

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

17 April 2019

### **Report - Head of Transformation - A.Thomas**

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Sandfields West

### **Project Proposal made to the Members Community Fund**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Cabinet approval to fund a project proposal that requests financial support under the Members Community Fund. The project has been submitted by the Ward Members for Sandfields West.

#### **Executive Summary**

2. The Members Community Fund was approved in its present form at Cabinet Board on the 16.05.18 and was launched at an All Members Seminar on the 14.06.18. The Fund is to be used to address local needs and to support projects and initiatives that will contribute towards creating vibrant and sustainable communities.

The Project Development & Funding Unit (PDFU) within ELLL is charged with the governance of the Fund and will act as the Grant Management Organisation.

Bids can be made for projects that enhance existing Council services, assist voluntary sector provision or form part of a larger initiative that is in need of additional financial support.

Eligible projects will include those that enrich the environment, promote non - statutory education and learning, assist Health & Well Being, and promote culture and / or recreation in all its forms.

Another project proposal now seeks funding and has been formally submitted to the PDFU. The bid has been checked for completeness, accuracy and deliverability and is 'fit for purpose' and ready for determination by Cabinet.

## **Project Proposal**

3. To establish a Health & Well Being initiative (a 'Good Neighbour Scheme') in the Ysbryd y Mor Care Home, Sandfields West.

This bid has been developed by 'NPT Age Connects' following consultation with residents.

The proposal is to provide weekly visits over a six month period to help those that suffer anxiety, isolation and issues that can be attributed loneliness. Research conducted with residents suggests that ill health and a lack of social confidence can lead to feelings of being written out of the script, by not feeling part of the community and this adversely affects mental well-being.

The project will assist as many people as possible through self - referral, referral through family members or friends or through medical, health and social care professionals. The initiative will 'plug the gap' in current missing services and provide a free 'Good Neighbour Scheme' which will include one to one visits, social activities and completing practical tasks such as collection of prescriptions, shopping and generally re- building opportunities to interact.

The long term sustainable benefits associated with this proposal include improving the quality of life for people aged 50 plus,

alleviating feelings of loneliness and isolation and helping to maintain strong bonds with the immediate community.

The total cost of this scheme is £6,062.30 .Councillor Paddison would wish to invest £2,271.15 and Councillor Davies would also wish to invest £2,271.15 in order to make this project a reality. £1,520 is being match funded by 'NPT Age Connects'. (This, the third investment from the Members Community Fund in the Sandfields West Ward, will affectively complete the allocation of the Members Community Fund within that Ward - the 3 x £10,000 made available to the Fund and to Sandfields West on the 14.06.18 being fully expended).

### **Financial Impact**

4. In order to win favour in Cabinet all projects must be sustainable. Projects must have a robust exit strategy that places no additional revenue or financial burden on the Council.

The project will be sustained by making best use of a volunteer workforce, income generated from activity costs, further grants and funding from the Care Home operators.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

5. There is no requirement under the Constitution for an Equality Impact Assessment on this item.

### **Workforce Impacts**

6. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

### **Legal Impacts**

7. The delivery of the Members Community Fund will come within the purview of the Local Government Act 2000 which introduced well-being powers which enable every Local Authority to have capacity to do anything which it considers likely to promote an improvement to economic, social or environmental well-being in the area. Under section 56 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 sanction is given for both Executive and Non - Executive Members to invest within their own Ward.

The Council's Constitution should be referred to for explicit guidance on governance.

### **Risk Management**

8. There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

### **Consultation**

9. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

### **Recommendations**

10. That the project proposal for the provision of a bespoke advocacy or 'Good Neighbour Scheme' is approved and that Councillor Suzanne Paddison's allocation of £2,271.15 and Councillor Oliver Davies' allocation of £2,271.15, under the Members Community Fund is awarded.

### **Reasons for Proposed Decision**

11. To approve the Application for funding that has been received under the Members Community Fund. The Members Community Fund will continue to receive bids until the due deadline date of 31.03.2020.

### **Implementation of Decision**

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

### **List of Background Papers**

13. This Sandfields West initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillors Paddison and Davies. The Application has been made in association with a Third Sector Organisation and as a consequence the 'NPT Age Connects' Constitution, their Accounts, Bank Account details and the Insurance Policy generated to underpin the scheme have been retained for future reference.

#### **14. Officer Contact**

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