An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Survey 2, 2022

Limerick City: 37th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.

Too many heavily littered sites affected Limerick City's ranking. Some of the sites have been highlighted in previous IBAL surveys e.g. Mount Kenneth Place, Bring Facility at Dock Road and various basements along Mallow Street / Lower Mallow Street and Cecil Street. By far the most heavily littered site was Laneway between High Road and Thomandgate – it was subject to dumping. A notable improvement was evident at Colbert Train Station – this time around it was very much deserving of the top litter grade and the opportunity to 'separate' waste is a great addition. George's Quay and Harvey's Quay – lovely riverside environments which were not just good with regard to litter but very well presented and maintained. There was very good dog fouling signage at Ennis Road and the residential area of Bishop Street. King John's Castle and Clare Street Car Park were very much deserving of the top litter grade

Colbert Train Station: Grade A. This site had frequently been a littered one on many previous IBAL surveys – not so this time around. The front plaza area has been attractively laid out with lovely paving, seating, ornamental trees, signage and a great new addition is the opportunity to 'separate' waste. Overall, this was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

King John's Castle: Grade A. All was in very good order at this historic site. The area directly in front of King John's Castle was freshly presented with ornamental trees, outdoor seating, lovely paving stainless steel bollards – there was a complete absence of litter throughout.

Bishop Street: Grade A. There were no litter issues along this residential street. Dog fouling signage was clear and legible.

George's Quay: Grade A. There was extensive 'outdoor' dining along the quay, with no litter associated with same. Attractive road / paving surface, bollards, tree planting etc. were in good order. The overall impression was a very positive one.

Harvey's Quay: Grade A. Another lovely riverside environment which was very well presented and maintained. The immediate environs of the Terry Wogan sculpture was excellent, with a complete absence of litter.

Ennis Approach Road: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter along this approach. The overall impression was a positive one.

Clare Street Park: Grade A. As with previous IBAL surveys, this was very much deserving of the top litter grade. Park grounds were well maintained and all facilities within were in good order e.g. bicycle parking, picnic tables, play equipment, signage etc.

Charlotte Quay: Grade A. There were no littler issues along Charlotte Quay. Pavements were clean and the overall impression was a very good one.

Dublin Road: Grade B+. The visible litter along this stretch was food related – coffee cups, mineral cans and sweet wrappers. It was mostly on the grass / pavements.

Thomandgate: Grade B+. With a little extra care and attention this could be a top ranking site - food and alcohol related items were on the pavement.

O'Connell Street: Grade B. The re-paving is on-going but what has already been completed looks very well. Main litter items were cigarette butts, chewing gum and sweet wrappers, with lower levels of fast-food wrappers and mineral cans. There were plenty of street bins, freshly presented and in good order.

Entrance to Cruises Street Car park from Ellen Street: Grade B. The overall impression here was of a littered and somewhat grimy environment. As well as heavy levels of cigarette butts, chewing gum and sweet wrappers, there were coffee cups and fast-food wrappers.

Hyde Road: Grade B. There was fresh litter in the grasslands, especially at the bus-stops. The onstreet floral displays were looking somewhat in need of tender loving care.

Mount Kenneth Place: Grade C+. There were heavy levels of a wide variety of food related litter and cigarette butts along the kerbs, pavements and outside shops. The overall impression was of a street which lacked a thorough cleaning for quite some time.

Entrance to Charlotte Quay Car Park: Grade C+. There was a mix of old and recent litter in the hedges and pavements. A wide variety of food items were present, combined with cigarette butts and alcohol cans.

Courthouse Lane – Vacant Site: Grade C+. This site is well on its way to Grade D status – there were significant amounts of a wide variety of miscellaneous items, including construction debris.

Basements of No. 6 & No. 7 Lower Mallow Street: Grade C+. Previous problems at No. 7 have been addressed as the area is now under renovation. New problems arising at No. 6 – as well as bags of rubbish there was a myriad of casually discarded items in the basement.

Entrance to Bus Station: Grade C. (at Colbert Train Station). There were significant litter levels, mostly food and cigarette related, with some face masks in this area. The overall impression was a poor one and deteriorating. Accumulations had gathered in one area, a the corner of Hyde Road and the entrance to the Bus Station.

Back Laneway to Parnell Street: Grade C. The level of litter here was such that it was well on its way to Grade D status. It wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping. The overall impression was very poor indeed.

Clancy Strand: Grade C. Clancy Strand was in sharp contrast to many other 'strands' surveyed in Limerick City and uncharacteristically littered. Despite the area being wells served by litter bins, there was a significant litter presence both on the road side and riverside. This took away from an otherwise very well presented and maintained environment.

Cecil Street – Basements: Grade C. There was minimal litter along Cecil Street but a number of basements harboured significant levels of litter.

Bring Facility, Dock Road: Grade C. This wasn't just a casually littered site but larger items had been very deliberately discarded e.g. child's buggy, several suitcases etc. None of these items are accepted at this small bottle / can / clothing unit.

Basements on Mallow Street: Grade C. On first impressions, Mallow Street presents as quite a clean environment. However, further exploration revealed a different story. 'Long-lie' items, along with more recent items were found in various basements along Mallow Street.

Laneway – Ellen Street entrance to Cruises Street Car Park: Grade C. As well as the constant stream of loose litter along the laneway, there were several separate accumulations of alcohol cans, in significant quantities. Graffiti was very prominent throughout. Overall, this was a very poor site.

Laneway between High Road and Thomandgate: Grade D+ (opposite Ossington Terrace). The level of litter / dumping has increased in the two wastegrounds along this laneway.