

Gorey: 30th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered.

Typically a town with so many top ranking sites would score highly but there are two litter blackspots which continue to drag down Gorey's overall ranking. By far the worse of these was the car park at Gory Sports and Leisure Centre (habitually a litter blackspot in previous surveys) and the Recycle Facility at Tesco. There were seven top ranking sites in Gorey which were very good not just with regard to litter but also to presentation and maintenance. Examples included The Main Street, Memorial – 1798 / 1619-2019, Gorey Civic Centre and Gorey Town Park.

Approach from Courtown: Grade A. A clean and welcoming impression was created along this route with area well maintained and very good with regard to litter. Picnic area on the left side in lush green setting and the served by two bins – all in very good order. Attractive and colourful planting at Courtown Roundabout.

R725 Carnew Approach Road: Grade A. There were no visible litter issues along this route into Gorey. Road surface, markings and signage were all in good order. 'Report Dog Fouling - Text DIRT to 51772' signage on this road, on leaving Gorey.

Recycle Facility at Tesco Extra: Grade D+. Marginal improvement from previous visits, but this is from a very low base. This time around, some sacks were stuffed between the recycle bins and the area around the base of the units was continuously littered – indication of lack of thorough cleaning at the facility. There was plenty of 'No Dumping' signage - all to no avail as evidenced by IBAL visits in 2018 and 2019.

Main Street: Grade A. A lovely main shopping street with an attractive bookshop café and abundant colourful planting adding to the streetscape. Plenty of trees and substantial planter boxes. The street is very well served by litter bins, many strategically placed beside the benches dotted throughout. The Main Street in Gorey was excellent with regard to litter.

Gorey Sports and Leisure Centre Car Park: Grade D. The area around the tennis courts was fine with regard to litter. Fencing now surrounds the Scout building, resulting in a much cleaner environment than many years ago. The roadway had several separate incidents of graffiti and was heavily weeded. The area behind the barrier, used for parking, continues to be subject to heavy dumping, most notably on the left side - dumped items included child's cot, baby buggy, large children's toys as well as a myriad of regular litter items around the perimeter shrubbery areas.

Car Park at Mill Retail Park: Grade A. Car park surface was very fresh in appearance, contributing to the positive impression created at this site. It was clean and tidy throughout.

Gorey Town Park: Grade A. Construction had begun to re-develop Gorey Town Park as a new enhanced facility / amenity. Hence, the area surveyed was somewhat reduced compared to previous surveys. A windy afternoon and if there was any loose litter it would certainly be blowing about - none to be seen. There was significant graffiti along the white walls of the narrow pedestrian pathway and plenty of graffiti and some 'art' within the park.

Memorials – 1798 / 1619 – 2019: Grade A. A small, but beautifully presented memorial at the junction from Clough and Carnew. Planting on either side of the 1798 monument and extensive planting on the 1619 - 2019 feature. Opportunity to relax at wooden seating areas. It was spotless throughout and the bin was in excellent condition.

Gorey Civic Centre: Grade A. This was an excellent site in terms of overall presentation and litter. The Civic Centre is home to a wide range of facilities including outdoor PE equipment / Court House / Library / HSE etc. It is clearly a very well respected and maintained environment.

N11 / M11 Wicklow – Gorey Link Road: Grade B. There was a noticeable casual litter presence along this route, most notably between Wicklow Town and Brittas Bay turn off with lower amounts between Brittas Bay turnoff and Gorey. Mostly food related litter and plastic bags and some car parts. The Lay bys were clear of litter. Good evidence of motorway maintenance.