

## An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Survey 2, 2024

**Buncrana: Clean to European Norms. 18<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed.**

**A very good result for Buncrana with six top-ranking sites and no heavily littered ones. Swan Park deserves a special mention – it is a superb waterside amenity which has been exceptionally well presented and maintained, sensitive to the local environment. Festival Park is also worthy of a mention – it was spotless throughout, a credit to the users and those responsible for the maintenance of same. All aspects of the residential area of Castle Park were in very good order.**

**R238 Clonmanny Road: Grade A.** A freshly presented route with attractive low-lying planting beside the pavement. Overall impression was a very good one and excellent with regards to litter.

**L1721 Illies Road: Grade B+.** A welcoming and generally well-tended approach to Buncrana. This route just missed the top litter grade – there were too many small items, mostly food related, and cigarette butts.

**L1641: Grade B+.** A well-presented and tended route, with long grass in some verges. Vegetation growth was heavy, somewhat obscuring the road signage at one location. There were too many scattered items of food related litter for the top litter grade.

**Festival Park: Grade A.** All elements of this beautifully located park environment, including extensive play equipment / basketball court / grass area were in very good condition. It was spotless throughout – a credit to the users and those responsible for the maintenance of same.

**Swan Park: Grade A.** A wonderful riverside park / amenity which was not just excellent with regards to litter, but all aspects were in excellent order e.g. signage, seating, litter bins, picnic tables etc. A new lease of life has been given to some fallen / felled tree trunks – wooden sculptures. Plastic bottles have been re-purposed as part of a 'Plastic Warriors' / 'Young Social Innovators' campaign – used a holder for birdfeed.

**Recycle Bank, SuperValu: Grade A.** The Deposit Return Scheme is positioned right beside the Recycle Facility, the latter is beside commercial cardboard storage area – perhaps there could / should be better delineation between the two? The recycle bin units and associated signage were in very good condition with a virtual absence of litter.

**Castle Park: Grade A.** The residential area of Castle Park was very much deserving of the top litter grade. All aspects were in very good order and there was an absence of litter throughout.

**Buncrana Court House: Grade A.** This building features on the '*Buncrana Heritage Trail* with large signage attached to the railings. 'Colourful hanging baskets were a welcome feature along the somewhat 'tired' looking railings. This was not a littered site, but the doors / walls looked in need of some attention.

**Main Street: Grade B.** Paving / litter bins / tree planting / seating etc were in good order and street was further enhanced by abundant and colourful hanging baskets at a few premises. There were too many loose litter items and dog fouling for the top litter grade.

**Milltown Business Park: Grade B+.** A generally freshly presented and maintained business environment. Not much effort is required for the top litter grade.