

Title of Report:	Grant Funding Programmes 2026-27
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	18 November 2025
For Decision or For Information	For Decision
To be discussed In Committee	NO

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy & Engaged Communities
Outcome	Develop & promote stable and cohesive communities
Lead Officer	Funding Unit Manager

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	Total cost: Approx £1.2m+ Cost to Council: Circa 50% Subject to Rate Setting Process & Central Govt Funding
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	Included

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

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide a comprehensive overview of Council's annual grant programmes and to recommend the annual grant programmes for the 2026-2027 period.

2.0 Background

Every year Council agrees an annual programme of grants. The grant programmes target resources to meet identified need and further Council's objectives as outlined in Council's Corporate Plan and individual Service Strategies.

2.1 Breakdown of Grants awarded 2016/17 - present:

Table 1

Year	No of Applications	Amount Requested	No of Projects	Amount Awarded
2016-17	312	1,017,490.53	265	853,958.05
2017-18	377	1,362,593.94	292	991,777.59
2018-19	389	1,728,482.51	276	1,347,399.59
2019-20	455	1,528,469.18	294	962,189.49
2020-21	1393	3,062,446.74	1064	1,839,996.87
2021-22	653	2,938,394.67	435	1,141,945.30
2022-23	657	2,475,153.36	520	1,508,375.86
2023-24	1028	2,088,505.15	816	1,311,617.76
2024-25	1267	4,997,424.65	978	2,449,959.24
2025-26	855	1,841,145.28	713	1,219,563.63
Grand Totals	7,386	23,040,010.60	5,653	13,626,783.38

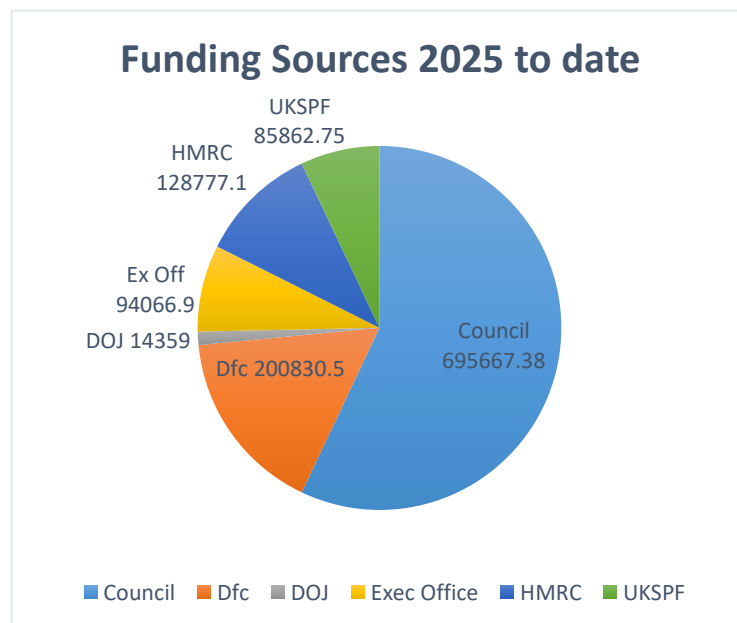
3.0 Current Years Grant Programmes

In the current Grant funding period (2025-26) 25 grant programmes are being delivered:

Table 2

	Service Area	Grant	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded	Cost to Council £
1	C&C	Building a United Community	£7,350.00	£5,623.53	£1,405.88
2	C&C	Community Development Support	£188,103.00	£148,540.00	£74,270.00
3	C&C	Community Festival Fund	£97,555.00	£62,279.00	£31,139.50
4	C&C	Creative Practitioner Bursary Scheme	£2,960.00	£2,960.00	£2,960.00
5	C&C	Culture Arts & Heritage Grant	£31,131.00	£25,611.00	£25,611.00
6	C&C	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls	£156,161.00	£89,849.25	£0.00
7	C&C	PCSP Small Grant	£20,460.00	£14,359.00	£0.00
8	C&C	Social Connections Fund	£43,084.00	£31,954.00	£15,977.00
9	C&C	Youth Creative Skills Bursary Scheme	£2,885.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
10	P&P	Enterprise Fund	£314,045.00	£46,427.00	£46,427.00
11	P&P	Go Succeed Grant	£120,340.00	£85,862.75	£0.00
12	P&P	Personal Learning Account Fund	£142,112.00	£79,444.00	£0.00
13	P&P	Business Start Up Seed Fund	Currently Open	TBC	
14	P&P	Green Support Scheme	Currently Open	TBC	
15	P&P	Rural Business Development Programme	Currently Open	TBC	
16	P&P	Causeway Festival of Learning	TBC	TBC	
17	T&R	Christmas Festive Fund	£35,572.00	£33,747.00	£33,747.00

18	T&R	Tourism Events Growth Fund	£65,758.18	£43,379.15	£43,379.15
19	T&R	Tourism Large Events Fund	£389,350.00	£356,620.85	£356,620.85
20	S&W	Health and Wellbeing Grant Programme	£35,191.00	£24,381.00	£24,381.00
21	S&W	Sports Grant & Bursary Programme	£48,176.00	£27,879.00	£27,879.00
22	CS	Town Twinning Grant	£3,600.00	£3,600.00	£3,600.00
23	ES	LiveSmart Grant	£8,535.00	£6,270.00	£6,270.00
24	FU	Capital Grant Programme	Currently Open	TBC	TBC
25	FU	Landfill Community Fund	£128,777.10	£128,777.10	£0.00
TOTALS			£1,841,145.28	£1,219,563.63	£695,667.38



4.0 Proposed Grant Funding Programmes 2026-27

The proposed grant programmes for the incoming year were presented and discussed at the Elected Members Annual Grants Workshop held on 15 October 2025. (**Annex A** includes a brief overview of each proposed grant and the criteria to be used for assessment).

Table 3 presents a summary of the Grant Programmes proposed for the 2026/2027 period:

Table 3

		Grant Programme	Assessment / Scoring	Max grant available (£)	Other Funder	Draft Budget (£)	Cost to Council (£)
1	C&C	Building a United Community Fund	Score	1,500	75% Exec Office	4,500	1,125
2	C&C	Community Development Support Grant	Score	1,250 / 2,500 3,500	48% DfC	145,000	75,400
3	C&C	Community Festival Fund	Score	750 / 1,500 / 3,000	45% DfC	64,530	35,492
4	C&C	Creative Practitioner's Bursary	Pass/Fail	1,000	100% Council	20,000	20,000
5	C&C	Culture, Arts and Heritage Grant	Score	1,000	100% Council	20,000	20,000
6	C&C	PCSP Grants	Score	TBC	100% DoJ	50,000	0
7	C& C & S&W	Pilot Volunteering Small Grant Programme	Pass/Fail	500	100% Council	20,000	0
8	C&C	Social Connections Fund	Pass/Fail	500	48% DfC	15,000	7,800
9	C&C	Youth Creative Skills Bursary	Pass/Fail	200	100% Council	2,640	2,640
10	P&P	Enterprise Fund	Score	5,000	100% Council	80,000	80,000
11	P&P	Go Succeed	Score	4,000	100% UKSPF	235,139	0
12	P&P	Personal Learning Account	Score	500	100% DfC	TBC	0
13	P&P	Business Start Up Seed Fund	Score	£1,000	100% DfC	TBC	0
14	P&P	Causeway Festival of Learning	Score	£500			
15	P&P	Green Support Grant Scheme	Score	4,000	100% Council	100,000	100,000
16	P&P	Rural Business Development Grant	Score	4,999	100% DAERA	TBC	0
17	T&R	Tourism Large Events Funding	Score	100,000	100% Council	400,000	400,000
18	T&R	Tourism Growth Fund	Score	15,000	100% Council	Included above	Included above

		Grant Programme	Assessment / Scoring	Max grant available (£)	Other Funder	Draft Budget (£)	Cost to Council (£)
19	T&R	Christmas Festive Fund	Pass/Fail	750/2,500	100% Council	50,000	50,000
20	S&W	Sports Grant & Bursary	Score	150/200/300/400	100% Council	20,000	20,000
21	S&W	Health & Wellbeing Grant	Score	1,000	100% Council	40,000	40,000
22	ES	LiveSmart	Score	750	100% Council	10,000	10,000
23	CPR	Town Twinning Fund	Pass/Fail	5,000	100% Council	10,000	10,000
24	FU	Capital Grant	Score	£120,000	100% Council	600,000	600,000
					TOTALS	1,969,809	1,455,457

5.0 Pilot Volunteering Small Grant Programme

A new volunteering small grant programme is proposed for inclusion in the 2026/27 annual grants programme.

