

**POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD**

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE**

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

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**PART 1 – Doc. Code: PRB-220312-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 2011/12 is £12,000.

### **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 shows applications approved to date.

## **Submitted Applications**

### **Community-based Projects**

	<b><u>Organisation</u></b>	<b><u>Project</u></b>	<b><u>Grant</u></b>
1.	Friends of Sandfields	Motiv8	£500

Motiv8 is a learning and activity project which aims to address social issues that lead to offending. The project will run in the Easter holidays when the youth club provision is closed delivering workshops with partners looking at the consequences and repercussions of crime and anti-social behaviour. The project is accredited and 20+ young people have signed up to take part. The funding will pay for the accreditation tutor cost and training materials.

	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant</u>
2.	Faith Youth Group	Alpha - Omega	£500

The Project is aimed at getting more young people of 11 – 16 off the streets in the area of Glynneath and into social activities. The project will be located in Bethania Community Centre and will meet one day a week initially, with further activities and events planned throughout the year. The group have asked for initial running cost i.e. hall hire and materials but through setting up a tuck shop are hoping to make the youth project sustainable.

#### Voluntary Organisations Projects

	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant</u>
	SA12	Cycle Safety	£900

The SA12 youth club is open to young people 11 – 25 years in the Aberavon area. Many of the young people cycle to the club and there is no provision for bikes to be stored in the building. The project aims to install a cycle rack which can also be used by other community groups to reduce the amount of cycle theft in the area. Road Safety will provide training on safe cycling. More young people will be encouraged to use their cycles promoting physical fitness as well.

#### Partnership Projects

	<u>Project</u>	<u>Grant</u>
Safer NPT Partnership	Stop Repeat Scheme	£2,070

The aim of the Stop Repeat Victim Scheme is to prevent victims of crime, in particular Domestic Abuse, from becoming repeat victims. Working in partnership with Mid & West Wales Fire Service, fire bags are fitted to the letter boxes of very high risk victims who have been threatened with arson. There have been a number of instances in NPT where perpetrators of Domestic Abuse threaten and even carry out acts of arson by putting inflammable articles through the letter box in an attempt to start a fire. The fire bags prevent this happening by extinguishing the fire. If the partnership is able to provide the fire bags the Fire Service will fit them and give appropriate advice to potential victims. The Fire Service has also negotiated a 25% discount for the purchase of the fire bags.

**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

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – grants approved to date – 2011/12

**Wards Affected:**

All

**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	-	positive 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.

## Appendix 1

### YOUTH RELATED PROJECTS

<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Area of Benefit</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Approved</u>
Upper Afan valley	Summer Programme	£500	14/7/11
Cwmgors Boxing club	Boxing 4 All	£495	1/9/11
Fairyland Football Club	Forward 4 Fairyland	£300.50	1/9/11
Baglan RFC	Baglan Junior Section	£325	1/9/11
Port Talbot Arts Group	Port Talbot & Baglan	£500	23/9/11
Neath & Melin	Amateur Boxing Club	£500	17/11/11
Engage	Switch F C	£374	5/01/12
Boxing Club	Croeserw	£500	5/01/12
Cwmavon Boys and Girls Club	Cwmavon	£500	16/2/12

### VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION PROJECTS

<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Area of Benefit</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Approved</u>
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### PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Area of Benefit</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Approved</u>
Safer NPT Crucial Crew	Neath Port Talbot	£1,500	2/6/11
Christmas Campaign	Neath Port Talbot	£2,536	17/11/11

**Total 2011/12**

**£8,030.50**

## **2 OFFICER URGENCY ACTION – REVIEW OF FEES PAID AT LOCAL ELECTIONS**

### **Purpose of Report**

This report sets out information relating to an Urgency Action approved by the Head of Corporate Strategy in conjunction with the relevant Cabinet Members.

### **Background**

The current structure and scale of fees paid at local elections are based on those previously set by the former Neath, Lliw Valley and Port Talbot authorities. This Council adopted those scale of fees in 1996. The fees were last reviewed prior to the Local Government Elections in 2008, and now need to be revisited once again to ensure they continue to reflect the fees paid at national elections.

