

<b>Report on</b>	Live Here Love Here Small Grants Scheme 2022
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Anne Caldwell, Principal Environmental Health Officer

<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 information on the successful applications that were awarded funding for the 2022 Mid Ulster District Council Live Here Love Here, Small Grants Scheme.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council contributes to the Live Here Love Here campaign. Included within this campaign is a grant scheme that aims to support and encourage responsible behaviours to improve the environmental standards across the Mid Ulster District Council area and also across Northern Ireland. The Small Grants Scheme is a partnership between 10 Local Councils, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, McAdam and Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.
2.2	Council has supported this grants scheme for a number of years and more recently in December 2021, Members at the Environment Committee resolved to give a renewed commitment for a £21,000 per annum contribution for a 3 year period from April 2022 – March 2024 (minute reference: E295/21).
2.3	Members are reminded that 50% (£10,500) of this annual Council contribution is returned specifically to the Mid Ulster Council area each year through the successful applicants to the small grants programme. The remaining funding of the grant programme is supplemented by funding from other organisations.
2.4	Mid Ulster District Council in partnership with Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful and other organisations launched the 2022 Small Grants Scheme on 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2022. The scheme forms part of a wider programme aimed at promoting civic pride within communities and improving environmental quality. Details of successful grant recipients are enclosed within Appendix A.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The primary focus of the Small Grants Scheme is to equip and support volunteers and community groups to deliver practical environmental action in their locality.
3.2	It aims to support communities to meet the following objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the quality of their local environment by reducing littering and dog fouling through community action.</li> <li>• Enhance the environmental management of a local area.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the development of civic pride within a community with a focus on environmental improvement.</li> <li>• Improve the health and wellbeing of communities whilst helping to improve and/or maintain public spaces.</li> <li>• Encourage actions and projects that enable Pollution Solutions, Biodiversity Recovery and Climate Action.</li> <li>• Support environmentally focused actions that help support people impacted through reduced contact with society.</li> </ul> <p>3.3 Applications to the Small Grants Scheme should demonstrate the following three central themes that form part of the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful's Strategic Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Action</li> <li>• Biodiversity Recovery</li> <li>• Pollution Solutions</li> </ul> <p>3.4 Grants are available from £500 to £3000. The small grants scheme is open to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unconstituted groups</li> <li>• Volunteer, community groups and NGOs</li> <li>• All schools and third level education organisations</li> <li>• Youth groups, sports clubs, churches</li> <li>• Not for Profit Organisations</li> </ul> <p>3.4 All applications require to demonstrate engagement with the wider community.</p> <p>3.5 Within the Mid Ulster District Council area, 22 applications were submitted this year and therefore were assessed. The proposed projects were considered in terms of showing engagement with volunteers and community groups to deliver practical action and assessed in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental/Community outcomes</li> <li>• Meeting objectives</li> <li>• Project goals</li> <li>• Project need</li> <li>• Volunteer involvement</li> <li>• Community benefit</li> <li>• Long term impact</li> </ul> <p>3.6 Funding was awarded to 10 projects within the Mid Ulster area that met the scheme criteria. The total grant amount allocated to the successful projects within Mid Ulster was £16,498. Council made a funding contribution to the scheme of £10,500. The remainder of the funding was met by another participating funding partner, McAdam.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial: Covered within the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Membership and included within Council's revenue budgets for the 22/23 year. In December 2021 Council approved £21k per annum funding for a further 3 years, 50% which comes back to Council through a small grants programme. (Minute reference: E295/21).</p> <p>Human: Officer time to review all applications and assess in accordance with scheme criteria so to facilitate and assist with the evaluation panel</p>

	Risk Management: This scheme is administered and managed through Live Here Love Here governance processes.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	To note the contents of this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix A: Grant recipients and amount of grant award Appendix B: Grant guidance notes Appendix C: LHLH & MUDC Impact Card