

**North Inner City Dublin: 38<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.**

This is among the best results for North Inner City Dublin, with just two litter blackspots and eight sites classed as moderately littered. Significant improvements over the years were noted at Ballybough Road and Sheriff Street Upper – the latter has been transformed over the last decade. Construction continues apace between Sheriff Street Upper and the Liffey, resulted in some 'newly' created pedestrianised zones e.g. The Landings which have been very attractively laid out with wonderful paving and planting. The small park beside Spencer Dock LUAS was very much deserving of the top litter grade, as was Mountjoy Square Park. Some residential areas remained heavily littered e.g. Sherrard Street Upper, Summerhill and Summerhill Parade – these have all been cited in previous IBAL surveys. By far the two most heavily littered sites weren't just littered but subject to long term abuse and neglect – a Corner site on Ossary Road, by West Road and a site beside Canal / beneath Railway at North Strand Bridge – Ossary Road – where does responsibility for these sites lie?

As a general note, there appeared to be increased dog fouling awareness / provision of 'poop and scoop' facilities throughout North Inner City Dublin. Some of the dog fouling notices, were art works, produced by young children – a great idea to include them in such an activity. A recent addition to Killarney Street is the 'Dog Toilet' – a pilot project.

**Canal Walk – Spencer Dock: Grade B.** (From Samuel Beckett Bridge to junction with Sheriff Street, Upper). A lovely waterside environment with freshly cut grass and features in very good condition e.g. life-belts / seating / signage / street bins etc. This area was virtually spotless. The only visible litter was in the water, at Spencer Dock Lock. Later in the afternoon, there was a Clean Coast Corporate CSR taking place!

**Sheriff Street, Upper: Grade A.** What an extraordinary transformation has taken place over the last decade! The road is unrecognisable. Development continues. A recent addition is the Premier Inn Hotel, with tiny, planted area to the front. Overall, the paving, streetscape, tree planting etc. has been much enhanced and now includes seating dotted sporadically. Is this the first time that Sheriff Street Upper has got Grade A? I think so. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout the long stretch of road.

**Point Plaza: Grade A.** An absolutely spotless / pristine environment with all aspects in very good condition e.g. seating, stainless steel litter bins, bicycle parking, tree planting etc. Attractive paving throughout.

**The Landings / Slate Street / Fisher Lane: Grade A.** An exceptionally pristine pedestrianised business district, with a mix of offices and apartments. Area was enhanced with lovely wooden seating, attractive planting, and geometric paving pattern. The 'rules' of the area include 'No Smoking / No Vaping'. There was a complete absence of litter throughout. Security guard patrolling.

**Bring Facility, East Road: Grade B.** On first impressions, all seemed fine at this brightly painted facility. The facility / immediate area were let down by bag of rubbish and various miscellaneous items on top of the 'Bring' units. Also, a discarded mattress close by.

**New Wapping Street: Residential -: Grade A.** No road signage at junction with Sheriff Street Upper - across from East Road. A mix of older terraced homes along one side and contemporary developments on remainder and opposite side of the road. There was lovely planting / trees throughout. This residential area was very good with regards to litter.

**LUAS - Spencer Dock: Grade A.** All aspects of this facility were in excellent condition. It was spotless.

**Park, beside Spencer Dock LUAS: Grade A.** A small 'green space' with lunchtime market being dismantled at time of visit. Area enhanced by two 'Bugs & Bees Hotels' and nice planting. Apart from cigarette butts at the base of the seat, it was excellent with regards to litter. Perhaps provision of butt / ashtrays at the seating might address this issue or notification reminding the public that cigarette butts are litter?

**Sheriff Street Park / Crinian Park: Grade B+.** A large expanse of continuous park space, seemingly with separate names, running from Guild Street to Commons Street. For the visitor, it's difficult to know where one ends and the other begins, particularly as substantial chunk of park space remains closed from previous construction works - Most of the litter, (mainly food related items) was in this area. When will this area be returned to the locals? The playground equipment was of lovely wood, albeit with some missing swings.

**Sheriff St. Lower- beside Sheriff St. Power Station: Grade B.** Pavements along this residential stretch were not as heavily littered as previous surveys but still has a somewhat littered appearance. Area was characterised by very heavy cigarette butt presence, particularly directly outside the numerous houses. Lower levels of sweet papers and fast-food litter were trapped between / beneath the parked cars.

**Sherrard Street Upper: Grade C.** The side of the road with the Dublin Bike station was generally fine. It was the opposite side of the road where all the litter / dumping lay. Contents of black sacks had been ripped open (most likely be wildlife) and the contents strewn about. Other loose litter items were very pronounced, much of it seemingly domestic rubbish, based on the contents.

