



## Statement Levies 2003

*DR TOM CAVANAGH  
IRISH BUSINESS AGAINST LITTER*

*on proposed introduction of litter levy on chewing gum, ATM receipts and take away packaging:*

Irish Business Against Litter has long called for a taxing of litter 'at source'. Following on the success of the plastic bag levy, we welcome further application of the polluter pays principle in the area of litter. According to our research, around half of our cities and towns are litter blackspots.

As one of the most common and unseemly forms of litter, and one which is extremely expensive to remove from our pavements, chewing gum is a legitimate target for a levy along the lines proposed. However, the level of tax proposed is unlikely to prove effective. Adding 5 cents to a pack of chewing gum may bring 4m in exchequer revenue, but it won't lessen demand for gum and it won't help clean up our streets.

The levy on ATM receipts is welcome and should see a reduction in the volumes of unnecessary dockets generated.

15 July 2003

For further information please contact Conor or Eimear in Cullen Communications  
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