Background

• The Small Grants Programme is a key action in the Department of Education’s policy document, “Priorities for Youth - improving young people’s lives through youth work” (2013)

• The Programme is a Youth Service initiative supported by Full-time EA Youth Staff and has been set-up to enable young people to administer grants to other young people

• The Programme is about strengthening the participation of young people as decision-makers
Programme Development

• Young People’s Award Panel was established in November 2015
• The Panel is made up of young people representing both the voluntary and statutory sector from around NI
• The Panel have met 5 times and agreed the outline of the programme
• 4 additional sessions have been held with 95 young people external to the sub-group process to test out the emerging criteria.
Award Panel Training & Support

Training for the Award Panel has included:

• Input on the ‘Bigger Picture’, i.e. Priorities for Youth, RAG, RYDP
• Exploring what we as young people want to get out of our participation on the Award Panel
• The value of youth led grant giving (to applicants, their peers, youth groups and communities)
• Group roles and dynamics
• Building an understanding of what is participation
• What influences our decisions (testing values and beliefs/promoting acceptance & understanding of others)
• How to make fair and balanced decisions.
Project Outcomes

• The Panel want to fund projects that help make a difference in the lives of the applicants and the lives of others in their peer group, family, youth group, school, community and or area.

• All projects are expected to contribute to positive change in one of the following six outcome areas.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome area</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enhancing Personal Capabilities</strong>, which is about building self-awareness,</td>
<td>which is about building self-awareness, confidence and esteem, and</td>
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<tr>
<td>confidence and esteem, and helping to manage your feelings better, etc.</td>
<td>helping to manage your feelings better, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Improving Health and Well-being</strong> can be about improving awareness of health</td>
<td>can be about improving awareness of health issues, making healthy</td>
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<tr>
<td>issues, making healthy choices and reducing risky behaviours, etc.</td>
<td>choices and reducing risky behaviours, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Developing thinking skills, life and work skills</strong> is about adding to your</td>
<td>is about adding to your communication, planning, problem solving</td>
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<tr>
<td>communication, planning, problem solving skills and leadership skills, etc.</td>
<td>skills and leadership skills, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome area</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Developing positive relationships with others</strong> can be about teamwork or</td>
<td>can be about teamwork or engaging with or increasing respect for</td>
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<tr>
<td>engaging with or increasing respect for others from diverse backgrounds, etc.</td>
<td>others from diverse backgrounds, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Increasing participation</strong> can be about influencing or advocating on behalf</td>
<td>can be about influencing or advocating on behalf of others or</td>
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<tr>
<td>of others or increasing communication between young people and adults, etc.</td>
<td>increasing communication between young people and adults, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Active citizenship</strong> includes volunteering, increasing awareness of local</td>
<td>includes volunteering, increasing awareness of local or</td>
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<tr>
<td>or global issues, social action, or identifying own education, training or</td>
<td>global issues, social action, or identifying own education,</td>
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<td>employment needs.</td>
<td>training or employment needs.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Programme Information

• The programme was launched on the 14th October and applications can be downloaded from the EA website.
• This year the EA Youth Service has £40,000 to distribute in grants.
• A group can apply for a grant of between £300 and £1,500.
• Completed applications will be returned by 11th November.
• Youth Panel assessment of applications 19th November.
• Successful groups notified and Letters of Offer issued by 25th November.
Programme Information

- Projects delivered between December 16 and March 17
- Youth Panel members will moderate a selection of the projects
- All projects must be completed by 31 March 2016
- Celebration event for all projects March 17
Future Training & Support

- Further assessment and selection training - Oct 16
- Application assessments and selection – Nov 16
- 2 monitoring and evaluation training and support sessions – Dec 16 / Jan 17
- Moderation of selected projects Jan / Feb 17
- Celebration event planning and delivery Jan / Mar 17
Questions