

Dundalk: 34th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.

While there were some top-ranking sites, it is the presence of so many heavily littered sites which brings down the overall result for Dundalk. Heavily littered sites included the Wasteground & Clothing Bank on N53, Recycle Bank at Tesco. By far the most heavily littered site was Castletown River at Dundalk Bridge – a litter blackspot which was subject to significant dumping. Two sites in Dundalk deserve a special mention due to the great work and significant improvements which have taken place: Wrightsons Lane looked very well, colourful art work has greatly improved the overall appearance of same; The Wasteground at Corner of St. Nicholas Avenue and Maxwells Row has been cleared of previous litter problems.

Wasteground and Clothing Bank on N53: Grade C. There was a slight improvement at this site but not enough to shift it any higher than Grade C status. While work appears to have taken place, there was not just litter but dumping of clothing and large children's toys.

Recycle Bank at Tesco, R132: Grade C+. All appeared in good order to the front of the bank – the bins units were freshly presented, and signage associated with same was in good order. However, items had been stuffed between, beneath and behind the units. The most obvious items were plastic bags, mineral cans, fast-food wrappers and sweet papers, with lower levels of bottle caps and broken glass.

Church Street: Grade B+. This site just missed the top litter grade. Area was enhanced by attractive paving, brightly painted buildings, fresh looking street bins, outdoor seating with some planter boxes etc. Litter at the area in the corner of the entrance to the church took away from an otherwise excellent site.

Castletown River at Dundalk Bridge: Grade D. This was by far the most heavily littered site in Dundalk. Some of it appeared waterborne but there appeared there were large items which appeared to have been dumped e.g., quad bike / large toys etc. There were very heavy levels of a wide variety of litter items over a large expanse of river bank.

Clanbrassil Street: Grade B+. Clanbrassil Street was characterised by a lovely streetscape – attractive and wide paving, planter boxes, ornamental trees, freshly presented buildings etc. It's great to see the opportunity to 'separate' waste from regular street litter. With a little extra care this could easily be a top-ranking site.

Wrightsons Lane: Grade A. Colourful artwork looked great along Wrightsons Lane. The overall impression was of a far cleaner environment than previous IBAL surveys. Hopefully this can be sustained.

Castletown Road: Grade B. There was a definite litter presence, mostly food related, along this road. Some parts were clear, others littered. Area close to the school harbours litter and further out of town. Graffiti was also a feature.

Newry Road: Grade A. Road surface / markings / signage were in good order and the overall impression created along this route was a positive one.

Car Park at rear of Cost Cutters / TSB: Grade C+. Much of the litter at this site appeared to be associated with the businesses e.g., industrial wrapping. A corner site / perimeter harboured very obvious litter items, almost camouflaged by the heavy leaf fall. The overall impression was of an area which hadn't been thoroughly cleaned in quite some time.

Wasteground at Corner of St. Nicholas Avenue and Maxwells Row: Grade A. This had been a heavily littered site but has since been cleaned up – hopefully this great work can be sustained. The adjacent park space presented well.