

<b>Community Festivals Fund - Allocation of funding</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> March 2017</b>
<b>LEISURE &amp; DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE For Decision</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Resilient, Healthy & Engaged Communities
<b>Outcome</b>	Council will work to develop and promote stable and cohesive communities across the Borough
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Head of Community & Culture Community Development Manager
<b>Budget available:</b> (if applicable)	£71,499

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of the report is to provide a report of the assessment of the applications received to the Community Festivals Fund (CFF) for 2017-18 and to provide recommendations in relation to grant awards to be made through the programme, subject to confirmation of funding from Department for Communities (DfC).

Approximately 43% of the Community Festivals Fund grant awards are provided through the annual Community Festivals Fund award to Council from DfC's Arts Branch. At the time of preparation of the report, the level of grant to be allocated to Council for 2017-18 by DfC is unknown, however a decision in principle is being sought from Council so that grant awards can be made to local organisations as soon as Departmental funding is confirmed.

### **Background**

Council Grant programmes were launched on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 with a closing date of 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017 for the Community Festivals Fund. 4 Information Roadshows were held in late November in locations across the Borough in order to provide potential applicants with detailed information and guidance regarding individual grant programmes.

The grant assessment panel of relevant Council officers 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 considered for funding, in line with Council's Grant Funding Policy. Applicants that may apply to other Council programmes for their festival will only be able to receive one Council grant offer.

### **Purpose of Programme:**

To support, promote and develop the capacity of communities to host community festival events across the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area. A community festival is a festival which has developed from within a community and should celebrate and positively promote what the community represents.

## Levels of Grant:

<b><u>One day community fun day type events.</u></b> Events must be programmed to be of <b>at least 5 hours duration</b> and include a <b>range of activities</b> to suit <b>all sections of the community</b> .	<b>75%</b> of costs up to a maximum of <b>£500</b>
<b><u>Festival events lasting 2 consecutive days or more.</u></b> Each of the <b>days</b> of the festival must include a <b>range of activities</b> to suit <b>all sections of the community</b> and be programmed to be <b>at least 5 hours duration</b> .	<b>75%</b> of costs up to a maximum of <b>£1,500</b>
<b><u>Festivals lasting 3 consecutive days or more and anticipated to attract at least 5,000 participants.</u></b> Each of the <b>days</b> of the festival must include a <b>range of activities</b> to suit <b>all sections of the community</b> and be programmed to be <b>at least 5 hours duration</b> .	<b>75%</b> of costs up to a maximum of <b>£5,000</b>

## Eligibility and Assessment Criteria:

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

## Applications Received:

No. of applications received	61
No. of ineligible applications	1
No. of unsuccessful applications (scoring less than 65%)	0
No. of eligible applications (scoring 65% and above)	60
<b>Total maximum eligible amount of CFF funding requested</b>	<b>£99,278</b>

A list of the applications received, the assessment scores and maximum eligible funding amount is listed in **Annex B**.

One application was deemed ineligible as it involved competitive events only and did not contain any events that the whole community could participate in. Some other applications were reduced in the scale of the grant deemed eligible as they did not meet the eligibility criteria in terms of the range of activities and length of their events.

## Options for consideration

The 2017-18 budget that was approved by Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> February and the detailed Community and Culture Business Plan approved by Council on 28<sup>th</sup> February provides for a budget of £71,499 for the Community Festivals Fund. This is based on the assumption that Council will receive a grant award from DfC at the same rate as 2016-17. The total amount eligible for funding through the Community Festivals Fund exceeds the budget available.

**Total amount eligible for funding** **£99,278**

**Budget available** **£71,499**

This is the third year of Council's Community Festivals Fund programme. In year one and two the budget was sufficient to be able to fund the eligible amounts requested in full. This is the first year that the eligible amounts applied for exceeds the budget available.

A number of options have been considered by which the eligible funding amounts could be reduced to within the budget available and these are summarised below.

Option	Detail	Implications
<p><b><u>Option A</u></b>  <b>71,490</b></p>	<p>Reduce all eligible grant amounts by 28% ie the level of oversubscription</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This option does not make any distinction between the quality of the events and the applications received.</li> <li>• This option results in a significant reduction for all the applicants and may result in events not taking place or at a reduced scale, however it does ensure <b>all</b> eligible applications receive funding</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Option B</u></b>  <b>£71,492</b></p>	<p>Reduce eligible grant amounts on a sliding scale in proportion with the assessment score. ie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80+ score receives 85% of eligible amount</li> <li>• 75-79 score receives 80% of eligible amount</li> <li>• 70-74 score receives 70% of eligible amount</li> <li>• 65-69 score receives 65% of eligible amount</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This option would ensure that the applications that received a high assessment score would be least disadvantaged.</li> <li>• This may prove to be too big a reduction for the lower scoring applications and may result in events not happening at all.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Option C</u></b>  <b>£73,163</b></p>	<p>Award eligible grant amounts <b>in full</b> to the highest scoring applications until the budget is all allocated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This option would ensure that 36 of the 60 applicants were awarded the full eligible amounts.</li> <li>• This would result in 24 applications which scored less than 69 not receiving any funding and could potentially result in these events not taking place.</li> <li>• This option also results in £1,664 over budget as there are a number of applications that scored 69 and need to be included.</li> </ul>