5.1 Purpose of grant:

To provide support to the volunteering community to recruit, support and recognise volunteers.

5.2 Amount of grant-aid:

It is proposed to set aside a pot of £20,000 for this fund. If agreed this will be included in the Leisure & Development Directorate budget for 2026/27.

The maximum grant award per applicant organisation will be £1,000.

5.3 What can be funded:

- Volunteer Recognition – to thank volunteers for their contribution to the organisation.
- Volunteer recruitment – to recruit new volunteers for example, to develop a poster campaign or include adverts within the local newspapers.
- Travel - Travel on behalf of the organisation relevant to the volunteer role.
- PPE – Protective clothing so the volunteer can carry out their role. (Gardening gloves, uniform items etc)
- Training – First aid training, safeguarding, food hygiene etc.

5.4 Eligibility & Criteria:

Community & voluntary sector organisations, including sporting organisations can apply. Applicant organisations must not have an annual income exceeding £100,000 per year.

Organisations must demonstrate how their proposal delivers on at least one of the following objectives:

5.4.1 **Objective 1**

Increase volunteer activity by under-represented Section 75 groups in the volunteering population:

- Those not in paid employment.
- Aged 65 and over.
- Under 25's.
- Those with a disability.
- Those from a racial / ethnic minority background.

5.4.2 **Objective 2**

Increase & involve new volunteers in a meaningful way within their organisation e.g. provide training and/or mentoring for volunteers.

5.4.3 **Objective 3**

Benefit to the local community e.g. provide more trained persons within the community, increasing knowledge and understanding of the work of the organisation, the role of volunteers and the impact that is gained.

6.0 **Improving Grant Efficiency & Services**

The current grant cycle involves:

- Council agreeing the annual grant programmes including the parameters for each grant, grant amounts and the assessment & scoring criteria for each grant.
- 11 rolling grant programmes stay open throughout the year or until all funds are allocated. Reports on these funds are taken into Council for information purposes.
- 14 other grant programmes have specific opening and closing dates. Reports on these funds are taken to Committee and then to full Council for decision on grant approvals.

6.1 In order to implement a consistent approach, it is proposed that all grant reports go to Council for information rather than approval. This will considerably reduce the time applicants have to wait to receive letters of offer. Presently letters of offer for open/closed grant programmes are not issued until after the Committee decision has been ratified by full council + 5 days (call in period). This process can take 8-12 weeks. The proposal would allow Letters of Offer to be issued immediately after the grant applications have been assessed.

7.0 **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council:

- (1) Grant programmes numbered 1-24 for the 2026/27 period, listed in Table 3, along with the assessment / scoring criteria as summarised in **Annex A**.
- (2) The introduction of a Pilot Volunteering Small Grant Scheme as outlined in section 5.0 and in **Annex A**, along with associated budget of £20,000.
- (3) The application of a consistent approach for grant reporting with all grant reports going to Council for information purposes.



DRAFT Grant Programmes 2026-2027

DRAFT Summary Document

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1.0 Introduction

This summary document provides information, guidance and support on Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council's grant funding programmes for the period 2026/27. Contained in this document you will find information on how to apply, what types of funding are available for the coming year, whether or not you are eligible to apply, information on how your application will be assessed and where to go for advice and support.

If you are intending to apply for one of the Council grants you are strongly advised to read the individual guidance notes which are available for each grant programme – they will provide a broader overview of the individual fund you are applying to as well as providing in depth support on how to answer the specific questions and precise information on what is eligible and what is not eligible when developing your budget.

The general purpose of all our Grants Funds is to help pay for projects that match our targets. In each financial year there is a call for applications, followed by a series of grant funding roadshows where potential applicants will have an opportunity to talk to Council officers and prior to application.

2.0 Grant Programmes 2026/27

The Grant Funding Programmes available for the 2026/27 period are as follows:

	Grant Programme	Service Area	Max grant available	Opening	Closing
1.	Building a United Community Fund	C&C	£1,500	8 th Dec 2025	Rolling
2.	Community Development Support Grant	C&C	£1,250 / £2,500 /£3,500	Funds committed to rolling 3-year programme	N/A
3.	Community Festivals Fund	C&C	£1,000 / £1,750 / £3,250	8 th Dec 2025	6 th Feb 2026
4.	Culture, Arts and Heritage Grant Scheme	C&C	£1,000	8 th Dec 2025	30 th Jan 2026
5.	Creative Practitioners Bursary Scheme	C&C	£1,000	8 th Dec 2025	20 th Feb 2026
6.	Policing and Community Safety Grants	C&C	TBC	TBC	Rolling
7.	Social Connections Fund	C&C	£500	9 th March 2026	Rolling
8.	Pilot Volunteering Small Grant Programme	C&C / S&W	£500	TBC	TBC
9.	Youth Creative Skills Bursary Scheme	C&C	£200	8 th Dec 2025	24 th April 2026
10.	Causeway Festival of Learning	P&P	£500	TBC	TBC
11.	Enterprise Grant Programme	P&P	£5,000	TBC	TBC
12.	Go Succeed Grant Programme	P&P	£4,000	TBC	TBC
13.	Personal Learning Account	P&P	£500	TBC	Rolling
14.	Business Start Up Seed Fund	P&P	£1,000	TBC	Rolling
15.	Green Support Grant Scheme	P&P	£4,000	TBC	TBC
16.	Rural Business Development Grant Programme	P&P	£4,999	DAERA to confirm	TBC
17.	Christmas Festive Fund	T&R	£750/£2,500	Sept 2026	Oct 2026
18.	Tourism Large Events Funding	T&R	£100,000	8 th Dec 2025	23 rd Jan 2026
19.	Tourism Growth Fund	T&R	£15,000	8 th Dec 2025	23 rd Jan 2026

	Grant Programme	Service Area	Max grant available	Opening	Closing
20.	Health & Wellbeing Grant Programme	S&W	£500	TBC	Rolling
21.	Sports Grant & Bursary Programme	S&W	£150/£200/ £300/£400	TBC	Rolling
22.	Town Twinning Fund	CS	£5,000	8 th Dec 2025	Rolling
23.	LiveSmart	ES	£750	TBC	Rolling
24.	Capital Grant Fund	FU	£100,000	TBC	TBC

2.1 You cannot apply to more than one fund for the same project. If you are applying for more than one of our grants, the projects you are applying for must be different from each other.

Each grant fund is limited. Even if an application scores highly, we cannot guarantee all or any of the funding. These are all competitive funds and where necessary applications will be ranked according to how well they score, and funding may be awarded on a sliding scale or to the highest ranked projects only. Where the assessment criteria is pass/fail a general reduction across all grant applications may be applied if the fund is oversubscribed.

3.0 Who can apply?

3.1 To be eligible for grant-aid, you will have to show that your organisation is a bona fide organisation that is well run and that it:

- Has a properly adopted “Governing Document” such as a constitution or memorandum and articles of association which clearly show that it is non-profit making and taking.
- Council’s Prosperity & Place Grant Programmes are the exception and can make awards to local businesses
- Business must have a bank account in the name of the business
- Is open, accountable and representative of the geographical area in which it serves.
- Be based in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area or have their main activities based in the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area.

4.0 How to Apply:

4.1 Applications to Council for grant aid should be made via the Council's online funding hub. You can access the hub through Council's

homepage www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk and click on funding or go straight to the online hub: <https://grants.ccqbcapps.com/>

Guidance on completing the application online is provided on the web-site link. Hard copies can be made available. Please contact the Central Funding Unit on email grants@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Or by telephoning 028 7034 7198.

4.2 The application process is in 2 parts:

Part A is eligibility. This section gathers information about how your organisation is set up, governed and managed.

Part B is where you fill in your project details, and this part of the application is specific to the grant programme you are applying to. If you are applying for multiple grants, section A need only be completed once, whereas a section B must be completed for each grant you are applying for.

