

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD
CABINET BOARD – 9TH APRIL 2015
POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD

Cabinet Board Members:

Councillors: A.H.Thomas and A.N.Woolcock

Officers in Attendance:

Mrs.K.Jones, D.Rees, S.John and Mrs.J.Woodman-Ralph

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Agreed that Councillor A.H.Thomas be appointed Chairman for the meeting.

2. **MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor.A.H.Thomas Joint Report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services and the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services re: Review of Policy Concerning Grants as he is a Board Member of Dove Workshop and Dansa.

3. **MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD HELD ON THE 19TH FEBRUARY 2015**

Decision:

Noted by Committee

4. **MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS APPLICATIONS**

Members also considered the urgent addendum to the report that was circulated prior to the meeting.

Decision:

- (a) That grant applications for 2015/16 be approved for the following groups in the sums as detailed in the circulated report:

Citizen Advice Bureau

Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service

Swansea Bay Regional Equality Council

Maintenance of Mechanics Institute (in lieu of grant Aid to Antiquarians & Archives)

West Glamorgan Association for the Blind

Port Talbot Horticultural Society

- (b) That a grant be provided to the following community groups to cover the rent for the initial 5 year period in line with the rent review period as contained in the circulated report and the addendum report, circulated prior to the meeting:

Cwmgors RFC Gwaun-Cae-Gurwen

Cwmgors RFC and Cwmgors Amateur Boxing Club

Pontardawe AFC

Margam Village Football Club

- (c) That the following Miscellaneous Grant Applications be refused:

Derby Toc H Children's Camp, Derby

Dyffryn Clydach Volunteers

Reason for Decision:

To enable the Council to progress grant applications.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the 3 day call in period.

5. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT MONITORING 2014-2015**

Decision:

That the report be noted.

6. **REVIEW OF POLICY CONCERNING GRANTS**

Members noted that the Equality Impact Assessment was currently being developed and would be informed by the outcomes of the public consultation exercise and brought back to the Policy and Resources Cabinet Board on the 23rd July 2015.

Decision:

That the Director of Finance and Corporate Services be authorised to initiate formal public consultation on the draft Scheme contained in Appendix 4 of the circulated report for a period of 12 weeks commencing on 14th April 2015 and ending on 7th July 2015.

Reason for Decision:

- (1) To enable the recommendations 2,3,4,5 and 6 of the Review of Grant Funding to Third Sector Organisations to be implemented as approved by Policy and Resources Cabinet Board on the 13th December 2013.
- (2) To enable interested parties to comment upon the proposals prior to the Cabinet Board making final decisions on the approach to be taken to Grant Funding to the Third Sector Organisations from 2016/2017 onwards.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

Informal consultation has been undertaken with representatives of the 3rd sector from the outset of the review and there will now follow a 12 week formal public consultation period with this item.

7. **APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY**

Members thanked the Head of I.C.T and Procurement for the excellent work that he and his team had undertaken to progress this work and the progress that had been made as part of the Council's Corporate Improvement Plan.

Decision:

That the adoption and publication of the Procurement Strategy, be approved.

Reason for Decision:

To ensure that the Council's Procurement Strategy is updated.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

8. **CORPORATE STRATEGY AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2015-2016**

Members noted the savings that had been made within the areas of responsibility of the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services and were appreciative of the hard work in achieving this however the effects of increased levels of work on staff would need to be monitored.

Members were pleased that the previous Scrutiny Committee had requested to see on a regular basis the;

- a) score cards for each of the services;
- b) a report on the outcomes of the CCTV option appraisal
- c) the arrangements for the management of long term sickness absence cases across the Council;
- d) the Welsh Language Standards and plan for compliance.

Decision:

That the Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services Business Plan for the financial year 2015/16, as detailed within the circulated report, be endorsed.

Reason for Decision:

To authorise the Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services Business Plan for 2015/16.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

The item has been subject to external consultation as part of the wider budget proposals for the financial year 2015/16 and the outcome of that consultation has informed the report.

9. **COMMUNITY BOUNDARY REVIEW**

Decision:

That the report containing details of consultation undertaken be noted.

10. **URGENCY ACTION 0027- DELIVERY OF PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF WORK AND PENSIONS TO SUPPORT UNIVERSAL CREDIT**

Decision:

That the following urgency action taken by the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services, in consultation with the requisite Members, be noted:-

Officer Urgency Action No. 0027

Delivery of Partnership Agreement with the Department of Work and Pensions to support Universal Credit.

11. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15.**

Noted by Committee.

12. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

Decision:

That pursuant to Regulation 4 (3) and (5) of Statutory Instrument 2001 No. 2290, the public be excluded for the following item of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

13. **COUNCIL TAX WRITE OFFS**

Members sought confirmation that all measures had been taken to recover the debts. Officers confirmed that despite the efforts made the debt was irrecoverable.

Decision:

That the write off of the amounts, as detailed within the private circulated report, be approved.

Reason for Decision:

The accounts are irrecoverable.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

CHAIRMAN