The outworking of each of the three Options in terms of individual awards for each applicant are contained in Tables 1 and 2 in **Annex B**.

**Further points to note:**

The budget available is based on 2016-17 monies awarded by DfC. In the event of the DfC award to Council being reduced for 2017-18, Council may have to further reduce the grants awarded through CFF accordingly.

In the event that the letter of offer from DfC is delayed beyond 31<sup>st</sup> March, Council may wish to consider awarding grants to successful organisations with events scheduled to take place in April and May in order to ensure that they can plan. A letter of offer could then be issued for the remainder of the applicants when Council receives confirmation of funding from DfC, and subject to the amount received.

**Recommendation:**

- i. Approve Option A as indicative allocations, subject to securing Letter of Offer from DfC and final confirmed budgets.
- ii. If confirmation of funding is not received from DfC by 1<sup>st</sup> April issue letters of offer to events taking part in April and May, with the remainder of the letters of offer to be issued when confirmation of funding is received from DfC

## **Annex A: Eligibility and Assessment Criteria for Community Festival Fund**

### **Eligible organisations:**

- Constituted voluntary and community organisations.
- Applications may be from geographical communities (a town, village, neighbourhood, rural area); or communities of interest (a group of people who have a common interest, concern or characteristic).
- A community festival should constitute a series of events (or a single event with several elements) with a common theme and delivered within a defined time period. If incorporating fun day type events these must be programmed to be of at least 5 hours duration.
- DCAL has stated that all festivals must be culture based, where culture is defined as ideas, customs and social behaviour of a particular people or social grouping.

### **Ineligible organisations/activities:**

- festivals taking place outside the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council area;
- festivals of a commercial nature, organised to make profit;
- trade, community or professional conferences/conventions;
- core costs for festival organisers or organisations (staffing, annual overheads);
- festivals that are primarily fundraising events, are heavily branded with charity branding or deploy potential sources of income from a festival to a charity;
- awards ceremonies or industry events;
- residential courses and associated events;
- festivals that are social events for an organisation;
- events developed and delivered by public bodies;
- events initiated and led by private sector organisations;
- festivals that are primarily sporting fixtures or competitive events;
- festivals that are primarily tourism focused events where the organisation cannot demonstrate significant community involvement

### **Assessment Criteria:**

Assessment criteria for CFF have been developed following objectives specified by the Department for Communities (DfC) for the Community Festival Fund:

- i. Demonstration of need and demand (based on previous experience and festival history) & ability of the applicant group to effectively deliver (weighted x 1)
- ii. Have strong community participation in the organisation and implementation of the project contributing to building a strong sense of community (x 1)
- iii. Provide opportunities for people to improve their personal skills or receive training relevant to the project (x 1)
- iv. Improve community relations; as defined in terms of activities designed to actively strengthen and promote good community relations (x 1)

- v. Target social exclusion and /or poverty; address rural isolation issues where applicable (in line with DfC requirements this assessment characteristic will be weighted in favour of those festivals taking place in the top 10% of the most deprived wards of the Borough as defined by the NI Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM). The same weighting will be used in consideration of festival proposals which address rural isolation as defined by the Access to Services domain within NIMDM (x 2)
- vi. Promote equality of opportunity for all ( x 1)
- vii. Demonstrate value for money (x 1)
- viii. Attract visitors to the area (DfC have stated that whilst attraction of visitors is a positive quality, the primary driver of the fund is significant community involvement.) ( x 0.5)
- ix. Provide opportunities to develop the festival – including capacity building, developing links with other organisations/events (increased partnership); expanding or diversifying activities ( x1)
- x. Encourage a 'sense of place' through connecting the community with, and effectively using, public places and the local built environment, particularly infrequently used or abandoned spaces (x 1)