If you have previously applied for a grant from Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council you will be able to clone your Part A. Unless your constitution / governing documents have changed you need not resubmit these to Council. Community and Voluntary Sector applicants are however required to submit your latest accounts each financial year.

5.0 What we can / cannot fund

Please refer to the individual Grant Programme Guidelines for specific eligibility under each grant programme.

5.1 What we can fund

The list below only includes elements which are common to Council's Grant Programmes.

- With some grant programme a proportion of core running costs (part payment of salaries, heat and light, insurance, rent or premises costs, office costs, etc.).
- Programme or activity costs which are directly relevant to the application.
- Travel and transport costs.
- Hire or purchase of equipment for meeting project needs

- Venue hire (excluding hire of groups own premises)
- Technical assistance.
- Training or facilitation costs.
- Festivals and events.
- Capital costs.
- Best practice visits.
- Publicity, marketing.
- Catering (a limit may be placed on the level of funding allowed towards hospitality and catering/ refreshments)

5.2 What we don't fund

Some exclusions will apply, unless specifically allowed for within specific funding programmes:

- Individuals, unless within a bursary framework.
- Businesses and for-profit organisations where funding would contravene local government, Subsidy Control rules or other legislation.
- Projects or activities which are delivered outside of the Council area and DO NOT meet the needs within the area.
- Activities which are discriminatory, political, or are classed as proselytizing in nature.
- General appeals.
- Those organisations who have substantial, demonstrable, unrestricted reserves.
- Costs that can be claimed back from elsewhere e.g. VAT.
- Costs that are not auditable e.g. cash payments.
- Costs towards banking charges and / or repayment of debt.
- Payments made to individual members of the applicant group or organisation who have a pecuniary interest.
- Retrospective costs e.g. activities completed, or costs incurred before the agreement of funding.
- Programmes or activities which are considered the core activity of national or regional government, Government Departments or arms-length body, such as health or education.
- Gifts and prizes.
- Alcohol

5.3 Applications that are not complete or do not provide a detailed project budget are also not eligible.

We are unlikely to fund an organisation that is in poor financial health or cannot show effective financial control.

As well as the above, your project or organisation must also meet the specific eligibility for any of the grants applied for. (This information is shown in the eligibility section of your application form and detailed in the programme specific guidance notes).

6.0 Assessment Payment & Appeals Processes

6.1 Assessment process:

Every grant application that we receive will be assessed for the following:

- to ensure that the application is eligible, and
- for reassurance of each organisation's capability to deliver the proposal, and
- how well the proposal meets the programme specific criteria and contributes to Council's Strategic Priorities

The assessment/scoring framework for each grant programme is detailed in the appendix tables at the back of this summary document.

6.2 What happens next?

If an application is successful, Council will issue a letter of offer which is a legal agreement with the organisation to deliver on the proposals outlined in the application form.

Your organisation will be invited to training that will explain the processes and procedures for submitting a grant claim, marketing and promotion, monitoring and evaluation requirements and the process of verification. The training is a good way to establish the working relationship between Grant recipients and Council Officers, so that should the applicant have any support needs, the Council can respond in an appropriate and timely manner.

6.3 Appeals Process

If you are unhappy with the funding decision made, you may appeal against the decision. The purpose of this is to ensure that the decisions taken and procedures followed for individual applications are applied fairly and consistently.

The Review will provide an independent process through which an applicant will have the opportunity to demonstrate to the Review Panel that either:

- the outcome was unreasonable or
- that the proper procedures were not followed

Appeals on any other grounds will not be considered.

6.4 Equal Opportunities Monitoring

We must promote equal opportunities. We must also promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group. All applicants must complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Questionnaire. We will treat as anonymous all of the information you provide in this questionnaire.

Name of the Programme	1. Building A United Community Fund 2026-27																																									
Overview	Purpose: To support, promote and develop Good Relations projects throughout the Council area. Applicants must demonstrate how their organisation contributes to the Good Relations aims identified in Councils Good Relations Strategy. These aims are directed by a Government strategy published in 2013 entitled “Together: Building a United Community (TBUC) • Our Children and Young People – To continue to improve attitudes amongst our young people and to build a community where they can play a full and active role in building good relations • Our Shared Community – To create a community where division does not restrict the life opportunities of individuals and where all areas are open and accessible to everyone • Our Safe Community – To create a community where everyone feels safe in moving around and where life choices are not inhibited by fears around safety. • Our Cultural Expression – To create a community which promotes mutual respect and understanding, is strengthened by its diversity, and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced.																																									
Assessment & Scoring	Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 form part of the eligibility criteria for this fund. For the application to progress to full scoring and assessment it must score a minimum of 3 points out of 5 for these questions. <table><tr><td></td><td>Criteria</td><td>Must achieve min of 3 out of 5)</td><td>Pass/Fail</td></tr><tr><td>Q1-4</td><td>Is there clear and concise evidence that this is a developed project with a Good Relations focus?</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> Scoring All questions will be scored out of 5 and weighting will be applied as detailed below: <table><tr><td></td><td>Criteria</td><td>Score (0-5)</td><td>Weighting</td><td>Possible Score</td></tr><tr><td>Q5</td><td>Extent of awareness and evidence base of specific Good Relations needs in the area</td><td></td><td>X4</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>Q6</td><td>A clear understanding of how the project will address specific Good Relations needs in the area.</td><td></td><td>X4</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>Q7</td><td>Detail on the number of project participants and additional beneficiaries</td><td></td><td>X1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Q8</td><td>Proactive promotional methods, ensuring that the whole community can be involved</td><td></td><td>X1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>50</td></tr></table> Applications must score 65% in order to avail of funding.					Criteria	Must achieve min of 3 out of 5)	Pass/Fail	Q1-4	Is there clear and concise evidence that this is a developed project with a Good Relations focus?				Criteria	Score (0-5)	Weighting	Possible Score	Q5	Extent of awareness and evidence base of specific Good Relations needs in the area		X4	20	Q6	A clear understanding of how the project will address specific Good Relations needs in the area.		X4	20	Q7	Detail on the number of project participants and additional beneficiaries		X1	5	Q8	Proactive promotional methods, ensuring that the whole community can be involved		X1	5					50
	Criteria	Must achieve min of 3 out of 5)	Pass/Fail																																							
Q1-4	Is there clear and concise evidence that this is a developed project with a Good Relations focus?																																									
	Criteria	Score (0-5)	Weighting	Possible Score																																						
Q5	Extent of awareness and evidence base of specific Good Relations needs in the area		X4	20																																						
Q6	A clear understanding of how the project will address specific Good Relations needs in the area.		X4	20																																						
Q7	Detail on the number of project participants and additional beneficiaries		X1	5																																						
Q8	Proactive promotional methods, ensuring that the whole community can be involved		X1	5																																						
				50																																						
Grant Amount	Up to 100% of total project costs will be available for eligible projects - maximum amount available £1,500																																									
Responsible Service Area	Community & Culture																																									
	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Good Relations Unit before submitting your application: Good Relations Officer 07598403773 goodrelations@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk																																									

Name of the Programme	2. Community Development Support Grant 2026-27			
Overview	The Community Development Support Grant Programme will provide grants to support, promote and develop the capacity of communities across Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council by providing financial assistance towards running costs / core costs.			
Assessment		Criteria	Weighting	Maximum Possible Score
	1	Range of activities and beneficiaries	X2	10
	2	Needs of the community and how well those needs have been identified	X1	5
	3	How well activities of the group address needs of the community and the difference they will make	X1	5
	4	Level of Deprivation (NIMDM 2017)	X1	5
	5	Value for money including any other funding levered in	X1	5
				30
	Grant Amount	Category A: Community development groups directly providing a programme of activities. The group has its own premises* including a hall/space adaptable for a range of activities with one or more meeting rooms, hired by at least 2 other groups on a regular (at least monthly) basis. Groups operating Council Community centres through Shared Management Agreements can only apply for a max grant of £1,250. (Articlave, Ballybogey, Magilligan, Millburn, Rasharkin and Stranocum).		
	Category B: Community development group directly providing a programme of activities with a premises* for their own use which is hired out by less than 2 other users on a regular basis.			75% up to a maximum of £2,500
	Category C: Community development group that provides a programme of activities without their own premises.			75% up to a maximum of £1,250
Responsible Service Area	Community & Culture			
Contact information for applicant support purpose	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Community Development Support Team before submitting your application: Catherine Farrimond 07846 099916 catherine.farrimond@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk			

