

Gorey: Joint 10th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

A very strong performance by Gorey with eight out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade. These included the approach roads, many of which were adorned with wonderful planting at various roundabouts, creating a positive first impression of the town. The Main Street is typically a very good site – things were no different this time around. Gorey Town Park was looking wonderful and Gorey Civic Centre was excellent in terms of presentation and maintenance. The Bring Facility at Tesco remains the only heavily littered site in Gorey.

R742 Courtown Approach Road: Grade A. This is an attractively presented approach route to Gorey, with a lovely grassy area on the left with picnic tables / wooden bins - excellent with regard to litter. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good condition.

Esmonde Street: Grade B. A notable welcome addition to Esmonde Street was the abundant colourful planting along both sides of the street. Despite plenty of litter bins throughout, there were moderate levels of litter - particularly towards the end / bottom of the street, close to the bridge and opposite Gorey Community College Car Park - all food / cigarette related. Also a bag of rubbish deposited in a corner. Street bins were grimy.

Main Street: Grade A. The main street in Gorey typically scores very highly and things were no different this time around. Colourful planter boxes and nice wooden seating looked well and the visitor information notice was in good condition. Some of the street bins were grimy, with coffee / liquid stains dripping down the side.

Market Square Car Park: Grade A. A street level car park (2 adjoining each other). Apart from cigarette butts, it was excellent with regard to litter. Signage relating to the use of the facility was very good. Graffiti was very much a feature along one wall.

R741 Wexford Approach Road: Grade A. Sponsored Roundabout at the town entrance - i.e., lovely planting. Road surface, signage, markings were in very good condition. There was a virtual absence of litter along this route into Gorey.

Bring Facility at Tesco: Grade C. Motion sensor audio activated notice at this Bring Facility - and yet the dumping prevails, perhaps not to the same degree as previous IBAL surveys but that is from a very low base. Large items included discarded rolled carpet materials and items stuffed between and lurking beneath the units. Broken glass and lids of jars were strewn on the ground. A more thorough approach to the actual cleaning and not just the emptying of the units is required to address this. Some of the 'No Dumping' signage was peeling off the units. The overall impression created here was a poor one.

Gorey Shopping Centre: Grade A. An exceptionally clean and well managed environment. The car park / trolley bays were excellent with regard to litter and the area was enhanced by colourful planting. There were good opportunities for the 'separating' of waste within the shopping centre. The interior was spotless.

Gorey Civic Centre: Grade A. This attractively laid out public space was exceptionally clean (bar some cigarette butts). The space was enhanced by nice wooden seating, colourful wall mural, planting, grass area with picnic tables and lovely paving throughout. A strong emphasis on community engagement with signage 'Have Your Say on Gorey Town, Tell us your Views' etc.

Gorey Town Park: Grade A. This wonderful facility has been further enhanced since earlier visit in 2022. Wonderful landscaping throughout with attractively planted areas and nice paving around the, as yet, unfinished, building. Excellent signage relating to Gorey District Park Pond and plenty of 'dog fouling' / 'dogs on a lead' signage. Other features included Community Apple Orchard, wooden playground equipment, water fountain, Table Tennis Tables, skate park and colourfully planted area with children's art.

Dublin Road Approach: Grade A. All appeared in good order along this busy approach road into Gorey. No visible litter issues of note.