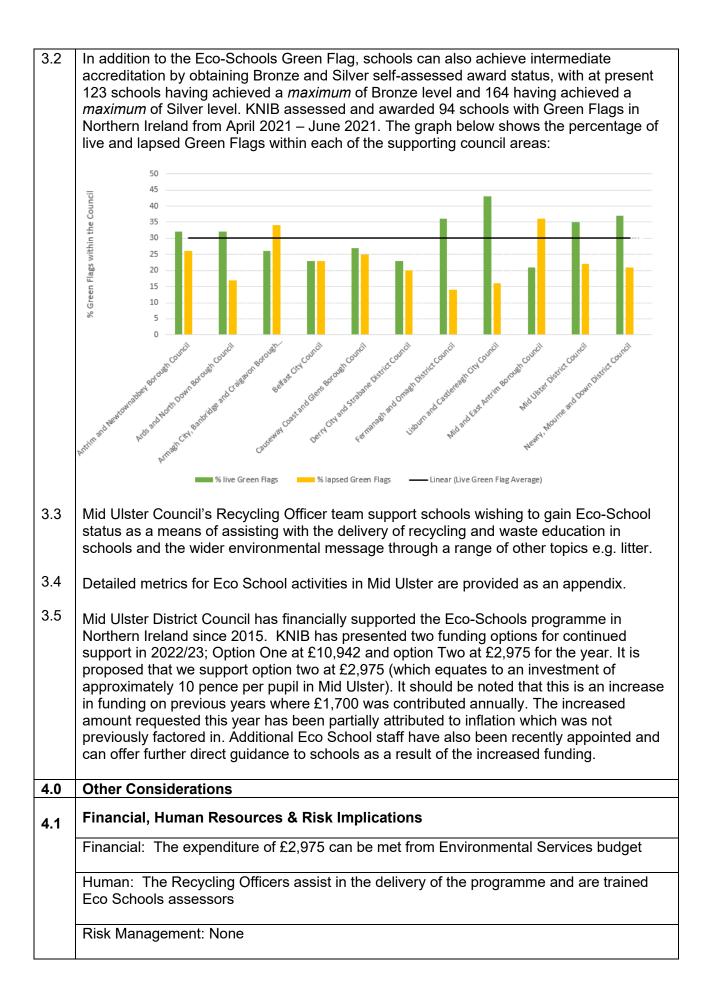
Report on	Eco-Schools Programme Support 2022/23
Date of Meeting	11 th January 2022
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, Environmental Services
Contact Officers	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, Environmental Services

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek approval to continue providing financial support to the Eco-Schools Programme
2.0	Background
2.1	Eco-Schools is an international award that guides participating schools on their sustainable journey, providing a framework to help embed these principles into the heart of school life. The Eco-Schools programme is an internationally recognised Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) programme now operating in 72 countries worldwide, representing more than 59,000 schools and 20 million pupils. In addition to Eco-Schools, FEE runs Green Key, Young Reporters for the Environment, Blue Flag for Beaches & Marinas and Learning about Forests as well as supporting other initiatives such as Single Use Plastics and Wrigleys Litter Less Campaign.
2.2	Eco-Schools in Northern Ireland is administered by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB) with financial support from DAERA and all 11 local Councils. It is also supported by 8 sponsors and 32 Delivery Partners without whose practical support the programme could not have achieved the success and recognition it has received.
2.3	The programme encourages and directs young people to think about litter, waste and recycling, climate action, energy saving, water conservation, transport options, biodiversity, marine life, healthy living and the natural environment they are custodians of, and make positive choices for a better future.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	At the end of October 2021 the programme had 1,136 schools registered in Northern Ireland which is 100% of schools. The total number of live Green Flag awards is 358 which represents 32% of schools and is an increase of 5% since February 2021, with a greater number of schools receiving their assessment and award following reopening after Covid enforced closures.



4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that approval is granted to continue providing financial support to KNIB for delivery of the Eco Schools Programme to the amount of £2,975 in 2022/23.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1 6.2 6.3	Letter from KNIB outlining Eco-Schools Support Request for 2022/23 Report on the Eco Schools Programme for Supporting Councils Mid Ulster District Council Eco-Schools Metrics (as at October 2021)