

**PROPOSED ALLOCATION TO DISTRICT COUNCILS BASED ON
POPULATION (90%) AND DEPRIVATION (10%)**

District Council	Proposed Allocation	
	£	%
Antrim	12300	2.73
Ards	18000	4.00
Armagh	13700	3.04
Ballymena	15600	3.47
Ballymoney	6800	1.51
Banbridge	10600	2.36
Belfast	77300	17.17
Carrickfergus	9700	2.16
Castlereagh	15800	3.51
Coleraine	14200	3.15
Cookstown	8500	1.89
Craigavon	22600	5.02
Derry	31200	6.93
Down	16500	3.67
Dungannon	12800	2.84
Fermanagh	15000	3.33
Larne	8000	1.78
Limavady	8900	1.98
Lisburn	28400	6.31
Magherafelt	9900	2.20
Moyle	4400	0.98
Newry & Mourne	25400	5.64
Newtownabbey	20400	4.53
North Down	18600	4.13
Omagh	13100	2.91
Strabane	12400	2.75
	£450,000	100.00

ANNEX B



Department of
**Culture, Arts
and Leisure**
www.dcalm.gov.uk

COMMUNITY FESTIVALS FUND

POLICY AND GUIDANCE FRAMEWORK

December 2007

COMMUNITY FESTIVALS FUND

1. The purpose of the Fund

The Community Festivals Fund (CFF) was established in 2006 in recognition of the potential contribution that festivals can make to communities, to the local economy and wider Government policy priorities.

The primary purpose of the Community Festivals Fund is to improve the capacity of community festivals and make them less reliant on public funding by providing support and training in addition to funding towards the cost of events. The Fund enables community organisations to celebrate their cultural identity and to strengthen community relations.

2. Definition of a festival

A community festival is a series of events with a common theme and delivered within a defined time period. It is developed from within a community and should celebrate and positively promote what the community represents.

Community festivals are about participation, involvement, and the creation of a sense of identity and are important in contributing to the social well being of a community.

They must be initiated and led by a community organisation or a community-led partnership. It is not enough to run a festival for a community - the community must play a strong part in the development and delivery of the festival and have ownership of it.

3. General Principles which apply to the Community Festivals Fund

This is a competitive scheme and applications will be determined on the basis of merit.

Applications to this scheme will be open to all festivals that can meet the core criteria of the scheme irrespective of whether they are established or emerging events.

Festivals will continue to be able to apply to other sources of public support.

All festivals must demonstrate their commitment to promoting social cohesion, social inclusion, equality of opportunity and good relations.

Festivals should contribute to the promotion of a positive image of Northern Ireland and organisers must take steps to avert anti-social behaviour.

Organisations in receipt of public funding must comply with all statutory obligations regarding the delivery of and access to their events.

Festival organisations will make every effort to increase capacity within the community through e.g. skills training and volunteering.

Festival organisations will be expected to make efforts to maximise income through ticket sales and sponsorship. They should develop a plan to improve their sustainability and reduce reliance on public funding.

It is a prime responsibility of Government to ensure the proper and efficient use of and the accountability of public monies. To this end, festivals will be required to provide relevant supporting information when applying for funding.

Festival organisations will be required to demonstrate the effectiveness and impact of their festival and that public funding is put to good use and shows a positive and measurable impact on the local community or economy.

4. Broad Assessment Criteria

In order to deliver the Fund's aims and principles festival organisers will need to demonstrate how their event addresses the following issues:

- has strong community participation.
- provides opportunities for people to improve skills or receive training.
- promotes social inclusion and improves community relations.
- contributes to community regeneration.
- attracts visitors to the area.
- provides opportunities for development - this includes capacity-building, links with other organisations and diversity of activities.
- maximises non-public sources of income (eg through commercial sponsorship, donations, ticket sales, advertising revenue etc).
- demonstrates value for money.

The Community Festivals Fund will not normally provide funding for the following activities:

- festivals taking place outside Northern Ireland;
- festivals of a commercial nature, organised to make a profit;
- trade or professional conferences/conventions;
- 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.

5. Administration of the Community Festivals Fund

The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure has overall policy responsibility for the Community Festivals Fund while responsibility for making awards to individual festivals will be devolved to local authorities from 1 April 2008. The Department will make an annual allocation to each Council using Specific Grants.

Each Council will be required to adhere to the overarching policy framework set out in this document. Local authorities will have flexibility to develop their own application processes and detailed criteria for funding consistent with the policy framework.

Local authorities will be required to:

- a. Publish their assessment criteria and application process and their procedures for making awards.
- b. Provide match funding in each financial year equal to the amount of grant provided by the Department. If Councils decide to provide a lesser amount, the Department will retain the surplus above that amount and this will be available for re-distribution to other local authority areas.
- c. Decisions on whether or not to fund a festival and the level of funding will be entirely a matter for the local authority to decide. Each local authority will operate an appeals procedure.
- d. Local authorities will provide advice and assistance to help build capacity in festival organisations, for example, through training provision for volunteers. Councils will have flexibility to allocate a proportion of the budget to training and consultancy support in relation to delivery of festivals.
- e. Local authorities will evaluate the impact of investment in festivals in their local community. They will provide an annual report to the Department detailing the festivals supported, the awards made together with an assessment of the impact in the community.

- f. Each local authority distributing awards under CFF must ensure that it complies with the rules laid down regarding the provision of State funding for events and ensure that it operates within EC State Aid legislation.
- g. Expenditure by local authorities on community festivals will be subject to audit by the Local Government auditor.

Operation of this Policy and Guidance framework will be monitored by DCAL in liaison with the Northern Ireland Local Government Association.