

Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) Grant Award Decisions	11th April 2017
To: Leisure & Development Committee For Decision	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy and Engaged Communities
Outcome	Promote stable and cohesive communities
Lead Officer	Funding Unit Manager
Cost: (If applicable)	£173k - £225,591k

The purpose of this report is to recommend grant decisions and awards from the Landfill Communities Fund Grant Programme.

Strategic Context

In February 2016 Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council agreed the Landfill Communities Fund Policy.

The policy sets out a framework for the processing of Landfill Communities Fund applications.

The overall aim of the process outlined in the policy is:

“To ensure a consistent and transparent process with proper and accountable procedures is in place”.

Applications to the fund must be made under one of the Objects set out in the Landfill Tax Regulations 1996 (see detail of the Objects in Annex A):

- Object A: “the reclamation, remediation or restoration of land that cannot be used”.
- Object B: “Reduction of Pollution”.
- Object D: “Public Parks and Amenities”.
- Object DA: “Conservation of Biodiversity”.
- Object E: “Restoration of Religious Buildings or Buildings of Architectural or Historical Interest”.

Background

In April 2016 Council appointed the Ulster Wildlife Trust as the Environmental Body to administer the fund on behalf of Council for a three year period.

In November 2016 Council agreed a 2 staged process for application to the Landfill Communities Fund:

- Stage 1 Expression of Interest.
- Stage 2 Full Application.

In February 2017 Council agreed that 16 out of the 18 Expressions of Interest received before the closing date on 29th January 2017 were eligible under stage 1 eligibility criteria.

In February 2017 Council invited the 16 eligible projects to make a full Stage 2 application to the Landfill Communities Programme via Council's agreed Environmental Body, Ulster Wildlife Trust.

Stage 2 Applications

14 x Stage 2 grant applications requesting a total amount of £259,191.21 were received by the Ulster Wildlife Trust before the closing date on 21st March 2017. (See **Annex B** for list of applications received).

Eligibility

4 x applications were ineligible as per the criteria:

Name of organisation	Recommendation
Keady Clachan	Refer to the Social Investment Pilot Mentoring Programme for the Heritage and Environment Sector.
CERES	Refer to the Social Investment Pilot Mentoring Programme for the Heritage and Environment Sector. Refer to Environmental Recorders Group Fund (ERG).
Faughanvale GAC	Refer to Councils Head of Health & Wellbeing.
Ashes to Gold	Refer to Heritage Lottery Fund.

Stage 2 Scoring:

8 x applications were assessed and scored against the full criteria.

As per the agreed criteria and guidelines only projects scoring 65% or above can be considered for funding.

	Applicant & Project	Score	Total project costs	Amount requested	Option 1	Option 2
1	Ballymaconnelly Renewal Group: <i>External Sustainable Activity Area.</i>	81	£28,500	£28,500	£26,400	£20,064
2	Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council: <i>Portballintrae Walking Trail.</i>	80	£22,815	£20,280	£20,280	£15,412.8
3	Ulster Wildlife Trust: <i>Scrub Clearance at Umbra Nature Reserve.</i>	76	£22,385	£20,000	£20,000	£15,200

4	LCDI: <i>New Energy Efficient heating System.</i>	74	£80,000	£30,000	£30,000	£22,800
5	Focus on Family: <i>Cornfield Project.</i>	72	£35,760	£30,000	£30,000	£22,800
6	Cloughmills Community Action team: <i>3 x viewing platforms on the river's edge.</i>	71	£13,500	£13,000	£13,000	£9,880
7	Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council: <i>Garvagh Forest Mountain Bike Trails.</i>	65	£268,981	£30,000	£30,000	£22,800
8	Riding for the Disabled: <i>Sensory conservation trail.</i>	65	£30,000	£30,000	£28,500	£21,660
9	Glack Parish: <i>St Finloughs Church – window replacement.</i>	65	£27,411.21	£27,411.21	£27,411.21	£20,832.51
10	Greyseteel Community Ent: <i>Enhanced facilities at The Vale Centre.</i>	47	£30,000	£30,000	Nil	Nil
			£559,352.21	£259,191.21	£225,591.21	£171,449.31

Recommendations:

As per Council's Landfill Communities Fund Policy, approval of projects is at the sole discretion of Council and will be dependent on the current available LCF funds.

At end of February 2017 the current available funds are £173,000. This will rise by approximately £30,000 by mid April and another £30,000 by the end of June 2017.

Option 1

It is recommended that Council award funding to projects 1-6 totalling £139,680

Projects 7, 8 and 9 each scored 65%. In February 2017 Council agreed that in the case of a tie break situation following scoring, two objective measures would be used for ranking project: 1) Distance from landfill site; 2) level of match funding provided.

Applicant	Match Funding		Proximity to landfill		Total Score	Ranking from lowest
CC&GBC	89%	1	4.3	1	2	1
Riding for the Disabled	0%	2	5	2	4	2
Glack Parish	0%	2	8.3	3	5	3

Based out the outcome of the tie break:

It is recommended that Council award funding of £30,000 to project 7.

It is recommended that Council hold project 8 in reserve until April 2017 when funding becomes available.

It is recommended that Council hold project 9 in reserve until July 2017 when funding becomes available.

Option 2

It is recommended that Council reduce each award by 24%, awarding a total of £171,449.31 to projects 1-9.

ENTRUST OBJECTS AND ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Proposed projects must fall within one of the following ENTRUST approved OBJECT categories to receive funding.

