**Proposal re Supplementary Festival & Event Funding 2024**

Following a review of festivals who failed to apply and were subsequently not allocated funding as part of the 2024 Festival & Events Funding process, a once off decision has been made to offer three festivals 50% of their funding sought in 2023 to assist in the hosting of their events in 2024.

The organisers of these events were in contact with Waterford City & County Council to advise that they had missed the deadline for submitting their applications but that it was their intention to proceed with their events in 2024, subject to funding.

The three events that it is proposed to offer supplementary funding to are:

1. **The Celtic Box Cup**

Established in 2013, The Celtic Box Cup is a three day international boxing tournament. participants come from all over the World. The event caters for 300 plus boxers from novice up to elite, male and female from youth upwards and is Ireland’s premier international boxing tournament.

1. **Tramore Christmas Festival**

Tramore Christmas Festival started in 2019 and aims to bring a festive atmosphere to Tramore for the month of December through carnival style events, live music, children's activities, lighting installations and campaigns to support shop local.

1. **Vitamin Sea Fest**

Vitamin Sea Fest started in 2019 and is an annual weekend of food events and outdoor activities to showcase the producers, businesses and beauty of Tramore's town and coastline.

**Supplementary Funding Proposal**

The proposal to offer 50% of funding to support the 2024 events is based on the following:

* The events have been successfully operating for several years, bringing footfall and visitors to their own areas.
* They are well established in the local community and have significant community support.
* They are a key part of the annual programme of events in their areas.
* In the absence of Council support, these events will not be able to proceed or offer a full programme of events.

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| **Festival** | **Municipal District** | **Allocation 2023** | **Proposed Allocation 2024** |
| Celtic Box Cup | Dungarvan/Lismore | €10,000 | €5,000 |
| Vitamin Sea Festival | Metropolitan | €20,000 | €10,000 |
| Tramore Christmas Festival | Metropolitan | €15,916 | €7,958 |
|  |  | **Total** | **€22,958.00** |

As the Festival & Events Budget has been fully allocated, the supplementary funding for these events will be sourced elsewhere within Council funding.

**Next Steps:**

* If this proposal is approved by the Elected Members, the event organisers will be contacted with the offer of this **once off** supplementary funding.
* If they accept the offer, they will be subject to the same reporting requirements of those that applied online and will be required to complete a Post Event Evaluation Report, which is a requirement of all those in receipt of festival and event funding.
* The event organisers will be advised that should they fail to submit applications by future deadlines, there will be no further opportunities to be considered for supplementary funding. It is an issue for the event organisers to ensure they have proper mechanisms in place to meet application deadlines.