

## **An Taisce Report - IBAL Anti-Litter League, Survey 1, 2025**

**Cavan: 19<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.**

There were no heavily littered sites in Cavan. While the town may not have had as many top-ranking sites as in previous IBAL surveys, the remainder either just missed the top grade or were moderately littered. The residential area of Ardkeen had been heavily littered in previous IBAL surveys – this time around there was a notable improvement, albeit still a litter presence. Top ranking sites included Cavan Shopping Centre, Deposit Return Scheme at Tesco and Cavan Council Offices / Library environs – the latter was particularly freshly presented and maintained with some lovely features.

**R935 Approach: Grade B+.** (in to junction with R212) (**Ballinagh**) Much of this route was freshly presented with individual premises in good order and road surface / markings / signage in good order. Loose litter items on the pavement were low, but there was a definite presence at the base of some shrubbery – a more thorough approach to cleaning could solve this and ideally prevent a further build up.

**R212 Approach: Grade A.** (up to Roundabout at Cockhill) An exceptionally clean road leading into Cavan with only one coffee cup visible along the stretch surveyed. The overall impression was excellent.

**Cavan Shopping Centre: Grade A.** A very freshly presented shopping centre / retail environment with some nice planting boxes directly outside one of the sports outlets. All was in good order and this site was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

**Ardkeen: Grade B.** The levels of litter at this residential area were considerably less than previous IBAL surveys. Main items this time around were food related (mineral cans, fast-food wrappers, sweet wrappers) and cigarette butts – scattered on the grass and pavement. An ‘anti-dumping’ site was at a corner site. A lovely feature was the wooden seating, combined with the wooden planter boxes at either end.

**Co Cavan Swimming Pool / Leisure: Grade B.** The built environment at this large complex was freshly presented with most of the areas in good condition. A wide variety of litter was present, primarily food related, along with cigarette butts, which have been casually discarded along pathways / in the grass / at base of shrubbery. There didn’t appear to be any visible litter bins /cigarette disposal facilities / litter awareness notices.

**Church Street / Main Street: Grade B.** As well as a wide variety of food and cigarette related litter, tissues and cardboard were also present along this stretch of street. Nearly all of the benches / seating areas had litter in the immediate vicinity.

**Cavan Bring Centre, Car Park: Grade B.** There was a slight drop at this facility, which has typically scored very well over the last number of years. A variety of items, some of which were not ‘recyclable’ were on the ground / stuffed between the recycle units e.g. empty tin of paint, cardboard box, some clothing items, plastic dustpan and broken glass.

**Deposit Return Facility, Tesco: Grade A.** There was a complete absence of litter at this small ‘in-store’ facility.

**Cavan Library and Council Offices Environs: Grade A.** This very attractive amenity was very much deserving of the top litter grade. Not only was it excellent with regards to litter but it was enhanced by ‘Cavan Tidy Towns’ planting, wooden seating, sculpture and clear and freshly presented signage associated with the facilities provided.

**R188 Approach Road: Grade B+.** This route just missed the top litter grade. There were too many loose food related items, cigarette butts / wrappers and plastic ties on poles – with a little extra care and attention this could get the top litter grade.