

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

Leixlip: 4th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

An excellent result for Leixlip on its return to the League. Seven out of the ten sites surveyed received the top litter grade and the remainder were just shy of same. Top ranking sites included the Main Street, Rye River Walk / Biodiversity Park, Leixlip Amenities Sports Centre and Town Centre Car Park. A general observation - there was plenty of evidence of Tidy Towns activities throughout Leixlip, not just at specific sites surveyed but often travelling in between sites, particularly planter boxes / painting of electricity type boxes, a common feature throughout Leixlip.

Approach from N4 via R148 / Leixlip Road: Grade A. All was in good order along this approach with 'The Salmon Leap' brightly painted and adorned with colourful planting. There were no visible litter issues.

Main Street: Grade A. Clearly a careful eye is kept on the closed down / vacant / derelict premises as there was no litter directly associated with them. Apart from an obvious cigarette butt presence outside one pub, the remainder of the street was spotless. A large mural on the gable end of 'Diep' celebrates 60 years of Leixlip Tidy Towns.

Deposit Return Scheme at Aldi: Grade A. There was a complete absence of litter at this 'in-store' facility. There was a built-in feature for any 'reject' items. The area immediately surrounding was spotless.

Bring Facility, Lidl: Grade B. Kildare Co Co signage associated with the use of the facility included messaging reminding users to 'Mind Your Mental Health' by drinking less with associated QR Code. Individual signage on the recycle units was somewhat mixed, a few were old / torn looking. Most of the area to the front of the bin units was fine but it was impossible to ignore the items at the base of the clothing units and the black sack to the left of the facility / random items in the gap between some of the bin units.

Confey Approach Road: Grade A. A lovely feature throughout Leixlip is the artwork on the traffic light boxes / electricity boxes - there was one such box just outside the vehicular entrance to the train station. The paving / grass area closer to the town presented well - this site was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

Town Centre Car Park: Grade A. All was in good order at this town centre, street level, car park. There was plenty of colourful visitor information e.g. Welcome to Leixlip / North Kildare Biodiversity / Welcome to North East Kildare - all signage was in very good order.

Rye Riverwalk / Biodiversity Park: Grade A. The abundance of birdsong walking along this route was wonderful - according to the Merlin Bird App, up to 5 birds could be heard at any one time! Tidy Towns project sponsored by Intel, with plenty of environmental information and attractive tree naming signage; Use of QR codes for further information. Attractive wooden picnic tables with built in chess board, and plenty of seating along the path. The whole area was excellent with regards to litter.

Leixlip Amenities Sports Centre: Grade A. This facility, home to a variety of sports facilities, along with Leixlip Men's Shed, was very much deserving of the top litter grade. All aspects of it were in very good order, with no visible litter issues throughout the external public areas.

Louisa Bridge Train Station – Leixlip: Grade B+. The pedestrian entrance to the station was freshly presented, with no litter issues and the station platforms were well served by plenty of litter bins - these were in good condition. Some litter, mostly food related, was visible along the vehicular access to the station and at the base of an overflowing industrial bin.

Maynooth Approach Road: Grade B+. Colourful features included the 'Welcome to Leixlip' signage with Tidy Towns notice of upcoming National Spring Clean on Good Friday. The overall impression created along this road was generally a good one, but there were too many food related items close to the 'Charging Seat' on the left hand side and at the bus stops on either side of the road, for the top litter grade.