

**Wexford: 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.**

**While there were some excellent sites in Wexford, clearly, it's a town of contrasts. Top ranking sites included South Main Street (exceptionally clear of litter), the Riverwalk / Promenade (a wonderful waterside amenity which has been attractively laid out and very well maintained), Wexford Arts Centre / Environs (a lovely building with planting and 1916 – 2016 Memorial Garden beside it) and the three approach routes. In sharp contrast was Ropewalk Car Park and the Bring Facility, Tesco extra – the level of dumping at this site was monumental.**

**Wexford Train Station: Grade A.** The front of the station presented well, with two large terracotta planter boxes used to good effect. The litter bins were in good condition. Station was closed at time of survey but the platform area, visible through the fence, didn't seem to have any litter. Seating was freshly presented. Perhaps a cigarette butt notice at the 'covered' shelter area would reduce the presence of same? Where does responsibility for cleaning the area behind the green fence, beside Railway Station Substation? While not part of the station site, it had an accumulation of larger items – this will only build-up further if not addressed.

**Aldi Deposit Return Scheme – R730 direction of Rosslare: Grade A.** This indoor facility was absolutely spotless.

**Approach from direction of New Ross Roundabout: Grade A.** Area surveyed was from Wexford Hospital. The overall impression created along this busy route was a very good one with minimal visible litter items.

**South Main Street: Grade A.** An exceptionally clean main shopping street, much of which was attractively pedestrianised. The area was served by a mix of regular street bins and the opportunity to 'separate' waste. Significant works have been undertaken to minimise the visual impact of the closed down / vacant premises, of which there were plenty. Other towns around Ireland could certainly learn from Wexford.

**Wexford Arts Centre / Environs: Grade A.** The recent extension to the original building is lovely and has been further enhanced by 'soft' planting / attractive paving. The adjoining 1916 – 2016 memorial / seating area was in excellent condition. There was a complete absence of litter throughout this area.

**Ropewalk Car Park: Grade C.** The signage at the gate entrance was soiled, very much creating the scene of what lies within the car park. The cover of an electricity / gas type box was completely removed and broken at the base. It would seem that any cleaning regime is solely dealing with the main car park surface area as this was fine. The perimeter had an abundance of miscellaneous items e.g. wiring / street cone / mattress, food related items and alcohol cans / bottles. The former 'ticket hut' was boarded up, presenting poorly, along with the disused ticket machines. The overall impression was a very poor one.

**Wexford Promenade / Quay: Grade A.** An extensive area was surveyed, from the bridge to and including the 'pier' at the former Tourist Office building. This is a lovely riverside environment which has been attractively laid out with tree planting / seating / bicycle parking etc. A very recent addition are the colourful mosaics close to former Tourist Office – this is a lovely Tidy Towns initiative. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order. Apart from the occasional dog fouling, it was spotless.

**Bring Facility, Tesco extra: Grade D.** The level of dumping at this facility was monumental. The site was surveyed at approximately 10.30am – it's unlikely that it got into this state so early in the day. Vast quantities of clothing / duvets / pillows / children's toys etc. had been dumped.

**Gorey Approach Road: Grade A.** (From car dealerships to the Bridge) All in good order along this approach. No visible litter issues.

**Rosslare Approach Road: Grade A.** A freshly presented approach route with a cycle path, which suddenly disappears. Closer to the town centre, opposite the petrol station, there was an attractively landscaped area with seating / tree planting. All was in very good order.