

**Cork City: 38<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.**

While fewer than half of the sites surveyed deemed clean, Cork City Centre continues to struggle. However, there were improvements at some which had been heavily littered in previous surveys e.g. Headways, Carrigrohane Road and Lower John Street, though they were still somewhat littered. The presentation of St. Patrick's Quay was enhanced by new paving and general streetscape. Some of the city centre streets looked very well, not just with regard to litter but overall presentation and maintenance e.g. Patrick street, Anglesea Street and Cook Street. Many of the heavily littered sites have been this way for quite some time and have been noted in previous IBAL surveys e.g. Kennedy Quay and Carmelite Place / Western Road, North Ring Road and Dyke Parade.

**Dunkettle Interchange: Grade A.** Major construction work continues at this large and busy intersection – there was no visible litter associated with same.

**N40 – J6 to J10: Grade A.** All appeared in good order along this busy stretch of road. The central median was clean, signage was good, and verges appeared to be well maintained.

**Kinsale Road Roundabout: Grade B.** A freshly presented environment with road surface / markings / signage in good order. There was a definite litter presence, a variety of food related items, cigarette butts and face-masks.

**Mick Barry Road: Grade C.** An obvious and heavy litter presence prevailed along this road – as well as heavy levels of a wide variety of food related items, there were alcohol bottles and cans, face-masks and plastic ties on poles. Some of the litter was 'sun lightened' indicating a lack of throughout cleaning for quite some time. The area beside by the broken fence was particularly poor and likely to deteriorate further if not addressed.

**N27 South Link: Grade A.** There were no visible litter issues along this route.

**Anglesea Street: Grade A.** An excellent site, all aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order e.g. paving, tree planting, signage etc - it was excellent with regard to litter.

**Shalom Park: Grade A.** This small city park was attractively laid out with lovely 'olde' style street lamps, seating, litter bins, playground and expanse of grass area. It was fitting that this 'Green Flag for Park' site was in such good order in terms of overall presentation, maintenance and litter.

**Kennedy Quay: Grade D+.** The overall impression here was a very poor one. As well as casual litter lining the pavement there were several separate incidents of dumping. The hard-hitting signage appears to be having little effect. There were heavy levels of all manner of food / alcohol related items, cigarette butts / vape boxes, plastic ties on poles and face-masks. Sleeping bags had also been discarded.

**Bus Station: Grade A.** There was a complete absence of litter throughout the bus station and all aspects were very freshly presented e.g., railings, signage, litter bins, paving, walkway etc. A credit to the station staff.

**Oliver Plunkett Street: Grade B.** The streetscape was in good order with lovely paving, ornamental tree planting, stainless steel bicycle parking etc. Cigarette butts and chewing gum were the most obvious litter items, with lower levels of sweet papers and face-masks. Cigarette butts, in particular, were lodged in cracks and drains.

**Patrick Street: Grade A.** A great result for Patrick Street. The overall impression was a very positive one – tiered planter boxes, bike share scheme, litter bins, ornamental trees, seating, bicycle parking etc. were all in excellent order. Apart from cigarette butts / chewing gum, there were no other litter items.

**Cook Street: Grade A.** (from Oliver Plunkett Street to South Mall). A freshly presented street with road surface / markings in good order. Area was colourful and welcoming, adorned with outdoor seating. Overall, it was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

**Bishop Street: Grade A.** A very clean impression was created along this street. Good visitor information signage.

**Carmelite Place / Western Road: Grade D.** There was no improvement at this site – it has been subject to dumping for quite some time. AS well as heavy levels of a wide variety of food / alcohol related items there was industrial wrapping / builders' rubble / debris.

**Headways, Carrigrohane Road: Grade B.** This had been a heavily littered site in previous IBAL surveys. While there was some improvement there was still a litter presence, mostly food related along with promotional flyers and plastic ties on poles. Some of this was in the unkept area on the Ballincollig side of the gates.

**The Lough: Grade A.** A lovely waterside amenity with signage and amenities in very good order. The red dog fouling bin was so well used, it was overflowing, the contents of which were on the ground beneath.

**Recycle Facility, SuperValu, Togher: Grade C.** On first impressions, all appeared in good order with the recycle units and the signage associated with same freshly presented. The area to the side and rear of the bins was a different story – heavily littered. The bin units need to be not only emptied but the area needs to be thoroughly cleaned.

**Sarsfield Road Roundabout: Grade B.** Based on the location of the litter, it would seem that it has been generated by pedestrians and away from the road. It was concentrated in the south western section. Items were mostly food related e.g., coffee cups, plastic bottles, fast-food wrappers and mineral cans.

**Wilton Road: Grade C+.** It wasn't so much the light pockets of litter throughout but the large accumulations at the front of the SMA house, the derelict site next to the ESB and in the shrubs close to the shopping centre.

**North Ring Road: Grade D.** From Youghal Road to Ballyvolane. There has been no let up on the dumping along this road – as well as bags of rubbish, there were larger household items e.g., chairs, white electrical appliances. It was in a very very poor state.

**N20 Commons Road: Grade C+.** While there was a tiny improvement here, it was still a heavily littered site. There was a mix of food and alcohol related items, along with cigarette / vape related litter. Area near Circle K was littered but it was the area around the bus Stop 53-661 which was particularly poor, not just littered but subject to dumping. There were lower levels of litter at Bus Stop 53-664.

**Thomas Davis Street: Grade D.** The city end of the street wasn't too bad with regard to litter, but the grade is very much let down by heavy levels of litter under and close to the flyover, combined with an abandoned shopping trolley (discarded items within. No. 24 is still being used as a dumping ground – it required urgent attention.

**Lower John Street: Grade B.** A notable improvement, but still a definite litter presence. Most obvious litter items included sweet papers, plastic bags, coffee cups, plastic bottles, cigarette butts and face-masks.

**St. Patrick's Quay: Grade B.** The new paving created a lovely freshness along this stretch. Boulders, ornamental trees, litter bins, etc. were in very good order. Much of the litter appeared to be behind the fencing associated with the on-going works – hopefully this is only a short-term issue, and the overall result will be a much enhanced environment.

**Dyke Parade: Grade C.** Wide paving with attractive surface presents very well - there was minimal litter along this stretch. The front of a boarded-up house has been used as a dumping ground – No. 5. There were piles and piles of rubbish in the front.