

Ballymun: 32nd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered.

Two litter blackspots brought down an otherwise creditable performance. Top-ranking sites included Ballymun Road (a great achievement for such a long and heavily used main road) and Car Park (opposite SuperValu). The various entrances to the former Ballymun Towers were subject to intense dumping – higher levels than typically seen in previous surveys. The ‘Bring Centre’ Shangan Road was a small facility but in a very poor state. The residential area of Longdale Terrace was heavily littered. There is plenty of Tidy Town activity in evidence throughout Ballymun e.g. the planter boxes lining the main thoroughfare and the ‘Better Ballymun’ illustrations.

R108 from M50: Grade B+. The levels of visible litter were definitely less than many previous IBAL surveys. Mostly some random food related items and pieces of plastic wrapper.

Balbutcher Lane - Entrance to former Towers: Grade D. Welcome addition were the lovely planter boxes at the three entrances to the former towers. However, this hasn’t deterred those intent on dumping. Levels of litter and dumping were very significant this time around – not just casually discarded small pieces but larger household items e.g., pieces of carpet / wood / scooter etc. Bags of domestic rubbish had been thrown over / through the railings.

Glasnevin Avenue: Grade A. (from the direction of Circle K / series of shops). There was a virtual absence of litter along this tree lined residential route. Road signage just across from the shops was old, worn away.

Longdale Terrace: Grade C. The right-hand side (coming from Shangan Road) was generally fine with regard to litter – it was the left-hand side which was significantly littered. There was a mix of loose litter items (food and alcohol related) and a series of domestic bags of rubbish discarded in a couple of separate locations – these are likely to attract more dumping, if not addressed.

‘Bring Facility’ Shangan Road: Grade D. This small, on-street, facility has rarely been anything but littered – this time around it wasn’t just littered, but subject to significant dumping i.e., several large black sacks. Numerous items lined the base of the front of the recycle units. The overall impression was a very poor one.

Ballymun Road: Grade A. This long thoroughfare (between Glasnevin Avenue and junction of Axis Centre) was notably better than previous survey. There was a virtual absence of litter along most of this road. Evidence of community initiatives included wall murals outside Trinity Comprehensive School on one side of the road and ‘Better Ballymun’ posters on the opposite side. There was plenty of dog fouling signage throughout. The yellow ‘recycle’ bin outside SuperValu was looking tired with peeling paint but it was still functional.

Grass area, site of former Ballymun Shopping Centre: Grade B. Where there are birds, there is often food to be had. This was the case around some of the perimeter of this large expanse of grass space which had scatterings of food related litter around the Ballymun Road side.

St. Margaret’s Approach Road: Grade A. (from IKEA / Decathlon). What a transformation from a few years ago! A corner site along this stretch had been subject to dumping – it has since been developed. There was a virtual absence of visible litter.

Ballymun Sports and Leisure Centre: Grade B+. A notable improvement on surveys over the last few years. The façade that fronts on to Ballymun Road was much improved, as was the side of the building. The area to the front of the main entrances was mostly clear of litter but it was impossible to ignore the litter along the left-hand wall, as one faced the entrance. If it wasn’t for this, it would have been a top-ranking site.

Car Park (opposite SuperValu): Grade A. A freshly presented street level car park with car park surface, markings and signage associated with the use of same in good order. There were no litter issues of note.