



**DIRECTOR'S REPORT - AMENITY GRANT SCHEME 2024**

16<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Councillor,

Details of the applications evaluated and recommended for funding under the 2024 Amenity Grant Scheme will be circulated to members at the April Council meeting.

**Budget** - The 2024 budget approved under the Amenity Grant Scheme is €140,000.

**Promotion** - The Amenity Grant Scheme was advertised on the Council's website on the 9<sup>th</sup> February and in the Kilkenny People Newspaper on the 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2024. An application form was also posted out to each of the previous year's applicants. The closing date for the submission of applications was the 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.

**Applications:**

- A total of 175 applications have been received and assessed;
- 2 applications were deemed ineligible as they did not meet with the objectives of the Amenity Grant Scheme;
- A total of 173 applications are therefore being recommended for funding approval.

**Evaluation Committee** - the applications were evaluated by the following:

- Frank Stafford
- Lisa Bourke

An evaluation of the applications was undertaken with reference to a range of evaluation criteria and category classifications (i.e. 15 categories A - O, based on size of town or village, number of houses within an estate, community facility, etc.).

I recommended that the 173 applicants be awarded the prescribed amount which equates to a cumulative allocation of funds in the amount of €140,054.00 under this scheme.

It is noted that the grant announcement was brought forward by one month this year to afford the various applicants additional time to undertake works prior to the grant claim deadline of the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

Mise, le meas,

**Sean McKeown,**  
**Director of Services,**  
**Planning, Economic & Environmental Services.**