



18th February, 2022.

**TO: AN CATHAOIRLEACH
& EACH MEMBER OF KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**

RE: FESTIVAL & EVENT GRANT SCHEME 2022

Dear Councillor,

A provision of €112,000 has been included in the Council's adopted Budget for 2022 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 14 festivals recommended for approval in 2022 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 16th February last. A total of 23 applications were received and have been assessed. I hereby recommend that 14 applications be awarded under the Tourism Festival Grant Scheme in with the attached report.

Sean McKeown,
Director of Services,
Kilkenny County Council.