Name of the Programme	3. Community Festival Fund 2026-27																																							
Overview	Purpose To support, promote and develop the capacity of communities to host community festival events across the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area. To enable organisations to celebrate their unique cultural and community identity. To promote diversity and to strengthen good community relations within and between communities.																																							
Criteria	<table><tr><th>Question</th><th>Criteria</th><th>Score out of 5</th><th>Weight</th><th>Possible Score</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Strong community participation</td><td></td><td>X1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Opportunities for people to improve their personal skills or receive training relevant to the project</td><td></td><td>X1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Promotes inclusion and proactively puts measures in place to encourage this</td><td></td><td>X1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>NIMDM 2017Ranking/ Access to Services Measure Ranking</td><td></td><td>X1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Demonstrate value for money and maximise income</td><td></td><td>X1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>25</td></tr></table>					Question	Criteria	Score out of 5	Weight	Possible Score	1	Strong community participation		X1	5	2	Opportunities for people to improve their personal skills or receive training relevant to the project		X1	5	3	Promotes inclusion and proactively puts measures in place to encourage this		X1	5	4	NIMDM 2017Ranking/ Access to Services Measure Ranking		X1	5	5	Demonstrate value for money and maximise income		X1	5					25
Question	Criteria	Score out of 5	Weight	Possible Score																																				
1	Strong community participation		X1	5																																				
2	Opportunities for people to improve their personal skills or receive training relevant to the project		X1	5																																				
3	Promotes inclusion and proactively puts measures in place to encourage this		X1	5																																				
4	NIMDM 2017Ranking/ Access to Services Measure Ranking		X1	5																																				
5	Demonstrate value for money and maximise income		X1	5																																				
				25																																				
Grant Amount	<table><tr><td colspan="3">Community Festival Fund Grant Programme</td><td colspan="2">Maximum Grant Amount</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">1. One day community fun day type events. Events must be programmed to be of at least 4 hours consecutive duration and include a range of at least 3 distinct types of activities open to the whole community.</td><td colspan="2">Up to £1,000</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">2. Festival events lasting 2 consecutive days or more. Each of the days of the festival must include a range of at least 3 distinct types of activities open to the whole community and be programmed to be at least 4 hours duration. It is not enough to simply duplicate the same event on 2 days – the festival must have different activities on each day that it takes place.</td><td colspan="2">Up to £1,750</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">3. Festivals lasting 3 consecutive days or more. Each of the days of the festival must include a range of at least 3 distinct types of activities open to the whole community and be programmed to be at least 4 hours duration and attract at least 500 people (participants & visitors). The festival must have different activities on each day that it takes place</td><td colspan="2">Up to £3,250</td></tr></table>					Community Festival Fund Grant Programme			Maximum Grant Amount		1. One day community fun day type events. Events must be programmed to be of at least 4 hours consecutive duration and include a range of at least 3 distinct types of activities open to the whole community.			Up to £1,000		2. Festival events lasting 2 consecutive days or more. Each of the days of the festival must include a range of at least 3 distinct types of activities open to the whole community and be programmed to be at least 4 hours duration. It is not enough to simply duplicate the same event on 2 days – the festival must have different activities on each day that it takes place.			Up to £1,750		3. Festivals lasting 3 consecutive days or more. Each of the days of the festival must include a range of at least 3 distinct types of activities open to the whole community and be programmed to be at least 4 hours duration and attract at least 500 people (participants & visitors). The festival must have different activities on each day that it takes place			Up to £3,250																
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Responsible Service Area	Community & Culture																																							
Contact information for applicant support purpose	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Community Development Support Team before submitting your application: Catherine Farrimond catherine.farrimond@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Adele McCloskey adele.mccloskey@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk																																							

Name of the Programme	4. Culture Arts & Heritage Grants 2026-27			
Overview	Organisations must demonstrate how their organisation contributes to any one of the following Culture, Arts and Heritage Aims: • Enhancing Our Cultural Venues and Assets – To use our landscape and our cultural assets and activities to enable opportunities for both local people and visitors to participate in Culture, Arts and Heritage in the area. • Investing in Creative learning and Skills Development –To support the creative development our young people and our creative practitioners through training, skills development and providing opportunities to showcase work • History, Heritage and Cultural Tourism –To promote a sense of pride, identity and deeper understanding of our area by bringing together the many stories, histories, identities and languages which are present in the area			
Assessment & Scoring	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
	Applications must score 65% in order to avail of funding.			
Grant Amount	Grants are available for a maximum of 100% of the total project costs up to a maximum of £1000			
Responsible Service Area	Community & Culture			
Contact information for applicant support purpose	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Cultural Arts and Heritage Service Unit before submitting your application: <u>Arts Projects</u> Desima Connolly 0287083 1400 decima.connolly@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk <u>Museum/Heritage Projects</u> Sarah Calvin 028 2764 9485 Sarah.Carson@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk			

Name of the Programme	5. Creative Practitioners Bursary Scheme 2026-27																	
Overview	Purpose: To invest in creative learning & skills development by: <i>Supporting the creative development of our creative practitioners through training, skills development and providing opportunities to showcase work (Cultural Strategy, Theme 2)</i> Applicants must be able to: - Clearly show what the training or development opportunity is by producing a course programme, details of facilitators etc - Demonstrate a quality professional practice (e.g. of published works, exhibitions etc.) - Have sufficient experience in their creative art form - please provide an up-to-date CV and artist's statement with your application. Emerging artists who do not meet these criteria must provide two references from established artists in their field - Demonstrate how the training or development opportunity will be of benefit to them																	
Assessment & Scoring	<table><tr><th>Criteria</th><th>Assessment</th><th>Pass /Fail</th></tr><tr><td>Q1 Please describe the training or development opportunity or creative project for which you are applying for assistance</td><td>Has the applicant provided a bona fide letter of acceptance or confirmation of a place on a course or a 500-word description of creative project</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Q2 Demonstrate a quality, professional practice. Emerging practitioners who do not meet these criteria must provide two references from established practitioners in their field.</td><td>Evidence of experience/track record in this field. (Provide an up to date CV and practitioners statement with your application, examples of work e.g. slides, publications) or two references from established practitioners.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Q3 Demonstrate how the training/development opportunity will be of benefit to you</td><td>Evidence provided of benefits detailed</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Q4 provide a full itemised breakdown of all costs</td><td>Not scored</td><td></td></tr></table>			Criteria	Assessment	Pass /Fail	Q1 Please describe the training or development opportunity or creative project for which you are applying for assistance	Has the applicant provided a bona fide letter of acceptance or confirmation of a place on a course or a 500-word description of creative project		Q2 Demonstrate a quality, professional practice. Emerging practitioners who do not meet these criteria must provide two references from established practitioners in their field.	Evidence of experience/track record in this field. (Provide an up to date CV and practitioners statement with your application, examples of work e.g. slides, publications) or two references from established practitioners.		Q3 Demonstrate how the training/development opportunity will be of benefit to you	Evidence provided of benefits detailed		Q4 provide a full itemised breakdown of all costs	Not scored	
Criteria	Assessment	Pass /Fail																
Q1 Please describe the training or development opportunity or creative project for which you are applying for assistance	Has the applicant provided a bona fide letter of acceptance or confirmation of a place on a course or a 500-word description of creative project																	
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Q3 Demonstrate how the training/development opportunity will be of benefit to you	Evidence provided of benefits detailed																	
Q4 provide a full itemised breakdown of all costs	Not scored																	
Grant Amount	Maximum of 100% of the total project costs up to £1000.																	
Responsible Service Area	Community & Culture																	
Contact information for applicant support purpose	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Cultural Services Unit of the Council listed below: <u>Arts Projects</u> Desima Connolly 02870831400 desima.connolly@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk <u>Museum/Heritage Projects</u> Sarah Calvin 028 2764 9485 Sarah.Carson@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk																	

