

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Community Development Support Grant (2023-24)</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	The Leisure & Development Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	21 February 2023
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	For Decision

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Healthy, Active & Engaged Communities
Outcome	The Borough comprises cohesive and stable communities which work collaboratively with a range of stakeholders to address issues and deliver on opportunities
Lead Officer	Head of Community & Culture Community Development Manager

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	£24,803
Included in Current Year Estimates	<b>YES/NO</b>
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	33201
Staffing Costs	n/a

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	<u>Yes/No</u>	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	<u>Yes/No</u>	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 present the outcome of the assessment of the applications received to the Community Development Support Grant 2023-24 for approval.

## 2.0 Background

The Department for Communities provides annual funding to Council through the Community Support Programme which contributes towards the Community Development Support Grant and the Social Connections Grant.

In November 2021, Council approved some changes to the Community Development Support Grant to reduce bureaucracy with the grant programme and allow applicants to apply for a 3 year term rather than an annual application, subject to availability of DfC funding and achievement of outcomes in year one. The levels of grant awarded were also increased. The maximum grant award of £2,000 was increased to £3,500.

**Of the 55 successful applicants to the CDSG Programme in 2022-23, 52 applied for a 3 year term and the value of funding committed was £140,378.02 per year.**

Those 52 successful applicants that were awarded a grant for the 3 year term were not required to submit a CDSG application for 2023-24. A Letter of offer will be issued in April 2023 for year two, subject to satisfactory submission of year one Monitoring and Evaluation Form and claim documentation.

In order to allow those groups that didn't apply for the 3 year term to submit an application and also to check if any other community groups missed applying last year, Council agreed in December 2022 to open the CDSG to allow groups to apply for a 2 year term.

## 3.0 Community Development Support Grant

3.1 Purpose of Grant Programme: To contribute to the running costs/overhead costs incurred by core community development organisations.

3.2 Levels of Grant available:

- i. Category 1: Community development groups directly providing a programme of activities. The group has its own premises including a hall/space adaptable for a range of activities with one or more meeting rooms, hired by at least two other groups on a regular (at least monthly) basis. £3,500.
- ii. Category 2: Community development group directly providing a programme of activities with a premises for their own use, which isn't hired by two or more regular user groups. £2,500.
- iii. Category 3: Community development group that provides a programme of activities without their own premises. £1,250.

Community Development groups can apply for grants of up to 75% of costs to the relevant category level.

An extract from the Guidance Notes for the grant programmes, detailing eligibility and assessment criteria, is attached at **Annex A**.

3.3 Applications Received (not including total grants awarded for 3 years in 222/23):

No. of applications received	16
No. of ineligible/unsuccessful applications	5
No. of successful applications	11
Total value of CDSG funding recommended	£24,803

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

The unsuccessful applications were either ineligible, eg. sports club or arts organisation, or did not offer a sufficient range of regular activities and services for the whole community to meet the criteria for this particular grant programme. Officers from the Community Development team will provide detailed feedback to the unsuccessful applicant organisations and can offer support to develop projects and source other funding.

#### **4.0 Overall Budgetary Commitment**

Subject to the approval of the awards as contained within this report, the total budgetary allocation for the Community Development Support Grant for the 23/24 period would be £165,181 (£140,378 having already been agreed by Council in 2022 for a 3 year period).

#### **5.0 Recommendation**

That council approve additional awards for funding through the Community Development Support Grant as detailed in **Annex B** for 2 years for the sum of £24,803 per annum, subject to funding and satisfactorily achievement of outcomes.

## **Annex A: Eligibility and Criteria for Community Development Support Grant**

### **Community Development Support Grant**

#### **Eligible organisations:**

- Only Community Development Organisations which are open, accountable and representative of the geographical area in which they service, promote and support community development can apply.
- Groups must be multi-purpose, providing or hosting a number of different activities and services for the benefit and to meet identified needs of their whole community, not just for a specific group and/or single issue within that community.
- Groups must demonstrate that they are well run, that they provide a voice for local concerns, are inclusive and have activities open to the whole community, adhere to democratic principles, encourage people to become active and involved in their community, meet local needs and provide local services and are working in partnership with others.
- Eligible organisations will be those that are incorporated to provide programmes and offer services aimed at improving the social, economic and environmental situation of a certain locality i.e. housing estate, village, town or district. This may include Community Associations, Residents' Groups, Town or Village Committees or similar.

#### **Ineligible organisations:**

- Groups operating outside the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area
- Organisations with charitable fundraising as their main focus
- Organisations who have substantial, demonstrable reserves
- Umbrella organisations that do not have a separate local constitution
- Organisations principally established for the delivery of activities for one specific grouping or single issue e.g. youth groups, 50+ sector (such organisations should apply to the Social Connections Grant)
- Culture, Arts and Heritage Groups (such organisations should apply to the Culture, Arts & Heritage Grant)
- Sports Clubs / Leisure Activity Clubs (such organisations should contact Council's Sport & Well-being section for support))
- Organisations whose primary objectives are concerned with health, education or training
- Schools, pre-school or nursery provision
- Political Organisations
- Religious Organisations

#### **Assessment Criteria:**

If the organisation, based on the information supplied, is able to satisfy Council of their eligibility for the Community Development Support Grant Programme they will be assessed on a Pass/ Fail basis as indicated in the table below.

Is organisation multi-purpose, providing or hosting a number of different activities and services for the benefit and to meet identified needs of their whole community, not just for a specific group and/or single issue within that community?	Yes/ No		
---	------------	--	--

<p>If Yes</p> <p>Does the organisation operate (own or lease) community premises that are used/hired by other organisations</p>	Yes	hired by <u>at least</u> 2 other groups at least monthly?	Awards of up to £3,500
		hired by at <u>less than</u> 2 other groups at least monthly.	Awards of up to £2,500
	No	Award of up to £1,250	
Full itemized breakdown of all costs provided	Amount awarded based on eligibility of costs and Category limit as above.		

## Annex B: Community Development Support Grant 2023-24 Recommended Awards

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Total Amount Requested (£)</b>	<b>Recommended for funding (Y/N)</b>	<b>Amount Recommended (£)</b>
Aghanloo Community Association	£3,748.00	Y	£3,500
Ballybogey Community Association	£3,500.00	Y	£3,500
Balnamore Community Association	£1,253.00	Y	£1,168
Bovalley Community Association	£2,600.00	Y	£2,500
Dervock & District Community Association	£3,500.00	Y	£2,500
Dunaghy Community Association	£250.00	Y	£250
Glenshane Community Development Ltd	£3,500.00	Y	£3,500
Grow The Glens CIC	£3,500.00	N	£0
Killowen & Churchlands Community Assoc	£635.00	Y	£635
Kilrea & District Ulster Scots Society	£1,290.00	N	£0
Limavady Volunteer Center	£1,250.00	Y	£1,250
Mae Murray Foundation	£1,250.00	N	£0
Rasharkin Community Association	£2,500.00	Y	£2,500
Rasharkin Community Centre	£3,950.00	Y	£3,500
St. Matthew's GAC Drumsumn	£3,333.00	N	£0
Stendhal Festival LTD	£2,469.88	N	£0
			<b>£24,803</b>