

POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD

11th November 2010

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

**REPORT OF HEAD OF CORPORATE STRATEGY
P.GRAHAM**

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PART 1 – Doc. Code: PRB-111110-REP-CE-PG

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1 COMMUNITY SAFETY PROJECTS FUND: APPLICATIONS FOR DECISION

Purpose of the Report:

To decide upon applications received for grant funding from Community and Voluntary Organisations and from the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership.

Background:

Introduction

Since 2000/2001 the Council has provided financial assistance to community-based and voluntary organisations to fund projects and schemes, which are designed to contribute towards the objectives of the Community Safety Strategy. The Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership also develops projects for the same purpose. The combined budget for these purposes for 2010/11 is £15,000.

The Process

Grant application forms are available from the Council's Community Safety Team which offers advice and guidance to applicants on the eligibility criteria and completion of the application form. Applications are assessed against the eligibility criteria prior to the application being reported to the Cabinet Board for determination. Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership submissions are agreed between the relevant partners prior to be presented for decision. Appendix 1 gives details of projects approved to date in 2010/11.

Submitted Applications

Community-based Projects

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant</u>
1. Trefelin Boys & Girls Club	New Youth Football Team	£ 500.00

The project involves the creation of a new Youth Football Team within the Trefelin Boys and Girls Club to compete in the South Wales Youth League. This will provide opportunities for young people in Port Talbot to participate in team based physical activities between the ages of 16 – 18.

2. Sandfields & Baglan Bulldogs Boxing Club £500.00

The clubs aim is to integrate people into sport and reduce anti social behaviour within the local community. It will promote a focus on disciplined sport to enable young people from within the community to act as peer mentors and encourage others to engage with them. The purpose of the grant would to encourage more female members to the club.

Voluntary Organisations Projects

There are no Voluntary Organisations Projects this month.

Partnership Projects

There are no Partnership Projects this month.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the applications be approved.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

The applications recommended for approval meet the eligibility criteria and the projects will contribute to the objectives of the Community Safety Strategy.

List of Background Papers:

Eligibility criteria and application forms

Wards Affected:

Baglan, Sandfields East, Sandfields West, Port Talbot

Valleys Strategy:

None

Officer Contact:

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COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

1 COMMUNITY SAFETY PROJECTS FUND **APPLICATIONS FOR DECISION**

(a) Implementation of Decision:

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call-in period.

(b) Sustainability Appraisal:

Community Plan Impacts

Economic Prosperity	-	no impact
Education & Lifelong Learning	-	positive impacts
Better Health & Well Being	-	positive impacts
Environment & Transport	-	no impact
Crime & Disorder	-	positive impacts

Other Impacts

Welsh Language	-	no impact
Sustainable Development	-	no impact
Equalities	-	positive impacts
Social Inclusion	-	positive impacts

(c) Consultation

There has been no requirement under the constitution for external consultation on this item.

2010/11

YOUTH RELATED PROJECTS

<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Area of Benefit</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Approved</u>
New under 16 football team	Cwmavon	£500	23/6/10
Young Fire-fighter bronze award	Neath East	£500	23/6/10
Barn Project	Briton Ferry	£500	30/7/10
Youth Reparation Project	County Borough	£500	23/9/10

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION PROJECTS

Afan Tawe Nedd NHW Promotion campaign	County Borough	£987	23/6/10
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SAFER NEATH PORT TALBOT PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

Christmas Campaign	County Borough	£3410	23/9/10
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Total for 2010/11 **£6,397**

2 CENSUS 2011 **LIAISON BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND ONS**

Purpose of the Report:

- 2.1 To provide information to Members about the forthcoming Census and the Council's role in supporting the Office for National Statistics (ONS) deliver an accurate census of the population.

Background

- 2.2 Every ten years ONS carries out a census in England and Wales to produce an accurate estimate of the population. Census statistics are vital to help plan for the future. Census data is used to:
- Provide accurate information on the population, where they live, their characteristics and their needs. This helps government decide the allocation of resources to public services.
 - Help central and local government plan local services, including education, healthcare and transport.
 - Benchmark and update the statistical base for population and households for use across all sectors.
 - Provide national, consistent insights and contextual information for small areas and population groups.
 - Support public policy development and evaluation
- 2.3 Census data also underpins central government calculations on the level of financial support that each local authority and other public bodies receives to plan and fund local services in order to meet the needs of their community. It has been estimated that the cost of under-counting to a local authority could be as much as £500,000 per 1000 population per annum in lost rate support grant (RSG).
- 2.4 Active support from local authorities is vital to achieve a high overall return of Census forms and, hence, more accurate demographic data. Local authorities have an excellent knowledge of the make up and needs of their neighbourhoods, which will help ONS to tailor its community engagement activities to promote speedy and accurate census returns and reduce the variability in response rates.

2.5 Working in partnership with local government will help ONS to:

- Provide the most accurate possible census population estimates for different geographic areas across England & Wales with stakeholders who can provide information and operational support ;
- Ensure the widest possible awareness of census outputs and tools, through effective consultation and communication, and close co-operation with users
- Boost user confidence in the results, consulting widely and working with them to validate key steps in census processes.

