

An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 2, 2018

Bray: Overall 2018 result: 27th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms

Bray has consistently retained its clean status without being able to eliminate certain heavily littered sites. The Main Street, Bray Civic Centre and Bray Promenade were all top ranking sites – they were not just good with regard to litter but were also very well presented and maintained. Litter problems persist at certain spots along Upper Dargle Road – this has been a problem site for a long number of years. Another heavily littered site was a miscellaneous building / site across from Bray DART Station – there were persistent litter problems, loose food related litter, throughout this site.

Herbert Road Approach: Grade A. A rural route, leading through a residential area closer to the town, Herbert Road creates a positive first impression of Bray. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

Bray Town Park: Grade A. This lovely amenity has been further enhanced with new seating throughout – this makes a big difference as the older seating was very 'tired'. The paving along the river side of the park was of a small pebble, sandy colour – it looked very well. Bray Town Park was excellent with regard to litter.

Upper Dargle Road: Grade C. There were loose items of food related litter on the path and road but it was the isolated pockets of litter which were responsible for the overall litter grade. All of these areas were on the left hand side as one comes in to Bray, not always visible to passing cars. One of these areas wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping e.g. mattress, children's play pen and other household items. The road signage was broken, half the sign was missing, at the junction of the Tavern Pub.

Bray Recycle Centre: Grade A. (Boghall Road) The overall presentation of this managed facility was much improved – for many previous IBAL surveys this facility had been a littered site. The presentation was also enhanced by colourful planting. The Community Garden is clearly a much cared for environment.

Herbert Road Car Park: Grade B+. The newly paved area of the car park was excellent with regard to overall presentation and litter. The older part of the car park was less fresh in appearance and this was the area which harboured some litter, most notably close to the pathway leading to the pedestrian entrance linking to the Main Street and in the low lying shrubbery close by.

Bray Promenade and Environs: Grade A. As with many previous IBAL litter surveys this was an excellent site. Not only was it very good with regard to litter but the whole environment has been very well presented and maintained – Esplanade Playground, bicycle parking, band-stand, PE Equipment etc were all in excellent order.

Main Street: Grade A. The Main Street in Bray was very clean throughout the entire length. For a main street it was exceptionally clean. The paving was particularly fresh in appearance. Seating, bins, signage etc. were all in very good order.

Miscellaneous site across the road from Bray DART Station: Grade C. This site expands over a large site and has plenty of 'No Littering' notices throughout – all to no avail. It was riddled with casually discarded food related litter, most notably coffee cups, plastic bottles and fast-food wrappers. Planning Application notices were being erected at time of survey so perhaps there will be some developments in the future.

Bray Civic Centre: Grade A. A pristine environment incorporating Bray Co Co Offices, Bray Court House, Mermaid Arts Centre etc. It has been very well maintained and there was a complete absence of litter throughout.

N11 / M11 Link Road from Donnybrook: Grade B+. The N11 stretch of road was generally good with regard to litter, a virtual absence on long stretches. Just after the roundabout for Shankill there were more obvious litter items, mostly plastic bottles. Road surface, signage and markings were excellent throughout.