

Community Development Support Grant & Social Inclusion Grant - Allocation of funding	12th June 2018
To: The Leisure and Development Committee FOR DECISION	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
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
Cost: (If applicable)	£110,000 (total budget available)

The purpose of this report is to provide the outcome of the assessment of applications received to the Community Development Grant Programmes for 2018-19, and to provide recommendations in relation to grant awards to be made through the two programmes:

- 1. Community Development Support Grant (CDSG)**
- 2. Social Inclusion Grant (SIG)**

Approximately 50% of the Community Development Support Grants are provided through the annual Department for Communities (DfC) District Council Community Support Programme. The amount of funding from DfC through the Community Support Programme (excluding the monies ring fenced for Advice Provision) has been reduced by £5,047.59 in 2018-19.

Background

Information Roadshows were held in early December in four locations across the Borough in order to provide potential applicants with detailed information and guidance about the detail of the individual grant programmes.

Due to delays in receiving confirmation of DfC funding and advice from DfC to expect significant reductions in Department funding, the opening of the 2 grant programmes was delayed until early April until confirmation of the exact amount of funding was received from the Department. When the Letter of Offer from DfC was received, CDSG and SIG were then opened on 9th April with a closing date of 18th May, allowing 6 weeks for completion and submission of applications.

The Community Development team assessed the grant applications received against the criteria as stated in the guidance notes for each 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 2 grant programmes, detailing eligibility and assessment criteria, is attached at **Annex A**.

1. Community Development Support Grant

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

1.2 Levels of Grant available: Community Development groups with premises could apply for grants of up to 75% of costs up to a maximum grant of £2,000. Community Development groups without premises could apply for grants of up to 75% of costs up to a maximum grant of £1,000.

1.3 Applications Received:

No. of applications received	67
No. of ineligible applicants	6
No. of unsuccessful applications (scoring less than 65%)	6
No. of successful applications (scoring 65% and above)	55
Total maximum eligible amount of CDSG funding requested	£92,544.57

A list of the applications received, the assessment scores and maximum eligible funding amount is listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Community Development Support Grant Programme

Name of Organisation	Amount Requested (£)	Total Score	Amount Recommended (£)
Aghanloo Community Association	2,079.86	65.56	2,000.00
Ardinariff Historical & Cultural Society	2,000.00	65.56	1,500.00
Armoy Community Association	2,000.00	70	2,000.00
Ashes To Gold	2,000.00	Ineligible	0.00
Ballybogey Community Association	2,000.00	70	2,000.00
Ballykelly Community & Youth Association	2,000.00	62.22	0.00
Ballylough Living History	2,000.00	72.22	1,000.00
Ballymaconnelly Renewal Group	2,343.25	71	2,000.00
Ballyvoy And Carey Development Group	975.00	65.56	975.00
Be Safe Be Well	2,000.00	Ineligible	0.00
Benbradagh Community Support	2,000.00	73.33	1,880.00
Benedy Community Association Limited	2,000.00	65.56	2,000.00
Bovalley Community Association	2,000.00	72.22	2,000.00
Boveedy Community Association	2,572.72	73.33	2,000.00
Building Ballysally Together	2,000.00	66.67	1,700.00
Burnfoot Community Development Association	2,467.50	73.33	2,000.00
Bushmills & District Community Association	1,000.00	78.89	1,000.00
Bushmills Residents & Environmental Forum	2,000.00	66.67	1,500.00
Cairns Residents Group	851.07	66.67	851.07
Carnduff Community Association	1,810.00	58.89	0.00
Castle Community Association	2,000.00	66.67	1,600.00
Castlerock Community Association	2,000.00	65.56	2,000.00
Cloughmills Community Action Team	2,000.00	85.56	2,000.00
Cloughmills Community Association	2,000.00	65.56	2,000.00

