

Title of Report:	Sustainable Food & Essential Supplies Grant Programme
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 November 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy & Engaged Communities
Outcome	Council will work to develop and promote stable and cohesive communities across the Borough
Lead Officer	Head of Community & Culture Community Development Manager

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£0
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	
Code	33201
Staffing Costs	n/a

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the outcome of the assessment of the applications received to the Sustainable Food & Essential Supplies Grant Programme and to provide recommendations in relation to grant awards to be made through the programme.

2.0 Background

In August 2021 a report was presented to the Leisure & Development Committee with proposals for spend of a Covid 19 Food & Essential Supplies Transition Fund received from DfC to support the transition from temporary emergency food support to more strategic and sustainable approaches to food poverty/food insecurity issues.

Proposals for this spend were developed in line with the Anti-Poverty Action Plan and based on ongoing engagement with the community and voluntary sector. One of these proposals was the development of a Sustainable Food & Essential Supplies' Grant Programme that would provide grant funding for projects that moved away from the direct provision of emergency food to a more sustainable approach such as community gardens, community fridges etc.

3.0 Applications received

The Grant Programme opened for applications on 15th September with a closing date of 15th October and was promoted through Councils corporate social media, a press release and a mailout to all community and voluntary sector organisations on Councils register. Two information workshops that were held for prospective applicants were well attended and Councils Environmental Resources team were also on hand to support potential applicants to develop their project ideas.

An assessment panel of Council Officers assessed the applications received against the criteria as stated in the Guidance Notes for the programme. Applicants were required to attain a score of at least 65% in order to be recommended for funding, in line with Council's Grant Funding Policy.

An extract from the Guidance Notes for the grant programme, detailing programme outcomes, eligibility and assessment criteria, is attached at *Annex A*. The following is a summary of the assessment of the applications:

No. of applications received	32
No. of ineligible applicants	0
No. of unsuccessful applications (scoring less than 65%)	8
No. of successful applications (scoring 65% and above)	24
Total value of funding recommended	£54,491.54

A list of the applications received, the assessment scores and the grant amount recommended are listed in **Annex B**.

There was an encouraging level of interest in this Programme and since there is an amount of £21,647.46 remaining in the Programme budget it will be opened again for applications week commencing 8th November. Unsuccessful applicants will be permitted to submit a new application if they meet with a member of the Community Development or Environmental Resources teams for detailed feedback on the initial application.

4.0 Recommendations

Approve awards for funding through the Sustainable Food & Essential Supplies Grant Programme as detailed in **Annex B**.

Annex A: Extract from Guidance Notes for Sustainable Food & Essential Supplies Fund

Programme Outcomes

Projects should deliver activities which support one or more of the Sustainable Food & Essential Supplies Grant Programme outcomes which are as follows:

- There is a reduction in costs of food for people living in the Borough;
- People living in our community have improved access to nutritious food and ability to access food, and the skills to cook and form good food habits;
- There is a reduction in costs of essential items for people living in our community;
- There is a reduction in food waste in our community and local people are educated regarding sustainable food practices;
- There is increased re-use of essential items in our community.

What can be funded?

Applicants can apply for grants of up to 100% of costs up to a maximum of £2,500 towards project costs.

Eligible costs include:

- Equipment related to food preparation and food storage eg. fridges, freezer, oven, microwave, toaster, slow cooker etc
- Venue hire (cost of hiring a venue to run your project) • Facilitator costs (use local practitioners if possible)
- Produce and ingredients costs (fruit, vegetables etc) • Materials eg. compost, seeds • Cooking utensils eg. pots/pans
- Initial start up stock of products for essential items banks eg hygiene items (capped at £250) Storage and display items eg clothes rails •
- Training for volunteers eg Food Safety
- Promotion costs eg printing leaflets
- Any other costs that can be shown to be relevant to the project Council reserves the right to reduce any costs applied for which are deemed not relevant to the project to ensure outcomes of the Programme are met.

Assessment Criteria

1. What are your plans for the project and how are you going to do it (25%)
2. Number and type of beneficiaries (25%)
3. How well the project promotes and addresses the Sustainable Food & Essential Supplies Programme Outcomes (25%)
4. How you have engaged with your local community and identified the need for your project (25%)

Annex: B Sustainable Food & Essential Supplied Grant Programme recommendations for funding

Organisation	Project Title	Scores	Amount Requested (£)	Amount Recommended (£)
Articlave District Community Association	Meals on A Budget	65%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Ashes To Gold	Fork to Spoon	70%	2,423.95	2,423.95
Ballykelly Primary School PTA	Green Fingers for Little Fingers	70%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Be Safe Be Well	Mens Sheds Grow and Eat Project	80%	2,220.00	2,220.00
Benbradagh Community Support	Cooking with young people	65%	2,000.00	2,000.00
Building Ballysally Together	Food bank	40%	2,500.00	0.00
CAN - Compass Advocacy Network Ltd	Grow Sustainable Food Programme for People with a Learning Disability.	85%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Cloughmills Community Action Team	Made at the Mill	90%	2,302.59	2,302.59
Cloughmills Community Association	Christmas Home Delivery Lunch	35%	600.00	0.00
Coleraine Festival Committee	Health & Well-being including Luncheon Club	65%	2,446.00	2,446.00
Cushendun And District Development Association	Food - Sustenance and Sustainability	65%	1,250.00	1,250.00
Dervock & District Community Association	FOOD with THOUGHT 22	40%	2,500.00	0.00
Dry Arch Children	Food 4 Life Project	85%	2,300.00	2,300.00
Dungiven Men's Shed	Dungiven Men's Shed Food Education & Skills Programme	70%	1,115.00	1,115.00
Dungiven Regeneration Club	Reduce Food Wastage	80%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Dunluce Guide House Management Committee	Guiding Sustainably	70%	2,142.00	2,142.00
Friends of Rossmar	Rossmar Sustainable Food Project	85%	2,300.00	2,300.00
Glenariff Improvement	Sustenance and Sustainability	50%	2,400.00	0.00
Loughgiel Community Association Ltd	Loughgiel Grow Your Own Project	75%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Magilligan Community Association	Magilligan Community Fridge Project	85%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Millburn Community Association	Tea Pot Tuesday	70%	2,492.00	2,492.00
Millburn Primary School Parents' Association	Millburn's Pledge to Veg!	80%	2,500.00	2,500.00

Moneydig Rural Network	Electronic shop for Moneydig	65%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Mother Goose Playgroup	Nutrition Matters In Our Community	70%	2,500.00	1,500.00
Roe Valley Residents Association	The Grub Hub - Community Cafe	80%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Royal British Legion Portstewart Branch	Together We Can	60%	2,350.00	0.00
St Johns Primary School PTA	From seed to plate	65%	2,500.00	2,500.00
St. Matthew's GAC Drumsumn	St. Matthew's GAC Young at Heart	40%	2,500.00	0.00
Stranocum & District Development Group	COOK/ EAT & ENJOY TOGETHER	85%	2,500.00	2,500.00
The Glens Community Association	Get Cooking	55%	2,500.00	0.00
Vineyard Compassion (VC)	Developing the GROW allotment	90%	2,500.00	2,500.00
Windyhall Community Association	Windyhall Caring For The Community	30%	2,500.00	0.00
			73,341.54	54,491.54