

Report on	Eco Speak Competition
Date of Meeting	8 th May 2018
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the annual Eco Speak Competition for Mid Ulster Primary Schools.
2.0	Background
2.1	Eco Speak helps to raise awareness of environmental issues by giving young people the opportunity to research environmental issues such as waste and recycling, to present their views and to develop their confidence and skills in public speaking. The competition was open to all primary schools in Mid Ulster which were invited to enter one pupil from either primary six or seven. Schools were contacted via email with an information leaflet and a competition entry form to return to the Recycling Team (see Appendix 1 and 2).
2.2	<p>The topic which pupils were invited to speak (on for a maximum of 4 minutes) was "<i>Blue Bin Recycling: what difference does it make?</i>" Entrants were asked to demonstrate their thoughts and opinions on why using the blue bin to recycle makes a difference and how they would persuade non-recyclers that recycling is worthwhile as well as ideas on how we can all be encouraged to recycle more.</p> <p>This topic was chosen in line with Mid Ulster Council's current dry recycling campaign targeting key materials being missed via blue bin capture and helping us to recycle more items from around our homes. This gave the Recycling team the opportunity to communicate out to the students and audience present the importance of blue bin recycling.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The competition was held in the Burnavon on the morning of Tuesday 17 th April. Council Deputy Chair, Cllr Mark Glasgow, welcomed everyone to the event before participants were split into two heats which ran simultaneously and were judged by panels of Councillors who sit on the Environment Committee. The panel for Heat 1 included Cllrs Frances Burton, Martin Kearney and Kenneth Reid, whilst Heat 2 had a panel comprised of Cllrs Mark Glasgow and Sean McGuigan as well as John Murtagh, Recycling Officer.

3.2	Two finalists were selected from each heat and went on to compete in the Final, judged by: Cllr Ronan McGinley (Environment Committee Chair), Mark McAdoo (Head of Environmental Services) and Josephine McShane (Re-Gen Waste Ltd.).
3.3	<p>A list of all 22 primary schools which entered the competition is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aughnacloy Primary School • Bush Primary School • Donaghey Primary School • Dungannon Primary School • Holy Family Primary School • Knockloughrim Primary School • Knocknagin Primary School • Moneymore Primary School • New Row Primary School • Orritor Primary School • St. Brigid's Primary School, Mayogall • St. Columb's Primary School, Cullion • St. John's Primary School, Swatragh • St. Macartan's Primary School, Clogher • St. Malachy's Primary School, Glencull • St. Mary's Primary School, Aughnacloy • St. Mary's Primary School, Ballygawley • St. Mary's Primary School, Dunamore • St. Mary's Primary School, Glenview, Maghera • St. Mary's Primary School, Pomeroy • St. Patrick's Primary School, Loup • Woods Primary School
3.4	Participants' each received a certificate and a goody bag, kindly provided by Re-Gen. The four finalists were: Darragh Quinn, Dungannon PS; Niamh Higgins, St Mary's PS, Glenview, Maghera; Hannah Moore, Aughnacloy PS and Gabrielle Mischook, Bush PS. All four finalists received a £30 voucher in addition to their goody bag and certificate. The overall winner of the competition was Darragh Quinn who received a crystal trophy.
3.5	<p>A press release and accompanying photos (see Appendix 3) appeared in the local press. The competition was given coverage on the Councils website and social media pages. Also the four finalists were videoed to create podcasts by Carn Media and this coverage can be viewed on the Mid Ulster Council YouTube channel – available via below link:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9btn-SYudcZJggvW4j3wfw</p>
3.6	This year's event was kindly part-sponsored by Re-Gen Waste Ltd, the current reprocessor for mixed dry recyclables from the Dungannon area of Mid Ulster. Re-Gen provided financial support of £200 towards event costs as well as kindly supplying goody bags.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

	<p>Financial: A detailed breakdown of the total costs of the event is shown in the table below. The £200 provided by Re-Gen Waste Ltd. will be put towards these costs and the remaining costs will be covered under the annual education payment from the firm.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th><th>Cost (£)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Burnavon Room Hire Studio £60 Auditorium £85/hr: £255</td><td>£315.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Refreshments</td><td>£612.50</td></tr> <tr> <td>Finalists Prizes (4x £30)</td><td>£120.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Winner's Trophy</td><td>£50.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Photography</td><td>£50.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Videoing</td><td>£400.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Goody Bags</td><td>Provided by Re-Gen</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>£1547.50</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Human: The Recycling, Education and Awareness Officers spent a considerable amount of time in the planning and delivery of the event.</p>	Item	Cost (£)	Burnavon Room Hire Studio £60 Auditorium £85/hr: £255	£315.00	Refreshments	£612.50	Finalists Prizes (4x £30)	£120.00	Winner's Trophy	£50.00	Photography	£50.00	Videoing	£400.00	Goody Bags	Provided by Re-Gen	Total	£1547.50
Item	Cost (£)																		
Burnavon Room Hire Studio £60 Auditorium £85/hr: £255	£315.00																		
Refreshments	£612.50																		
Finalists Prizes (4x £30)	£120.00																		
Winner's Trophy	£50.00																		
Photography	£50.00																		
Videoing	£400.00																		
Goody Bags	Provided by Re-Gen																		
Total	£1547.50																		
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments																		
	<p>Risk Management: Consent forms were obtained for each pupil involved for photography/filming purposes.</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: The entries received were from a wide range of schools across Mid Ulster with representation from the three former legacy areas. The event was a great success and the feedback from the teachers and parents present on the day was very positive.</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: N/A</p>																		
5.0	<p>Recommendation(s)</p> <p>Members are asked to note the success of this event as outlined in this report.</p>																		
6.0	Documents Attached & References																		
6.1	Appendix 1 – Eco Speak Information Flyer																		
6.2	Appendix 2 – Eco Speak Entry Form																		
6.3	Appendix 3 – Photos of competition winners and judges																		