

Title of Report:	LiveSmart Community Environmental Grant Programme (2021-22) - Applicants
Committee Report Submitted To:	Environmental Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	10TH August 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy & Engaged Communities
Outcome	Develop & promote stable and cohesive communities
Lead Officer	Head of Operations Funding Unit Manager

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£10,500
Included in Current Year Estimates	Yes
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	n/a

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes	Date: 31/03/2021
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes	Date: 31/03/2021
	RNA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the findings of the assessment process for the LiveSmart Community Environmental Grant Programme 2021/22. Recommendations for the allocation of funding to eligible applicants are included in this report.

2.0 Background

2.1 At the meeting on 10th November 2020 the Environmental Services Committee agreed that a report be brought back to council on the development and implementation of a Community Environmental Grant Programme for the 2021-22 period based on the following recommendations:

- Applications will focus on waste reduction/reuse, energy saving and sustainability.
- Grant applications will be directly linked to the LiveSmart themes.
- The Environmental Resource Officer Team will provide support to applicants.
- Council's Funding Unit will be responsible for management and administration of the grant programme via Council's online funding hub.
- Total grant funding pot of £10,500 available.
- Maximum grant of £500 available per application.
- Organisations can apply for one grant per year.

2.2 A report was presented to the Environmental Services Committee on 8th December 2020.

2.3 Council ratified the decision to implement a Community Environmental Grant Programme on 5th January 2021.

3.0 An Overview of the Fund

3.1 The purpose of the LiveSmart Community Environmental Grant Programme is to provide small grants up to a maximum of £500 to local community and voluntary organisations. The grants are to give financial assistance to allow groups and organisations to:

(1) improve the general cleanliness in their local area, particularly in respect of litter

(2) promote recycling, reuse and waste reduction

(3) look at ways of reducing carbon footprint by taking simple, practical actions such as planting

There are several specific objectives which applicants must address. An application can address more than one objective but only one is necessary.

- RecycleSmart: aims to reduce waste by educating, engaging and inspiring us all to buy less, reuse more, recycle and compost.
- LitterSmart: aims to reduce litter through education, encouraging responsible disposal and supporting local people to carry out litter lifts.

- ClimateSmart: aims to reduce our carbon footprint by increasing our knowledge of sustainability and empowering change with simple, practical actions such as planting vegetables, fruit, native shrubs and pollinator plants.

Example projects might include:-

- Community litter collection and prevention
- Fruit and vegetable planting
- Gardening projects e.g. planting of pollinator plants
- Native shrub planting
- Recycling, reuse and waste prevention projects

3.2 Levels of grant award.

- Applicants can apply for 100% of project costs up to a maximum of £500
- Organisations can only apply for one grant per year
- In the event of the fund being oversubscribed only the highest scoring projects will receive an award

3.3 Assessment & Scoring Criteria used for assessment:

Criteria	Score out of a possible 5	Weighting	Possible Score
1. Good project description; range of activities, quality of project; fit with the fund objectives.		X4	20
2. How well the need has been demonstrated		X2	10
3. How well the project includes participation from the wider community and involves a range of people		X2	10
4. Area deprivation score		X1	5
5. How well the project is promoted & publicised.		X1	5
			50

4.0 2021/22 Application Process

4.1 The grant programme closed for applications on Friday 18th June 2021 @ 12:00 noon. It received 33 applications.

A stage 1 eligibility check was carried out by the Funding Unit. All applications made it through to scoring.

On Tuesday 20th July 2021 all 33 of the eligible LiveSmart were assessed by a panel consisting of officers from the Environmental Resource Officer team.

The Scoring Panel met on the Tuesday 20th July 2021 and each submission was assessed against the criteria within the scoring matrix which was weighted accordingly. The minimum threshold pass rate was applied at 65% as per Council policy.

5.0 Summary of Applications

5.1 A summary of the applications received with scoring is detailed in **Annex A**.

5.2 The total amount of grants requested through eligible and qualifying applications was £16,277.74.

For the period 2021/22 the allocated budget for the LiveSmart Grant is £10,500 as referenced in Environment Services Committee report dated 8th December 2020.

As detailed in **Annex A** –

10 applications failed to meet the minimum threshold of 65% and are therefore ineligible for grant aid.

23 applications passed the minimum threshold rate of 65% requiring grant assistance to the value of £10,438.59.

6.0 Recommendation

6.1 Elected Members are asked to approve the allocation of the LiveSmart Grant Programme Funding to applicants as detailed in **Annex A** with the reductions outlined. Award of funding is subject to criteria specified in section 1.5 of Grant Programme Guidance Notes being met.

Annex A

<u>Application ID</u>	<u>DEA</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Total Amount Requested (£)</u>	<u>Score (%)</u>	<u>Amount Recommended</u>
7509	CASTLEROCK	Castlerock Community Association	500	78	500
7511	BALLYCASTLE	Cushendall Development Group	500	91	500
7526	GIANTS CAUSEWAY	Causeway Coast And Glens Heritage Trust	500	97	500
7527	DUNGIVEN	Gelvin Area Community Association Ltd	468	74	468
7530	BALLYCASTLE	Cairns Residents Group	500	71	500
7534	MAGILLIGAN	Magilligan Community Association	500	84	500
7544	GIANTS CAUSEWAY	Focus On Family Nurturing & Development Centre	500	76	500
7548	DERVOCK	Dervock & District Community Association	500	55	0
7549	PORTSTEWART	Portstewart Community Association	494.7	69	494.7
7551	DUNGIVEN	1st Bovevagh Scouts	400	76	400
7553	GIANTS CAUSEWAY	Friends Of Harpurs Hill	500	80	500
7556	GREYSTEEL	Greysteel Community Association	500	47	0
7557	GREYSTONE	1st Roe Valley Cub Scouts	480	72	480
7558	GIANTS CAUSEWAY	Building Ballysally Together	500	80	500
7561	BALLYCASTLE	Gaeil Ruairí Óg Agus Gaeil Na NGLinntí	500	27	0
7563	BALLYCASTLE	Ruairí Óg Camogie Club	500	55	0
7570	BALLYCASTLE	Ballycastle Community Development Group	500	99	500
7572	PORTRUSH & DUNLUCE	St. Patrick's PTA	482.76	76	279.26
7573	COLERAINE	Loreto College	499.62	68	499.62
7575	COLERAINE	NORTH COAST WORLD EARTH	500	74	500
7580	DRUMSURN	Stendhal Festival LTD	466	90	466
7581	MACOSQUIN	Macosquin Village Community Association	500	60	0
7585	DUNGIVEN	Benedy Community Association Limited	500	72	500
7591	GREYSTONE	MR SMITH - Men's Resources Support Mediation Information Trust Help	500	60	0
7592	DUNGIVEN	St. Canice's PS Parents Association	500	82	500
7595	DUNGIVEN	Dromboughil Community Association	500	54	0
7597	UNIVERSITY	Causeway U3a Garden And Environment Group	496.66	73	246.01
7598	RASHARKIN	St. Mary's GAC, Rasharkin	490	72	490

7599	BALLYKELLY	Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers	500	35	0
7600	RATHLIN AND TORR HEAD	Rathlin Development & Community Association	500	65	115
7602	EAST BALLYMONEY	LOUGHGIEL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LTD	500	74	500
7604	DUNGIVEN	Gortnaghey Community Association	500	62	0
7605	AGHADOWEY	Aghadowey Rural Kinship	500	32	0
		Total Requested	16277.74	Total Award	<u>£10,438.59</u>
				Recommended	