

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

Another very strong showing by Midleton with seven out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade – these were generally not just good with regard to litter but very well presented and maintained e.g. the Main Street, Market Green Car Park, residential area of Willowbank and the Riverbank. There was plenty of signage along the Main Street indicating buildings of historical note. There was only one heavily littered site - the Clothing Bank at Distillery Road Car Park – it wasn't just littered but subject to dumping.

St. Mary's Road Approach: Grade A. (from Roundabout) A series of cottages and church line this approach to Midleton - some were adorned with colourful flower boxes, adding a splash of colour. All appeared in good order with regard to litter.

Approach from Cork: Grade A. All appeared in good order along this route, creating a positive first impression of Midleton. The paving on the left-hand side was fresh and new. Road surface / signage / markings were in good condition.

Approach from Youghal: Grade A. Generally, a very good first impression of Midleton. A careful eye needs to be kept on the disused petrol station on the left-hand side - some minor litter items were present here. There was a boarded up property closer to the town, near Midleton Town Park, but there was no litter directly associated with it.

Clothing Bank at Distillery Road Car Park: Grade C. A small, clothing only, Bring Facility in a corner site of this busy car park. Several large black sacks and other non-recyclable items had been left at the base of the units. Other items included baby car seat and baby carrier for buggy. This site was by far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Midleton.

Main Street: Grade A. The Main Street of Midleton presented very well with some lovely paving and planting along one side of the street. Several historic buildings appear to be not just very well preserved, but the signage indicates the great pride of same. Some bins had cigarette butt units, but not the newer bins. While there was a virtual absence of litter along the main street, there is a boarded-up house towards the end of street which was littered. Care needs to be taken to ensure this doesn't become a magnet for litter.

Midleton Town Park: Grade B+. A wonderful expanse of grassland with mature tree planting and a river running through. Much of the area was clear of litter but there was a definite presence around the picnic tables and near the river. A street cone was also visible in the river. There was significant graffiti on the picnic tables. A lovely feature throughout the park were the wooden sculptures carved into tree trunks. Signage indicates 'All Ireland Pollinator Plan' in place.

JFK Memorial Park / Ormond / Broderick Street: Grade B+. A mixed-use site with JFK Park, boarded up Ormonde building, retail, cafes etc. The small JFK memorial park was a lovely open space, clean and well maintained' Ormonde building was boarded up and harboured some litter (e.g. fly posting on the ground); some 'biodiversity' planting' along this stretch; a site with signage was littered. The stretch of street closer to the Main Street was clear of litter.

Riverwalk: Grade A. (from Bridge to O'Farrell's Funeral Home) A lovely riverside environment with lush grass vegetation. Excellent with regard to litter, an absence except for one incident of dog fouling and a piece of fast-food litter. Some of the Japanese Knotweed signage was lying on the ground and there was graffiti on nearly every picnic table.

Tesco Market Green Car Park: Grade A. An exceptionally clean and well-presented car park environment. Ornamental tree planting breaks up the large expanse of car parkin / trolley bays / store entrance were spotless. An excellent site throughout.

Willowbank: Grade A. This residential area was excellent site in terms of overall presentation and maintenance - it was spotless. Plenty of tree planting throughout and clearly the residents are very house-proud.