**North Circular Road: Grade B.** (from junction of Sherrard Street to Summerhill). North Circular Road was certainly not as heavily littered as it has been on many many previous IBAL visits - this time around there weren't the high numbers of bags of rubbish at the base of trees. Loose litter items were mainly food related (plastic bottles, coffee cups, mineral cans, fast-food wrappers and sweet papers), along with some dog fouling and significant quantities of cigarette butts.

**Sean O'Casey Avenue: Grade B.** This residential development has been mixed in terms of litter over the last few years. This time around it was not as heavily littered as previous IBAL surveys but there was a definite litter presence throughout, mostly food related, along with very heavy levels of cigarette butts.

**Summerhill Parade: Grade C.** On first impression, coming from the junction with North Circular Road, there were light, loose levels of litter. However, the overall litter grade was brought down by the sacks of rubbish placed right beneath the 'No Dumping' signage at the end of the terrace, at the junction with the canal.

**Killarney Street: Grade B+.** Attractive planting at junction with Five Lamps and at the other end outside the Citizens Advice Offices create a great first impression along this road. Much of the area presented very well but it was let down by a few cardboard boxes, some food related and very significant cigarette butt presence. Clearly a careful eye is kept on the derelict building at corner of Buckingham Street Lower as there was no litter directly associated with it. A recent addition to Killarney Street is the 'Dog Toilet' – a pilot project.

**Buckingham Street, Upper: Grade B.** Buckingham Street Upper was no longer subject to the vast quantities of black sacks at the base of the trees - this time around, there was just one bag and some occasional loose food related items and significant cigarette butts. There were plenty of dog fouling signs throughout.

**Summerhill: Grade C.** The area directly in front of Summerhill Primary Care Centre was freshly presented with attractive planting and litter free. The areas in front of the various residential units were frequently littered, not just loose litter but bags of rubbish, along both sides of the road. The contents of some had been strewn about the pavements. Cigarette butts were also very pronounced, and graffiti was very much a feature.

**Gardiner Street, Upper: Grade C.** Graffiti was pronounced on many different surfaces, including An Post letter box. Cigarette butt levels were very high throughout. As well as loose food related litter items and dog fouling, there were bags of rubbish, some seemingly left for collection with appropriate signage, but not all. An area directly outside DID Electric had small electrical items discarded, some of them appeared to be there quite some time - quite likely to encourage dumping of further items.

**Mountjoy Square Park: Grade A.** A lovely city centre park environment which has been very well presented and maintained. All aspects were in very good condition e.g. seating, playground equipment, PE equipment, litter bins etc. This site was very much deserving of the top litter grade. It was excellent with regards to litter.

**Ballybough Road: Grade A.** (nb See separate survey location for series of basements) The overall impression along this busy route was a very good one and certainly much improved compared to a number of years ago. There was attractive 'Welcome to Ballybough' signage, along with colourful planting. The large planter boxes looked very well. The large colourful mural at the boarded-up site appears to be a hive of activity with construction underway behind it. Traffic light box art was a lovely feature. Well done on all the local initiatives which have been taking place over a number of years.

**Basements: 62-65 Ballybough Road: Grade C.** This series of basements was highlighted in previous IBAL surveys - there was no noticeable improvements. Similar sites in Limerick City are being addressed by the local authority who have placed signage to the effect: "Please be advised to cease holding and storing all litter determined to be in the basement at xxx to an appropriate licenced or permitted facility within 14 DAYS of the date of service of this notice. Submit receipts and dockets from the authorised waste collectors in respect of all litter. Etc... Dated March 2024.

**Aldborough Place: Grade C.** The only fresh-looking element of this short cul-de-sac laneway is the fairly recent street signage. The remainder of the site presented poorly, with heavy levels of graffiti on all manner of surfaces and significant quantities of litter at the base of grey / green fencing. As well as food related litter, there was a car wheel, black sack and other miscellaneous items. The overall impression was of a neglected and abused environment.

**Corner site on Ossary Road, by West Road: Grade D.** One of just two sites in North Inner City Dublin which was not just heavily littered but subject to significant dumping. Sacks and bags of rubbish had been left on the pavement, not behind the fencing. There were also loose miscellaneous items. Much of it looked relatively 'long-lie'. A separate location on Ossary Road, right in front of the commercial premises was also subject to dumping - more sacks of rubbish.

**Basements at Vincent's Shop, Sean McDermott Street: Grade A.** The installation of the 'grills' is certainly having the desired effect as there was no litter at a site which had been heavily littered in previous IBAL Surveys.

**Site beside Canal / beneath Railway at North Strand Bridge – Ossary Road: Grade D.** The area beneath the colourful pedestrian section of the bridge was heavily littered with loose food items, along with tents and large pieces of plastic piping. It's difficult to see the boundary for the site but it would seem to extend to an area which was housing construction / building equipment - this area presented poorly too.