

Title of Report:	Coleraine Revitalise 2021/23
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 February 2023
For Decision or For Information	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Improvement and Innovation
Outcome	The Council facilitates towns and villages in the Borough to continue to provide quality environments which evolve to meet the needs of their citizens, businesses and visitors to them.
Lead Officer	Head of Prosperity & Place

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£294k – 100% DfC Funding
Included in Current Year Estimates	Yes
Capital/Revenue	Capital
Code	Not applicable
Staffing Costs	Existing staff

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

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of the Coleraine Revitalise Scheme providing DfC funding for the 2021-2023 period to assist in creating quality environments for Coleraine Town Centre.

2.0 Background

Revitalise Schemes are funded by DfC and administered by Council's Physical Regeneration team. Revitalise Projects focus on offering grant-funded assistance to business/property owners to enhance and upgrade their building frontages to help improve appeal of their properties and the retail area to shoppers and visitors. The funding can also be utilised to improve the general visual quality and interest of the streetscape.

In 2021 DfC allocated funding for a Coleraine Revitalise Scheme to cover the 2021-2023 (2 year) financial period. This funding is specifically to address areas within the town centre that have not previously benefited from the Revitalise grant schemes. The list of designated streets for this project include:

- Church Street
- Church Lane
- Church Lane Mall
- Park Street
- The Diamond
- Diamond Arcade
- Bellhouse Lane
- Abbey Street
- Queen Street
- Society Street
- New Row
- Stone Row

The total level of funding is £294k, with a grant cap of £5k per application. A minimum 10% contribution is required from each applicant. There is no cost to Council as DfC are 100% funding the project.

3.0 Current Position

Since April 2021 there have been three calls issued for grant applications to business/property owners in the project area and it is anticipated that up to 65 qualifying properties will be offered funding. This will achieve an approximate grant spend of c£240k by the project end date in March 2023.

However, as there will be some underspend in the budget, the DfC and the Revitalise Steering Group (CTT) gave approval in November 2022 for officers to initiate a street art project within the revitalise area using up to £29,500 of the underspend.

In keeping with other street art initiatives in the Borough this project demands a number of art works to be delivered to a high standard within a tight deadline and tenders were sought from five experienced delivery agents specialising in such work.

The successful tenderer was the local artist and design consultant, Michelle McGarvey, who will project manage the Coleraine Revitalise Street Art project with a consortium of artists who specialise in installations of this nature.

The process of the street art installation commenced in early January 2023 and will continue to the end of March 2023.