

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

**Dundalk: 25<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms.**

**There has been a steady improvement in Dundalk, compared to just a few short years ago when it was near the foot of the rankings. Half the sites surveyed were top-ranking sites and none was very heavily littered. Church Street was very much deserving of the top litter grade, as was the residential area of Racecourse Meadows and Clanbrassil Street – enhancement works have taken place, and it looked very well. While there was some improvement noted at Riverbank at Castletown River Bridge, there was still a definite litter presence and Laneway at ‘ToolFix’, on Dublin Road presents poorly.**

**Laneway at ‘ToolFix’, on Dublin Road: Grade C.** This site presents very poorly with not just casual litter but industrial waste plastic wrapping and other miscellaneous items. An overflowing wheely bin at an adjacent building further contributes to the problem. This is likely to deteriorate further, if not addressed.

**Lidl (N52): Grade A.** The overall impression created at this site was a positive one with shrubs / grasslands in good order. Chewing gum was pronounced at the base of the litter bin at store entrance. Trolley bays were litter free and remained of area looked well.

**Riverbank at Castletown River Bridge: Grade C+.** An improvement was noted at this site, albeit there was still a pronounced litter presence, primarily plastic bottles and mineral cans, with lower levels of sweet wrappers. Perhaps the plastic bottles / cans pre-date the Deposit Return Scheme?

**N52 Newry Approach: Grade A.** A freshly presented route with road surface / markings / signage in good order. Grasslands had recently been attended. There were no visible litter issues, and this route created a positive first impression of Dundalk.

**Racecourse Meadows: Grade A.** This very new residential development is partially occupied and still under construction. It was freshly presented, with a virtual absence of litter throughout. There were no obvious litter issues at the area still under construction.

**Public Park at Maxwells Row: Grade B+.** The park space at Maxwells Row just missed the top litter grade. Loose litter items (sweet wrappers, fast-food wrappers, alcohol wrappers) took away speckled the pathway. The base of the trees had been enhanced with colourful planters. With a little extra effort, this could be top ranking.

**Church Street: Grade A.** An air of rejuvenation prevailed along Church Street with lovely paving, on-street planters, seating and sculptures – all looked very well. There was a complete absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

**Basements of Nos. 18 / 17 / 16 Francis Street: Grade C+.** As well as casually discarded food related litter, miscellaneous items had begun to accumulate. If the litter remains unattended, it's likely to attract further littering.

**Clanbrassil Street: Grade A.** The seemingly recently laid paving looked very well, and area was enhanced by an abundance of colourful low-lying planting at the base of the trees. Litter bins and wooden seating were freshly presented. Area was well served by plenty of litter bins. Overall, Clanbrassil Street was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

**Laneway, visible from Clanbrassil Street: Grade B+ (leading to Cost Cutters Car Park)** A much improved site compared to previous IBAL surveys – this time around, it just missed the top litter grade.