## Annex B: Community Festivals Fund Grant Assessment and Options for Financial Support

Name of Organisation	Amount Requested (£)	Assessment Score	Maximum Eligible Amount (£)	Option A (£)	Option B (£)	Option C (£)
Coleraine Music Festival Association	5,000	ineligible	0	0	0	0
Ullans Speakers Association	1,500	83	1,500	1,080	1,275	1500
Antrim Glens Tourism	5,000	82	5,000	3,601	4,250	5000
Cushendun Building Preservation Trust	3,040	80	3,040	2,189	2,584	3040
Dry Arch Childrens Centre	4,080	79	4,080	2,938	3,264	4080
Limavady Volunteer Centre	5,000	79	5,000	3,601	4,000	5000
Pride of the Park Flute Band	1,150	79	1,150	828	920	1150
Portstewart Community Association	4,990	78	4,990	3,593	3,992	4990
Friends of Glenariffe	1,500	76	1,500	1,080	1,200	1500
Kingdom of Dalriada Ulster Scots Society	5,000	75	5,000	3,601	4,000	5000
Cloughmills Community Action Team	500	74	500	360	350	500
Bushmills & District Community Association	500	73	500	360	350	500
Glór Dhún Geimhin	4,850	73	4,850	3,492	3,395	4850
Jimmy O'Hara	5,540	73	5,000	3,601	3,500	5000
Loughgiel Community Association	1,500	73	1,500	1,080	1,050	1500
Walk the Glens	1,047	73	500	360	350	500
COAST	500	72	500	360	350	500
Cushendall Sailing & Boating Club	1,500	72	1,500	1,080	1,050	1500
North Antrim Bands Forum	4,953	72	4,953	3,567	3,467	4953
O'Connors Glack GAA	5,000	71	5,000	3,601	3,500	5000
Armoyle Community Association	1,500	71	1,500	1,080	1,050	1500
Glebeside Community Association Ltd	1,500	71	1,500	1,080	1,050	1500
Gortnaghey Community Association	1,500	71	1,500	1,080	1,050	1500
HOPE	1,500	71	500	360	350	500
Kevin Lynch Hurling Club	1,500	71	1,100	792	770	1100
Ballylough Living History Ltd	5,000	70	1,500	1,080	1,050	1500
Cairns Residents Group	500	70	500	360	350	500
Glenmanus Residents Association	500	70	500	360	350	500

Mother Goose Playgroup	5,000	70	1,500	1,080	1,050	1500
Northern Ireland Childrens Hospice Roe Valley Support Group	500	70	500	360	350	500
Parish of Errigal	500	70	500	360	350	500
County Antrim Independent Grand Lodge Cultural Committee	4,999	69	1,500	1,080	975	1500
Cushendun GAC	1,500	69	1,500	1,080	975	1500
Killowen Community Association	500	69	500	360	325	500
Millburn Community Association	1,500	69	1,500	1,080	975	1500
Rasharkin Community Association	1,500	69	500	360	325	500
Roe Valley Residents Association	500	69	500	360	325	500
1st Castlerock Scouts	500	68	500	360	325	0
Juniper Hill Caravan Occupiers Association	1,500	68	1,500	1,080	975	0
Waterfoot Residents	500	68	500	360	325	0
Benedy Communtiy Association Limited	500	67	500	360	325	0
Big Telly Theatre Company	4,995	67	1,500	1,080	975	0
Dunaghy Flute Band	1,500	67	1,500	1,080	975	0
Portballintrae Residents Association	1,500	67	500	360	325	0
Apprentice Boys of Derry Campsie Club Rasharkin Branch	1,345	66	1,345	969	874	0
Building Ballysally Together	1,500	66	1,500	1,080	975	0
Burnfoot Community Development Association	500	66	500	360	325	0
Dunseverick Accordian Band	500	66	500	360	325	0
Macosquin Village Community Association	1,500	66	500	360	325	0
Marconi Radio Group	1,500	66	1,500	1,080	975	0
Riding for the Disabled Association Ltd. Coleraine	1,500	66	1,000	720	650	0
Windyhall Community Association	1,470	66	500	360	325	0
Annual Heavy Horse Show & Vintage Vehicles (Ballycastle)	805	65	375	270	244	0
Bushmills Residents & Environmental Forum	1,500	65	1,500	1,080	975	0
Co Londonderry Agricultural Show Society	500	65	500	360	325	0
Coleraine Festival Committee	5,000	65	5,000	3,601	3,250	0
Dervock & District Community Association	1,500	65	1,020	735	663	0
Eagle Glen Community Partnership	1,500	65	1,500	1,080	975	0
Glenariff Improvement Group	1,750	65	500	360	325	0
Moneydig Rural Network	1,500	65	1,500	1,080	975	0
The Glens Community Association	500	65	375	270	244	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>99,278</b>	<b>71,490</b>	<b>71,492</b>	<b>73,163</b>



