

Canal / Canal walk at Spencer Dock: Grade C. There were so many positives about the overall impression created here – a wonderfully presented waterside environment with all aspects in very good order and very good with regard to litter. However, the litter grade was brought down due to the accumulations of food related litter and 5 life-belts at the lock – the latter would appear to be a very deliberate act – 'A Stolen Ring Bout, A Stolen Life' signage is printed on the ring-buoy holders.

Railway Street: Grade D. There were several colourful murals on various surfaces along Railway Street adding some welcome colour to an otherwise quite run down street. The stretch from Gardiner Street Lower had low litter levels, it was the area within and immediately surrounding the extensive fenced off space which was subject to dumping, abuse and vandalism. All manner of food and alcohol related items were present, along with bags of household rubbish and miscellaneous household items.

Gardiner Street Lower: Grade B. The basements and general environs of a few of properties at the lower end of the street (i.e., close to Custom House) harboured litter and other items. The remainder of the street was freshly presented.

Talbot Street: Grade A. The new telephone kiosk at the junction with Amiens Street presented very well. There were plenty of litter bins throughout, although many were quite grubby; planter boxes were bright and colourful, tree planting and seating were in good order. Clearly a careful eye is kept on the closed down premises as there was no litter directly associated with them. The whole street was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

Diamond Park: Grade A. This small park space used to be a really freshly presented environment, it was looking less fresh with graffiti on the table-tennis tables and PE equipment and a broken bench. However, it wasn't littered.

Basement of VDP (Vincent's) on Sean McDermott Street: Grade B. The issue of litter accumulating in the basements has been addressed by the installation of 'grilles'. This time around, there were moderate levels of food related litter on the grilles, easily accessible for clearing of same and unlikely to build up to the previous levels witness in 2021 surveys.

Rutland Street, Lower: Grade C. The bottom of the street (towards Sean McDermott Street) looked much fresher with the recent painting of property and little litter. Litter became more pronounced as one walked up the street towards Summerhill, particularly due to a bag of rubbish, the contents of which were strewn about. The large hoarding around the former school building indicates that there are plans for works to take place.

Buckingham Street, Upper: Grade A. What a transformation! This street has rarely been anything but a heavily littered one. The newly planted area at the top of the street, close to the junction of Summerhill looks great. There were no bags of rubbish left beside the street bins or heavy accumulations in the large basement areas. Apart from dog fouling throughout, this was very much a clean site.

St. Mary's Mansions: Grade A. The grass / planted areas to the front and sides looked great and some welcome greenery in this area. The whole area was excellent with regard to litter, apart from some cigarette butts at the main entrance to the building – perhaps some butt units might solve this issue?

Canal Dock at Ossary Road / North Strand: Grade C. A lovely feature in this area was the art work at the pedestrian pathway over the bridge leading to Ossary Road – a great combination of art and literature. The water area beneath was heavily littered, along with surrounding land-based litter in the immediate environs.

Canal / Canal Walk between Ossary Road and Spencer Dock: Grade C. This canal walk space has been attractively laid out / planted with plenty of colourful 're-wilding' throughout. It was the litter within the water which brought down the overall litter grade – much of it had gathered closer to the Ossary Road end rather than Spencer Dock end.

North Circular Road: Grade C. (from junction with Summerhill to Gardiner Place). There has been little change in the litter grade along this stretch of road. It was the constant bags of rubbish, much of them open and strewn about, along with various accumulations of litter, which brought down the litter grade.

Sean O'Casey Avenue: Grade C. A constant stream of a wide variety of litter items lined the footpaths / kerbs of this residential area. As well as typical food / alcohol related items there were various other miscellaneous items.

Ballybough Road: Grade A. There is clear evidence of community work taking place throughout this road and immediate area via 'Ballybough Pride of Place'. Colourful planting at the 'Welcome to Ballybough' signage was a lovely feature. It is a great initiative to have dog fouling bags available for free in the local shops. Clearly a careful eye is kept on any closed down / vacant properties as there was no litter directly associated with them.

Canal at Charleville Mall: Grade C. There was significant litter both in the canal and along the footpath / canal path along this short stretch. It was a mix of food / alcohol related and notable dog fouling. Some of the signage along the bridge was peeling away.

Clonliffe Avenue: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout this long stretch of residential road. Colourful flower boxes and wall features at the junction of Ballybough Road looked well.

Ballybough Youth / Sports Centre: Grade A. The area to the front / side of this building was spotless. Planting in the immediate area looked well and dog fouling signage had been imprinted on the footpath. This site was very much deserving of the top litter grade.