

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

Cavan: Overall 2018 result: 19th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Clean to European Norms

Cavan is again to be applauded for consistently maintaining a level of cleanliness in the town. 70% of sites surveyed got the top litter grade and some of the best included Con Smith Park, Aldi (Dublin Road) and Cavan Co Co / Library / Court House / Tourist Office – the latter was exceptionally good with regard to presentation and maintenance. By far the most heavily littered site was the Recycle Facility at Multi-Storey Car Park – It wasn't just casually littered but subject to some dumping. Clearly this facility needs better management as it was also a poor site in the previous survey.

Cavan Co Co / Library / Court House / Tourist Office and Environs: Grade A. The whole umbrella under Cavan Co Co was in excellent order. The old Court House building was well preserved while next door the modern Library building was freshly presented with modern sculpture and seating to the front. The extensive car park to the rear was good with regard to litter and the Visitor Information notice board was in good condition.

Con Smith Park: Grade A. A variety of facilities are available within this park, including a 'Dementia Friendly Trail' and a 'Smoke Free' playground, outdoor PE equipment, Skate Park, 'Dog Potty Area' and sculptures throughout. Clearly this is a much loved and well respected environment. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout.

Aldi – Dublin Road: Grade A. All aspects of this site were in excellent order and clear of litter. The car park surface / markings / signage were in very good condition and the planted area around the perimeter and landscaped area near the entrance were well maintained.

Cavan General Hospital: Grade A. Colourful planting was a welcome feature at the entrance to the grounds Cavan General Hospital. The hospital is situated in large grounds in mature setting – plenty of substantial tree / shrubbery growth throughout. A very large sign indicates 'Tobacco Free Campus' The whole area was excellent with regard to litter, save for some cigarette butts at the main entrance.

R935 Ballinagh Approach Road: Grade A. Road surface, signage and markings were in good condition along this route and there wasn't any visible litter. Recent grass cutting contributed to the well maintained environment.

Car Park at Cavan Mill: Grade B. (pedestrian access to Main Street). The main area of the car park was generally fine with regard to litter with the road surface, signage and markings in good order. A corner site was primarily responsible for bringing down the overall grade – there was a definite litter presence at this corner (beside a gate), much of it alcohol related. Weed growth was pronounced.

Main Street: Grade B. The paving along Main Street presented well and much of this long street scored well with regard to litter. However, it was impossible to ignore the litter at the Market Square part of Main Street – this took away from an otherwise very well presented streetscape. Clearly strict planning regulations are in place as Tesco is not in the typical Tesco colour scheme.

Recycle Facility at Multi-Storey Car Park: Grade C+. There was plenty of signage relating to usage of this facility and CCTV. Many of the stickers on the individual recycle bins were old / worn away / broken off. Black sacks had been discarded in front of the bins and the area to the rear was littered with cardboard boxes and sacks. There was little change in the overall presentation of this facility since last IBAL survey.

Dublin Road Approach: Grade A. A fresh and clean impression was created along this route. Road surface and markings were in very good condition and cycle paths were clearly defined.

N54 Monaghan – Cavan Link Road: Grade A. (ROI only). All appeared in very good order with regard to litter. Much of the route was quite rural in nature and maintained accordingly.