

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

19 June 2019

Report of the Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Baglan

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 tabled by the Ward Members for Baglan.

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 formerly 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.

Background

3. To provide four gateway Welcome signs to each of the principle entrance routes into the Ward of Baglan

This bid has been developed to 'Enhance existing Council Services' by working closely with NPTCBC's 'Streetcare Services' and Highways & Engineering Dept.

The signs are to be positioned within the adopted highway at gateway locations entering Baglan. The signs conform to the latest Department of Transport and Welsh Government Standards (TSRGD 2016). One sign will be situated in Old Road (behind Mc Donald's), one in Pentyla, Baglan Road and two off the Sunnycroft Roundabout.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of one of the local Councillors. Residents feel that the Ward has lost some of its identity and there is a need to remind motorists to 'Drive Carefully'. The signs will give the Ward a sense of place.

The long term sustainable benefits associated with the project include helping to retain the local identity, making the area more attractive and vibrant whilst also being seen to be responsive to expressed local needs.

The request for Grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £4,815. This equates to the full cost of supply, CAT scanning, installation and the site supervision which is necessary to bring this project to fruition. The three Baglan Councillors would each wish to contribute equally to this initiative by contributing £1,605 from their respective portfolios.

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.

As the signs will form part of the adopted highway and are approved highway signs, 'Streetcare' will be responsible for their ongoing maintenance.

Integrated Impact Assessment

5. A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010), the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well - being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment has indicated that a more in - depth assessment is not required as the summary concludes there are positive outcomes for the sustainable development principle, collaboration and involvement, with no impact on equalities and Welsh language.

Valleys Community Impact

6. No implications

Workforce Impacts

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

Legal Impacts

8. 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

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

Consultation

10. There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

11. That the project proposal to provide four Welcome signs at gateway locations in Baglan is approved and that Councillor Peter Richard's, Councillor Clement - William's and Councillor Susanne Renkes' allocation of £1,605, under the Members Community Fund is awarded.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

12. 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

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

List of Background Papers

14. This Baglan initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted jointly by Councillors Richards, Clement - Williams and Renkes. The design, bilingualism, font size, colour and location for the signs have been developed by the NPTCBC Highways and Engineering Dept. All of the documents associated with this proposal, including the first stage Impact Assessment have been retained for reference.

Officer Contact

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