

Report on	Eco Speak Competition 2019
Date of Meeting	10 th September 2019
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officer(s)	Recycling/Education Officer

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. All primary schools in Mid Ulster 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
2.2	The topic which pupils were invited to speak on (for a maximum of 4 minutes) was "Don't be a zero be a Mid Ulster Recycling Hero". Entrants were asked to demonstrate what they did every day to recycle more in their school or home and how they would encourage more people to become Mid Ulster Recycling Heroes. This topic was chosen on the back of Mid Ulster Council's current Recycling Heroes campaign which aims to encourage more of us to become Recycling Heroes for Mid Ulster by simply maximising what we can recycle in our blue and brown bins and through our local recycling centres.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The competition was held in the Burnavon on the morning of Wednesday 5 th June 2019. Council Chair, Cllr Martin Kearney, welcomed everyone to the event before participants were split into two heats which ran simultaneously. The judging panel for Heat 1 included Cllr Frances Burton, and a member of the Recycling Officer Team, while Heat 2 was judged by Council Officer Karl McGowan and another member of the Recycling Team.
3.2	Two finalists were selected from each heat who then went on to compete in the final which was judged by: Cllr Martin Kearney (Chair of the Council), Mark McAdoo (Head of Environmental Services) and Celine Magill (Natural World Products Ltd.).
3.3	A list of all 17 primary schools which entered the competition is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aughnacloy Primary School • Bush Primary School • Donaghey Primary School • Holy Family Primary School • Knockloughrim Primary School • Knocknagin Primary School

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Row Primary School • Orritor Primary School • 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. Patrick's Primary School, Loup • Carntall Primary School • Churchtown Primary School • Magherafelt PS • Richmond PS 																				
3.4	<p>All participants received a certificate and a goody bag from the Council. The four finalists were: Ruth Wilson, Carntall PS, Anna Donnelly, St. Mary's PS, Aughnacloy, Aife McKee, Holy Family PS and Sam Kelly, Bush PS. All four finalists received a £30 Argos voucher in addition to their goody bag and certificate. The overall winner of the competition was Anna Donnelly of St. Mary's PS, Aughnacloy who received a crystal trophy. The winning school, St. Mary's PS, Aughnacloy also received 3 Eco-Depo recycling stations for their buildings.</p>																				
3.5	<p>A press release and accompanying photos (see Appendix 2) appeared in the local press. The competition was given coverage on the Council's 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-SYudcZJqqvW4j3wfw?view_as=subscriber</p>																				
4.0	Other Considerations																				
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Sponsorship of £3,000 was kindly provided by Natural World Products Ltd (NWP) which covered the cost of the event (as detailed in the table below)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th><th>Cost (£)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Venue/catering</td><td>900.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Video and production of podcasts</td><td>400.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Photography</td><td>100.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Vouchers for Heat Winners (4 x £30)</td><td>120.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Trophy for Overall Winner</td><td>55.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Prize for School – Eco-Depo Recycling Stations</td><td>318.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Drawstring bags</td><td>317.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Water Bottles</td><td>690.00</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>2900.00</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 (£)	Venue/catering	900.00	Video and production of podcasts	400.00	Photography	100.00	Vouchers for Heat Winners (4 x £30)	120.00	Trophy for Overall Winner	55.00	Prize for School – Eco-Depo Recycling Stations	318.00	Drawstring bags	317.00	Water Bottles	690.00		2900.00
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4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments																				
	<p>Risk Management: Consent forms were obtained for each pupil involved for photography/filming purposes.</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 very positive.
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s) Members are asked to note the success of the Eco Speak event as outlined in this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Eco Speak Flyer
6.2	Appendix 2 – Photos of participants, finalists, winner and Judges.