

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

Drogheda: Moderately Littered. 26th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed.

With seven top ranking sites, a town would normally expect to score quite highly in the league. However, the presence of one litter blackspot and two significantly littered sites bring down the overall ranking. Top-ranking sites included residential area of Oaklawns, Car Park at Trinity Street, Westgate Ward and West Street – the latter was a freshly presented town centre environment. By far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Drogheda was an area to the rear of AIB Shop Street, at Promenade – it wasn't just littered but subjected to abuse and neglect.

Rathmullen Approach Road: Grade A. This approach route was very much deserving of the top litter grade – there were not litter issues throughout. Generally, it presented well, but part of a wooden fence was broken.

Rampart Green: Grade A. This residential area was exceptionally freshly presented and maintained. It was excellent with regards to litter. All aspects were in very good order.

Basements on St. Laurence Street: Grade C. Many of the basements (both a mix of commercial and residential premises) were heavily littered, not just food related but other larger items e.g. street cone / discarded children's pram and other miscellaneous items. Some had significant weed growth in terms of size of same. The overall impression was a very poor one and only likely to deteriorate further if not addressed.

West Street: Grade A. A freshly presented town centre environment with paving, planter boxes, hanging baskets, out-door seating, attractive street lamps etc. in very good condition. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout.

Westgate Ward: Grade A. (between George's Street and Father Connolly Way) Clearly a careful eye is kept on the various derelict / boarded up premises as there was no litter directly associated with same. The installation of the large street planters are a great addition and distraction.

Hill of Rath Roundabout to Rosehall Roundabout: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter along this heavily trafficked route, set in an abundance of lush planting. Signage: *Litter Louts – Don't Litter Louth*

Car Park at Trinity Street: Grade A. This car park was excellent with regards to litter – very much deserving of the top litter grade. Signage in the immediate vicinity was freshly presented and in good order.

Bring Centre, Trinity Street: Grade C+. The overall impression created was a poor one with bags / cardboard stuffed between the units, broken glass and significant amount of bottle tops. Hard sitting signage at this facility included: *Why are you dumping rubbish ? I'm a jerk / I don't care about this community / I think other people should pay to clean up after me. Don't be a tosser, Dispose of your rubbish responsibly!*

Oaklawns: Grade A. There were no litter issues throughout this residential development – communal grass area was in good order. Overall impression was a very positive one.

Area to the rear of AIB Shop Street, at Promenade: Grade D. There were significant litter issues, both regular food / alcohol related and other larger items e.g. broken picnic chair / suitcase / sleeping bags / clothing and other miscellaneous items. Much of it appeared 'long-lie' indicating a lack of thorough cleaning for quite some time.