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Kilkenny comes up cleanest in 2012 IBAL Litter survey

Of 42 towns and cities monitored across Ireland for cleanliness levels over the course of 2012, Kilkenny was announced as the cleanest at a ceremony in Dublin today. The city pipped Cavan and Killarney in the annual survey by Irish Business Against Litter, which showed 80% of towns and cities in the country to be as clean or cleaner than their European counterparts.

This was the first time that Kilkenny City, which has been litter-free for the past 4 years, has won the IBAL Litter League, taking the title from last year's winner Trim. It was one of 22 towns to be deemed 'Cleaner than European Norms' this year.

An Taisce, which conducts the litter surveys, commented in its report on Kilkenny: *"A superb result for Kilkenny with all sites surveyed getting the top litter grade. The approach roads were in particularly good order. The footpath and road surface along High Street have been very attractively paved and The Parade looked fantastic – a wide open sweep, flanked by trees to one side and terraced buildings to the other. The site by the riverbank and Dunnes Stores deserves a special mention as it had previously been problematic – not so this time around and the graffiti has been erased."*

To mark its success, the town will receive a suite of 10 copper beach trees for planting locally. These are provided by the Irish Tree Centre, an IBAL member based in County Cork (www.treecentre.ie).

Speaking at the awards ceremony, Dr Tom Cavanagh, likened the progress made on litter to that of road safety: "Each January we hear the welcome news that the numbers killed on our roads has again fallen. In particular, the attitude to drink driving has been transformed in a way that would have seemed unthinkable some years ago. There are parallels with the improvements we are now seeing in cleanliness levels. We might have

viewed ourselves traditionally as a less than tidy nation, but the results tell a different story. Leaving aside certain areas in our cities, we are becoming one of the cleanest societies in Europe.”

IBAL Anti Litter League – Final Standings 2012

Ranking	Town / City	Status
1	Kilkenny	Cleaner than European Norms
2	Cavan	Cleaner than European Norms
3	Killarney	Cleaner than European Norms
4	Ballina	Cleaner than European Norms
5	Castlebar	Cleaner than European Norms
6	Trim	Cleaner than European Norms
7	Longford	Cleaner than European Norms
8	Buncrana	Cleaner than European Norms
9	Fermoy	Cleaner than European Norms
10	Clonmel	Cleaner than European Norms
11	Dun Laoghaire	Cleaner than European Norms
12	Tramore	Cleaner than European Norms
13	Wexford	Cleaner than European Norms
14	Drogheda	Cleaner than European Norms
15	Galway City	Cleaner than European Norms
16	Youghal	Cleaner than European Norms
17	Swords	Cleaner than European Norms
18	Tullamore	Cleaner than European Norms
19	Bray	Cleaner than European Norms
20	Waterford City	Cleaner than European Norms
21	Naas	Cleaner than European Norms
22	Cobh	Cleaner than European Norms
23	Mullingar	Clean to European Norms
24	Sligo	Clean to European Norms
25	Kildare	Clean to European Norms
26	Athlone	Clean to European Norms
27	Ennis	Clean to European Norms
28	Dublin Airport Environs	Clean to European Norms
29	Roscommon	Clean to European Norms
30	Tallaght	Clean to European Norms
31	Monaghan	Clean to European Norms
32	Portlaoise	Clean to European Norms
33	Navan	Clean to European Norms
34	Tralee	Clean to European Norms
35	Tipperary	Clean to European Norms
36	Cork City	Moderately Littered
37	Dundalk	Moderately Littered
38	Limerick City	Moderately Littered
39	Carlow	Moderately Littered
40	Dublin City	Moderately Littered
41	Maynooth	Moderately Littered
~	N/A	Littered
~	N/A	Seriously Littered
42	North Inner City Dublin	Litter Blackspot

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