

Report on	Development Report
Date of Meeting	15 th June 2023
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Assistant Director of Development
Contact Officers	Philip Clarke – Neighbourhood Development Manager, Oliver Morgan-Diversity & Integration 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"> • Community Grants – Rolling Programme • DFC Hardship Funding – Allocation • Government Funding TEO – Phased Good Relations Plan • One World – Youth Conference • Development Update 									
2	Key Issues									
2.1	<p>Community Grants - Rolling Grants Programme 2023 – 2024 Members are advised that the grants assessment panel are making the following recommendations to award grants.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Grant</th> <th>No. of groups awarded</th> <th>Value of Grant Awards</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Community Festival Fund</td> <td>4</td> <td>£1,872</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Good Relations Grant</td> <td>0</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> </tbody> </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	£1,872	Good Relations Grant	0	£0
Grant	No. of groups awarded	Value of Grant Awards								
Community Festival Fund	4	£1,872								
Good Relations Grant	0	£0								
2.2	<p>DFC Hardship Funding – Allocation</p> <p>At the end of the last financial year the Department of Communities allocated Mid Ulster District Council an award of £316,303 Hardship Funding to be utilised within the current financial year to support the vulnerable across the district. To date £113,419 of this fund has been allocated to grants to support the local community & voluntary sector in assisting vulnerable people at the local level leaving a balance of £202,884 which it is proposed to allocate as below:</p>									

1. £14,390 to Save the Children, with match funding from both Health Trusts and Save the Children with an investment of £43,000, alongside Save the Children staff resource, to allow the programme to run to end of March 2024. This will support approximately 150 families (mostly single parents) in the provision of essential household items and early learning support pack for young children.
2. £90,000 to Councils current model of crisis intervention, via the 11 strategic crisis support groups of Foodbanks and SVP partners operating across 5 main towns and Clogher Valley to provide support with provision of food (or food vouchers), fuel costs, white goods and other necessary household requirements, dependent on need. Funding will be allocated as per the 3 main towns (Magherafelt, Cookstown & Dungannon) £20,000 each and 2 small towns (Maghera & Coalisland) and Clogher Valley area of £10,000 each.

This will leave a balance of £98,494 to be held for further support throughout the rest of the financial year up to end of March 2024. DfC has also given an indication that monies should be released soon under their Social Supermarket initiative which also be allocated out via the above Hardship Network. It is hoped this approach will allow a phased release of resourcing for the Summer, Autumn and Winter periods.

2.3 **Government Funding TEO – Phased Good Relations Plan**

Council has received notification of a number of proposed funding cuts in line with the recent reduction of the central government budget.

Council Corporate Equality is responding to the EQIA's that have been issued from the departments: The Department for Community and the Northern Ireland Office stating its concerns to the funding cuts and the service delivery impact.

Good Relations - The Northern Ireland Office has updated Council that due to the central budget cuts, the current reduction to Council Good Relations Local Action Plan is 47%. This may amend in the future if further funding becomes available, or as per above in response to the EQIA. Council currently has to commence the delivery of a reduced plan. See attached the updated plan in **Appendix 2** for consideration and agreement.

2.4 **One World – Youth Summit**

Venue: Belfast

Dates: 2-5 October 2023

The annual One Young World Summit presents regions with the unique opportunity to host an internationally diverse, youth-driven event that is second only to the Olympic Games in terms of the number of countries represented, and has gained an impressive reputation for the calibre of world-famous participants. At past Summits, Delegates have been joined by Counsellors including Justin Trudeau, Emma Watson, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, Sir Bob Geldof, Kofi Annan, Sir Richard Branson, Meghan Markle, Professor Muhammad Yunus, Jamie Oliver, Jack Dorsey and Mary Robinson, amongst others.

The topics for discussion at the 2023 conference include:
Peace and Reconciliation - How can communities build and sustain lasting peace?
- Climate Emergency - How can we ensure responsible stewardship of our planet's resources?
- Food Crisis - How can we end this global food crisis before it becomes a hunger catastrophe?
- Education - How can we fight inequality through education?
- Mental Health - How can we make mental health a priority

Solace has requested each Council consider sponsoring One Young World Delegate at a cost of approx. £3100.

To achieve this in the current financial year (2023) - It is proposed to fund the delegate via the following process– via the existing Mid Ulster Youth Forum which is set up as a representative body across Mid Ulster.

2.5 **Development Update**

Community Support

Council officers are currently issuing grant letters of offer, and working with groups on capacity building and maximising funding. To date as of June 433 grants have been supported to a value of £639,933.

Social Inclusion

The Housing Conference is planned for 7th June, to bring people together to seek solutions for the provision of social and affordable housing in Mid Ulster.

A plan for delivery is currently being developed for Community Wealth Building along with DTNI and DFC. This will be presented to the Community Wealth Building Working group for discussion.

Good Relations

The Good Relations Plan 2023 – 2024 has been updated to be delivered in a phased approach.

Peace

The new Peace Plus Local Action Plan is currently in development. The final template for the submission of the Plan is pending from SEUPB. The final Plan will be presented to Committee for discussion and approval.

PCSP

No PCSP minutes this period.

Burnavon Arts Centre

The new Spring programme for Burnavon is being delivered at present, with positive numbers across performances and activities. Maintenance work to the facility (upgrade seating etc.) is scheduled to be installed over the mid- summer months.

	<p><u>Seamus Heaney Homeplace</u> The new Spring programme for Seamus Heaney Homeplace is being delivered at present, with positive numbers across performances, programmes, exhibition and education programme. Seamus Heaney Homeplace is continuing to develop cross border and international links to promote the centre to a wide audience.</p> <p>The Bawn Literary Residential facility is continuing to develop. A business case is being progressed, led by DFC and partnered by Council, Arts Council NI, Arts Council Ireland, Tyrone Guthrie Centre, and supported by the Office of the Taoiseach for potential investment. A draft business case will be presented to members in due course.</p> <p><u>Hill of The O'Neill and Ranfurly House</u> Events and activities are being planned and delivered at Hill of The O'Neill and Ranfurly House.</p> <p>The Mid South West development for the facility is at SOC (Strategic Case) stage which is due to complete in June 2023.</p>
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>Rolling Community Grants £1872 Hardship Fund £104,390 One World Youth Conference £3100 (Good Relations 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) Agree the rolling community grant allocations (ii) Agree the Hardship Funding allocations (iii) Agree the Phased Good Relations Plan (iv) Agree the One World Youth Conference attendance (v) Note the Development Update

6	List of Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 Community Grants Appendix 2 Good Relations Phased Plan