Coolessan Community Association	1,240.00	68.89	840.00
Cushendall Development Group	2,000.00	66.67	2,000.00
Dervock & District Community Association	1,555.00	68.89	1,555.00
Dromboughil Community Association	2,000.00	70	2,000.00
Drumsumn Community Association	2,000.00	66.67	1,500.00
Dry Arch Children's Centre	2,000.00	63.33	0.00
Dungiven Regeneration Club	2,000.00	70	2,000.00
Feeny Community Association Limited	2,000.00	73.33	1,000.00
Focus On Family Nurturing & Development Centre	2,000.00	70	1,250.00
Foreglen Community Association	2,000.00	76.7	1,616.00
Friends Of Moving On Up	2,000.00	Ineligible	0.00
Garvagh Development Trust	10,500.00	65.56	2,000.00
Gelvin Area Community Association Ltd	1,777.50	65.56	1,777.50
Glebeside Community Association Limited	2,000.00	66.67	2,000.00
Glenariff Improvement Group	3,510.00	66.67	1,000.00
Glenshane Care Association	2,000.00	Ineligible	0.00
Glenshane Community Development Limited	2,000.00	66.67	2,000.00
Glenullin & Agivey Conservation & Development Group	2,000.00	60	0.00
Gortnaghey Community Association	2,000.00	77.78	2,000.00
Greysteel Community Association	2,000.00	66.67	1,500.00
Greysteel Community Enterprises	2,000.00	77.78	2,000.00
Hands That Talk	2,000.00	72.22	2,000.00
Killowen Community Association	1,000.00	65.56	900.00
Largy Community Association	2,000.00	68.89	2,000.00
Loughgiel Community Association	2,000.00	65.56	2,000.00
Macosquin Village Community Association	3,100.00	65.56	2,000.00
Magilligan Community Association	2,000.00	68.89	1,250.00
Millburn Community Association	2,000.00	65.56	2,000.00
Moneydig Rural Network	2,000.00	67.78	1,700.00
Muslim Association Of Coleraine	1,920.00	Ineligible	0.00
Portballintrae Community Development Group	1,000.00	53.33	0.00
Portstewart InterChurch Civic Project	1,000.00	58.89	0.00
Portstewart Regeneration And Cultural Group	2,000.00	65.56	1,000.00
Rasharkin Community Association	2,000.00	65.56	2,000.00
Rasharkin Community Centre	2,000.00	70	2,000.00
Rathlin Development & Community Association	2,000.00	67.78	2,000.00
Roe Valley Residents Association	2,000.00	83.33	2,000.00
Stranocum Community Centre	2,000.00	70	2,000.00
The Glens Community Association	2,000.00	68.89	1,650.00
The Keady Clachan Community Group	2,270.00	71.11	2,000.00
West Bann Development	2,000.00	75.56	2,000.00
Windyhall Community Association	1,000.00	62.22	0.00
Zomba Action Project (ZAP)	1,550.00	Ineligible	0.00
TOTAL	137,521.90		92,544.57

1.4 Seven applicant organisations were deemed to be ineligible as the applicant organisation did not meet the criteria for the grant programme ie. *'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.'*

1.5 Seven of the applications did not score high enough to meet the minimum threshold required for the CDSG i.e. 65%. Community Development Officers will provide feedback to these organisations and capacity building support will be provided to these groups in order to increase their capacity to develop projects and prepare future funding applications.

1.6 Garvagh Development Trust

Garvagh Development Trust (GDT) has submitted an application to the CDSG Programme for £10,500. In addition a request in writing was received from GDT asking that Council gives special consideration to continue to support its operations in 2018-19, as in previous years, in order to meet the shortfall of their running costs for Garvagh Community Building.

The centre provides accessible community facilities to Garvagh and the surrounding rural area and also has a number of business units that it leases to local businesses. Approximately 60 organisations totalling 15,000 people made use of the facility during the past year.

GDT received funding of £10,000 from the legacy Council of Coleraine from its establishment in 2001. For the past three years GDT has submitted a requested to Causeway Coast and Glens Council to continue this financial arrangement. Council considered a number of options in terms of the level of financial support provided to GDT and, in 2015-16 and 2016-17, made the decision to approve the award of funds of £9,000 to GDT, subject to successful assessment against the criteria of the Community Development Support Grant.

A similar decision was taken for 2017-18, to award the Trust an amount of £10,000, on the condition that the organisation participate in Council's Community Development Sustainability Mentoring Programme, and in doing so, develop a sustainability plan. A business support mentor worked with the Trust and carried out an Organisational Diagnostic Review and developed recommendations for the future strategic development of the organisation. Key recommendations were made in relation to increasing the income generated by GDT and ensuring a more sustainable community service. These recommendations are currently being considered by GDT Board of Directors.

Council has agreed the Grant Policy and associated grant programmes for the period 2018-19. This includes provision for support to community development organisations towards running costs associated with the operation of community facilities, up to a maximum level of £2,000 through the Community Development Grant Programme.

