

Dundalk: 27th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Moderately Littered.

Dundalk was among the many towns to show an improvement over 2020, but fell just short of Clean status. Five of the ten sites surveyed got the top litter grade, (including two of the approach roads) but the overall ranking was brought down somewhat by the Miscellaneous Wasteground behind the Clothes Bank on N53 – it wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping and long-term neglect. The streetscape at both Clanbrassil Street and Church Street was excellent – paving was particularly fresh and planting, flower boxes, seating, bins etc. were particularly fresh – minor litter at both sites took away from a top litter grade. Finnabair Business and Technology Park was another site which just missed getting the top litter grade - this could easily be achieved this with a little extra care and attention.

Clanbrassil Street: Grade B+. The streetscape was very good with lovely paving, seating, hanging baskets and ornamental trees, Street bins were in excellent condition. The casualness of a few took away from an otherwise very good site. As well as some food related items there were disposable face-masks and cigarette butts.

Church Street: Grade B+. Another excellent street, in terms of overall presentation – the paving was exceptionally fresh and colourful planting enveloped some wooden seating. As with Clanbrassil Street, there were just too many small litter items to warrant the top litter grade – mostly food and alcohol related, with some cigarette butts.

Clanbrassil Street Car Park: Grade A. The pedestrian approach was brightly painted, taking away what could be quite a bare look. Despite plenty of usage, there was a virtual absence of litter at Clanbrassil Street Car Park. The planted areas were well maintained, with no accumulations of litter, as can so easily happen. Several separate incidents of graffiti on the electricity unit.

Ard Easmuinn: Grade A. A clean and tidy residential area with no visible litter issues. The overall impression created was a positive one with interconnecting roads presenting well.

Longwalk Shopping Centre: Grade A. All aspects of the area surveyed were in very good order – signage, planting, bollards, trolley bays, etc – it was excellent with regard to litter.

Finnabair Business and Technology Park: Grade B+. Much of the grounds of this business and technology park presented well with seating, bins, signage etc. in very good order. While the overall impression was of an environment clear of litter, there was some scattered food related litter, alcohol cans and face masks. With a little extra effort, this could easily be a top-ranking site.

N52 from R132 Junction to Hoey's Lane Junction: Grade A. Road surface, markings and signage were in good order and the overall impression with regard to litter was a positive one. Grass verges and hedges were well attended.

R132 Dublin Road: Grade A. (from N52 junction to junction of Stapleton Place). This route created a positive first impression of Dundalk. There was a virtual absence of litter along this approach route.

N53 Castleblayney Approach Road: Grade C. The overall impression along this road was of a very obvious litter presence throughout – on the grass area, on the pavement in front of the concrete bollards, trapped within high weed growth etc. There was a variety of food related litter, along with some alcohol cans.

Miscellaneous wasteground, behind Clothes Bank on N53: Grade D. This was by far the most heavily littered site surveyed in Dundalk. It wasn't just casually littered but subject to dumping and long-term neglect. Upwards of a dozen black sacks of rubbish, along with pieces of wood and other miscellaneous items had been discarded. Where does responsibility for this site lie? It needs urgent attention.