

Report on	Town and Village Award Competition Entries for 2023
Date of Meeting	14th March 2023
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director - Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Eunan Murray, Neighbourhood Operations Manager - South

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 inform members of entries to the Best Kept and Ulster in Bloom Competitions for 2023.
2.0	Background
2.1	The annual Best Kept and Ulster in Bloom competitions promote achievement and excellence in horticulture, amenity and environmental sustainability and are important in recognising high quality environments to live and work. The awards encourage towns and villages the district to look their best and boost civic pride e.g. through floral displays.
2.2	Participating towns, villages and housing areas are judged on a range of criteria, including floral displays, grass roots environmental projects and an absence of litter and graffiti. Judges also look for underlying evidence of community participation in environmental initiatives, including the promotion of recycling and wildlife conservation
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Both competitions continue to attract good interest across the district with notable achievements last year, particularly for Donaghmore, with Castlecaulfield, Caledon, Stewartstown and Friels Bar/Restaurant in Swatragh also gaining notable recognition.
3.2	<p>Nominations for entry into both Ulster in Bloom and Best Kept Award competitions for 2023 (under the appropriate categories based on population size) are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dungannon 2. Cookstown 3. Magherafelt 4. Coalisland 5. Maghera 6. Tobermore 7. Donaghmore 8. Swatragh 9. Caledon

	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Within existing resources.
	Human: Within existing resources.
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	None