



TOURISM FESTIVAL & EVENT GRANT SCHEME 2024

Kilkenny County Council has approved a Festivals and Events Grant Scheme for 2024 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 remaining fund of €110,000 has been divided between two distinct category of Festivals and Events, namely,

1. ***Tourism Festivals and Events*** that have a substantial tourism impact on Kilkenny, and
2. ***Community Festivals and Events*** that improve the community spirit and pride of place for local communities. The fund of €110,000 is divided 80:20 between the 2 categories.

Therefore, the amount available for the Tourism Festivals and Events Grant Scheme at 80% is €88,000.

The closing date for applications under the Tourism Festivals and Events Grant Scheme was 31st January, 2024:

- 17 applications were received;
- 13 applications have been recommended for approval following evaluation;
- 4 applications have been deemed ineligible for funding under the Tourism Festivals and Events Grant Scheme and will be directed to alternative funding opportunities, such as the Kilkenny County Council Community Events/Arts/Food Tourism Schemes.

Further to evaluation and review of the applications, the list of Festivals and award amount to be recommended for approval is outlined on table below. Please note the Elected Members agreed to amend the Evaluation Criteria at the October 2023 Plenary Council Meeting.

Evaluation also took into account:

- Review of 2023 post event report (*if applicable*)
- Review of Websites and marketing content
- Expected Visitor Numbers for 2024 event

Table: List of Approvals recommended under Tourism Festivals and Events Grant Scheme, 2024:

Ref	Event Name	Date of event	Visitor Numbers	2024 Grant
2023/F1	Kilkenny Tradfest	15th-18th March	10,215	€6,000
2023/F2	The Kilkenny Cats laugh Comedy Festival	30th May - 3rd June 2024	5,000	€12,000
2023/F3	St. Brigids Day Festival	2nd to 4th February 2024	2,000	€2,000
2023/F6	Smithwicks Kilkenny Roots Festival	3rd- 6th May	10,000	€12,000
2023/F7	Savour Kilkenny Food Festival	24th- 28th October	60,000	€20,000
2023/F8	Kilkenomics	7-10th November	11,500	€7,000
2023/F9	Stormfest	10- 17 August 2024	840	€2,000
2023/F11	Kilkenny Animated	4-6th October	700	€7,000
2023/F12	AKA Fringe Festival	10-18th August	5,000	€6,000
2023/F13	Marble City music Festival	May 16th-18th and Nov 3rd(TBC) 28th-30th Nov	3,890	€7,000
2023/F14	TOWN OF BOOKS FESTIVAL	TBC	10,000	€3,000
2023/F15	Song of the Scythe : National Scything Festival	23-25th August	120	€1,000
2023/F16	Castlecomer WellieRace	1st Jan 2025	7-8K	€3,000
				€88,000
	OVERALL BUDGET	€112,000		
	Festivals Kit 2k	€2,000		
	BALANCE AVAILABLE	€110,000		
	FESTIVAL GRANTS	€88,000	80%	
	COMMUNITY EVENTS	€22,000	20%	