

<b>Report on</b>	Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Fiona McClements

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Members on the Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) Live Here Love Here (LHLH) programme by highlighting the outputs and outcomes of the programme including the small grant programme.
1.2	To advise Members of the request for funding to continue for the next three years, from April 2022 until the end of March 2025.
1.3	To explore whether MUDC wishes to increase their contribution into the small grants programme managed by LHLH.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council contributes to the Live Here Love Here campaign which with other funding partners supports a campaign to encourage responsible behaviours to improve the environmental standards across the Mid Ulster District Council area and across NI. MUDC contributes £21,000 p.a., 50% of which is returned into the MUDC area through a small grants programme.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>There are a number of key strands to LHLH which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The volunteer programme supports groups in their environmental improvements through "Adopt A Spot". There are currently 60 "Adopt A Spot" groups across Mid Ulster and this year Live Here Love Here secured additional funding from DAERA to purchase and distribute 500 new Adopt A Spot kits, some of which will be available in MUDC area.</li> <li>The Small Grants Scheme supports groups focusing their efforts on pollution solutions, climate action and biodiversity recovery. New programmes to tackle plastics and textile waste have been proving popular and there is also a new offer of Carbon Literacy training, a first for Northern Ireland, which launched in October 2021. The amount of grant funding returned into MUDC is 50 % of the funding total, i.e. £10,500 however this is additionally supplemented by funding from other organisations as outlined in Appendix 1. The small grants programmes aim to improve the quality of the local environment through effective and innovative ways to reduce littering</li> </ul>

3.2	<p>and dog fouling, enhance the environmental management of a local area, contribute to the development of civic pride within a community with the focus on environmental improvement. They also aim to improve the health and wellbeing of communities whilst helping to improve and/or maintain public spaces, and encourage actions and projects that enable Pollution Solutions, Biodiversity Recovery and Climate Action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As discussed previously the small grants amount can be increased separately with a management cost of 12% if MUDC wishes to expand the funding in this area. The small grants information is available at Appendix 1 and for noting there have been 22 out of 57 funding applications successfully obtaining funding.</li> <li>• An important part of the programme has been the media campaign featuring the 'Ragin' Al' puppet, who, love him or loathe him, has continued to catch the imagination of the public across Northern Ireland. A refreshed outdoor advertising campaign took 'Ragin' Al' into the local high street as well as on to TVs during prime-time slots.</li> <li>• There have been bespoke billboards in the MUDC area with anti-littering messaging.</li> </ul> <p>Mid Ulster District Council have been asked to continue to support the LHLH campaign for another 3 years (2022-2025) at the same annual budget of £21,000 p.a. £10,500 of which returns into supporting MUDC communities through the Small Grants Scheme. Details are contained within Appendix 2.</p>
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial: £21,000 p.a. each year for 3 years. Additional contributions can be made to extend the small grants programme with a management fee of 12%.</p> <p>Human: N/a</p> <p>Risk Management: N/a</p>
4.2	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: N/a</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: N/a</p>
5.0	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the content of the report.
5.2	It is recommended that the £21,000 p.a funding is continued for another 3 years, 50% of which comes back into MUDC through a small grants programme.

5.3	Consideration to be given to putting in place additional contributions to the small grants programme as raised previously when putting in place the Clean Neighbourhood Programme.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 – Mid Ulster District Council small grants programme information
6.2	Appendix 2 – LHLH correspondence