Name of the Programme	6. Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Small Grants Programme 2026-27				
Overview	The PCSP small grants programme has been developed to provide organisations with up to a £999 grant to organise a project or event that will help prevent, reduce, address crime and help people feel safer in their own communities.				
Assessment & Scoring Criteria reviewed by PCSP Board annually		Criteria	Score out of a possible 5	Weighting	Possible Score
	1	How will it help prevent, reduce, address crime, and help people feel safer in your community		X16	80
	2	Reasonable costs for project/event		X4	20
					100
	Applications must score 65% in order to avail of funding.				
Grant Amount	£999				
Responsible Service Area	Community & Culture				
Contact information for applicant support purpose	Applications may be discussed with an officer from the PCSP Team: Melissa Lemon PCSP Officer Tel: 07523 942166 Email: melissa.lemon@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Jonny Donaghy PCSP Manager Email: jonny.donaghy@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk				

Name of the Programme	7. Social Connections Fund 2026/27														
Overview	The purpose of the Social Connections Grant Programme is to provide small grants to community and voluntary organisations to address loneliness and isolation and build social connections. The Objectives of the Grant Programme are to: • create more opportunities to bring people together to make connections doing something they enjoy. • reach people who may be less likely to attend community activities. • help to reduce the social isolation that can be a result of living in poverty. • enable local activities to become more accessible. • involve the people who will benefit from the project in shaping your project Applicants can apply for grant-aid towards running costs e.g., insurance costs														
Assessment	<table><tr><th>Criteria</th><th>Pass</th><th>Fail</th></tr><tr><td>1. Will the project provide activities for people that are experiencing loneliness or social isolation within the community?</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2. Have the beneficiaries been identified?</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3. Full itemised breakdown of all costs provided.</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			Criteria	Pass	Fail	1. Will the project provide activities for people that are experiencing loneliness or social isolation within the community?			2. Have the beneficiaries been identified?			3. Full itemised breakdown of all costs provided.		
Criteria	Pass	Fail													
1. Will the project provide activities for people that are experiencing loneliness or social isolation within the community?															
2. Have the beneficiaries been identified?															
3. Full itemised breakdown of all costs provided.															
Grant Amount	Applicants can apply for grants of up to 100% of costs, towards project revenue costs. Maximum amount - £750														
Responsible Service Area	Community & Culture														
Contact information for applicant support purpose	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Community Development Support Team before submitting your application: Catherine Farrimond, Community Development Officer :- catherine.farrimond@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Adele McCloskey, Community Facilities Development Officer:- adele.mccloskey@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk														

Name of the Programme	8. Pilot Volunteering Small Grant Programme 2026-27			
Overview	Purpose of grant: To provide support to the volunteering community to recruit, support and recognise volunteers			
	Amount of grant-aid - Maximum award £1,000			
	What can be funded			
	• Travel - Travel on behalf of the organisation relevant to the volunteer role. • PPE – Protective clothing so the volunteer can carry out their role. (Gardening gloves, uniform items etc) • Training – First aid training, safeguarding, food hygiene etc.			
	Organisations must not have an annual income exceeding £100,000 per year.			
	Organisations must demonstrate how their proposal delivers on at least one of the following objectives:			
	Objective 1			
	Increase volunteer activity by under-represented Section 75 groups in the volunteering population:			
	• Those not in paid employment • Aged 65 and over • Under 25's • Those with a disability • Those from a racial / ethnic minority background			
	Objective 2			
Increase & involve new volunteers in a meaningful way within their organisation e.g. provide training and/or mentoring for volunteers.				
Objective 3				
Benefit to the local community e.g. provide more trained persons within the community, increasing knowledge and understanding of the work of the organisation, the role of volunteers and the impact that is gained.				
Assessment & Scoring				
	Criteria	Score out of a possible 5	Weighting	Possible Score
	Q1 – Good detail provided of the volunteering within the organisation		X 4	20
	Q2 – A clear link to at least one of the objectives, detailing how the project addresses the objective(s)		X 6	30
	Q3 – provide a full itemised breakdown of all costs	Not scored		
				50
Grant Amount	£1,000.00			
Responsible Service Area	Prosperity & Place / Sport & Wellbeing			
Contact information for applicants	You may find it helpful to discuss your project with the following officer before submitting an application: Louise Scullion, Community Development Manager Tel: 07725958141 louise.scullion@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk			

Name of the Programme	9. Youth Creative Skills Bursary Scheme 2026-27		
Overview	Purpose: To help improve access to creative skills training or development programmes for young people by investing in creative learning & skills development: <i>To support the creative development of our young people and creative practitioners through training, skills development and providing opportunities to showcase work (Cultural Strategy, Theme 2)</i> Applicants must be able to: - Clearly show what the training or development opportunity is by producing a course programme, details of facilitators etc - Demonstrate a commitment to the creative form for which they are requesting the bursary - Show sufficient experience in the creative form - Demonstrate how the training or development opportunity will be of benefit to them - Allow, at least, a 2-month lead-in-time from the deadline for submission of the application and the date of the commencement of the training/development opportunity.		
Assessment & Scoring	Criteria	Assessment	Pass/Fail
	Q1 Description of the training or development opportunity	Has the applicant provided details of a bona fide letter of acceptance or confirmation of a place on a course.	
	Q2 Applicants commitment to the creative art form	Evidence of experience/track record in this field	
	Q3 How the training/development opportunity will be of benefit to you.	Will the opportunity enhance/develop the applicant's skills in this art form	
Grant Amount	An award will be 100% of the total cost of the training, up to a maximum of £200.		
Responsible Service Area	Community & Culture		
Contact information for applicant support purpose	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Cultural Services Unit of the Council listed below: <u>Arts Projects</u> Emma Thorpe 028 7083 1400 Emma.Thorpe@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk <u>Museum/Heritage Projects</u> Sarah Calvin 028 2764 9485 Sarah.Carson@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk		

Name of the Programme	10. Causeway Festival of Learning Grant Programme 2026-27		
Overview	The Causeway Festival of Learning Week Fund has been developed to promote and encourage engagement in lifelong learning across the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area. The aim of Causeway Festival of Learning Week is to inform and encourage residents and organisations across the borough to engage in learning and upskilling, hence creating and fostering a culture of lifelong learning across the borough. Events and projects will be delivered across the borough by statutory partners, employers, private businesses, social enterprises and the community and voluntary sector.		
Assessment & Scoring	The application will be assessed against the following criteria:		
	Criteria	Pass	Fail
	1.The organisation must be a social enterprise or a community and voluntary sector organisation		
	2. Your project must support residents in the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area.		
	3.Social enterprises and community and voluntary organisations from outside of the borough can apply, however, beneficiaries must be from the borough		
	4.The project is clearly focused on for the promotion of lifelong learning in the Causeway Coast and Glens area		
	5.The project is appropriate and can deliver outcomes which meet the need of the fund		
	6.The project cannot be funded elsewhere (e.g. College Community Education Outreach, Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plans, CCAG Community Development Programme		
	7.A project that is deemed to be of reasonable value for money		
	8.The project will be undertaken by a credible, viable organisation with the capacity to deliver the project as stated		
	9.There is evidence of a clear and concise description of your project		
	10.There is evidence of a comprehensive list of the targeted beneficiaries of this event. Please include key details of your target audience, e.g., location, age range, demographic, and labour sectors		
	11.There is evidence of how you will promote your event to your target audience.		
Grant Amount	The Scheme can provide funding of up to 100% of costs up to a maximum of £500.		Up to £500 Available
Responsible Service Area	Prosperity and Place		
Contact information for applicants	Applications may be discussed with officers from the Labour Market Partnership unit before submitting your application: <u>Marc McGerty</u> Tel: 07976629027 LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk <u>Danielle McAleese</u> Tel: 07860356242 danielle.mcaleese@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk		

