



Subject:	Parks Events Small Grants Scheme – Recommendations for Funding
Date:	5 November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Agnes McNulty, Open Spaces & Active Living Manager

Restricted Reports	
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"/>

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
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 2 for events taking place in parks between 1 October 2019 and 31 March 2020.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none">note the contents of the report.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>

3.1	<p>The Parks Events Grant is aimed at encouraging more people to get involved in parks throughout Belfast, to help create a sense of ownership and improve the quality of life for people living in the city. It also aims to encourage communities and organisations to organise their own events in the Council's parks and open spaces. It is fully funded by Belfast City Council and has been in place since 2007.</p>
3.2	<p>The second tranche for 2019/20 of the grant, for activities taking place from 1 October 2019 opened in May 2019. A total of 5 no. applications were received for the Grant which were assessed by the Open Spaces & Active Living (OS&AL) Unit and 3 no. applications met the criteria for an award to be made, as shown in Appendix 1.</p>
3.3	<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 as shown in Appendix 1. The CGU 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>
3.4	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The total budget for 2019/20 is £100,000. Tranche 1 - £89,521.64 and Tranche 2 - £8,657. The scheme is managed by staff from the OS&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>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1: Parks Events Small Grant Successful Applications 2019/20 - T2. Appendix 2: Parks Events Small Grant Unsuccessful Applications 2019/20 - T2.</p>