

Report on	Decade of Anniversaries - Commemorations 2021/22
Date of Meeting	Thurs 15 th October 2020
Reporting Officer	Tony McCance Head of Culture & Arts
Contact Officer(s)	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts Claire Linney, Head of Community Development Michael Browne, Head of Tourism and Events Nigel Hill, Head of Parks Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

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 seek approval for the Decade of Anniversary Commemoration activities for 2021 – 2022 financial year, subject to budget approvals and subject to COVID 19 restrictions that may apply.
2.0	Background
2.1	As members will be aware the decade of anniversaries activities have been taking place from 2012 up to 2022.
2.2	A range of activities and events to commemorate the Decade of Anniversaries is presented by both Culture & Arts, Good Relations, Economic Development, Parks, Tourism and Events and are designed and to support both Council led and community group activity for commemorations during the 2021/22 financial year.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Decade of Anniversaries programme is delivered through Culture & Arts and Community Services (Good Relations) as part of the Culture & Arts programme and TBUC Together Building a United Community, with the support of other Council services, including Parks, Economic Development and Tourism/Events.
3.2	The Decade of Anniversaries continues to be delivered under the CRC/HLF principles of Remembering and support in line with the CRC/HLF Decade of Anniversaries Toolkit, 'Understanding our Past, and Shaping our Future'. The Principles of Remembering: 1) Start from the historical facts; 2) Recognise the implications and consequences of what happened; 3) Understand that different perceptions and interpretations exist; and

- 4) Show how events and activities can deepen understanding of the period.
- 5) All to be seen in the context of an 'inclusive and accepting society'

3.3 It is envisaged that the activities proposed will be delivered during the 2021/22 financial year with a concentration within the Spring and Summer and early Autumn period.

3.4 It should also be noted that all activities proposed are subject to any COVID-19 Government restrictions that may apply at the time of planning and delivery of the events and activity proposed.

3.5 **Culture and Arts activity proposals**

Community Grant Support

The Community, Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant programme will open in February 2021 and groups will be able to apply to this for activities relating to cultural expression which will include the decade of anniversaries period. These could include community planting schemes, heritage at a local level e.g. town names and place name origins etc. exploring and discovering what it was like to live in 1921.

As in the current financial year (2020/21), groups will be requested to develop their projects based on an ability to deliver their proposed activity in a deliverable format. Flexibility of delivery methods will be built in to the programme to permit groups to amend the delivery format based on any COVID-19 social distancing protocol which may apply at the time of proposed project delivery.

Exhibitions

Officers are currently working with colleagues in our neighbour Council area of Fermanagh and Omagh to display an exhibition to be commissioned and which will largely focus on events of 1921. Tentative dates have been secured to host the exhibition for July 2021 at the Burnavon Theatre.

Further exhibitions will be planned/delivered, pending availability of other suitable exhibitions created and offered for touring. The Community Relations Council is currently looking at a number of regional delivery agents including The Public Records Office NI (PRONI), and The Junction regarding suitable exhibition material for this period.

In addition Mid Ulster District Council has a catalogue of images/photographs of towns and villages in the former Dungannon Council area and these will be utilised to form an exhibition to be displayed at Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House and Arts and Visitor Centre, Dungannon during the commemorative period.

Budget £3,000

Drama Productions

In the absence of regional touring drama productions, it is proposed that Drama productions based on the events of 1921 will be sought and commissioned through Council's strategic arts organisations. It is envisaged that potentially 2-3 groups may produce dramas to commemorate the 1921 period of events.

These will be commissioned for stage delivery and will be delivered via the strategic arts groups own theatres and or Burnavon Theatre in Spring/Summer 2021.

Budget £12,000

Education Programme

The Nerve Centre is currently engaged with the Community Relations Council (CRC) regarding the development of a range of educational materials that relate to the period of 1921. These will be made available online and virtually for schools to access support the delivery of 1921 history projects within our schools. It is envisaged that there will be post primary and primary level materials available. Council will partner with CRC and the Nerve centre in making these available and targeting these at our local Mid Ulster schools.

Budget £6,000 (Good Relations £5,000)

Total Budget required from Culture & Arts Services - £16,000

3.6

Good Relations Activity proposals**Council led lecture Series**

Good Relations will deliver a further lecture series in 2021 along with CRC and historians focusing on the period 1921. This will be planned for September/October 2021 and will be arranged for both shared venue provision and/or online if required. The lecture series will build on the annual lecture series that has taken place since 2012.

