

<b>Report on</b>	Economic Development - OBFD  1. Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) Funding Request (2021/22)  2. Coalisland Great Places Project
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	11 March 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Head of Economic Development

<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 provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed above.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<b>ICBAN Funding Request (2021/22)</b> Over the past number of years, a group of 8 Councils from north and south (as listed below) have provided a financial contribution towards ICBAN to support their work; these are Mid Ulster District Council, Fermanagh and Omagh Council, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Monaghan, Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim and Cavan County Councils.
2.2	<b>Coalisland Great Places Project.</b> This project is jointly supported by the Heritage Lottery and Mid Ulster Council. The project explores the rich manufacturing legacy of the people of Coalisland and East Tyrone through a series of initiatives delivered in the local community by Lough Neagh Partnership.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<b>ICBAN Funding Request (2020/21)</b> ICBAN submitted a request to Mid Ulster District Council for a contribution of £15,000 for the financial year 2021/22, outlining priorities going forward, with the focus now on the 'Framework of Regional Priorities for the Central Border Region' and also work continuing on some of the initiatives detailed in their Report on activities undertaken in 2020/21. The delivery focus continues to be on areas to benefit member Councils.  Further information is available for members review in <b>Appendices 1A &amp; 1B.</b>

3.2	<p><b>Coalisland Great Places Project</b>  This project focuses on creating opportunities for local people to build skills capacity, revive lost artisan and manufacturing skills and celebrate the area's industrial manufacturing heritage through the medium of arts and culture.</p> <p>Lough Neagh Partnership has responsibility for delivering the project, which is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to the value of £312,000 and Mid Ulster Council previously agreed to provide gap funding of £30,000 over a 3 year period (2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21) for specific elements of the project. The ongoing pandemic throughout the 2020/21, has caused delays to some aspects of the final year of the project. Lough Neagh Partnership has attained authorisation from the main funder, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, to permit the project to be completed at no extra cost or additional expenditure in the next financial year (2021/22). See correspondence on <b>Appendix 2A</b> attached.</p> <p>In most cases, the remaining events and activities will now be delivered in a 'digital' format, which means that talks, performances, meetings and training will be delivered as online broadcasts or as digital resources on a website. The project has also been extended to allow enough time to complete the revised programme and the new date for completion is 30 September 2021.</p> <p>Lough Neagh Partnership will have drawn down £27,000 of their £30,000 contribution from Council by 31 March 2021, and have requested that Council's final contribution to the group, which amounts to £3,000 is paid in the new financial year (2021/22). Due to the unique set of circumstances caused by the pandemic, Council officers would recommend that Members approve this request as referred to in <b>Appendix 2B</b>.</p>
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial:</p> <p><b>ICBAN Funding Request (2021/22)</b> – Provision has been made in the 2021/22 economic development budget for £15,000 for ICBAN.</p> <p><b>Coalisland Great Places Project</b>  Provision of £3,000 has been made in the 2021/22 economic development budget for the final payment to Lough Neagh Partnership relating to the Coalisland Great Places Project.</p> <hr/> <p>Human: Officer Time</p> <hr/> <p>Risk Management: N/A</p>
4.2	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <hr/> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:</p> <hr/> <p>Rural Needs Implications:</p>

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that Members:-</p> <p><b>ICBAN Funding Request (2021/22)</b></p> <p><b>Approve</b> funding request from ICBAN for up to £15,000 from Council's Economic Development Budget (2021/22), to be paid in two equal instalments twice yearly, subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation (application form, confirmation of match funding, copies of accounts, insurances, financial report and progress updates).</p>
5.2	<p><b>Coalisland Great Places Project</b></p> <p><b>Approve</b> reallocation of funds for year 3 of Coalisland Great Places Project, and make provision for Council's final contribution of £3,000 to Lough Neagh Partnership in the new financial year (2021/22). This flexibility will allow final works on the project to be completed, having been delayed as a result of the pandemic, with no additional costs to Council.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	<p><b>Appendix 1A</b> – ICBAN letter to MUDC - 14.10.20</p> <p><b>Appendix 1B</b> – ICBAN Report April 2020 - March 2021</p> <p><b>Appendix 2A</b> - Coalisland Great Places Report - 8.2.21</p> <p><b>Appendix 2B</b> - Coalisland Great Places Change of Funding Request - 3.2.21</p>