



Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Halla an Chontae Sraid Eoin Cill Chainnigh
R95 A39T

Pobail agus Áiteanna Inbhuanaithe a Chruthú

Kilkenny County Council

County Hall John Street Kilkenny
R95 A39T

Creating Sustainable Communities and Places



16th February, 2023.

TO: AN CATHAOIRLEACH & EACH MEMBER OF KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL

RE: FESTIVAL & EVENT GRANT SCHEME 2023

Dear Councillor,

A provision of €112,000 has been included in the Council's adopted Budget for 2023 for the Festival and Event Grant Scheme. In line with adopted Council policy - 80% of the Budget will be allocated to the Tourism Festival Grant Scheme (managed and administered by the Tourism Section) and the remaining 20% will be allocated to the Community Festival Grant Scheme (managed and administered by the Community Section). The attached report refers to the recommendations under the Tourism Festival Grant Scheme only.

The 16 festivals recommended for approval in 2023 under the Tourism Festival Grant Scheme will positively impact on Kilkenny's tourism industry, and Kilkenny County Council will work with these festivals to assist them in their development and programming.

The festivals represent an integral element of Kilkenny's attraction as a destination with a year-round calendar of activity, and they contribute to the overall tourism experience. The grant funding provided is also an investment in our local economy, resulting in commercial activity which will sustain local jobs.

The Tourism Festival Grant Scheme was advertised in the local press in January, with a closing date for applications of 15th February last. A total of 27 applications were received and have been assessed. I hereby recommend that 16 applications be awarded funding under the Tourism Festival Grant Scheme in with the attached report.

Pp *Denis Malone*

**Denis Malone,
Director of Services (Acting)
Kilkenny County Council**



FESTIVAL & EVENT GRANT SCHEME 2023

Kilkenny County Council has approved a Festivals and Events Grant Scheme for 2023 to support the work being done by local community groups and festival organisers throughout Kilkenny City and County.

The fund this year is €112,000. €2,000 of this original fund has been set aside for the following:

- to support communities and event organisers to access our recently acquired “Festivals Kit”. Festival and Event organisers will be encouraged to use the Kit in their events around the county and Kilkenny County Council will ringfence some financial supports for groups to access this equipment. (costs associated with transport, set up and take down of the kit).

The fund is then divided between two distinct category of application Festivals with a substantial tourism impact on Kilkenny, and Community Events, that improve the community spirit and pride of place for local communities. The fund of €110,000 is divided 80:20.

Therefore, the amount available for the Festival Grant Scheme at 80% €88,000.

The closing date for the Festival Grant Scheme was 15th February, 2023.

- 27 applications were received;
- 16 applications have been recommended for approval;
- 11 applications have been deemed ineligible for funding under the Festival Grant Scheme and will be directed to alternative funding opportunities provided by Kilkenny County Council under the Community Events/Arts Scheme.

Further to review of the applications, the list of Festivals and award amount to be recommended for approval is outlined on table below.

* Evaluation has taken into account;

Review of 2022 post event report

Review of Websites and marketing content

Expected Visitor Numbers for 2023 event

Ref	Event Name	Date of event	Visitor Number	Overall Cost	Amount sought	2023 Grant
2023/F5	Abhainn Ri Festival	20th-23rd July	7,000	€ 13,700.00	€ 5,000.00	€ 2,500.00
2023/F6	Smithwicks Kilkenny Roots Festival	29th April - 1st May	8,000	€ 154,500.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 11,000.00
2023/F7	Kilkenny Tradfest	March 16th-19th	20,000	€ 50,050.00	€ 10,000.00	€ 6,000.00
2023/F8	Cannonball Ireland	17th September	18,000	€ 97,000.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 4,000.00
2023/F9	Kilkenny Animated	29th Sept- 1st Oct	2,000	€ 85,000.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 6,000.00
2023/F10	Kilkenomics	Nov 2nd to 5th	8,000	€ 145,000.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 6,000.00
2023/F11	Savour Kilkenny	Friday 27th to 30th Oct	50,000	€ 150,000.00	€ 32,000.00	€ 22,000.00
2023/F13	Kilkenny Cats Laugh	1st- 5th June	8,000	€ 265,000.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 11,000.00
2023/F14	Graigenamanagh Town of Books	18th- 20th August	10,000	€ 30,000.00	€ 15,000.00	€ 3,000.00
2023/F15	Castlecomer Wellie Race	1st Jan 2024	8,500	€ 11,100.00	€ 3,000.00	€ 3,000.00
2023/F16	Keep Her Lit	18th - 20th August	3,000	€ 27,500.00	€ 7,000.00	€ 2,500.00
2023/F17	Iverk	26th August	23,000	€ 237,000.00	€ 10,000.00	€ 2,000.00
2023/F18	Alternative Kilkenny Arts Fringe Festival	4th - 13th August	10,000	€ 18,306.37	€ 8,000.00	€ 5,000.00
2023/F21	Kilkenny County Fleadh Cheoil	21st - 23rd April	1000 - 1100	€ 10,500.00	€ 2,500.00	€ 1,000.00
2023/F23	Hughes Farm Pumpkin Festival	13- 31st October	23,000	€ 84,530.00	€ 8,450.00	€ 1,000.00
2023/ F26	Rás na mBan	6-10th September	5,000	€ 190,000.00	€ 2,000.00	€ 2,000.00
						€ 88,000.00
	OVERALL BUDGET		112,000.00			
	Festivals Kit 2k		2,000.00			
	BALANCE AVAILABLE		110,000.00			
	FESTIVAL GRANTS		88,000.00	80%		
	COMMUNITY EVENTS		22,000.00	20%		