

## An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 1, 2018

**Mahon: 36<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Littered.**

**Mahon has failed to improve on its lowly ranking last year. Some of the sites in Mahon have the following listed: graffiti, weeds, poorly maintained shrubbery / grass, broken signage and derelict sites. There were slight improvements at Avenue de Rennes and The Maples, but there was still a very definite litter presence at both. Mahon Point Shopping Centre was immaculate and the recycle facility within was also top ranking. The most heavily littered site was Lakeland Crescent, a litter blackspot. Sean Cronin Park and Environs was heavily littered.**

**Avenue de Rennes: Grade C+.** While there is evidence of improvement in certain places most especially at the commercial centre, litter is still found throughout the area. There were heavy levels of sweet papers and fast-food wrappers with lower levels of a wide variety of other food related litter and some plastic ties on poles. The area was also characterised by graffiti, weeds, poorly maintained shrubbery and a substantial derelict site.

**Lakeland Crescent: Grade D.** A very poor site indeed. Very high levels of a wide variety of litter were strewn about.

**Mahon Drive: Grade B.** This area is in close proximity to the previous two sites but much cleaner. The litter was predominately in the first 20m as you enter this residential estate. The overall maintenance was poor with weed growth quite pronounced. One of the street signs was ¾ broken off. Two green electricity boxes had several incidents of graffiti.

**The Maples: Grade C+.** The residential area of 'The Maples' was a mixed site with some areas devoid of litter. Overall, there was a slight improvement but there were still heavy concentrations of litter next to St. Michael's Close. There were some 'Anti Littering' notices and one of these was broken.

**Sean Cronin Park and Environs: Grade C.** The grass had recently been cut along some parts of this park area but hadn't been removed. The stretch from Ringmahon Road to Aldi was heavily littered. Plastic bottles, cans and sweet papers were the most prominent litter items with lower levels of fast-food wrappers, plastic bags, glass bottles, dog fouling and cigarette butts.

**Mahon Point Shopping Centre: Grade A.** There is one word to describe Mahon Point Shopping Centre - immaculate. All aspects of the area surveyed were in excellent condition - paving, road surface, road signs, planting etc. Clearly it is a very well managed environment - the recycle facility within was surveyed as a separate site – this too was top ranking.

**Recycle Centre in Mahon Point Car Park: Grade A.** Another small recycle facility. The area contains only 7 bins - 4 for clothes and just 3 for glass. The area was spotless and the bins / signage were in very good condition.

**Skehard Road: Grade B.** This long road (with residential estates on either side of the road) was moderately littered with it most noticeable next to Sean Cronin Park and at the end of the road (Ringmahon) A noticeable feature along Skehard Road was the abandoned caravan at the side of the road.

**Ringmahon Rangers FC: Grade A.** This site was described as an oasis of cleanness in Mahon. Both inside and immediately outside the park / stadium was clean and the area was immaculately maintained. Well done management.

**The Line: Grade A.** 'The Line' is an excellent public pathway amenity for the people in Blackrock / Mahon. The area was exceptionally clean with regard to litter. The pathway was in good very good condition and there was plenty of substantial mature planting throughout. An orange bin looked broken.