



Cathaoirleach and Members:

Festival Grants 2019

A provision of €95,000 has been included in the adopted Kilkenny County Council Budget for 2019, for festivals and Events.

The number of applications and the variety of events in previous years is testament to the level of activity in communities around the County. However, the budget of €95,000 presents a challenge in allocating meaningful grants.

In order to maximise the allocations in 2018, a number of applications for Festival / Event funding, were redirected to funding available under the Creative Ireland funding stream and extra funding was allocated from sources including the transfer of €3,500 from St. Patrick's Day Festival funding to Festivals and Events funding and the agreement of each of the four electoral areas, to allocate €1,500 per area to the Festivals and Events funding.

Funding from the Municipal Districts will not be available in 2019, due to the omission of discretionary allocations at Municipal District level for 2019.

Festivals impacting tourism.

The Festivals identified have or have potential to have an impact on Kilkenny's tourism industry, and Kilkenny County Council will work with these festivals at a strategic level to assist the festivals in development and programming. The festivals represent a significant part of Kilkenny's attraction as a destination with a year round calendar of activity.

In 2018 Elected members agreed changes to the current Festivals and Events process:

1. Festivals and Events to be split into two separate funding streams
2. Festival funding applications to be administered by Tourism Section of Economic Development
3. Community Event funding applications to be administered by the Municipal District Area Offices.
4. 80% of the Budget for Festivals and Events to be allocated to Festival funding
5. 20% of the Budget for Festivals and Events to be allocated to Community Events funding

Given the provision of €95,000 for all festivals this provide two separate budget provisions of

Festivals €76,000

Community events €19,000

The Festival Grants were advertised separately in January, with a closing date of 30th January 2019. A total of 16 grant applications were received, and I recommend that 15 Festival Grants be awarded in accordance with the attached summary, with an across the board reduction of 5%.

Event Name	Amount sought	2018 Grant	Draft 2019 Grant	Difference
The Kilkenny Cat Laughs	€ 35,000.00	8,850.00	€ 8,449	€401
Kilkenny Roots Festival	€ 12,000.00	5,000.00	€ 4,774	€226
Savour Kilkenny	€ 30,000.00	26,000.00	€ 24,822	€1,178
Subtitle European Film Festival	€ 31,378.00	9,000.00	€ 8,592	€408
Kilkenomics	€ 15,000.00	7,500.00	€ 7,160	€340
Kilkenny Animated	€ 15,000.00	5,000.00	€ 4,774	€226
Kilkenny Tradfest	€ 10,000.00	5,000.00	€ 4,774	€226
JJ Reddy Danesfort Run	€ 5,000.00	1,750.00	€ 1,671	€79
Graiguenamanagh Town of Books	€ 20,000.00	3,000.00	€ 2,864	€136
Iverk Show	€ 20,000.00	1,500.00	€ 1,432	€68
Gowran Festival of Speed	€ 10,000.00	3,000.00	€ 2,864	€136
Kilkenny Craft Beer Festival 2018	€ 2,500.00	500.00	€ 483	€17
40th Annual Castlecomer Wellie Race	€ 5,000.00	2,000.00	€ 1,909	€91
Abhainn RI Festival	€ 5,300.00	1,500.00	€ 1,432	€68
Butler Gallery "The Art of Amy Cutler"	€ 7,000.00			Possibly Creative Ireland
	€ 223,178.00	€ 79,600.00	€ 76,000	€ (3,600)



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