**Guidelines for Applicants**

**An Irish version of these guidelines is available from** [**lcdc@donegalcoco.ie**](mailto:lcdc@donegalcoco.ie)

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| **What is it about?** |
| Last September, the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Mr Michael Ring, TD, announced the launch of a National Community Event, to be held for the first time over the May Bank Holiday weekend, 2019. Local communities are asked to come up with ideas for events in their areas. Events could be centred round food, sport, the environment or health and culture.  The event is a celebration of the great spirit of community that exists across the country and an effort to help people who share communities to come together, get to know each other and deepen the sense of community in their area.  Events will take place over the May Bank Holiday weekend (4-6 May) 2019. The days will be getting longer and the summer will be just upon us.  The success of this initiative lies in having local communities coming together to plan events that will work best for their area. This celebrations belongs to everyone. We don’t want to tell communities what they should do, events will be very much driven by communities. These could include themes around sport, history, baking, anything that will help neighbours to come together. It could be as simple as neighbours coming together for a cup of tea and a chat.  The event is a chance for people to foster a sense of helping each other by coming together, not just on that day, but all year round. It’s the chance for everyone to get know all members of their community, to reconnect with neighbours and have a celebration together that is open, inclusive and local. |

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| **Important information** |
| * Funding has been allocated to each Local Community Develop Committee (LCDC)/Local Authority area. It is intended that small grants of about €100-€300 per event may be available from LCDCs, but this is a matter locally. Organisers are encouraged to look within their community to see what resources /talents are available to help bring the whole community together. * Donegal LCDC is committed to equal funding distribution throughout the county. * It is intended to have at least one Irish language event in each LCDC area * If you have any questions please contact [lcdc@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:lcdc@donegalcoco.ie) or telephone 074 9172231/087 3332193. |

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| **Who can apply?** |
| * Applications are welcome from community and voluntary groups, organisations and residents’ committees within County Donegal. * Applicants may wish to register with Donegal Public Participation Network. (Within the remit of the LA to decide if PPN membership is a requirement) * To register your group contact Mary Clyde, PPN Development Worker, Milford PSC or email [mary.clyde@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:mary.clyde@donegalcoco.ie) |

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| **How will applications be assessed?** |
| * All applications will be individually assessed. * Priority will be given to projects that reach out to those that are not already engaged in their communities; promoting accessibility; integration; social inclusion and environmental protection. * Final decisions on all applications will be made by Donegal LCDC. |

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| **Who can’t apply?** |
| * Applications from individuals, commercial organisations and for-profit organisations. * Applications from National organisations. * Applications from community organisations based outside County Donegal |

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| **How to Apply** |
| * Guidelines and applications forms are available on request by emailing [lcdc@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:lcdc@donegalcoco.ie) or by telephoning 074 9172231. Forms can be also be downloaded from Donegal County Council’s website at [www.donegalcoco.ie/community/fundingforyourgroup/nationalcommunityevent](http://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/fundingforyourgroup/nationalcommunityevent) * Make sure that you have read the guidelines carefully and that your project is eligible for funding. * **Tell us clearly what your event is about and how it will be a success.** * Answer all questions in the application form * Support is available from staff in the Community Development Section at [lcdc@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:lcdc@donegalcoco.ie) or telephone 074 9172231/087 3332193 * Submit completed application form/s before 5pm on Monday, 8th April 2019. * **Late applications will not be accepted** |

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| **Acceptance of Grant Offer** |
| * Successful applicants must sign the Letter of Offer. * The contract depends on the applicant complying with any Tax Clearance procedures. * Groups must keep proper records of expenditure to allow Donegal LCDC to carry out an audit of their activities. * Applications must include Tax Registration No/Tax Clearance Access No or Charitable Status No * ps must munity Event The Freedom of Information Act applies to all records held by the Department and Local Authorities * Evidence of expenditure, receipts /invoices must provided to the LCDC or their representative upon request. |

**Completed application forms should be returned to:**

Donegal LCDC

Donegal County Council

Station Island

Lifford

Co Donegal

F93 X7PK

***Closing date:- 5pm Monday, 8th April 2019***