

Limerick City: 33rd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered

Limerick City's performance was an improvement on 6 months ago, but still short of where it needs to be, with not enough clean sites. The absence of litter blackspots was a positive. Great to see O'Connell Street getting the top litter grade – significant improvements to road / paving and general streetscape have taken place over the last while and this has resulted in a much fresher environment overall. People's Park is a wonderful city centre park which was respected by the users and well cared for by those responsible for the maintenance of same; No. 6&7 Mallow Street had been a seriously littered site in previous IBAL surveys – not so, this time around, it was very much deserving of the top litter grade. Notable improvements were also recorded at Thomandgate and Nicholas Street – the paving was particularly fresh looking at the latter. Lanes at High Street also much better than previous surveys but needs a more concerted effort to reach top litter grade. It was nice to see the provision of 'recycle' street bins right beside the regular street bins e.g., William Street and Clancy Strand.

Clancy Strand: Grade A. A freshly presented waterside environment with all aspects in very good order e.g. boardwalks, dog fouling signage, litter bins / recycle bins, butt units, picnic tables, seating, etc. in very good order. There was plenty of dog fouling signage throughout, some of it carefully placed at low level i.e., very close to where deposits may occur. Apart from one isolated location, the area was excellent with regard to litter.

Mount Kenneth Place and Environs: Grade C. There continues to be a very heavy litter presence at this site. The most obvious food related were fast-food wrappers, mineral cans and sweet papers, with lower levels of alcohol cans and plastic bottles. Cigarette butts were also a real issue here, throughout the whole area but particularly outside the various business premises adjacent to the car park.

People's Park: Grade A. A wonderful city centre park environment with lovely iron gate entrance flanked by attractive brick paving underfoot. Plenty of visitor information signage throughout the park and gorgeous colour at the low-lying flower beds. The People's Park is a fantastic amenity which has been very well respected by the users and those responsible for the maintenance of same.

No. 20 Mallow Street: Grade C. The overall impression along Mallow Street was a good one but this particular property was in a poor state. It wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping.

No. 6 & Mallow Street: Grade A. A much-improved site compared to previous IBAL surveys. Works are taking place here and the overall impression is that a clean-up and freshening up have taken place.

Corner of Cecile Street and Catherine Street: Grade C+. A poorly presented site with a variety of food and alcohol items in evidence, along with other miscellaneous items. Railings and general presentation were poor.

Cecil Street: Grade B+. The street / pavements were generally good with regard to litter and presented well. It just missed the top litter grade – this could be achieved if basements were cleaner.

Dock Road: Grade A. (from Shannonbridge Roundabout to Greenpark Roundabout). The built environment was freshly presented, and area was enhanced by some tree planting / shrubbery outside various business premises and along the side of the road. There were no visible litter issues throughout the stretch of road surveyed.

Dublin Road: Grade B+. (from Annacotty Roundabout to Kilmurray Roundabout) Much of this route was excellent with regard to litter and overall presentation. Some minor food related items close to Kilmurray Lodge took away from an otherwise very good site. With a little extra effort, this could easily be a top-ranking site.

Entrance to Charlotte Quay Car Park from Broad Street: Grade B+. A notable improvement was recorded here but there was still some litter at the gates / in the hedges. As well as cigarette butts there were some fast-food wrappers, mineral cans and sweet papers. The brightly painted flower boxes add some fresh colour to this area. There were no obvious litter bins / litter awareness notices in the immediate area.

Courthouse Lane: Grade B. The area at the base of the green industrial bins and a black sack which had been torn apart, the contents of which were strewn about, brought down the litter grade in this residential area.

Bus Station entrance / Boherbuoy: Grade B. It would seem that previous litter issues have been addressed somewhat, particularly corner of Hyde Road and Parnell Street. Based on the current litter presence, a more concerted and thorough effort is required for the top litter grade.

Nicholas Street: Grade A. A very fresh impression was created along Nicolas Street with the paving in excellent order. It was very good with regard to litter, significantly improved compared to previous IBAL litter surveys. Street bins, dog fouling notices and colourful planting all looked very well.

Thomandgate: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter at Thomandgate – a site which has definitely improved compared to previous IBAL surveys.

Laneway at Parnell Street: Grade C+. Despite evidence of a clean-up, it wasn't sufficient to shift this site any higher than a Grade C+. As well as lots of small pieces of litter, there was evidence of commercial and construction waste e.g., pieces of wood, lids for industrial size containers.

Entrance to Cruises street Car Park & Lanes: Grade C+. The area around the entrance to the car park is much improved but the surrounding area is less so. Evidence of discarded clothing / sleeping materials e.g., blankets.

Loading Bay on Dock Road at Live 95 Radio Station: Grade B. It is rare that a site is downgraded purely on the basis of cigarette butts. However, when the incidents of same is very high, this can be the case, as with this site. It had improved somewhat but has lapsed back to its previous butt strewn state. This is something which can so easily be tackled. Cigarette Butt litter notices and the provision of units for the disposal of same could make a big difference here.

Lanes at High Street: Grade B. While there was a notable improvement at this site, it was still somewhat untidy / unkempt in appearance. It is likely to deteriorate to previous status if not monitored carefully. The electricity box was riddled with graffiti.

Ennis Road: Grade A. A very freshly presented and maintained route with attractive paving and road surface / marking / signage in good order. It was excellent with regard to litter.

King John's Castle: Grade A. The high litter grade of many previous surveys has been maintained at King John's Castle. It wasn't just good with regard to litter, but the overall presentation and maintenance of the site was excellent e.g., visitor signage, planted areas, litter bins, artefacts etc.

William Street: Grade A. The streetscape was very freshly presented with paving, litter bins / recycle bins, cigarette butt units, tree planting, bicycle parking, planter boxes etc. all in very good order. William Street was very much deserving of the top litter grade, just minimal gum / butts to be seen.

O'Connell Street: Grade A. A great result for O'Connell Street in Limerick City. The new pavements / road surfaces / on-street planters / floral displays / bicycle parking / seating etc. looked great. There were plenty of litter bins throughout. Humorous dog fouling signage with illustration and 'Scoop it, Bag it, Bin it' signage. There were still some road / pavement works taking pace but there was no litter directly associated with these cordoned off areas.

Basement at No. 38 Cecil Street: Grade C. There were very heavy levels of loose litter items, mostly food and alcohol related along the stairwell / basement of this property. The overall impression was a very poor one with the railings / walls in poor condition.

Recycle Facility on Dock Road: Grade C+. On first impressions, all appeared in good order at the small, on-street 'Bring Facility' with the bin units and the signage associated with the usage of same in good order. Closer inspection revealed a myriad of discarded items to the rear of the blue clothing units. Items had also been stuffed between and beneath the bottle / can units.

Wasteground at Laneway between High Road and Thomandgate: Grade C+. While there is evidence of clean up since previous IBAL visit resulting in a slight improvement, there is still a litter issue at this site. Much of the litter was alcohol related.