

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

Longford: Clean to European Norms. 23rd out of 40 towns / cities surveyed.

A very good result for Longford, one of the best in a long number of years with over half of the survey sites getting the top litter grade. Examples of these included Camlin River Walk, Longford Court House and Mall Amenity Park – the latter is a wonderful park environment with an extensive range of facilities, all in very good order. The residential area of Harbour Point was improved on previous visit, albeit still somewhat littered.

R393 Approach Road: Grade A. (from Padraic Colum Roundabout in to golf club entrance). A clean and litter free approach to Longford town with all aspects in good order e.g. road surface, markings and signage, with lovely lush vegetation at Padraic Colum Roundabout.

R393 Ardagh Approach Road: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter along this somewhat more rural route, set in mature planting. Overall impression was a good one.

Deposit Return Scheme – Lidl: Grade A. All was in good order at this 'in-store' facility, with a dedicated area for any surplus fluids.

Lidl: Grade B+. A freshly presented shopping environment with attractive surroundings to the store and colourful low-lying planting around the perimeter. Litter bin was in good condition. This site just missed the top litter grade, not much effort required to attain it.

Harbour Point: Grade B. While there was an improvement noted on previous IBAL visit, there were still food related litter items scattered on the grass / in the shrubbery. The overall presentation of the area was good.

Longford Court House: Grade A. The built environment was freshly presented with railings, paving etc. in very good condition. Colourful planting in the immediate vicinity is a welcome feature. There didn't appear to be any litter bins / cigarette butt disposal unit, perhaps the 'bucket' at building entrance is a receptacle for same?

Camlin River Walk: Grade B+. A lovely riverside environment with signage, paving, railings etc. in good condition. The overall impression with regards to litter was generally quite good but there were too many scattered items e.g. fast-food wrappers and mineral cans for the top litter grade.

Mall Amenity Park: Grade A. A wonderful expanse of park land with plenty of open space throughout and ducks ambling along the grass. Wooden play equipment, signage, dog fouling facilities, litter bins etc. were in very good condition and the area was excellent with regards to litter – all very fitting for a 'Green Flag Award' Park.

Bridgeway Business Park: Grade C. The majority of the communal areas of this business park were well presented with individual premises in good order. However, there was one isolated area (to the rear of Reilly Brothers premises) which wasn't just littered but dumped upon – washing machine / old piping and various other miscellaneous items – this area is likely to attract similar behaviour if not addressed.

N63 Approach: Grade A. An exceptionally freshly presented route with bicycle path and fresh looking paving. The whole area looked very well, with an absence of litter throughout.