

**Ballymun: 36<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.**

**While cleaner than 12 months ago, Ballymun has failed to maintain its mid-year 'moderately littered' status. There were only three top ranking sites, two of these were approach roads and the third was the residential area of Silogue Park. Usually, the Axis Centre / Civic Centre is top ranking – not so this time around, there was a very noticeable litter presence. Balbutcher Lane remains by far the most heavily littered site due to the dumping at the various entrances to the former Ballymun Towers – as well as bags of rubbish, large household items had been dumped.**

**St. Margaret's Road – approach: Grade A.** A hugely improved site compared to a number of years ago. An abandoned area has since been developed and there are several buildings under construction along this route. Colourful wildflower planting along the central median is a lovely feature. All appeared in good order with regard to litter.

**R108 from M50: Grade B.** A very busy stretch of road with some parts clear of litter. Closer to Ballymun town there is a grass area to the left which harboured a variety of food related litter. 'Welcome to Ballymun' Flower Boxes were a nice feature and the pedal litter bins looked well.

**Balbutcher Lane: Grade D.** There was no change / improvement at the entrances to the former Ballymun Towers. Each of them was subject to dumping, not just casual litter but larger household items e.g. bed frames, mattresses, large pieces of wood and other miscellaneous debris. The main thoroughfare was moderately littered, mostly food related items.

**R108 Approach from Poppin Road Junction: Grade A.** The overall impression along this stretch of road was a good one with regard to overall presentation and maintenance. Bins / benches / grassy areas were in good order and colourful traffic light box art close to the Progressive Credit Union was a nice feature.

**Bring Facility at Silogue: Grade C+.** A very small facility, just a few units, brightly painted but marred by bags / boxes stuffed between / beneath the units. Another bag of rubbish had been placed at the base of the units.

**Ballymun Road / Main thoroughfare: Grade B.** The stretch of the road closer to the town centre i.e., SuperValu and other retail outlets was much cleaner than the stretch of the road towards the junction with Collins Avenue where there was a very definite litter presence in front of the houses and apartments. Overall, the road was moderately littered. Nice planter boxes closer to the town centre.

**Ballymun Green Car Park: Grade B.** The main surface area of this freshly presented facility appeared clean. However, the perimeter was a different story - all manner of food related items, cigarette butts and face masks were present - this was well on its way to Grade C if not addressed. The vehicular access to the car park also harboured litter.

**Ballymun Sports & Leisure: Grade C+.** The area that fronts onto Ballymun Road had a heavy alcohol and food related litter presence. Along the side of the building, at Gateway Crescent, there was a dead bird and a pizza box. The area to the side entrance of the building was not quite as heavily littered but there was still a further accumulation in a corner area. There were no visible litter bins at the front / side / entrance to the building.

**Axis / Civic Centre: Grade B.** This large expanse of public space is usually very much deserving of the top litter grade - not so this time around. As well as the obvious loose litter items on the grass there were heavy accumulations of cigarette butts at the base of the benches - the appearance was such that the areas around the seating need thorough sweeping. Perhaps the provision of cigarette butt units at the seating might help?

**Silogue Park – residential: Grade A.** There was a virtual absence of litter throughout this extensive residential development. Attractive planting and paving lined the area.