

Report on	Ulster-Scots Funding (PHASE 2), U.S. Grant Presidential Homestead
Date of Meeting	11 October 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
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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 report and inform Committee of the Ulster-Scots funding opportunity to further develop and enhance the existing offering at U.S. Grant Presidential Homestead.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Ulster-Scots Agency has identified an opportunity to promote the Ulster-Scots (Scotch-Irish) story and its connection with the United States through the story of Ulysses S. Grant. Grant was one of the most iconic American military and political leaders and was well aware of his Scotch-Irish heritage. The ancestral home of Ulysses S. Grant, 18th President of the United States is located at 45 Dergenagh Road, Dungannon, County Tyrone.
2.2	The Grant Homestead provides an outstanding opportunity to showcase our Scotch-Irish heritage. The homestead has huge potential both for local people (including visitors, pupils and residents) and for tourists (the U.S. is one of our most important tourist markets, where 20million people are believed to have Scotch-Irish roots).
2.3	The Agency proposes significantly enhancing the interpretive treatment of the site including the introduction of welcome signage at the entrances and exits to the site; directional signage to help visitors to navigate the site and suitable interpretive displays within and around the buildings. The Agency will also include audio interpretation at the site, as well as upgrading the existing audio / visual offering.
2.4	A partnership agreement between Mid Ulster District Council and the Ulster-Scots Agency is the chosen method for the progression of the Grant Homestead Interpretive and achieving a 4 star visitor experiences grading.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Project to be delivered by 31 st December 2018
3.2	The Ulster-Scots Agency is the overall project manager and will take the lead role in delivering the project objectives, outputs and outcomes.

3.3	<p>The Ulster-Scots Agency will fulfil the following project objectives:</p> <p>(i) To engage an organisation to develop a concept plan for the interpretive project, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping how to maximise use of the homestead site including the cottage, outbuildings, modern AV suite and outside area • Determining the extent of the interpretive signage and directional signage available within the allocated budget • Determining the extent of the audio equipment required to enhance the overall interpretive signage project • Drawing up a detailed plan for the interpretive signage project • Providing the specification details for the interpretive signage and audio equipment to enable procurement to be completed <p>(ii) To engage an organisation to research, develop and provide all the content required, including narrative and imagery to incorporate into the design of the interpretive signage and the audio equipment recordings.</p> <p>(iii) To engage an organisation to manufacture the interpretive signage based on the information contained within the concept plan for the interpretive signage project.</p> <p>(iv) To engage an organisation to supply the audio equipment based on the information contained within the concept plan for the interpretive signage project.</p> <p>(v) To engage an organisation to install the interpretive signage and audio equipment based on the detailed plan of how the panels will be arranged to maximise the space available and where the audio equipment is to be placed based on the information contained within the concept plan for the interpretive signage project.</p> <p>(vi) To promote the Grant Homestead Interpretive Signage Project wherever possible in Ulster-Scots Agency publications, websites and social media.</p> <p>(vii) To publish the Mid Ulster District Council logo next to the Discover Ulster-Scots logo when promoting the Grant Homestead Interpretive Signage Project at all times.</p> <p>(viii) To assist Mid Ulster District Council in conducting a post-project evaluation.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: The Ulster-Scots Agency is responsible for all procurement in respect of the project.</p> <p>The Ulster-Scots Agency will allocate £30000 toward the cost of the project to cover interpretive signage, directional signage and audio equipment.</p> <p>Council's contribution will be considered 'in-kind' towards the project.</p> <p>Human: Mid Ulster District Council will appoint an officer for the Grant Homestead Interpretive Signage Project to manage timescales and ensure deadlines are adhered to.</p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council is also responsible for providing guidance and professional advice to enhance the Grant Homestead Interpretive Signage Project.</p>

	<p>To attend meetings with the Ulster-Scots Agency as required during the development of the Grant Homestead Interpretive Signage Project and to undertake all tasks using due professional skill, care and diligence.</p> <p>To conduct a post-project evaluation (with the assistance of the Ulster-Scots Agency).</p>
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	The report requires approval from committee to commence with the collaboration with the Ulster-Scots Agency and proceed to establish a partnership agreement to govern the implementation of the project, subject to the Council's legal department approving the partnership agreement.
6.0	Documents Attached & References