



<b>Subject:</b>	Parks Events Small Grants Scheme – Recommendations for Funding
<b>Date:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Agnes McNulty, Open Spaces & Active Living Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of the report is to inform Members of the decision taken by the Director of City & Neighbourhood Services, under delegated authority regarding the applications received in Tranche 1 for events taking place in parks between 1 April 2017 and 30 September 2017.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Note the contents of the report.</li></ul>

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>A total of 51 applications were received for the Grant which were assessed by the Open Spaces &amp; Active Living Unit (OS&amp;AL) and 39 applications met the criteria for an award to be made, as shown in Appendix 1. The 12 unsuccessful applications are included in Appendix 2.</p>
3.2	<p>An Independent Assessment Panel reviewed a sample (20%) of the applications, was satisfied with the scoring and application of the criteria for the grants and approved the recommendations for awards. The Central Grants Unit will continue the administration of the grant through notification to unsuccessful applicants, draft and distribution of Letters of Offer, holding workshops for grant awarded applicants, facilitation of payments and monitoring of all awards, including financial verification visits.</p>
3.3	<p>In line with the strategic review of grant-aid ongoing in the Council, it is proposed that officers review the essential criteria for these grants, to ensure that they are fit for purpose. The overarching aim is to enable applicant groups to contribute to the achievement of the Council's objective to provide attractive, animated, shared and safe parks and open spaces in the city as well as align with the wider objectives of the Belfast Agenda. If any further amendments are required, these will be brought to a future Committee for consideration.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Tranche 1 - £97,297.50. The total budget for 2017/18 is £115,000. The scheme is managed by staff from the OS&amp;AL Unit and the Community Park Managers/Outreach Officers are responsible for liaising with groups.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no known equality and good relation implications.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	<p>Appendix 1: Parks Events Small Grants, Tranche 1 2017/18 - Successful Applications. Appendix 2: Parks Events Small Grants, Tranche 1 2017/18 - Unsuccessful Applications.</p>