Name of the Programme	11. Enterprise Fund 2026-27																																							
Overview	The Fund supports start-up businesses that have been trading less than two years. The Fund is about developing those young businesses that need assistance in taking the next step in their growth plan.																																							
Assessment & Scoring	<table><tr><td></td><td>Criteria</td><td>Score (0-5)</td><td>Weight</td><td>Max Points Available</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Clear and concise evidence of the need for the project within the scope of the fund</td><td></td><td>X3</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Clear and realistic outcomes set for the project e.g., increase in profit, employment, new markets entered, new products or services introduced</td><td></td><td>X3</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Project demonstrates innovation in the marketplace or in business practices</td><td></td><td>X2</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Ability, skills and experience of the business which enables them to deliver the project</td><td></td><td>X2</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>50</td></tr></table> Applications must score 65% in order to avail of funding.						Criteria	Score (0-5)	Weight	Max Points Available	1	Clear and concise evidence of the need for the project within the scope of the fund		X3	15	2	Clear and realistic outcomes set for the project e.g., increase in profit, employment, new markets entered, new products or services introduced		X3	15	3	Project demonstrates innovation in the marketplace or in business practices		X2	10	4	Ability, skills and experience of the business which enables them to deliver the project		X2	10										50
	Criteria	Score (0-5)	Weight	Max Points Available																																				
1	Clear and concise evidence of the need for the project within the scope of the fund		X3	15																																				
2	Clear and realistic outcomes set for the project e.g., increase in profit, employment, new markets entered, new products or services introduced		X3	15																																				
3	Project demonstrates innovation in the marketplace or in business practices		X2	10																																				
4	Ability, skills and experience of the business which enables them to deliver the project		X2	10																																				
				50																																				
Grant Amount	<table><tr><td> Examples of what may be funded: • New equipment linked to creating new jobs or introducing innovative approaches leading to increased profitability • Developing I.T systems which can demonstrably lead to increased profitability • Implementing a significant marketing campaign which will lead to increased sales • Development of a marketing support programme or sales research which will led to the business entering new markets </td><td colspan="4">Up to £5,000 Available</td></tr></table>					Examples of what may be funded: • New equipment linked to creating new jobs or introducing innovative approaches leading to increased profitability • Developing I.T systems which can demonstrably lead to increased profitability • Implementing a significant marketing campaign which will lead to increased sales • Development of a marketing support programme or sales research which will led to the business entering new markets	Up to £5,000 Available																																	
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Responsible Service Area	Prosperity and Place																																							
Contact information for applicants	If you have any questions relating to the Enterprise Fund, you can contact the following officers of the Causeway Coast and Glens Council. <u>Stephen Lowry, Economic Development Officer</u> Email: stephen.lowry@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Telephone: 07885248099 <u>Garry Cardwell , Funding Support Officer</u> Email: grants@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Telephone: 07548118854																																							

Name of the Programme	12. GO SUCCEED (2026-27)				
Overview	Go Succeed - NI's new free go-to source for expert business advice to Start, Grow or Scale. The fund was developed by Local Authorities in NI to put in place a more ambitious approach to the delivery of start-up Growth Support. Funding is available to entrepreneurs and businesses who are participating on the FOUNDATION and ENABLING GROWTH elements of the new NI Enterprise Support Service demonstrating growth potential and potential to create employment opportunities, export or innovate. Projects need to fit with a minimum of two of the following themes: • Employment: Creating new employment opportunities for yourself or for other new employees • New markets entered • New products / services introduced • Increasing productivity • Improved business performance <i>Grants of between £1,000 and £3,000 available at an intervention rate of 50%</i>				
Assessment & Scoring		Criteria	Score (0-5)	Weight	Max Points Available
	1	Need for the grant		X3	30
	2	Objectives		X3	30
	3	You need to demonstrate that you meet a minimum of two of the following outcomes: - New technologies or processes introduced - New or improved products / services introduced - Increased / improved productivity		X3	30
	4	Skills and experience within the business		X1	10
					100
Grant Amount	Examples of what may be funded: • New equipment / machinery that contributes towards business productivity growth or efficiency. • Mobile machinery, such as scissor lifts, forklifts, ride-on lawn mowers • Computer equipment & software (outright purchase only, on-going license fees ineligible) • Web development / e-commerce website sites • Marketing / brand development • Specialist Consultancy costs (which cannot be provided for through the wider Go Succeed programme or another external agency), e.g., Energy efficiency improvements, digital transformation. • Attendance at trade shows/exhibitions/market visits to create market exposure and sales opportunities(eg targeting a new export market)				Up to £3,000 Available
Responsible Service Area	Prosperity and Place				
Contact information for applicants	Applications may be discussed with officers from the Prosperity and Place unit before submitting your application: Louise Pollock, economic Development Officer Tel: 07864 691405 louise.pollock@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk				

Name of the Programme	13. Labour Market Partnership(LMP) – Personal Learning Account Fund (PLA)		
Overview	Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership (LMP) is a Department for Communities (DfC) funded programme established to address key challenges in the local labour market for both local residents and local employers. The programme aims to improve employability outcomes and labour market conditions locally by delivering a tailor-made action plan reflecting local conditions and needs. The Personal Learning Account Fund can provide funding of up to 100% costs up to a maximum of £500.		
Assessment & Scoring	Criterion	Pass	Fail
	• The applicant is aged 16 and over at the time of application • The applicant is resident in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area (this must be your main residence and not a 2nd home or holiday residence) • The applicant is eligible to work in the UK • The applicant is looking to find employment or progress in their career • If self-employed, the course must help the enterprise to be more sustainable • The course is accredited, or industry recognised • The course is wholly and exclusively for employment and career purposes and not recreational or personal • The course is appropriate and can deliver outcomes which meet the need of the applicant • The course or qualification cannot be funded elsewhere (e.g. Invest NI, Skill Up, Skills Focus, Job Centre Adviser Discretionary Fund) (unless other courses are not suitable e.g. considering work commitments or caring commitments) • A course that is deemed to be of reasonable value for money • The training and delivery will be undertaken by a credible, viable business with the capacity to deliver the project as stated. • Please tell us why you want to complete this course and qualification • Please detail what type of job this course will help you to get. The job that you want to progress towards must be suitable and appropriate, e.g. be in your travel to work area. As well as including details of the type of job please include things like salary, employers looking for these skills and qualifications etc.		
Grant Amount	Examples of what may be funded: • All associated costs of training, upskilling, qualification and accreditation including: • Teaching / training / assessment costs • Awarding body costs and exam fees • Training materials costs including licencing costs.	Up to £500 Available	
Responsible Service Area	Prosperity and Place		
Contact information for applicants	Applications may be discussed with officers from the Labour Market Partnership unit before submitting your application: Marc McGerty - Tel: 07976629027 LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Danielle McAleese -Tel: 07860356242 danielle.mcaleese@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk		

Name of the Programme	14. Business Start Up Seed Fund 2026-27				
Overview	The Business Start Up Seed Fund Bursary has been developed to help people start new businesses with a bursary of up to £1,000 to purchase essential items they need to help get their business started. Examples include: - Capital equipment that directly links to your business, Marketing costs, print, signage, graphics, logo, hosting, website fees, rent of dedicated business premises in the Causeway Coast and Glens Council area (not deposits which are refundable).				
Assessment & Scoring		Question	Score out of a possible 5	Weighting	Possible Score
	1.	Please tell us how your experience, skills, hobbies, interests and work history will help you start your business.	0-5	X6	30
	2.	What do you think your business’s key strengths are?	0-5	X6	30
	3.	The first three months are critical for a new business, please detail how you are going to get new customers to get your business marketed and off the ground.	0-5	X8	40
		Maximum Score			100
Grant Amount	The Scheme can provide funding of up to 100% of costs up to a maximum of £1000.			Up to £1000 Available	
Responsible Service Area	Prosperity and Place				
Contact information for applicants	Please contact the Labour Market Partnership Team on: Email: LMP@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Phone: 028 7034 7034				

Name of the Programme	15. Green Support Grant Scheme 2026-27
Overview	Prosperity & Place are proposing the introduction of a pilot 'Green Support Scheme' . <i>"Our local businesses are focused on maintaining their commercial success in an ever increasing competitive market, yet increasingly they are expected to demonstrate their energy efficiency, sustainability and net zero credentials".</i> Purpose: To help local SMEs improve on or introduce new 'greener' practices into their operations. Phase 1 – Technical Assistance (Council budget available is £30k) - To provide local SMEs or Social Enterprises with access to industry specialists who will assist them by conducting 'energy audits' that will result in bespoke carbon reduction action plans for each business. Phase 2 - Capital Support (Council budget available is £70k) - Competitive grant - 70% of project costs up to a max of £5k - Only local SMEs or Social Enterprises who have undertaken Phase 1 will be eligible. - Businesses will only be able to apply for support which is directly related to recommendations included in their bespoke carbon reduction action plans.
Assessment & Scoring	TBC
Grant Amount	- Phase 1 - Access to Industry Specialist - Phase 2 - Max award of £5k
Responsible Service Area	Prosperity & Place
Contact information for applicants	You may find it helpful to discuss your project with the following officer before submitting an application: Louise Mullan, Strategic Projects Officer Tel: 07749722080 Louise.Mullan@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

