

**Longford: 5<sup>th</sup> out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms.**

**A former winner of the IBAL League, Longford scored very well this time around with eight out of the ten sites surveyed getting the top litter grade. Top ranking sites included the approach roads, the residential area of College Park, Blind Man's Walk and the wonderful park environment at Albert Reynolds Peace Park - this is a lovely expanse of park space which has been beautifully presented and maintained, and very well respected by users. As with the previous survey, there were no heavily littered sites.**

**R393 Dublin Approach Road: Grade A.** There was minimal litter along this approach road. 'Longford Tidy Towns' Litter bin was well positioned beside a bench. Some parts of the road were more freshly presented than others, but this didn't impact in any negative way on the litter situation.

**Longford Bus / Train Station: Grade A.** Visitor Information signage at the main entrance presented well and all elements were in good order e.g., litter bins, cigarette butt units, seating, etc. Apart from cigarette butts in the planter boxes (devoid of plants) there was a complete absence of litter throughout the station.

**Market Square: Grade B+.** A freshly presented town square environment with ornamental trees, planter boxes, street bins, 'Longford Literary Trail' / 'Longford Rebel Trail' signage etc. in good order. On first appearance the area looks clear of litter, but closer inspection reveals litter within the planter boxes, mostly food related. Cigarette butts were trapped at the base of the ornamental trees.

**Recycle Bank at Market Square: Grade A.** Signage relating to the use of the facility says, 'You have done the right thing, Please Finish the Job and take your bags / cardboard boxes home with you'. It appears to be having the desired effect as there was minimal litter associated with the use of this facility. The bin units were particularly fresh in appearance.

**Ballymahon Street: Grade B.** The main shopping street was moderately littered with food related litter very much in evidence e.g., coffee cups, plastic bottles, sweet papers and fast-food wrappers. The hoarding of a boarded up property had been painted, but some of the mural had been removed. There was no shortage of litter bins along Ballymahon Street.

**Albert Reynolds Peace Park: Grade A.** A wonderful park environment with a variety of activities within e.g., picnic tables, PE equipment, extensive grass area, playing fields, wooden playground equipment, memorial etc. Excellent signage relating to River Camlin Flora & Fauna / Alcohol Free Area / Dogs on a Leash / Dogs Muzzled / Dog Fouling. The whole park area was very good with regard to litter.

**College Park: Grade A.** There was a complete absence of litter throughout this small residential development. The communal grass area was in good order and the overall impression was of a very well maintained environment.

**Blind Man's Walk: Grade A.** This short stretch of road, with well-maintained properties, was excellent with regard to litter.

**St. John's Church of Ireland: Grade A.** There was a complete absence of litter throughout this site – all aspects were suitably maintained.

**R198 Battery Road: Grade A.** A pleasant approach to the town with mature trees lining the route. Interesting design of wooden planter box installed on top of wooden litter bin. All was clean and tidy throughout.