The award of amounts of £9,000-£10,000 to GDT in previous years are not in line with Council's Grant Policy. GDT is the only organisation operating a community building that receives an award in excess of £2,000 through the CDSG Programme. Moore Stephens carried out an Internal Audit within Council in May 2017 and highlighted the following:

"We noted that in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 applications for Community Development Support, the Leisure and Development Committee took a decision to grant one group significantly more funding than the maximum available under the grant programme (£9k and £10k respectively, compared with the maximum £2k available under the programme). This grant was made following a request by the group, provision of a

report regarding the matter by officers to the Committee and discussion and approval by the Committee and Council.

Where funding provided to community and voluntary sector groups in excess of the maximum available under the grant funding programmes, there is a risk that this sets a precedent for other applications (leading to an uncoordinated approach to grant funding) and a significant reputational risk if there is a perception that the grant policy is not adhered to or there is a lack of equality in decisions being made.

In instances where a grant is being considered above the maximum available for the grant scheme, Council should ensure that due consideration has been given to (and is well documented): whether alternative mechanisms for providing financial support would be more appropriate; equality assessment of the proposed decision; fit with Council's broader strategic priorities; and impact on the funding programme and on other priorities in taking the proposed decision."

There are no other grant programmes that accommodate the level of intervention requested and there is no additional funding to increase the level of grant awarded, particularly since the amount of funding awarded by DfC through its Community Support Programme has been reduced by over £5,047.59 in 2018-19.

Taking into account the auditors recommendations and considering the impact that such a large contribution to one organisation has on the overall pot of funding for other organisations operating community buildings, it is recommended that in 2018-19 the amount awarded to GDT is in line with the maximum award available for all other community development organisations applying to the grant programme. Continued support can be provided to GDT through the Community Buildings Mentoring Programme to implement the recommendations of the sustainability report.

2. Social Inclusion Grant

2.1 Purpose of Programme: To provide small grants to local community and voluntary organisations that are involved in activities that encourage people within their community, particularly those that are socially isolated, to participate in social and recreational activities.

2.2 Levels of Grant: 85% of costs up to a maximum grant of £500

2.3 Applications Received:

No. of applications received	40
No. of ineligible applications	6
No. of unsuccessful applications (scoring less than 65%)	8
No. of successful applications scoring 65% or more	26
Total maximum eligible amount of SIG funding requested	£12,619.50

A list of the applications received, the assessment scores and maximum eligible funding amount is listed in **Table 2** below.

Table 2: Social Inclusion Grant Programme

Organisation	Amount Requested £	Total Score %	Amount Recommended £
Age Concern Causeway	500.00	88	500.00
Ballybogey Over 50's Club	500.00	82	500.00
Ballycastle And District Over 55's Club	745.00	70	500.00
Ballycastle Creative Writers Group	500.00	48	0.00
Ballymoney Evergreen Club	600.00	68	500.00
Ballymoney Ornothological Association	500.00	32	0.00

Beautiful Minds	500.00	68	404.00
BRG Lint Dam Allotments Group	497.25	70	497.25
Causeway Hospital Radio	500.00	52	0.00
Causeway Rural & Urban Network	500.00	72	500.00
Coleraine Borough 50+ Forum	420.00	76	420.00
Coleraine Borough Cage Bird Society	343.05	30	0.00
Compass Advocacy Network	550.00	54	0.00
Craft Collective	500.00	66	500.00
Crafts With Love	500.00	78	500.00
Dervock Parent And Toddler Group	485.00	66	485.00
Dunseverick Accordion Band	610.00	52	0.00
Errigal Hall Development Association	500.00	88	500.00
Feeny Community Association Ltd	500.00	0	0.00
Friends Of Moving On Up	500.00	62	0.00
Glens Wellbeing Group	560.00	66	500.00
Glenshane Care Association	500.00	74	500.00
Gortnaghey Social Club	500.00	68	500.00
Greysteel Community Association	500.00	0	0.00
Home-Start Causeway	500.00	88	500.00
Killowen and Churchlands Community Association	500.00	70	500.00
Limavady Amateur Swimming Club (LASC)	500.00	0	0.00
Limavady Community Development Initiative Ltd.	500.00	68	500.00
Mae Murray Foundation	500.00	84	500.00
Millburn Community Association	500.00	0	0.00
Millburn Community Association	500.00	0	0.00
Moneydig Rural Network	500.00	0	0.00
Mosside Women's Institute	500.00	68	500.00
MOTHER GOOSE PLAYGROUP	500.00	78	500.00
Muslim Association Of Coleraine	500.00	68	350.00
Northern Ireland Fife Fancy Canary Club	926.81	32	0.00
Ramoan Friendship Group	545.00	66	463.25
Riding For The Disabled Assoc (Coleraine & District Gp) Ltd	500.00	70	500.00
The Open Door, Ballymoney	500.00	82	500.00
Windyhall 50+ Club	425.00	76	500.00
TOTAL	20,707.11		12,619.50

