

## **AnTaisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 1, 2019**

**Ballina: 6<sup>th</sup> out of 40 Towns / Cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms**

**After an absence of several years, Ballina has returned to the League with one of its best ever results. Eight out of the ten sites surveyed in Ballina got the top litter grade. Examples of top ranking sites included both residential areas of Marian Crescent and Rockwell – both are clearly well respected and maintained. St. Patrick's Church was exceptionally well presented and maintained, spotless throughout. Ballina District Hospital was also top ranking with a complete absence of litter and well maintained grounds.**

**O'Rahilly Street: Grade A.** A fresh and clean impression was created along O'Rahilly Street with paving, 'olde' style lamp-posts, bins etc. in good order. Some individual properties were poorly presented but they were not littered.

**Market Square Street Car Park: Grade A.** A clean and tidy car park with area enhanced by planting along the roadside and well established trees. There were no litter issues at this car park. Signage relating to usage was in good order.

**Recycle Facility at Market Square: Grade B.** The bottle / can units were fresh and clean but the purple clothing unit was very old and rusty, creating a poor impression. Cigarette butts, plastic bags and sweet papers were all present but not to the degree that is often found at such facilities.

**Marian Crescent: Grade A.** There was a complete absence of litter throughout this small residential development. The public green area had some wonderful mature trees. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order and footpaths were spotless.

**Rockwell: 1 – 21: Grade A.** Another excellent residential area in Ballina in terms of overall presentation and litter.

**St. Patrick's Church: Grade A.** This was an exceptionally well presented and maintained environment. It was characterised by manicured grass and a complete absence of litter throughout.

**N59 Crossmolina Approach Road: Grade A.** Road surface, markings and signage were generally in good order, with paving and grass area well maintained. The overall impression was a welcoming one with a virtual absence of litter.

**Ballina District Hospital: Grade A.** There was an area which had broken machinery visible. The remainder of the grounds of Ballina District Hospital was excellent in terms of presentation, maintenance and litter. There was plenty of planting and grass throughout – all in good order.

**Church Road Approach: Grade A.** There was a virtual absence of litter along this stretch of road. Mature trees added plenty of greenery. Properties were well tended and the overall impression was an attractive and welcoming one.

**Ballina – Galway Link Road: Grade B.** Much of this route was good with regard to litter but there was a variety food related litter closer to Galway City.