

<b>Report on</b>	Community Grant Aid Awards
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
<b>Contact Officers</b>	Hannah McCabe, Grants & Capacity Building Manager

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

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Grant Aid Programme award allocations 2024/2025.</li> <li>• Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy grant award allocations 2024/2025</li> <li>• Irish Language Activity grant award allocations 2024/2025</li> </ul> <p>This report was presented to the Development Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at which individual members had raised queries and therefore the decision was deferred.</p> <p>All queries from members have now been addressed by Officers. No additional documentation was required for sharing with any individual members.</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p><b>Community Grant Aid 2024/2025</b> Members will be aware that the Community Grant Aid programme opened for online applications from the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 and closed on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The call for applications was across a range of our grant programmes;</p> <p><b>Community Grant Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Grants (Community, Arts, Heritage &amp; Culture, Sports and Environment)</li> <li>• Venues &amp; Facilities Grant</li> <li>• Strategic Community Development Grant</li> <li>• Strategic Arts Grant</li> <li>• Strategic Events Grant</li> <li>• Strategic Sports Grant</li> <li>• Community Festival Grant</li> <li>• Good Relations Grant</li> <li>• Sports Representative Grant</li> <li>• Capital Discretionary Grant</li> </ul>

**Pitches & Recreational Strategy**

- Feasibility Development Grant
- Infrastructure Development Grant

**Irish Language Activity**

- Activity Grant

**3.0 Main Report**

A total of **547 applications** were received across all **13 grants programmes**, the detail of which is attached at **appendix 1**.

Members are advised that due to the level of eligible applications received under the **Small Development Grant & Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy Feasibility Development Grant**, the total fund amount was insufficient to award all eligible applications as per the scheme. Therefore to ensure that these 2 schemes can be delivered within budget, 2 options are presented for Members consideration;

- **Option 1** - Award as per original scheme until budget exhausted.
- **Option 2** - Award a reduced amount pro-rata across all eligible groups.

Outlined below is a summary of the assessment outcomes associated with each of the grants and Members are referred to appendix 1 for the detailed information.

**3.1 Summary**

<b>Programme</b>	<b>No. of applications received</b>	<b>No. of Ineligible</b>	<b>Total budget</b>	<b>No of recommended awards &amp; Amount</b>	
<b>Community Grants Policy</b>	514	42	£875,000	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>
				426	472
				<b>£829,156.22</b>	<b>£826,800.92</b>
<b>Pitches &amp; Recreational Strategy</b>	10	1	£200,000	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>
				8	9
				<b>£195,932.00</b>	<b>£199,348.80</b>
<b>Irish Language Activity</b>	23	0	£50,000	23	
				<b>£50,000</b>	

**Please note:** The remaining balance in respect of the Community Grants Policy in relation to both option 1 and option 2 relates to the Good Relations & Community Festival, which are due to open for further calls later in the year and the Sports Representative Grant, which is a rolling programme.

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<p>Financial:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Budget allocation to 10 Community Grant Aid Policy programmes Option1 £829,156.22 / Option 2 £826,800.92</li> <li>(ii) Budget allocation to 2 Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy Grant Programmes Option 1 £195,932.00 / Option 2 £199,348.80</li> <li>(iii) Budget allocation of the Irish Language Activity Grants Programme of £50,000</li> </ul>
	<p>Human:</p> <p>NA</p>
	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>NA</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	<p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: Policies screened at time of development</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: Policies screened at time of development</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>Members are recommended to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Consider and agree the award option in respect of the Small Development Grant &amp; Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy Feasibility Development Grant.</li> <li>(ii) Approve the remaining awards of the grants under the Grant Aid Policy, Pitches and Recreational Spaces Strategy and Irish Language Activity Grant.</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 Grant Aid Assessment Panel Overview