2.4 Five applications were ineligible as they had already applied for and were eligible to receive a Community Development Support Grant and as stated in the Guidance Notes, '*organisations that intend to apply for a Community Development Support Grant from Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council are not eligible to apply for a Social Inclusion Grant.*' The remaining one ineligible application was not deemed to be an eligible activity through SIG and will be directed elsewhere for support.

2.5 Eight applications did not score sufficiently high enough to be awarded a grant. Community Development Officers can provide feedback and capacity building support to these groups in order to increase their capacity to develop projects and prepare future funding applications.

3. Summary

Total Budget for Community Development Grants (CDSG & SIG) in 2017-18	£110,000
Total Budget for Community Development Grants (CDSG & SIG) in 2018-19	£104,952.41
Total amount of CDSG recommended for funding in 2018-19	£92,544.67
Total amount of SIG recommended for funding in 2018-19	£12,619.50
Total amount of CDSG and SIG recommended for funding in 2018-19	£105,164.17

4. Recommendations

- i. Approve awards for funding through Community Development Support Grant as detailed in Table 1.
- ii. Award CGSG of £2,000 to Garvagh Development Trust and continue to provide support through Community Buildings Mentoring Programme.
- iii. Approve awards for funding through Social Inclusion Grant as detailed in Table 2.

Annex A: Eligibility and Assessment Criteria for Community Development Support Grant and Social Inclusion Grant 2018-19

Community Development Support Grant

Eligible organisations:

- Only Community Development Organisations which are not-for-profit organisations that are open, accountable and representative of the geographical area in which they service, promote and support community development can apply to the Community Development Support Grant Programme.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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. 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
- Schools, pre-school or nursery provision
- Organisations whose primary objectives are concerned with health, education or training
- Culture, Arts and Heritage Groups
- Sports Clubs / Leisure Activity Clubs
- Political Organisations
- Religious Organisations

Assessment Criteria:

Eligible applications will be scored out of 5 against the following weighted criteria (weighted by 1 to 3 where indicated).

- i. Range of services and activities provided for the benefit of local communities within the Borough (weighted x 2)
- ii. Clear and realistic objectives set for incoming year (x1)
- iii. Extent of awareness and understanding of specific needs of community / area (x1)
- iv. Targeted area of benefit in relation to deprivation measures (x3)
- v. Engagement in capacity building for group members and wider community (x2)
- vi. Promotion of social inclusion ensuring that marginalised groups feel valued and included (x2)
- vii. Promotion of partnership working with others – working on a collaborative basis to find solutions to locally identified problems (x2)
- viii. Extent of volunteer base involved in group activities (x1)
- ix. Demonstrates value for money and has a realistic budget (x2)
- x. Demonstrates ability to lever other additional funding in support of group (x2)

Social Inclusion Grant

Eligible Organisations:

- The grant programme is open to properly constituted community and voluntary organisations.
- Sports Clubs and Youth Clubs can apply to the grant programme as long as the project they are applying for is a social inclusion project that is in addition to and separate from their regular activities.

Ineligible Organisations:

- Individuals
- 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
- Schools, pre-school or nursery provision
- Uniformed youth organisations
- Political Organisations
- Religious Organisations
- Organisations that are applying for a Causeway Coast and Glens Community Development Support Grant in 2018-19

Assessment Criteria:

Eligible applications will be scored out of 5 against the following weighted criteria (weighted by 1 to 3 where indicated).

- i. Range and quality of project activities (weighted x2)
- ii. Number and type of beneficiaries (x 2)
- iii. Area deprivation score (x 1)
- iv. How well the project promotes and addresses social inclusion (x 3)
- v. Value for money (x 1)
- vi. Match funding/fundraising (x 1)