

Cavan: 12th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms

Cavan just loses out on its top ten spot from last year, but still a very performance, with seven out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade and just one heavily littered site. Top-ranking sites included all the approach roads, the residential area of Farnham Court and the Bring Centre – the latter has seen big improvements over the last little while. ‘Walking History, a tour of Cavan Town’ signage was a feature at the Franciscan Abbey Graveyard. The Main Street was the only seriously littered site.

N55 Approach: Grade A. (from Ballinagah Road R935 Roundabout in to junction with R198). There was a virtual absence of litter along this route – a fresh and welcoming one with all aspects in very good order.

Cavan Bus Eireann Bus Station: Grade A. The interior of the Bus Station was exceptionally freshly presented and maintained and great to see the opportunity to ‘separate’ waste so easily. Colourful planted boxes looked well, underneath the comprehensive visitor information noticeboard. Apart from some cigarette butts, it was excellent with regard to litter.

Franciscan Abbey Graveyard / Abbeylands, Site of the Old Abbey: Grade A. Signage at the entrance indicates that this is part of ‘Walking History, a tour of Cavan Town’, complete with QR code. Seating and adjacent litter bin within the grounds were in very good condition. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

‘Bring Centre’: Grade A. Cavan Co Co in partnership with Cavan Tidy Towns had signage with a nice slant to it: ‘Keep our Community Clean’. It’s an extensive facility (glass bottles, cans, plastic bottles and clothing) with all the bins freshly presented and stickers on the bin units in good order. It was exceptionally freshly presented and maintained and very much deserving of the top litter grade.

Main Street: Grade C. (from Thomas Ash junction to Paddy Power premises). This was a mixed street in terms of litter, but the overall impression was of a significant litter presence. The stretch of road between Thomas Ashe junction and Bridge Street junction was more heavily littered than the remainder of the street. The most obvious items were sweet papers, mineral cans, coffee cups and alcohol cans, with lower levels of plastic bags, paper bags, cigarette butts and face-masks – much of the litter was along the kerb, between the edge of the pavement and parked cars. There only appeared to be a couple of litter bins on a long stretch of street.

Nature Walk, Hospital: Grade B+. This site just missed the top litter grade. An attractive walking route, in two different directions, in a quite ‘natural’ state with plenty of grass and overgrown shrubbery. Signage indicates ‘Smoke Free Campus’ but based on the cigarette butt presence this has been ignored. Other food related items included fast-food wrappers and mineral cans.

Farnham Court: Grade A. There was a complete absence of litter at this residential complex. It was freshly presented, and all aspects appeared in good order.

Car Park: Grade B. (beside Library / Genealogy Building / Tennis Club). The main surface area of the car park appeared clean, but the periphery was somewhat littered, mostly food related, along with a shopping trolley. While the signage associated with the use of the car park was freshly presented, the car park still had an air of neglect.

Golf Links Road: Grade A. (from junction at R198 out to roundabout) There was virtually no litter along this route, which was mostly residential. The overall impression created here was a very good one.

R198 Approach: Grade A. (from junction with Golf Links Road in to roundabout at R212). A freshly presented route, passing through a mix of residential, open ground and small businesses. All aspects of the area were in very good order.