The most recent national election were the National Assembly for Wales elections held on 5 May 2011 combined with a referendum on the UK Parliamentary voting system. It is proposed that the fees paid for these elections are used as a benchmark for certain local election fees, excluding any referendum costs.

To ensure an accurate fees and charges scale structure is in place prior to the commencement of the election timetable and the appointment of appropriate staff for the forthcoming Local Government due to take place on 3 May 2012, two small revisions are required to the original report previously submitted to the Cabinet Board.

Certain staff fees were omitted from the original report and an amendment is required to the mileage rate claimed by Polling Station Inspectors as the previous mileage rate would be inadequate to compensate staff for the distances covered on polling day in conducting their duties. Both items are highlighted in the amended fee structure shown below.

Local Government Elections 2012 Proposed Fees & Charges Structure	Current £	Proposed £
Returning Officer: Fee per contested Electoral Division or Community/Community Ward	165.00	165.00
Fee per uncontested Electoral Division or Community/Community Ward	25.00	25.00
Deputy Returning Officers: Fee for conducting a count and declaring the result per contested Electoral Division or Community/ Community Ward. (Subject to the Returning Officer's fee being reduced by 50% of the Deputies fee - i.e. £35.00 per contested Electoral Division or Community/ Community Ward)	70.00	70.00
Receiving and validating of nomination papers. and liaising with candidates/parties on behalf of the Returning Officer: Fee per Electoral Division or Community/ Community Ward	40.00	40.00
Presiding Officer (One per Polling Station): Single election (County Borough or Community)	162.00	195.00
Combined election (County Borough & Community)	204.00	230.00
Poll Clerk (One per 700 electors): Single election (County Borough or Community)	97.00	115.00
Combined election (County Borough & Community)	122.00	135.00
Training: – Deputy Returning Officers, Polling Station Inspectors, Presiding Officers	30.00	35.00
Training: – Poll Clerks	30.00	30.00
Delivery of training: Payable per session	50.00	50.00
Chief Counting Assistant: Verification and Count together – overnight	50.00	100.00
Separate verification and count (per session)	-	55.00
<b>Verification/Counting Assistant:</b> <b>Verification and Count together – overnight</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>90.00</b>
<b>Separate verification and count (per session)</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>45.00</b>
<b>For each recount considered necessary</b>	<b>6.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>



Local Government Elections 2012 Proposed Fees & Charges Structure	Current £	Proposed £
Polling Station Inspectors: Fee for visiting polling stations to ensure the smooth running of the election, dealing with local issues, and collection of postal votes	162.00	195.00
Issue of Postal Votes: Payable to assistants per session (office hours) Payable for supervision per session (office hours) Payable to assistants per session (weekend) Payable for supervision per session (weekend)	25.00 40.00 35.00 55.00	20.00 35.00 30.00 50.00
Opening of Postal Votes: Payable to assistants per session (office hours) Payable for supervision per session (office hours) Payable to assistants per session (weekend) Payable for supervision per session (weekend)	25.00 40.00 35.00 55.00	30.00 40.00 35.00 55.00
General Clerical and other assistance: Per contested Electoral Division or Community/Community Ward Per uncontested Electoral Division or Community/Community Ward	40.0 0 30.00	40.00 30.00

### Travelling Expenses

Local Government Elections 2012 Proposed Mileage Rates	2008 £	2012 £
Presiding Officers – for travelling to training, collection of ballot boxes, travel to and from the Polling Station, delivery of ballot box to the count	15.00	15.00
Poll Clerks – for travelling to training, travel to and from the Polling Station	7.50	10.00
<b>Polling Station Inspectors – for all travelling on Polling Day</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>Actual mileage</b>
Verification/Count Assistants – for travelling to and from the verification/count (unless already paid the Presiding Officer travelling allowance above)	5.00	5.00

### **Officer Decision**

That the amended fee structure for local elections be approved.

### **Reasons for Proposed Decision**

To agree the amended fee structure prior to the appointment of appropriate staff.

### **List of Background Papers**

None

### **Wards Affected**

All

### **Officer contact**

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