Name of the Programme	16. Rural Business Development Grant Scheme (DAERA) 2026-27 TBC by DAERA	
Overview	The Rural Business Development Grant Scheme is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) as part of the Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI) Programme. It aims to sustain and support the development of micro rural businesses by providing a small capital grant for the business. Applications must satisfy the following eligibility Criteria: • The business must be based in a rural area - defined as an area with a population of less than 5,000 residents. • Must be an established business that is actively trading. • The business must currently be employing less than 10 full-time equivalent employees. • Must be appropriately insured or prepared to obtain appropriate insurance if awarded a grant. • Must provide two quotations for each item to be purchased.	
Assessment & Scoring	Assessment Criteria to be determined by DAERA <u>Ineligible sectors</u> The Programme will not support: • Businesses based in urban areas. • New start businesses who have yet to commence trading (all business sectors). • Agricultural businesses registered to a Category 1 DAERA Business ID, undertaking mainstream agricultural activity. • Farm diversification projects where the diversified activity has not started trading <u>Programme Criteria</u> • Micro businesses located in rural areas (<i>as per NISRA NINIS definition</i>) • New businesses must be able to demonstrate they have commenced trading • Must demonstrate added value of proposal both to business and impact on future growth • Minimum grant awarded £500 with maximum of £7,500 • Must demonstrate they are ineligible to access similar support from elsewhere	
Grant Amount	The Scheme can provide funding of up to 50% of costs for capital items up to a maximum of £7,500. The minimum grant awarded will be £500. The total cost of the capital project must be a minimum of £1,000 and must not exceed £20,000. Applicants must provide the remaining match funding towards the project.	Up to £7,500 Available
Responsible Service Area	Prosperity and Place	
Contact information for applicants	Applications may be discussed with an officer from the Prosperity and Place unit: Bridget McCaughan (Economic Development Manager) Tel: 07976 510924 Bridget.McCaughan@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk	

Name of the Programme	17. Christmas Festive Fund 2026-27			
Overview	The Christmas Festive Fund is to support Community Associations from the smaller towns, villages and hamlets to help celebrate Christmas: • Only ONE community group per settlement will be successful. • Should Council receive more than one application per settlement the application which is the most inclusive and has the most far-reaching community involvement will be selected. Council may also request that applicants work together to produce one all-inclusive event. • Priority will be given to projects that promote wide community involvement for events celebrating this festive period. Eligibility Criteria • Towns, villages, settlements with a population of over 100 residents may apply or towns, villages, settlements who have been allocated a Christmas tree from Causeway Coast and Glens borough Council may apply. • Applications are invited for clearly defined outdoor events to mark the lighting of the Christmas tree/ festive lighting in that settlement. Fund A Applications for settlements with a population of 1,000 and above can apply for a range of costs relating to festive entertainment. Priority will be given to projects that promote wide community involvement for outdoor events celebrating this festive period: Up to £2,500 Fund B Applications for settlements with a population between 100 -1,000 can apply for a range of costs relating to festive entertainment. Priority will be given to projects that promote wide community involvement for outdoor events celebrating this festive period: Up to £750			
Assessment	Criterion		Pass	Fail
	1. Date of event within the scope of the fund			
	2. If required Risk Assessment supplied including preventative Covid-19 measures			
	3. Town/village/ settlement with a population of over 100 or who have been allocated a Christmas Tree from Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council			
	4. Outdoor Event			
	5. Provide a full itemized breakdown of costs			
		Score (0-5)	Weight	Possible score
	Description of event: Outdoors, marks lighting of tree or turning on of lights, wide community involvement.		X 4	20
In the event we have more than one submission from an area, the application with the highest score will be awarded the funding				
Grant Amount	100% of costs up to a maximum of £2500			
Responsible Service Area	Tourism and Recreation			
Contact information for applicants	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Funding Unit /Tourism Events Team before submitting your application: Grants Team 028 70347198 Christopher.Dunne@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Gillian Lloyd 075 1038 3811 Gillian.Lloyd@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Tracey Freeman 028 7034 7221 tracey.freeman@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk			

Name of the Programme	18. Tourism Large Events Fund 2026-27			
Overview	The purpose of the Tourism Large Events Fund is to support the delivery of the Destination Management Plan. Paramount to this is the growth of visitor numbers and visitor spend. Events must satisfy the parameters below to apply for the Large Tourism and Recreation Events Fund • Events with an overall budget in excess of £30,000 • Maximum award - £100,000 • Total visitor numbers greater than 3000 (previously 5000) • Applicants must demonstrate that the event still takes place over a minimum of 2 days, events must have a start and end date and run for consecutive days. • Events should encourage overnight stays (minimum of 5 hours duration on each day). • Events must demonstrate how they will promote Causeway Coast and Glens area. (Marketing plan) • Marketing campaign - Events will be expected to ensure that any marketing or communications showcase the Causeway Coast & Glens as a destination for visitors.			
Assessment & Scoring	Criteria	Score out of possible 5	Weighting	Possible Score
	Q1. Current Status		Not Scored	
	Q2. Event Financial Position Budgetary position in light of Covid-19		Not Scored	
	Q3. Scenario Planning		Not Scored	
	Q4. – Financial Breakdown outlining Eligible Project costs		Not Scored	
	Q5. Event Management (to include Covid-19 Risk Assessment and mitigation plans)		X5	25
	Q6. Event Sustainability		X3	15
	Q7. Economic Support/Benefit		X2	10
	Q8. Media & marketing impact		X3	15
	Q9. Visitor Experience		X3	15
	Q10. Future planning – Event Development		X4	20
				100
	Applications must score 65% in order to avail of funding.			
Grant Amount	Up to 50% of total project costs of the event- maximum available - £100,000			
Responsible Service Area	Tourism and Recreation			

Name of the Programme	19. Tourism Events Growth Fund 2026-27			
Overview	The Council is seeking to provide financial support for events that align themselves to key priority areas such as Cultural Tourism, Music / Food Tourism and Sports and Activities (tourism related).			
	Events must satisfy the parameters below to apply for the Small Tourism and Recreation Events Fund: • Events with an overall total budget of between £10,000 and £30,000. • Total visitor numbers greater than 600 (previously 1000) • Applicants must demonstrate that the event will take place over a minimum of 2 days, events must have a start and end date and run for consecutive days. • Events should encourage overnight stays (minimum of 5 hours duration on each day). • No requirement to demonstrate return on investment. • Events must demonstrate how they will promote Causeway Coast & Glens area (Marketing Plan). • Marketing campaign - Events will be expected to ensure that any marketing or communications showcase the Causeway Coast & Glens as a destination for visitors.			
Assessment & Scoring	Criteria	Score out of possible 5	Weighting	Possible Score
	Q1. Current Status		Not Scored	
	Q2. Event Financial Position Budgetary position in light of Covid-19		Not Scored	
	Q3. Scenario Planning		Not Scored	
	Q4. – Financial Breakdown outlining Eligible Project costs		Not Scored	
	Q5. Event Management (to include Covid-19 Risk Assessment and mitigation plans)		X 5	25
	Q6. Event Sustainability		X 3	15
	Q7. Economic Support/Benefit		X 2	10
	Q8. Media & marketing impact		X 3	15
	Q9. Visitor Experience		X 3	15
	Q10. Future planning – Event Development		X 4	20
				100
	Applications must score 65% in order to avail of funding.			
	Grant Amount	Up to 50% of total project costs of the event- maximum available - £15,000		
Responsible Service Area	Tourism and Recreation			
Contact information for applicant support purpose	Applications may be discussed with officers within the Funding Unit /Tourism Events Team before submitting your application: Grants Team 028 70347198 Christopher.Dunne@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Gillian Lloyd 075 1038 3811 Gillian.Lloyd@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Gareth Fall 077 1223 5744 gareth.fall@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk			

