

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

25 September 2019

Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Aberavon

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 one of the respective Ward Members.

Executive Summary

2. The Members Community 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.

Background

3. To supply and install an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at Aberavon Harlequins RFC, Sandfields Road, Port Talbot.

This bid has been developed to 'Assist Voluntary Sector providers.'

Aberavon Harlequins RFC is located in a densely populated area in the heart of the Ward of Aberavon. Other community facilities nearby include Sandfields Primary School, St Joseph's Comprehensive, Community Centres, shops and public houses. Every year the Rugby Club hosts a memorial match to contest the 'Jeff Owen Shield'. Jeff was a player who died from a cardiac arrest whilst playing rugby. If this defibrillator device had been installed at the time, it could very well have saved his life.

The defibrillator will be procured through the Registered Charity, 'Welsh Hearts.' Their quotation includes for a heated stainless steel cabinet which will be used to attach the AED to the exterior of the building so it is available for wider community use. The defibrillator will be easy to use, featuring a full colour display with vivid rescue images, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) cycle timer and a gauge that shows CPR compression depth. It is suitable to be used on individuals of any age. 'Welsh Hearts' will make arrangements for a volunteer from the Welsh Ambulance Service to provide free basic life support training and defibrillator training to the staff and players at Aberavon Harlequins, who may be called upon to use the defibrillator in the unfortunate event of a cardiac arrest.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of one of the local Ward Members. In partnership with the local PCSO, Cllr Steffan Ap Dafydd has conducted a mapping exercise to identify areas of the Aberavon Ward which do not have access to this lifesaving equipment. Statistics provided by 'Welsh Hearts' indicate that 8,000 people suffer a cardiac arrest outside of the hospital environment every year in Wales, and at present the survival rate is just 3%, but with immediate treatment using an AED many lives can be saved. In the unfortunate event of a cardiac arrest the provision of an AED at this location would allow persons in the vicinity to perform emergency medical treatment, whilst waiting for the Emergency Services to respond.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £1,520.00 which is the full cost of procuring the defibrillator, the stainless steel cabinet and the associated training (no match funding). This is the fifth proposal received to the Members Community Fund from Cllr Ap Dafydd and if it prevails, £3,500.00 will remain in his Members Fund portfolio to develop further priority projects.

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 defibrillator will be the responsibility of Aberavon Harlequins RFC, who have made an ongoing commitment to ensuring it is appropriately insured and maintained for the foreseeable future. The defibrillator comes with a 7 year warranty from 'Welsh Hearts.'

This scheme has no financial implications for NPTCBC.

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 or the Welsh language.

Valleys Communities Impacts

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 for supply and installation of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at Aberavon Harlequins RFC,

Sandfields Road, Port Talbot, be approved and that Cllr Ap Dafydd's allocation of £1,520.00 under the Members Community Fund be awarded.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

12. To approve the Application for funding that has been received under the Members Community Fund. Full Funding Applications can be made to the Members Community Fund until the 24.02.2020 in readiness for Cabinet decision on the 11.03.2020. The Fund will then close. Funds left unallocated will be returned to Reserves.

Implementation of Decision

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

List of Background Papers

14. This Aberavon initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Ap Dafydd. The Constitution, Audited Accounts, Quote and Bank Account details for the Aberavon Harlequins RFC have been retained for future reference. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

15. Officer Contact

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