

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

There were just four sites out of ten which got the top litter grade – if some of the many moderately littered sites were improved, this could improve Buncrana's overall ranking e.g. Aldi and the Main Street. It was disappointing that the lovely 'Historical Quarter' scored poorly, primarily (but not solely) due to the very significant levels of dog fouling.

Railway Road – approach: Grade B+. (speed limit signs in to roundabout at Fire Station) Attractive 'Welcome to Buncrana' roundabout with sculpture and colourful planting. Road surface / markings / signage were in good order and the hedges / planting were well tended. There were too many food related items for the top litter grade.

Millfield Crescent and Grove: Grade B+. The individual properties were well tended, clean and tidy. A lovely feature was the wooden picnic table – in good condition. The residential area of Millfield Crescent / Grove was let down by a variety of food related items, along with a cardboard carton and a large piece of green plastic – the latter was in a heavily weeded / overgrown corner location.

Milltown Approach Road: Grade A. All was in good order along this rural approach route into Buncrana – there were no visible litter issues. The overall impression was a clean, tidy and welcoming one.

Muff Road / Hill Head Road Approach: Grade A. (from Crossroads with Artaravan Road into junction with Hillcrest) This narrow route, seemingly unsuitable for heavy vehicles, was excellent with regards to litter. All was in good order, creating a welcoming approach to the town.

Buncrana Shopping Centre – Aldi: Grade B+. The entrance and general impression was a good one with the planted shrubbery a welcome feature. The latter is where the litter was to be found – a more thorough approach to cleaning could easily rectify this.

Deposit Return Scheme – Aldi: Grade A. This 'stand alone' feature, located within the car park, was freshly presented and very much deserving of the top litter grade. Signage indicates 'Need assistance? Please contact a staff member'.

St. Mura's School: Grade A. All appeared in good order within the grounds of this 'olde' style school building in mature grounds. There was no visible litter.

'Historical Quarter': Grade C. Detailed and colourful signage 'Discover Buncrana's Historical Quarter' was in good condition. The colourful planter boxes and 'Mini Bee Garden' were lovely features. Much of the area presented well but there was a very heavy dog fouling presence, very much ruining the enjoyment for many. Unfortunately, the bright dog fouling signage, asking the public to help stop diseases and keep children / workers / volunteers safe, is not having the desired effect. Neither is the separate dog fouling signage designed by 11-year-old child. Other litter items were food related.

Buncrana Ferry Port: Grade C. The colourful visitor information signage was in good condition. Much of the port environment presented well, with a colourful wall mural. The area was let down by the accumulations of debris / litter associated with some boat works. Hopefully this is an 'easy fix' and a once off and doesn't attract more litter.

Main Street: Grade B. The wide paving, seating, tree planting, colourful flowerpots, bollards, and streetlamps were in good condition along the Main Street. Properties were well-tended, and the overall impression was a welcoming one. There were too many food related items, cigarette butts and dog fouling for the top litter grade.