Budget £5,000

Community led Decade of Commemoration

A Decade of Anniversaries Fund is available to groups for decade of commemoration events. Events/activities must be in keeping with the CRC/HLF Decade of Commemoration guidelines. Officers will support all groups with applications and development of events/activities. Funding is up to £2,000 with 50% funding by each group. Expenditure to be supported will include: speakers, venues, bus travel, exhibition costs, accommodation costs in line with Council policy, and refreshments up to a maximum of 20% of the total project cost.

Budget £20,000

3.7	<p>Economic Development</p> <p>Women have played a key role in the decade of anniversaries alongside key landmarks such as the right to vote; it is proposed to facilitate an event, similar to previous events delivered by Council celebrating the valuable contribution made by women, both currently and over the last 100 years as leaders, entrepreneurs, visionaries and innovators.</p> <p>Budget £6,000</p>
3.8	<p>Tourism/Events</p> <p>COVID 19 restrictions permitting, to explore the possibility of staging an outdoor concert in a suitable outdoor location within the region. The concert will recognise the range of musical talent within Mid Ulster interspersed with readings from our recognised Mid Ulster writers and poets.</p> <p>Budget £15,000</p> <p>Further activity that is identified that is festival in nature can be supported under the Community Festival Fund, which is a rolling fund, again subject to COVID-19 restrictions, advice and guidance.</p>
3.9	<p>Parks</p> <p>Working with local schools, it is proposed to create a garden or woodland (100 trees) project within the district (location to be determined) creating a lasting legacy of the commemorative period.</p> <p>Budget £5,000</p>
3.10	<p>Regional Delivery</p> <p>It is recognised that there will also be a regional delivery aspect of the 2021 anniversary period, led by Government. It is proposed that linkages with Community Relations Council/Heritage Lottery and Northern Ireland Office will continue to develop over the months ahead, with a view to securing additional support mechanisms that will be available to Councils and Community organisations to ensure further engagement taking place at a local level.</p> <p>Additional projects will include the delivery of a ceramic Art project where school children will be afforded the opportunity to work with local artists to create momento pieces of pottery/ceramics depicting what the 2021 commemorative period means to them. The pieces will form part of an exhibition which will be displayed through our venues and the participating children will have a momento of the 2021 anniversary period. Subject to support centrally, this project will be rolled out through primary schools across the District.</p>

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p data-bbox="244 255 991 293">Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p data-bbox="244 329 1417 439">Financial: Total Budget £72,000 alongside funding from small arts, community and heritage grants and local festivals grants (pending adherence to social distancing protocol)</p> <p data-bbox="244 474 1187 512">Arts and Culture £16,000 (subject to 2021/2022 budget approvals)</p> <p data-bbox="244 548 1337 620">Good Relations £30,000 (to be confirmed re 2021 – 2022 plan and subject to 2021/2022 budget approvals)</p> <p data-bbox="244 656 1051 694">Events £15,000 (subject to 2021/2022 budget approvals)</p> <p data-bbox="244 730 1018 768">Parks £5,000 (subject to 2021/2022 budget approvals)</p> <p data-bbox="244 804 1275 842">Economic Development £6,000 (subject to 2021/2022 budget approvals)</p> <p data-bbox="244 920 746 992">Human: No additional staff support required</p> <p data-bbox="244 1028 1370 1245">Risk Management: The impact of COVID -19 may place restrictions on specific events taking place into 2021/22 financial year. This will be monitored and if required, alternative activities will be put in place to ensure that community engagement can take place via other means and were social distancing requirements will not be impacted.</p>
4.2	<p data-bbox="244 1395 762 1433">Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p data-bbox="244 1469 1390 1650">Equality & Good Relations Implications: The Decade of Anniversaries and the commemorations in 2021/22 financial year will continue to be delivered under the CRC/HLF principles of Ethnical Remembering and support in line with the CRC/HLF Decade of Anniversaries Toolkit, 'Understanding our Past, and Shaping our Future'.</p> <p data-bbox="244 1729 1394 1872">Rural Needs Implications: Rural Needs have been considered in the development of the programme proposed and with regard to participation and involvement of groups and schools in project delivery.</p>

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To approve the Decade of Anniversary Commemoration 2021-2022 programme as outlined under section 3 of this report and the funding commitment required, across the services detailed, totalling £72,000 from 2020/21 service budget allocations.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/a