Name of the Programme	20. Health & Wellbeing Grant Programme 2026-27		
Overview	The Health and Wellbeing Grant Programme is for sporting and community organisations to promote the positive mental health and wellbeing of residents in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Area. Council have allocated a cap of £5,000 from the budget to individual sporting codes to allow for a good distribution across all sporting codes/ community organisations. Once the cap has been allocated, the Council will update their website on: https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/grantsandfunding/open-grant-fundingprogrammes Any further application from these sporting codes once the cap is applied, will not be accepted until the fund re-opens the following year.		
Assessment & Scoring	Criteria	Pass	Fail
	1. Project Detail. What will you do? When will you do it? Where will you do it? How will you do it?		
	2. Identified Need. How did you identify the need for this project? Have you consulted with potential participants? How does your project fit with Council's Community Plan priorities? Number of beneficiaries?		
	3. How will your project assist keeping people involved in physical and wellbeing activity. How will the success of the project help keep the participants involved in physical and wellbeing activity? How will the project help develop future participation from the participants and other members of the community?		
Grant Amount	The Scheme can provide funding of up to 100% of costs up to a maximum of £500.		Up to £1000 Available
Responsible Service Area	Sport & Wellbeing		
Contact information for applicants	If required, you can discuss your application with one of Council's Sports Development Officers before submitting your application: Sports Development Team – sportsdevelopment@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk		

Name of the Programme	21. Sports Grant and Bursary Programme 2026-27																													
Overview	To provide financial support to local athletes, sports clubs, and National Governing Bodies (NGBs) representing a sport recognised by Sport NI. Applicants have to demonstrate how their organisation contributes to the development of sport in a club setting or the positive impact the grant can have for an individual towards their sporting career. Examples of eligible costs and grant award limits:- • Representative / International Expenses (maximum grant available £400) e.g., Ulster, Northern Ireland, Ireland, GB • Safety Equipment for a Club (maximum grant available £200) e.g., Equipment to aid player safety when participating. • Club Coach / Official Education (maximum grant available is £300 for a generic course and £200 for a sports specific course). e.g., NGB Level 1 / officials / umpire / judge / referee (Sports Specific courses) e.g., Safeguarding, first aid (Generic courses)																													
Assessment & Scoring	<table><tr><td></td><td>Criteria</td><td>Score (0-5)</td><td>Weight</td><td>Max Points Available</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Application detail</td><td></td><td>X6</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Identified need</td><td></td><td>X10</td><td>50</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Sustainability</td><td></td><td>X4</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>100</td></tr></table> Applications must score 65% in order to avail of funding.						Criteria	Score (0-5)	Weight	Max Points Available	1	Application detail		X6	30	2	Identified need		X10	50	3	Sustainability		X4	20					100
	Criteria	Score (0-5)	Weight	Max Points Available																										
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				100																										
Grant Amount	<table><tr><td>Examples of what may be funded: • Representative / International Expense e.g., Ulster, Northern Ireland, Ireland, GB • Safety Equipment for a Club e.g., Equipment to aid player safety when participating. • Club Coach / Official Education e.g., NGB Level 1 / officials / umpire / judge / referee (Sports Specific courses) e.g., Safeguarding, first aid </td><td colspan="4">Up to £400 Available</td></tr></table>					Examples of what may be funded: • Representative / International Expense e.g., Ulster, Northern Ireland, Ireland, GB • Safety Equipment for a Club e.g., Equipment to aid player safety when participating. • Club Coach / Official Education e.g., NGB Level 1 / officials / umpire / judge / referee (Sports Specific courses) e.g., Safeguarding, first aid	Up to £400 Available																							
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Responsible Service Area	Sports Development Team																													
Contact information for applicants	Sports Development Team - sportsdevelopment@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk																													

Name of the Programme	22. Twinning Grant Programme 2026-27			
Overview	The purpose of the Twinning Grant is to support the legacy twinning associations to continue existing legacy links and explore future potential opportunities for twinning which promote the objectives and identity of the Council. The budget available for twinning is £20,000 and each of the 4 legacy Council twinning associations can apply for up to £5,000 per year. 1 x Question asked in the application: ➤ Will the project contribute to Council's corporate objectives?			
Assessment & Scoring	Criterion	Pass	Fail	
	1. Aligned to Council's strategic Objectives: • Civic pride • Tourism development • Sports, arts, culture • Economic development			
	2. Provide a full itemised breakdown of all costs.			
Grant Amount	Grants are available for maximum of 100% of the total projects cost up to a maximum of £5,000 Twinning Associations may not receive more than one funding award under this programme per year.			
Responsible Service Area	Corporate Services			
Contact information for applicants	Applications may be discussed with officers from Councils Funding Unit before submitting your application: Funding Unit 028 70347198 grants@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk			

Name of the Programme	23. Live Smart Grant Programme 2026-27			
Overview	The purpose of the LiveSmart Community Environmental Grant Programme is to provide small grants to local community and voluntary organisations to:- (1) improve the general cleanliness in their local area, particularly in respect of litter (2) promote recycling, reuse and waste reduction (3) look at ways of reducing carbon footprint by taking simple, practical actions such as planting Groups are encouraged to keep their local area clean and tidy, promote recycling, reuse and waste reduction and have a positive impact on their carbon footprint. Applicants must address at least one of the following objectives: • RecycleSmart: aims to reduce waste by educating, engaging and inspiring us all to buy less, reuse more, recycle and compost. • LitterSmart: aims to reduce litter through education, encouraging responsible disposal and supporting local people to carry out litter lifts. • ClimateSmart: aims to reduce our carbon footprint by increasing our knowledge of sustainability and empowering change with simple, practical actions such as planting vegetables, fruit, native shrubs and pollinator plant.			
Assessment & Scoring	Criteria	Score (0-5)	Weighting	Possible Score
	1. Good project description; range of activities, quality of project; fit with the fund objectives.		X4	20
	2. How well the need has been demonstrated		X2	10
	3. How well the project includes participation from the wider community and involves a range of people		X2	10
	4. Area deprivation score		X1	5
	5. How well the project is promoted & publicised.		X1	5
				50
Grant Amount	The Scheme can provide funding of up to 100% of costs up to a maximum of £750.		Up to £750 Available	
Responsible Service Area	Environmental Resource Team			
Contact information for applicants	You may find it helpful to discuss your project with a member of the Environmental Resource Officer Team. Please email recycle@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk or telephone 028 2766 0248.			

Name of the Programme	24. Capital Grants Programme 2026-27				
Overview	The Capital Grants Fund is available to local sports and community organisations for support towards the development of new or the enhancement of existing facilities to meet unmet need. The Capital Grant Programme will only fund properly constituted not for profit community and voluntary sector organisations. A total capital grant pot of £600,000 per annum is available. Council is committed to distributing grants fairly, efficiently and effectively. In order to ensure fair and equitable access, no single sporting code can have access to more than 20% of the overall funding pot in any given year. Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council will consider grant aid of 80% of total evidenced capital costs up to a maximum total grant value of £120,000. Organisations must match fund the remaining 20% from other sources or from their own resources. (In kind contributions will not be considered). Max allocation per sporting code is 20% of the annual pot.				
Assessment & Scoring		Criterion	Score(0-5)	Weight	Max Points
	1	Project Description and Strategic relevance		X3	15
	2	Community/Sporting Need		X4	20
	3	Accessible to All		X3	15
	4	Project Beneficiaries and Participation		X3	15
	5	Under-Represented Groups		X3	15
	6	Sustainability and Viability		X4	20
		Total Score			100
Grant Amount	The Scheme can provide funding of up to 80% of costs up to a maximum of £120,000.				
Responsible Service Area	Funding Unit				
Contact information for applicants	You may find it helpful to discuss your project with the following officers before submitting an Expression of Interest or a full application: Liam Hinphey, Capital Grants Officer Tel: 07856 932170 liam.hinphey@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Julie Welsh, Head of Community & Culture Tel: 07749711879 julie.welsh@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Wendy McCullough, Head of Sport & Wellbeing Tel: 07889 535692 Wendy.McCullough@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk				