

<b>Report on</b>	Translink Ulster in Bloom Competition Results 2022
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, Environmental Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, Environmental Services

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on the Translink Ulster in Bloom 2022 competition results.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	This annual competition promotes achievement and excellence in horticulture, amenity and environmental sustainability and is important in recognising the high quality local environments in which we live and work. The awards encourage towns and villages right across Northern Ireland to look their best and boost civic pride e.g. through floral displays
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	This was the 44 <sup>th</sup> year of the Ulster in Bloom Competition, celebrating horticultural excellence in cities, towns and villages right across Northern Ireland with the aim of boosting civic pride by officially recognising beautiful plant and floral displays and demonstrating collaboration between community groups, businesses and Councils.
3.2	This years' competition attracted 108 location entries representing all Council areas As previously approved entries for the following towns and villages in Mid Ulster: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dungannon</li> <li>2. Cookstown</li> <li>3. Magherafelt</li> <li>4. Coalisland</li> <li>5. Maghera</li> <li>6. Tobermore</li> <li>7. Donaghmore</li> <li>8. Swatragh</li> <li>9. Caledon</li> <li>10. Stewartstown</li> </ol>
3.3	The judging panel comprises professional horticulturists, lecturers, florists, members of Conservation Volunteers and judges with N.I. Group of Flower Arranging Societies.
3.4	The results of the 2022 competition were announced at a special event in the Hill of the O'Neill in Dungannon on 28 <sup>th</sup> September and Mid Ulster district has once again achieved significant success with Donaghmore winning the Village Award with second place going to Caledon in the same category and third place going to Stewartstown in the Large

3.5	<p>Village Category. Friels Bar/Restaurant in Swatragh also won a Special Award for Impressive Floral Heritage</p> <p>The Translink Ulster in Bloom Competition is co-ordinated by the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) and Councillor Frances Burton, current Vice President, of NILGA speaking at the event said:</p> <p>“The participants and winners from the 2022 Translink Ulster in Bloom campaign have yet again shone a light on the amazing results which can be achieved through commitment, community engagement and hard work. These awards demonstrate the value which the 11 councils and our Ulster in Bloom community groups have given in encouraging us to care for our local spaces regardless of size or location. Their hard work and the hours spent planning, planting and pruning make a massive positive impact on the wider environment by supporting biodiversity, conservation and sustainability which improves the quality of life for citizens in our cities, towns and villages”.</p>
<b>Other Considerations</b>	
4.1	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial: Within existing resources.</p> <p>Human: Within existing resources.</p> <p>Risk Management: N/A</p>
4.2	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: N/A</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: N/A</p>
<b>5.0 Recommendation(s)</b>	
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report.
<b>6.0 Documents Attached &amp; References</b>	
6.1	Appendix 1 – Photo of Translink Ulster in Bloom 2022 Award winners from Mid Ulster