

Report on	Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group minutes of meeting of 5 th October 2020
Date of Meeting	Thursday 12 th November 2020
Reporting Officer	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts
Contact Officer	Tony McCance, Head of Culture & Arts

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 receive and consider for approval the minutes of the Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group held on 5 th October 2020 at Council offices Dungannon and by remote link.
1.2	To seek members approval for the revised Irish Language Action Plan for the remainder of 2020/2, including the Delivery of the annual Irish Language Activity Funding Programme.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council previously resolved to establish a Language Working Group to assist with policy development and to support the implementation of Mid Ulster District Council's Irish Language and Ulster Scots language policies and associated work.
2.2	The Working Group Terms of Reference confirms that the business of the Regional and Minority Language Working Group be reported through Mid Ulster District Council's Development Committee.
2.3	The Irish Language Action Plan has been revised as a result of impact of COVID-19 and the fact that some activities will not be possible to be delivered in the current financial year, (e.g. the Irish Language Bursary Scheme (2020/21)).
2.4	The Irish Language Activity Funding scheme was advertised in local press on Monday 5 th February 2020 with a closing date identified for all returned submissions of Friday 27 th March 2020.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The minutes of the meeting of 5 th October 2020 is attached for members' consideration (Appendix 1).

- 3.2 The revised Irish Language Action Plan is attached for members approval (Appendix 2)
- 3.3 Under Irish Language Activity Funding, a total of 17 applications were received, from a wide range of groups with diverse programmes being proposed to be awarded to a total of 16 groups (1 group submission deemed to be ineligible).
- 3.4 The total allocation of funding required to support the Irish Language Activity Funding for 2020-2021 is £40,818. The total amount of funding requested from groups was £70,306.82. Below is a summary of the £40,818 of funding which is proposed to be allocated to 16 groups following assessment and processing by the Officer Team:

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	NAME OF GROUP	ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED	TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED
Clogher Valley	Pobal an Ghleanna	adult classes, intensive course, lectures, conversation event, youth activities	£2,800
Coalisland	Cairde Uí Néill	Féasta Sráide festival event, singing club, Coalisland and Clonoe Sean-nós project, public talks series, traditional music workshop	£7,900
	Feis Oileán agus Cluain Eo	Coalisland and Clonoe Irish language feis	£1,450
Cookstown & District	Institiúid Ceannasaíochta Éireann	Online adult course and Gaeltacht Thír Eoghain event	£1,500
	C.L.G Cill Dreas	Campa Chill Dreas Irish language childrens activities	£2,350
	Tobin Youth Centre	Irish language programme for 4-11 year olds	£2,780
	C.L.G Baile na Scríne	Lecture programme, family event, Gaelscoil blitz	£1,250
Ballinascreen	Glór na Speiríní	adult classes and intensive course, intensive AS/A2 course, local history workshop, language workshops for local primary schools, family event,	£6,000

		Scéilíní/Stories from Gleann Concadhain			
	Sixtowns Cross Community Group	Irish for All adult education programme	£700		
	Comhaltas Uladh (An Chraobh Rua)	Online Irish Language reading group	£780		
Dungannon & District	Kileeshil Community Centre	Irish language courses for children and adults	£750		
	Glór na nGael	Online resource "Best practice in early years provision"	£3,193.82		
	Coiste Forbartha Charn Tóchair	adult classes, intensive courses, Feis Charn Tóchair, conversation event, youth activities, mentoring scheme, online summer college, Gaeltacht linkages, book club, drama club, schools vocational day, GAA outreach classes, Nollaig na mBan event, GCSE and A level support courses, language accuracy course, Scoil Samhraidh language festival event	£18,218		
Maghera	Granaghan & District Women's Group	Labhair í agus mairfidh sí adult education programme	£1,475		
	Conradh na Gaeilge Charn Tóchair	Gaeilge don Teaghlach family support programme	£10,445		
Magherafelt & District	Glór Mhachaire Fíolta	Adult classes, intensive courses, Youth club, book club, conversation event, family days x2	£4,400		

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: The revised proposals outlined within the Irish Language Action Plan for 2020/21 can be met from within existing resources and specifically the funding allocation identified within the Irish Language Development plan 2020-2021 under the themes "<i>To Promote Opportunities to Learn Irish</i>" and "<i>To Develop Irish Language in the Community and to make it more accessible for All</i>".</p>
	<p>Human: N/a</p>
	<p>Risk Management: Cognisance has been given to the ability of officers and organisations to deliver activity detailed within the Irish Language Action Plan as a result of COVID 19.</p> <p>All risks identified and arising from the delivery of the Regional and Minority Language Programme are discussed and addressed through the Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>The language policies are implemented in a way that is sensitive to the concerns of certain sections of the community, that is inclusive, and that aspires to promote good relations between all sections of the community in the longer term.</p> <p>The language policies are introduced so as to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the promotion of a good and harmonious environment, either among Council staff or within the District as a whole.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: Rural needs implications are considered as part of the implementation and delivery of the regional and minority language programme of activity.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the minutes of the Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working group of 5 th October 2020 (appendix 1)
5.2	Members are asked to approve the revised Irish Language Action Plan for the remainder of 2020/21 including the Delivery of the annual Irish Language Activity Funding Programme as detailed and as discussed at the Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working group of 5 th October 2020 (appendix 2).

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Minutes of the Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group of 5 th October 2020.
6.2	Appendix 2 – Revised Irish Language Action Plan 2020/21