

Longford: 27th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered.

While there was just one seriously littered site surveyed, it was the dearth of top-ranking sites which pushed Longford down the league. A little more care and attention at the moderately littered sites could result in an overall improved result for a former winner of the IBAL league.

N4 Approach: Grade B+. (from Newtown Forbes to Charlotte Brooke Roundabout) The overall impression created along this route was generally quite a good one with road surface / markings / signage in good order and an abundance of greenery at Charlotte Brooke roundabout. There were too many random food related items for the top litter grade – with a little extra care and attention this could easily be achieved.

R198 Arvagh Approach Road: Grade B. Footpaths / verges were well maintained along this busy approach road. Litter items included plastic bottles, mineral cans, fast-food wrappers, plastic bags, tissue, domestic plastic containers and an abandoned hub cap. No one item was particularly heavy, just a general presence.

Clonbalt Woods / Hazel Grove: Grade A. Attractive entrance signage, nestled amongst half a dozen trees create a lovely first impression in this residential development. The overall impression was a very good one with communal grass spaces / planting in good order and a virtual absence of litter throughout.

R194 Granard Approach: Grade A. Generally, this was a well-maintained route (apart from a recessed area with several potholes). Apart from a couple of very random items, there was a complete absence of litter throughout.

IDA & Templemichael Business Park: Grade B. The individual premises appeared to be well maintained and in good order but there was a definite food related litter presence e.g. plastic bottles, mineral cans, fast-food wrappers, plastic wrapping, along with a bag of household waste. There were no visible litter bins / litter awareness notices. There didn't appear to be a through road in the business park so the litter must be coming from the users of same.

Templemichael College: Grade A. A freshly presented and well-maintained environment, set in mature grounds. All visible aspects were in very good order and there was barely any litter to be seen throughout.

Longford Shopping Centre: Grade B. The stone planter beds with lovely low-lying planting set in pebbles looked very well. Paving to the front of the stores were in good order. The remainder of the centre didn't appear as well presented / maintained with the planted areas overgrown with dock weeds and a general litter presence throughout – mostly food related items, cardboard boxes and significant cigarette butt presence.

Longford Shopping Centre Car Park: Grade B. This Longford County Council Car park was well presented with nice grass / tree planting. All paving / road surfaces were in good order. There was a very wide variety of litter, mostly casually dropped food related items and some dog fouling.

'Bring Facility' / Recycle Area: Grade A. This small facility got the top litter grade, but only just. It was generally freshly presented (bar one unit) with signage associated with the usage of same in good order. If there was any more broken glass (at the base of the units) and cardboard boxes, this would have been downgraded. A great initiative at this facility was the movement and sensor which thanks for recycling and advises taking one's bags and boxes away.

Harbour Point - Residential: Grade C. This was by far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Longford. There was a very obvious mineral can, plastic bottle, sweet paper, fast-food wrapper and alcohol can presence, many of which were strewn across the lush grass area.