



Subject:	Donations to Societies for Contributions to the Spring Fair & Autumn Fair Events
Date:	12 th March 2024
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Stephen Leonard, Neighbourhood Services Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual.2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual.3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained.6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction.7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Members to continue the payment of donations to Horticultural Societies for their contributions to parks events, from 2023 – 2025 inclusive.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the contents of the report. • Approve an annual £200 contribution to each of the Societies listed below from 2023 – 2025 inclusive.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Members are reminded that the Council has, in the past, authorised the payment of £200 donations to Societies involved in the Spring Fair and Autumn Fair for their contribution and recognition towards the flower show element they provide at some of the annual events organised by the Parks Events & Outreach Unit.
	<u>Payment of Donations</u>
3.2	The Parks Events Team organises the Spring Fair and Autumn Fair which in 2019 was attended by almost 29,400 visitors and incorporated horticultural displays, children’s entertainment, food stalls, workshops and music. An integral part of both events are the flower show elements and the Parks Events & Outreach team work in partnership with the two flower show committees during the year to plan the shows.
3.3	The committees now include representatives from: the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group; Belfast and District Beekeepers’ Association; Belfast Winemakers’ Circle; British Cactus and Succulent Society; Federation of Women’s Institutes of Northern Ireland; Irish Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society; North of Ireland Dahlia Society; Northern Ireland Bonsai Society; Northern Ireland Group of Flower Arrangement Societies; Northern Ireland Vegetable Association and The Rose Society of Northern Ireland.
3.4	The annual individual £200 contributions are normally issued to each of the Societies involved after each event has taken place in recognition of their valuable role and significant level of voluntary involvement that will be required from them during the next three years.
3.5	The Council seeks to reinforce its partnerships with the various horticultural societies, organisations and stakeholders. Most of these partnerships have been forged over many years and without that support and goodwill, the continued success of such events could be undermined.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.6	£2,200 has been allocated in the revenue estimates for donations. Each one of the 11 societies will receive the £200 donation provided they participate/attend in the Flower Shows.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.7	There are no known implications.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	None