

Name of the Programme	Ulster Scots in the Community
Programme Dates	Funding covers the period: 1 April 2026 - 28 February 2027
Brief Description	Ulster Scots in the Community grant aid is available to groups to deliver projects that promote, enhance, and encourage greater understanding of Ulster Scots heritage, language, and culture in the district.
Programme Specific Criteria	<p>Applicants should demonstrate that their project focuses on ONE or more of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To raise the profile of Ulster Scots in the district. 2. To reach out to engage people whose primary identity is not Ulster Scots. 3. To provide opportunities for groups to extend their knowledge and understanding of Ulster Scots heritage, language and culture. <p>Project activity may include one or more of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language 2. Music 3. Dance 4. Literature 5. Drama 6. Heritage -Workshops/Presentations/Study Visits/Tours <p>Funding constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutors/Facilitators must be external to the organisation and capped at £25 maximum p/hr. • Refreshments will only be awarded up to a maximum of 20% of grant aid allocation. <p>Activities and items that can NOT be funded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrospective applications. • Fundraising events or activities. • Organisations own facility hire - groups cannot claim for and pay for the use of their own facilities. • Recognition events. • Capital costs. • Musical instrument/equipment costs. • Salary costs

Scoring Criteria

Applications must meet **ALL** of the following scoring criteria; applicants who fail to demonstrate how their proposal meets any one of these will have their application rejected. The responsibility to provide sufficient detail in any application for Council's consideration rests with the applicant:

1. Description of your project -Tell us what you want the funding for and how this is an Ulster Scots project.

Use these prompts to provide a complete answer:

- What is the project - describe the activity to be delivered
- What is the duration of the project - one off event or longer
- Where will the project take place
- Who are the target project participants
- How have you identified the need for the project
- Are there any partners involved in the delivery
- How will you advertise the project
- How will you acknowledge funding from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

	Score Available	Score Awarded
<i>Project Description</i>		
Detailed information on the project description, project duration, where the project will take place, the target audience, how the project will be advertised and how FODC funding will be acknowledged. Each prompt question addressed in the response.	8-10	
Some information on the project description, project duration, where the project will take place, the target audience, how the project will be advertised and how FODC funding will be acknowledged. Not all prompt questions addressed in the response.	4-7	
Limited information on the project description, project duration, where the project will take place, the target audience, how the project will be advertised and how FODC funding will be acknowledged. Not all prompt questions addressed in the response.	0-3	

2. Demonstration of need –You must demonstrate that there is a need for your proposed project.

Use these prompts to provide a complete answer:

- How do you know there is a demand for your project?
- How have you identified this demand?
- Tell us what has prompted you to deliver the project at this time?

- Which of the following best describes the focus for your project and why?
- To raise the profile of Ulster Scots in the district.
 - To reach out to engage people whose primary identity is not Ulster Scots
 - To provide opportunities for groups to extend their knowledge and understanding of Ulster Scots heritage, language and culture.

You must demonstrate how Ulster Scots is integral to the project. The Council will not fund projects that are primarily community events that have Ulster Scots as an add on.

	Score Available	Score Awarded
<i>Project Need</i>		
Detailed information on demand for the project, how this has been identified, why the project is being delivered now and focus for the project identified. Each prompt question addressed in the response.	8-10	
Some information on demand for the project, how this has been identified, why the project is being delivered now and focus for the project identified. Not all prompt questions addressed in the response.	4-7	
Limited information on demand for the project, how this has been identified, why the project is being delivered now and focus for the project identified. Not all prompt questions addressed in the response.	0-3	

3. Benefits, Opportunities and Inclusion - Tell us how your project will provide opportunities for people to increase their knowledge and understanding of Ulster Scots, and how it will promote inclusion and encourage people to play an active role in Ulster Scots. Use these prompts to provide a complete answer:

- What difference do you hope to achieve by delivering the project?
- How will this difference be measured?
- How will you ensure the project is open and accessible to the whole community?
- What is the legacy of this project?

	Score Available	Score Awarded
<p>Benefits, Opportunities and Inclusion</p> <p>Detailed information on what difference the project will make, how this difference will be measured, how the project will be open and accessible to the whole community and the project legacy. Each prompt question addressed in the response.</p> <p>Some information on the difference the project will make, how this difference will be measured, how the project will be open and accessible to the whole community and the project legacy. Not all prompt questions addressed in the response.</p> <p>Limited information on the difference the project will make, how this difference will be measured, how the project will be open and accessible to the whole community and the project legacy. Not all prompt questions addressed in the response.</p>	<p>8-10</p> <p>4-7</p> <p>0-3</p>	

Applications will be scored and placed in ranking order. Where applications exceed the 65% threshold, they will be ranked in score order. The projects that exceed the threshold will be allocated funding with remaining funds allocated to the next highest ranked projects, until funding has been expended.

Criteria	Score Available	Weighted Value	Weighted Score	Score Awarded
1. Project Description	10	X2	20	
2. Demonstration of Need	10	X4	40	
3. Benefits, Opportunity and Inclusion	10	X4	40	
TOTAL SCORE: (Threshold 65%)			100	

All grants are discretionary, awarded on a one-off basis and must be spent on the delivery as detailed in the approved project Letter of Offer by **28 February 2027**.

Grant Aid is administered on a **deficit** funding basis, no grant will be paid where income exceeds expenditure.

Please note that incomplete or retrospective applications will be deemed invalid and will **not** be considered.

Grant Amount	<p>Maximum grant available £750 - £1,500</p> <p>Maximum Grant for one off event - £750</p> <p>Maximum Grant for a project - more than one day in duration £1,500</p> <p>Grant Aid is subject to funding availability.</p>
Responsible Service Area	Community & Wellbeing Directorate
Contact Information for applicant support purposes	<p>Applicants are encouraged to discuss project ideas with Good Relations Officers.</p> <p>Telephone: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council 0300 303 1777</p> <p>Email: ulsterscots@fermanaghomagh.com</p>