

Report on	Big Spring Clean 2024
Date of Meeting	8th July 2024
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Karl McGowan, Waste & Sustainable Development Manager

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the Bring Spring Clean 2024 activities within Mid Ulster.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>The Big Spring Clean campaign, delivered by Live Here Love Here, is open to individuals, schools, community groups, sports clubs and businesses who wish to organise a group litter pick and clean up their local areas. Mid Ulster District Council are proud to support The Big Spring Clean 2024 and have encouraged our residents, community groups, sports clubs and schools to get involved.</p> <p>More information can be found on the Live Here Love Here website at: https://www.liveherelovehere.org/bigspringclean</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The campaign takes place annually from the 1 st March to the 30 th April and is open to everyone who wants to contribute to clearing roads, parks, and green spaces of litter. During the 2 months of the campaign over 2,100 volunteers helped to clean up Mid Ulster, collecting approximately 3,500 bags of rubbish. The Recycling Team at Mid Ulster Council support The Big Spring Clean through organising the loan of litter pickers, hi-vis vests and litter bags. Once the litter events were completed, Environmental Services staff from the cleansing teams collected and disposed of the full bags of rubbish.
3.2	Community clean ups continue all year round and not just for the Big Spring Clean campaign. So far in 2024, over 2,580 volunteers around the district have completed over 50 clean up events gathering an impressive 4,000 bags of rubbish. Some notable groups that have been particularly successful with their events, collecting over 100 bags of litter each include:

3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardboe Community Projects • Ballinascreen GAC • Bann Valley Community Association • Carntogher Community Association • Clogher GAC • Desertmartin GAC • Eskra and Claremore Community Association • Fivemiletown District Lodge • Loughshore Community Services • Pomeroy Horticultural Group • Traad Gun Club <p>Whilst schools complete approximately 50% of the litter picks around Mid Ulster it should be noted that local business are becoming more involved in their community and have contributed greatly to the community litter pick events along with many sports clubs and other community groups. The Recycling Team have worked hard to forge these community relationships and hope to progress these further over the next year.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: The Council maintains a stock of litter pickers for use by schools and community groups with some expenditure annually (<£500) to replace lost or broken ones. The cost of bags is also minimal and taken from Council stores.</p> <p>Human: Some Officer time is spent helping to co-ordinate activities and arrange for collection and disposal of filled litter bags.</p> <p>Risk Management: None</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: None</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: None</p>

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the content of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Photographs of Big Spring Clean activities



Litter collected by Eskra and Claremore Community Association



Litter collected by Clogher GAC



Litter Pick Organised by Fivemiletown District Lodge