

Report on	Development Report
Date of Meeting	16 th March 2023
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
Contact Officers	Philip Clarke - Community Services Manager, Oliver Morgan-Good Relations & Peace Manager, Michael McCrory - PCSP Manager, Catherine Fox Arts Development Manager, Brian McCormick Seamus Heaney Homeplace Manager

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

1	Purpose of Report									
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to update members and seek approval for the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rolling Community Grants• Grant Funding Allocation 2023-2024 Update• DfC Advice Salary & Cost of Living Uplift Payment• Good Relations – Additional Funding• Community Arts Plan 2023 – 2024• Community Arts – King’s Coronation 2023• Seachtain na Gaeilge Grant 2023• Cross Border Arts and Climate Change Project• Development Update									
2	Key Issues									
2.1	<p>Community Grants - Rolling Grants Programme 2022 – 2023 Members are advised that the grants assessment panel are making the following recommendations to award grants.</p> <table><tr><th>Grant</th><th>No. of groups awarded</th><th>Value of Grant Awards</th></tr><tr><td>Community Festival Fund</td><td>4</td><td>£2,520</td></tr><tr><td>Good Relations Grant</td><td>1</td><td>£960</td></tr></table> <p>Please see attached in Appendix 1 grant award recommendations</p>	Grant	No. of groups awarded	Value of Grant Awards	Community Festival Fund	4	£2,520	Good Relations Grant	1	£960
Grant	No. of groups awarded	Value of Grant Awards								
Community Festival Fund	4	£2,520								
Good Relations Grant	1	£960								
2.2	<p>Community Grants 2023-2024 Members are reminded of the financial pressures considered as part of the 2023/2024 rates setting process, which resulted in a reduction of £220,000 across a number of the Council Community Grant Programmes for 2023/2024. Detailed</p>									

below is the revised fund value for grants agreed as part of the grant review recently considered and agreed by Committee.

Grant Programme	Budget 23/24
Venues and Facilities	£135,000
Strategic Community Development	£35,000 (additional annual contribution Good Relations)
Small Grants (Community, Arts, Heritage, Env, Sports)	£132,000
Strategic Events	£55,000
Strategic Arts	£65,000
Strategic Sports	£39,000
Community Festivals	£74,000
Festive lights	£76,000
Schools Access	£10,000
Sports Representative	£15,000

Applications will be accessed against the grant criteria and presented to committee for approval until fund values have been exhausted.

2.3 **DfC Advice Salary & Cost of Living Uplift Payment**

The Department for Communities has offered additional funding support to front line advice providers to cover both salaries and overheads to mitigate the cost-of-living increases that impact the community and voluntary sector for the 2022-23 year only. The additional contribution is for £1500 towards overheads and £22,004.25 for salary uplifts. These are direct contributions from DFC to the advice service and are monitored accordingly. See correspondence in **Appendix 2**.

2.4 **Good Relations Additional Funding**

The NI Executive Office (TEO) has offered Council surplus funding to support its work with foodbanks/svp's. Council has agreed to accept this funding in principle, subject to liaising with the foodbanks regarding their outputs to end of March 2023. It is proposed to accept this additional funding of £30,000 and match within current budget of £10,000, and allocate the £40,000 as per previous agreement.

2.5 **Community Arts Plan 2023 – 2024**

As part of Council's annual programme of community arts delivery, an action plan has been developed for delivery in partnership with the strategic arts partners and Burnavon Arts Centre.

See attached a copy of the Plan in **Appendix 3** for consideration and approval.

2.6 **Community Arts – King's Coronation 2023**

To complement the community led activity being planned for the King's Coronation, the attached community arts activity is proposed. Refer to **Appendix 4**.

2.7 **Seachtain na Gaeilge Grant 2023**

The following grant awards as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge are presented for approval.

Grant	No. of groups awarded	Value of Grant Awards
Seachtain na Gaeilge	13	£7500

Please see attached in **Appendix 5** grant award recommendations

2.8 **Cross Border Arts and Climate Change Project**

The Eco Showboat is an art project aimed at raising awareness of climate change. It is a cross border project in conjunction with the Local Authority Waters Programme Ireland and Poetry Ireland. One of the strategic aims is to activate local communities in creating awareness of good water quality and climate change through exploring the rivers of Ireland on a national poetry and film adventure. The Eco showboat will tour on a cross border basis along stretches of rivers and engage communities along the way and produce short literary and musical films inspired by a river in each county. The support required is in kind and advisory only, introducing creative arts people from the area to the project and with general promotion.

It is proposed to provide a letter of support to the project who is seeking to secure funding from the Climate Change fund. Please see attached correspondence at **Appendix 6**.

2.9 **Development Update**

Community Support

Support is ongoing as part of the Council's community grants. The grants will close mid-March with assessment and recommendations to Council. Officers continue to provide support to groups on other funding investment areas and general project development.

Good Relations

The Good Relations Plan 2023 – 2024 is with the NI Executive Office for approval. Officers are working to finalise the current plan of expenditure, monitoring and claims.

As per the previous report to Committee in February agreeing the funding from TEO to support refugees in Mid Ulster of £133,015 to be delivered through STEP. An update of a final contribution of £143,175 is being provided.

PCSP

No minutes.

Burnavon Arts Centre

The new Spring programme for Burnavon is being delivered at present, with positive numbers across performances and activities.

Seamus Heaney Homeplace

The new Spring programme for Seamus Heaney Homeplace is being delivered at present, with positive numbers across performances, programmes, exhibition and education programme.

	<p><u>Hill of The O'Neill and Ranfurly House</u></p> <p>Events are being planned and delivered at Hill of The O'Neill and Ranfurly House. An updated plan of events and activities is being developed.</p>
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: Community Festival Grant £2,520 Good Relations Grants £960</p> <p>DfC Advice Salary & Overheads Uplifts £22,004.25 - £1,500</p> <p>TEO Funding £30,000, match £10,000</p> <p>Seachtain na Gaeilge Grant £7500</p> <p>Community Arts Plan – Budget £85,000 within the Arts Development Budget.</p> <p>Human: NA</p> <p>Risk Management: NA</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: NA</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: NA</p>
5	<p>Recommendations</p>
5.1	<p>Members are recommended to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Approve Local Community Festivals and Good Relations grants (ii) Note the updated Grant Funding Allocation 2023-2024 (iii) Approve DfC Advice Salary & Overhead Allocations (iv) Approve receipt of Good Relations Additional Funding (v) Agree the Community Arts Plan 2023 – 2024 (vi) Approve the Community Arts King's Coronation activity 2023 (vii) Approve the Seachtain na Gaeilge Grants (viii) Support the Cross Border Arts and Climate Change Project (ix) Note the update from the Development Department

6	List of Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 Community Rolling Grant Award</p> <p>Appendix 2 DFC Correspondence</p> <p>Appendix 3 Community Arts Plan 2023 – 2024</p> <p>Appendix 4 Community Arts – King’s Coronation 2023</p> <p>Appendix 5 Seachtain na Gaeilge Grant Award</p> <p>Appendix 6 LOS Eco Showboat</p>