



Title of Report:	Culture, Arts & Heritage Fund 2026-27
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 May 2026
For Decision or For Information	For Information
To be discussed In Committee	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2026-31)	
Strategic Theme	P2 Empowering and supporting our people
Outcome	Strengthened and supported community and voluntary sector to ensure citizens have access to services and support they need
Lead Officer	Head of Community & Culture; Museum Services Development Manager

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£25,000
Included in Current Year Estimates	Yes
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	1010
Staffing Costs	N/A

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	No
Legal Opinion Obtained	No

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

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the outcome of the **Culture, Arts and Heritage Programme 2026/27**

2.0 Background

2.1 In November 2025, Council approved the annual grants programme which included the **Culture, Arts & Heritage Grant Programme**. The grant programme has an agreed budget of **£20,000**. This budget is comprised 100% Council funding.

2.2 The Purpose of the Grant Fund

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council recognises the enormous cultural, artistic and heritage assets within its geographical area and commissioned a 5-year Culture, Arts & Heritage Strategy to cover the period 2016-2021.

2.3 The primary objective of the Cultural Strategy is to ensure that both local ratepayers and visitors to the area have continuous access to high quality, accessible, inclusive and affordable cultural services, including arts, museums and heritage. The grant programme was developed following a wide-ranging and inclusive consultation process which took account of the views, ideas and aspirations of stakeholders from community, cultural and related sectors which highlighted the need to support local groups to promote and develop cultural, arts and heritage projects and activities in local areas.

2.4 The parameters of the programmes are set out below:

- Applicants can apply for 100% grant aid up to a maximum value of £1,000.
- Applicants must score 65% or above to be considered for funding.
- The assessment and award criteria are detailed at **Annex A**.

3.0 The Process

3.1 In line with approved processes, the Culture, Arts & Heritage Grant Programme for 2026/27 was administered as detailed below:

Action	Date
Funding workshop	15.10.2025
Opened for Applications	08.12.2025
Closed for Applications	30.01.2026
Grant Assessments Complete	03.04.2026
Notifications to applicants	15.04.2026
Information Report to L&D	19.05.2026

4.0 Outcome

4.1 Council received 35 applications.

- 1 application was ineligible.
- 32 applications were assessed and scored.
- 2 applications were unsuccessful.
- 30 applications requesting a total of £28,375 successfully scored above the funding threshold.

- A 15% reduction was applied to all 30 successful applications to ensure the programme remained within the budget which was increased from £20,000 to £25,000.

4.2 Summary of Successful Culture, Arts & Heritage Grant Programme & Awards

	Name of applicant group	Project Title	Score (%)	Amount Requested (£)	Amount Awarded (£)
1.	Coleraine and District Amalgamated Committee	Crimson Cultural Education Tour	68	1000.00	881.00
2.	Stendhal Festival Ltd.	Refest: Upcycled art for festivals	100	950.00	837.00
3.	Binevenagh Historical Society	Tamlaghtfinlagan Memories	72	826.00	728.00
4.	Cumann Iománaíochta Chaoimhín Uí Loingsigh	Timthrialta Chaisil: Traidisi�in Bheo	84	1000.00	881.00
5.	Big Telly Theatre Company	The Third Policeman	68	989.00	871.00
6.	Portrush Summer Theatre	Portrush Summer Theatre	68	1000.00	881.00
7.	Pub Poetry	Pub Poetry Anthology	68	1000.00	881.00
8.	FRIENDS OF BALLYCASTLE MUSUEM	Developing capacity for Friends of Ballycastle Museum	100	900.00	793.00
9.	Ballywillan Drama Group	Broadway 3 Concert (Portrush Town Hall)	100	1000.00	881.00
10.	Hampsey Harp School in collaboration with Cruit Eireann Harp Ireland	Harp Day on the North Coast 2026	100	1000.00	881.00
11.	1st Bovevagh Scouts	Flowerpot Fun	68	1000.00	881.00
12.	North Coast Trad	North Coast Trad	88	1000.00	881.00
13.	Ballymoney Writers Group	Creative Writing Workshops	68	1000.00	881.00
14.	Building Ballysally Together	Art and historical workshop	68	850.00	749.00
15.	Can - Compass Advocacy Network Ltd	Arts and Crafts at Lislagan Farm	88	1000.00	881.00
16.	St Patrick's Parish Church	Summer Recitals	84	1000.00	881.00
17.	Friends of Glenariffe	Glens Heritage Art Programme	100	1000.00	881.00
18.	Cushendun & District Development Association (CDDA)	Developing Our Art Skills	100	1000.00	881.00
19.	Dungiven Regeneration Club	Deliver Creative Arts Workshops	72	1000.00	881.00
20.	Ballymoney Drama Festival	Ballymoney Drama Festival	68	1000.00	881.00
21.	Dunloy Comhaltas	Dunloy Comhaltas 2026 - 2027	88	1000.00	881.00
22.	Limavady Community Development Initiative	Journey of Survival and Connection : Limavady Workhouse to America	84	1000.00	881.00
23.	St. Patricks Primary School and Nursery Unit PTA	Afterschool Arts	76	1000.00	881.00

24.	Glens of Antrim CCE	Traditional Irish Music Lessons	100	1000.00	881.00
25.	MOSSIDE EDUCATIONAL RURAL & CULTURE SOCIETY	Voices of Mosside : Heritage Talks Programme	80	920.00	811.00
26.	Cushendun Building Preservation Trust	Culture Month 2026	88	1000.00	881.00
27.	Project 1896 Community Association	Threads Across Two Shores: Dunloy Philadelphia and the Spirit of 1776	100	940.00	828.00
28.	Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust	Connecting Young People Through Landscape Myth Legend and World Heritage Sites	100	1000.00	881.00
29.	KINGDOM OF DALRIADA ULSTER SCOTS SOCIETY	Culture Arts and Heritage in Ballymoney	76	1000.00	881.00
30.	Ullans Speakers Association	Culture Arts and Heritage in Ballymoney Town Centre	88	1000.00	881.00
				£28,375	£25,000

4.3 Unsuccessful CAH Applications:

	Name of Organisation	Project Title	Assessment Score %	Amount Requested (£)
31.	Craft Collective	Heritage Crafts 2026	60	1000.00
32.	Cloughmills Community Assoc – Panto Group	Annual pantomime - Aladdin	20	1000.00
33.	ArtAbyss Ltd	ArtAbyss Schools Travel Bursary (June 2026)	Ineligible	1000.00

Assessment & Award Criteria

Criteria	Score out of a possible 5	Weighting	Possible Score
Q1 – Good description provided of a project with a Culture, Arts and Heritage ethos		X 6	30
Q2 – A clear link to the Culture, Arts and Heritage aims as set out in the strategy document		X 4	20
Q3 – Provide a full itemised breakdown of all costs	Not scored		
			50