OBJECT A – The reclamation, remediation or restoration of land which cannot currently be used.

The work must be on a single site where there was once something that took place that now stops it being used. The site may have been contaminated in some way. The principle is that the person who polluted the land must now not own or operate from the land. Any orders that the current landowner is under from the relevant environmental agency must not be fulfilled by using the Landfill Communities Fund.

OBJECT B – The prevention of potential for pollution or the remediation of the effect of pollution.

You must be able to demonstrate that the work you propose is directly linked to help mitigate, prevent or reduce pollution.

OBJECT D – Public Amenity

Projects which provide, maintain or improve a public park or other public amenity in the vicinity of a landfill site, and which promotes positive land management and community involvement e.g. creation of wildlife habitats or play areas.

OBJECT DA – The conservation of a specific species or a specific habitat where it naturally occurs.

Projects which promote biodiversity through the provision, conservation, restoration or enhancement of a natural habitat: or the maintenance or recovery of a species in its natural habitat. (Please note that projects should demonstrate links to local or national Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs)).

OBJECT E - The Restoration of a place of religious worship or historic or architectural interest.

The primary intent of this objective is to maintain, repair or restore a place of worship: or a building or structure that must have listed status or equivalent where the general public can access the building. This objective does not allow works to private residences.

Refer to the ENTRUST Guidance Manual for further details on the above Objects. The link to their website is:

<http://www.entrust.org.uk/home/guidance-library/guidance>

Annex B

	Applicant	Project	LCF Object	Total Cost	Match Funds	LCF Request
1	Ballymaconnelly Regeneration Group, 239 Vow road, Rasharkin	To provide a green corridor at the developed area opposite 239 Vow road, which can be enjoyed by the public and residents of the vilage To incorporate a pond, new seating along the path and a wooden shelter/outdoor classroom.	D	£28,500	0	£28,500
2	CC&GBC Coastal Access Project- Portballintrae, Bayhead Road, Portballintrae,	To develop a new coastal walking trail on the western fringe of Portballintrae village. About 1.5km in length, the trail will provide a sgnficiant new section of off road walking along this national trail.	D	£22,815	0	£20,280
3	Ulster Wildlife Sea Coast Road, Limavady	Scrub Clearence at the Umbra Nature Reserve, Limavady.The project will seek to protect the natural habitat for native species. Contractors will be appointed to clear this 45 hectare sand-dune system within the Magilligan dune system as part of a 2 stage process.	DA	£22,385	£2,385 In Kind	£20,000
4	LCDI 24d Bevenenagh Drive, Limavady	To install an economically renewable heating system at the old workhouse in Limavady.	E	£80,000	£50,000 LCDI's reserves	£30,000
5	Focus on Family 11-19 Glenburn Crescent, Ballysally, Coleraine	Cornfield Project: - To provide facilities at the meadow and woodland site; - Shipping container for 2 sheds to store tools & equipment; Generator for lighting & catering; Gazebo, gym, footfall counters, compost toilet, waterproof clothing.	D	£35,760	£5,760 Volunteer time / in kind	£30,000

6	Cloughmills Community Action Team, Cloughmills, Biopark, 60 main Street, Cloughmills	To install 3 viewing galleries/fishing platforms along the Cloughmills Water at Cloughmills Biopark.	D	£13,500	£500.00 Own resources	£13,000
7	CC&GBC Garvagh Forest Trail, Garvagh forest, Main Street, Garvagh	To develop 19kms of multiuse trails for cyclists and walkers. This will also see improvements to the existing forest car park.	D	£268,981	Sport NI Council	£30,000
8	Riding for the Disabled Causeway coast Arena, 184 Castleroe road, Coleraine	Development of a woodland garden in Castleroe, Coleraine. To fence off a large forest area to allow the site to be opened up and wildlife corridors to be established.	DA	£30,000	0	£30,000
9	Glack Parish, St Finloughs Church, 20 Loughermore road, Glack	To restore windows and doors to St Finloughs Church and bring this listed building back to its original state.	E	£27,411.21	0	£27,411.21
10	Greysteel Community Enterprises, the Vale Centre, Clooney Road, Greysteel	To develop an environmentally focused space within the Vale centre grounds, to enhance the public leisure facilities. To introduce and maintain perimeter pathway trails, introduce indigenous native trees, introduce bat and bird boxes and plant wildflower seed mixes.	D	£30,000	0	£30,000
11	CERES Ltd 15 Loughermore road, Ballykelly	To contribute to the survival of the Irish Honey Bee in the Roe Valley area.	DA	£30,000	0	£30,000.
12	Ashes to Gold 4 Life	To develop a community garden on donated land, growing fruit and vegetables where local school children,	D	£75,000	£15,000 Donation from ATG Services	£30,000

	251 Dunhill Road, Dunderg, Coleraine	older people, unemployed and those with mental health issues can work and learn together.			(Ireland) Limited	
13	Keady Clachan Nature Trail 58 Ringsend Road, Limavady	To develop a Nature Trail: to prepare the pond, spring, the diversity within the broad leaf woodland, and birdlife to further the opportunity for users to have access to a rural facility.	DA	£16,000	£4500	£11,500
14	Faughanvale GAC Clooney Road, Greysteel	To create a safeplay park at the playing fields, Greysteel, which will be open to the entire community and the public.	D	£30,000	0	£28,000