

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

Longford: 30th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered.

While there was just one heavily littered site, it was the shortage top ranking sites which prevented Longford from retaining clean status. The Bring Facility was very much deserving of the top litter, not just clear of litter but freshly presented and well maintained. Market Square has been attractively presented and laid out but was let down by a very obvious casually discarded litter presence. By far the most heavily littered site surveyed was Congress Terrace / Ward's Terrace.

R198 Approach Road: Grade A. (from Lisbrack Road junction in to St. John's) The paving, bicycle path and road surface were particularly freshly presented along this route. There were no visible litter issues associated with the road works. Longford Tidy Towns structure doubled up as a planter box on top of a litter bin.

Slí and Sláinte Mall Walk: Grade B. This riverside walkway was moderately littered, primarily within the water, but not exclusively. Main items were food related e.g. sweet wrappers and plastic bottles, along with plastic bags and cigarette butts / cartons. A couple of footballs had made their way into the water. The pathway is quite narrow, with a high wall on one side, resulting in a 'blind corner' i.e. difficult to see if anybody is coming around the corner.

Great Water Street Car Park: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter in this town centre car park. Signage associated with the use of same was freshly presented. Graffiti was a feature along one wall.

Park Road / Park Drive: Grade B+. This road just missed the top litter grade. Much of this route presented well with regards to litter but there were too many small items at the base of wooden fencing and some plastic wrapping along the grass for the top litter grade.

Bring / Recycle Facility: Grade A. An exceptionally freshly presented and maintained Bring Facility with the bin units in excellent order. Signage attached to the rear wall reminds users that 'You have done the right thing so far' and asks them to 'Please Finish the Job and take your bags / cardboard boxes with you.' There were no items stuffed between / behind the units, as so often happens at such facilities. Well done to all concerned.

Market Square: Grade B. This is a relatively newly presented town centre environment with attractive raised bedding and wooden seating – these were in very good order. However, there was a definite litter presence, primarily food related, but considerable butt presence, both within the planting and near the seating. There didn't appear to be any litter bins / butt disposal facilities / litter awareness notices.

Harbour Point: Grade B. Litter levels at this residential area were considerably lower than previous IBAL surveys. The overall impression was much improved.

Deposit Return Facility, Aldi: Grade B. This 'stand-alone' facility provided a 'reject' items option and yet there was a very obviously litter presence on the ground. The presence of some items may well attract further littering.

Congress Terrace / Ward's Terrace: Grade C. A very mixed site, with the Congress Terrace side presenting well with regards to litter. Much of Ward's Terrace side was fine but there were a number of boarded up / barricaded houses (with gardens) which were heavily littered – this stretch is seriously undermining those properties which are well tended on both sides. These will only attract further litter, if not addressed.

Bridgeway Business Park: Grade B. While the individual premises were generally well tended, it was the litter presence in the open spaces which brought down the overall litter grade – along the grass, on the pavement. One area which was heavily overgrown had plastic wrapping trapped within.

N63 Approach Road: Grade B. The individual properties were well presented along this route, and overall impression was quite good but there were too many small food related items (coffee cups, plastic bags and sweet wrappers) for the top litter grade – they were on the pavement and grass area, particularly near the planting beside the green electricity box.