2.6 Local authorities have experience and contacts including:

- Knowledge of the profile of local areas and factors that may make them hard to enumerate, such as language problems;
- Experience of similar operations such as electoral registration and postal elections;
- Contacts with a wider range of local organisations.

2.7 With the full co-operation of all Council Directorates and our partners, we are able to deliver efficient and effective support to ONS to deliver the 2011 Census. In return, the Council will benefit from better census data and the maximum RSG. The respective roles played by ONS and local authorities vary with each Census. For 2011 ONS have decided to manage the Census centrally, seeing partnership agreements with each local authority to provide support in key areas as described in more detail below.

The ONS Approach

2.8 The operating model ONS have adopted for 2011 is one where ONS are asking local authorities to appoint Census Liaison Managers and Assistant Managers to support ONS in its local area. ONS will be responsible, via commercial agencies, for the recruitment and employment of field staff. Local authorities are encouraged to offer staff the opportunity to be seconded to be area managers, team leaders or enumerators, and to provide staff resources to provide information and data that can better inform, and quality assure, the enumeration process.

2.9 Following a request from ONS and the Census Regional Champion (Chief Executive, Pembrokeshire County Council), the following officers have been appointed as the Council's Census Liaison Manager (CLM) and Assistant Census Liaison Manager (ACLM):

CLM: Philip Graham – Head of Corporate Strategy

ACLM: Tim Thomas – Research, Analysis and Information Officer

2.10 CLMs and ACLMs are responsible for co-ordinating census activity within the Council and engaging with ONS, other local authorities in the region and the census regional champion.

2.11 Other key local authority personnel include:

Chief Executives and elected Members

Communication officers

Land & Property Gazetteer (LLPG) custodians

Research, planning and information managers

2.12 ONS's engagement with local authorities is in two phases:

Phase 1: Development and planning phase - January 2009 to July 2010;

Phase 2: Local implementation phase - August 2010 to mid-2011

2.13 ONS recognise that local knowledge and understanding will have a significant impact on how people feel about and respond to the census, especially in certain areas and among different population groups.

2.14 The specific areas identified for partnership working by ONS include:

- Address Register development to ensure fullest coverage;
- Enumeration intelligence for targeting of delivery methods and follow-up resources;
- Identifying and developing Community Liaison contacts;
- Recruitment and logistics; and
- Publicity.

Council Inputs and Requirements

2.15 The Council needs to be committed to achieving a full response to the Census, given its importance for service planning and, more importantly, its basis for population estimates which help determine RSG calculations.

2.16 Therefore to ensure a comprehensive Census in Neath Port Talbot the following actions have been and will be undertaken:

(a) Address Register development to ensure fullest coverage

(i) Check details of discrepancies with the NLPG and the OS Address product, and return the rectified discrepancies within the timescales set by ONS.

(ii) In the run up to 2011, ensure that the NPT Local Land and Property Gazetteer is kept up to date.

(b) Enumeration intelligence

Following identification by ONS of hard-to-count populations that may require a specific enumeration approach and/or where there is a high expectation of poor response, supplement information already available to ONS by identifying local addresses and areas where there are likely to be potential difficulties e.g. communal establishments, multi-occupied households, gypsy and traveller sites, deprived communities, low electoral registration areas, etc.

(c) Identifying and developing community liaison contacts

(i) To assist with community liaison, prepare a list of local contacts for the key organisations identified by the Council and ONS, revising and expanding the list as necessary.

(ii) In addition, attend strategic partnership and community forum meetings to publicise the Census.

(d) Recruitment and logistics

(i) Work closely with ONS and its recruitment agency, Capita Resources, in publicising the availability of Census jobs, using existing communication networks with Council staff and with local residents.

- (ii) In order to assist with Census logistics, give consideration to identifying accommodation for use as temporary office and/or storage space, dependent upon requirements and supply.
- (e) Publicity
 - (i) Work with ONS to publicise the Census as widely as possible using local press and radio, community news opportunities and social media.
 - (ii) Through our democratic processes, publicise the 2011 Census, and keep elected members informed.

Current Position

- 2.17 Much of the work referred to above has already started. A Census 2011 Working Group has been established, comprising the Census Liaison Manager, the Assistant Census Liaison Manager and officers from corporate strategy, communications, ICT and electoral services.

Assistance has already been provided to make the Address Register as accurate as possible, to provide information about local Community Contacts, to develop a communications plan, and to assist with recruitment of staff. This work will continue with some pressure beginning to build from about December 2010 onwards. A partnership plan has been agreed with the local Census Area Manager which is updated on a monthly basis. This work can be delivered using existing resources.

Conclusion

- 2.18 A copy of ONS's Councillor Handbook, which provides a helpful summary about the 2011 Census and the role of local councils and elected Members, has been sent to all Members of the Council. Officers will continue to work closely with the local Census Area Manager to help ONS to prepare effectively for the Census in Neath Port Talbot, to deliver the maximum response rate and to achieve an accurate census.

We will ensure that Members continue to receive up-to-date information as Census day, Sunday 27th March 2011, approaches. It is intended to hold a Member's seminar early next year to provide further information about the processes involved in distributing census forms, completing census forms and maximising return rates.

List of Background Papers

None

Wards Affected

All

Appendices

None

Officer Contact

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