

Report on	Chewing Gum Task Force Grant Scheme
Date of Meeting	4 July 2022
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, 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 a successful application to the Chewing Gum Grant Scheme.
2.0	Background
2.1	A Chewing Gum Task Force has been set up by DEFRA and the Gum manufacturers, with Keep Britain Tidy as administrator, to award grants to Councils to clean up gum litter staining, alongside behavioural interventions to encourage people to bin their gum.
2.2	The Chewing Gum Task Force brings together some of the country's major chewing gum producers, including Mars Wrigley and Perfetti Van Melle, as well as some producers of nicotine replacement therapy gum. Under the scheme the firms will invest up to £10 million over five years to help reduce chewing gum pollution.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Chewing Gum Task Force Grant Scheme opened for applications on 9th May 2022 for Councils across the UK who wish to clean the gum off the pavements in their local areas and invest in long-term behaviour change to prevent gum from being dropped in the first place. In the first year of the scheme, more than £1.7 million has been invested by chewing gum producers.
3.2	Grants of up to £20,000 are available to individual councils to fund street cleansing and/or the purchase of cleaning equipment. As part of the scheme councils will also benefit from a bespoke gum litter prevention package, including targeted behaviour change signage and advice to encourage people to bin their gum.
3.3	An application was submitted (by the deadline of 23rd May) based on the purchase of a chewing gum removal machine (as shown in the photograph included at appendix 1).
3.4	On 27 th June notification was received from the Chewing Gum Task Force that our application had been successful that they are able to offer Mid Ulster District Council a single council cleansing grant to the value of £19,990.
3.5	The conditions of funding include that the cleansing work must be completed by 31st October 2022 and targeted behaviour change signage installed within 3 days of cleaning.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: The cost of the chewing gum removal machine will be covered by the £19,990 funding.
	Human: The operation of the machine will be carried out using existing employees/resources.
	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the content of this report and approve the acceptance of the £19,990 funding offered from the Chewing Gum Task Force Grant Scheme.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Photo of proposed chewing gum removal machine (mobile steam cleaner)