

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

To: Leisure & Development Committee

Building a United Community Fund – Recommendations for grant awards

13th October 2015

For Decision

Report to Committee

Linkage to Interim Corporate Plan	
Strategic Themes	Cohesive Community
Lead Officer	Julie Welsh – Head of Community & Culture Louise Scullion – Community Services Manager
Cost: (If applicable)	£21,118.96

The purpose of this report is to recommend grant awards to be made through the Building a United Community Fund Grant Programme for 2015-16.

Background

Council approved a Good Relations Strategy in spring 2015, to cover the period 2015-2017. This strategy included the provision of an Action learning Grant programme.

Good Relations Officers from across the Council assessed the grant applications received, the closing date of which was 21st September.

The purpose of the Building a United Community Fund is to support projects that help develop positive relationships between people of differing religious beliefs, political opinions and racial backgrounds, and which address Good Relations needs in the local area.

The Guidance for the Building a United Community Fund required applicant groups to demonstrate sound governance, local accountability, openness and transparency and inclusivity. Applicant groups were also required to demonstrate adherence to democratic principles, and evidence of working in partnership with others.

Two public information workshops/training events were held, and individual support was provided to groups from staff. Grants of up to £1500 were available for projects, funded up to a maximum of 75% of the total eligible costs.

The budget available for the Building a United Community Fund Grant Programme is **£24,949**. 33 completed applications were received and the following process was used for assessment:

Stage 1 Assessment:

Stage 1 applications were assessed against the following Stage 1 Assessment Criteria:

1. Main objectives of organisation.
2. Constitution/ governing document in place.
3. Registered Charity /Status of Charity Commission NI registration.
4. Evidence provided of proper and timely accounting records with submission of annual accounts and bank statements for the last quarter:

5. Board or management committee - Officers in place, elected at AGM, range of skills and expertise.
6. Up to date insurance certification.
7. Minutes from the latest Annual General Meeting and submission of Annual Report.

Stage 2 Assessment:

Applications were then scored against the following Stage 2 Assessment Criteria:

1. Clear and concise evidence of a developed project with a Good Relations ethos (weighted x4).
2. Clear and realistic objectives set for the project (x2).
3. A clear understanding of how the project objectives link to the Good Relations aims and can help work towards these (x5).
4. Extent of awareness and evidence base of specific Good Relations needs in the area (x2).
5. A clear understanding of how the project will address specific Good Relations needs in the area (x2).
6. Robust system to measure baseline before project and change after completion of project (x2).
7. Demonstrates willingness to work on a collaborative basis to find solutions to locally identified issues (x2).
8. Unique project- not previously funded through any of the legacy councils Good Relations Grants Schemes in the last 3 years (x1).
9. Strong benefits to direct participants and wider community (x1).
10. Proactive promotion of community cohesion, ensuring that the whole community can be involved (x2).
11. Wide reaching promotion of the project (x1).

Applicants were required to attain a score of at least 65% at Stage 2 in order to receive a grant award. A summary of the applications received, the assessment scores and the recommended amounts of funding is attached at Annex B.

Of the 33 applications received, 18 successfully scored in excess of the benchmark and are therefore recommended for approval. 5 of those applications that did not reach the required pass mark or were deemed ineligible by the scoring panel were referred to the Social Inclusion Grant Programme. One further application has been deferred until clarification on an issue pertaining to eligibility status has been resolved. As per Council's Grant Funding Policy unsuccessful applicants will be informed of the Appeals Procedure and will be signposted to other potential external sources of funding.

The assessment process has also provided an opportunity to assess areas where groups require support to develop potential eligible projects moving forward. Staff will tailor support during the course of the year to help any groups who did not reach the pass mark with a view to providing assistance to develop eligible Good Relations projects. The Good Relations Officers will also seek to identify opportunities to involve these groups in programmed events throughout the year.

The total amount of grant funding recommended to be allocated through the Together Building a United Community Fund Grant Programme is for 33 grants to a total value of **£21,118.96**.

Recommendation:

Award Building a United Community Fund grants to a value of £21,118.96 towards 33 projects as listed in the table in Annex B.

Annex B

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

Building a United Community Fund 2015-16

Proposed grants to be awarded:

Name Of Organisation	DEA	Score	Proposed grant to be awarded
Ballymoney Community Playgroup	Ballymoney	77.5%	£958.59
Ballymoney Community Resource Centre	Ballymoney	77.5%	£1500
Bendoragh Apprentice Boys Cultural Society	Ballymoney	66%	£1500
Causeway Multi Cultural Forum	Ballymoney, Coleraine	74%	£1183.50
Rasharkin Apprentice Boys of Derry-Campsie Branch	Ballymoney	78%	£1000
Rasharkin and District Rural, Cultural and Educational Society	Ballymoney	66%	£850
Regimental Association of the UDR – CGC Ballymoney Branch	Ballymoney	71%	£1500
Feeny Community Association Ltd	Benbradagh	72%	£1150
Glack Community Association	Benbradagh	78%	£1500
Glenshane Community Development Ltd	Benbradagh	68%	£1001.55
Gorthnaghy Community Association	Benbradagh	72%	£1015.50
Asian Over 50 Club	Coleraine	75%	£1500
North Coast Integrated College	Coleraine	77%	£564
Wave Trauma Centre	Coleraine, Causeway	73%	£1058.82
Causeway Coast Peace Group	Causeway The Glens	65%	£1500
North West Tongues, Tones and Tapping	Limavady, Benbradagh, Bann	68%	£1500
Ballycastle Girl Guiding	The Glens	74%	£337
Beyond Skin	The Glens	69%	£1500

Unsuccessful Applications - referred to Social Inclusion Grant:

Ballymoney Mini Rugby RFC	Ballymoney	Not eligible project
Cloughmills Cultural & Historical Society	Ballymoney	28% - did not meet pass rate
North Antrim Cultural and Musical Society	Ballymoney	47% - did not meet pass rate
Tapp Friens Community Group	Ballymoney	43% - did not meet pass rate
Derrykeighan and District Community Association	Causeway	Not eligible project

Unsuccessful applications – to receive follow up guidance and support and invitation to participate in Goed Relations programme activity:

Ardinariff Historical and Cultural Society	Benbradagh	52% - did not meet pass rate
Armoy Community Association	The Glens	42% - did not meet pass rate
Big Telly Theatre Company	Coleraine	Not eligible project
Cloughmills Community Action Team	Ballymoney	48% - did not meet pass rate
Coleraine Borough 50 + Forum	Bann	Not eligible project
Greysteel Community Association	Benbradagh	60% - did not meet pass rate
Rasharkin Community Association	Ballymoney	62.5% - did not meet pass rate
The Keady Clachan Community	Limavady	44% - did not meet pass rate
Winding Roe Magazine Committee	Benbradagh	48% - did not meet pass rate

Deferred – pending clarification of eligibility criteria

Dunloy LOL 496	Ballymoney	
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