

Monaghan: 5th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.

Another excellent result for Monaghan, one of its best ever and considerably better than just a few short years ago. There were eight top ranking sites, one of the highest in the country. These included Monaghan Leisure Complex, Peter's Lake and Park (and adjoining Recycle Facility). Monaghan County Museum / Library / Council offices was an exceptionally freshly presented and maintained environment with all aspects in very good order and a complete absence of litter throughout. The only heavily littered site was at Monaghan Business Park.

N54 Approach Road: Grade A. (in to junction with R186 / Tydavnet Road). A clean and tidy approach to Monaghan town with properties in good order and a virtual absence of litter. Road surface / markings / signage were in good condition.

R186 Approach: Grade A. (to junction with N54). There were no visible litter issues along this route. A derelict house, albeit heavily overgrown, wasn't obviously littered.

Monaghan Leisure Complex & Play Ground: Grade A. Outdoor seating, bicycle parking, planted areas and entrance areas all create a very positive first impression of this facility – it was well presented and maintained with no litter issues throughout.

Deposit Return Scheme, Lidl: Grade A. There was a virtual absence of litter in the immediate vicinity of this Deposit Return Scheme.

Monaghan County Museum / Library / Council Offices: Grade A. An exceptionally freshly presented built environment with the surrounding areas in excellent condition. Seating, planting, paving and signage were all pristine. There was a complete absence of litter throughout.

Peter's Lake and Park: Grade A. This park and lake environment is just moments from the town centre and yet is an area of tranquillity and calm. Overall, it was very much deserving of the top litter grade.

Monaghan Business Park: Grade C. This was by far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Monaghan. It was a mixed site in terms of litter. The majority of the business park was freshly presented / well maintained, particularly around the Kingspan site – this was in excellent order. However, there was a variety of food related items, primarily coffee cups, fast-food wrappers and sweet papers, with lower amounts of plastic bottles, plastic bags and mineral cans within the shrubbery area planted along the entrance. Perhaps this area is difficult to access / doesn't comprise part of the cleaning regime.

Recycle Facility, Peter's Lake: Grade A. All was in good order at this small 'Bring Facility'. Recycle units were freshly presented and there were no litter issues of note.

R162 Approach: Grade A. (from junction with R188 in to traffic lights at Broad Road). There was a virtual absence of litter along this route. All elements were in good order.

Monaghan Retail Park: Grade B+. This large expanse of retail park just missed the top litter grade. The overall impression was a good one with low-lying planting, fresh looking paving, bicycle parking, stainless steel litter bins, wooden seating etc. in good order. As well as some food related items, cigarette butts / wrappers were present.