

## An Taisce Report – IBAL Anti-Litter League, Round 1, 2021

**Killarney: 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed.**

It was the reduction in the number of top-ranking sites which brought down Killarney's overall ranking. There were no heavily littered sites. High Street, Killarney Train Station and Port Road were all in very good order, not just in regard to litter but overall maintenance. It would seem that the 'outdoor dining' was contributing to the litter presence along Scott's Street, based on the menus, food waste and salt & pepper sachets on the ground. Killarney House and Gardens is a wonderful resource and most of it was very clean, but it was impossible to ignore the litter close to the entrance / signage.

**N22 Approach from Tralee: Grade B.** (to Cleeny Roundabout) A moderately littered site next to and close to the temporary roadworks sign – a wide variety of food related items were present and some cigarette butts. An area at derelict site beside the Vet presented very poorly.

**Rock Road Car Park: Grade B.** Road surface / markings / signage were excellent, and the overall presentation of this new car park was a good one. Cigarette butts were the main items of note, with lower levels of sweet papers and coffee cups.

**Monsignor O'Flaherty Road: Grade B.** A mixed-use road with some retail, accommodation and government buildings. An overgrown area behind a broken fence had a very definite litter presence, mostly food related.

**High Street: Grade A.** High Street was excellent, not just with regard to litter but the presentation and maintenance of same. Tree planting, seating, colourful hanging baskets, sculpture, outdoor seating etc. were all in very good order and created a welcoming impression.

**Killarney Train Station: Grade A.** There was a virtual absence of litter at this attractively presented train station. Planting, bicycle parking, signage, cigarette butt units etc. were in very good order.

**Scott's Street: Grade B.** An attractively presented pedestrianised shopping environment which has been enhanced by substantial planter boxes and paving. Much of the litter at this site was associated with the 'outdoor dining' e.g., food waste, menus, salt & pepper sachets etc.

**Killarney House and Gardens: Grade B.** The wonderful grounds of Killarney House and Gardens have been beautifully tended with attractive paving and magnificent colourful planting. Welcoming signage reminds users that the grounds are free to use. However, it was impossible to ignore the litter around the 'welcome' signage and at the base of low-lying shrubbery – this was mostly food related.

**St Mary's Terrace: Grade B.** There was a definite concentration of a wide variety of litter items at the top end of this narrow residential road. It was somewhat cleaner as one moves towards the town centre.

**Port Road: Grade A.** A freshly presented road with attractive planting, paving, bicycle parking. Road surface, signage and markings were in good order. There was a virtual absence of litter throughout the area surveyed.

**N22 Cork direction: Grade B.** Vibrant and colourful planting at Park Road Roundabout creates a positive first impression of the town. Much of the road was well maintained but it was let down by food related litter items between Supermac's and the construction site.