

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

25 September 2019

Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Margam

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 Councillor for Margam

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 install safety guard rails or barriers to the areas around the Margam Youth Centre, particularly the main thoroughfare and routes taken by pedestrian users.

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

The entrance pathway, the unmade track and the preferred route to the front of the Margam Youth Centre is often obstructed by cars being parked indiscriminately. There have been instances of young people attending sessional activities at the Centre almost coming into collision with less caring vehicle users.

This Application is to equip the forecourt and surrounding areas of the Youth Centre with 16 metres of galvanised heavy duty guard rail to one metre in height. The guard rails to be positioned in such a way as to channel foot traffic safety away from vehicular traffic whilst still allowing for essential car parking and the movement of visiting cars.

The scheme has been arrived at by the Youth Centre's management seeking competitive quotes for the work. The labour and material are to be sourced from the local supply chain.

The need for this initiative has been established from having run a pilot study during the annual Football Festival when an area was completely cordoned off to deny vehicles and this allowed pedestrians to circulate with confidence knowing that they had been

safely segregated from oncoming vehicles. The Youth Centre would, with this investment, want to make that arrangement a permanent fixture.

The long term sustainable community benefit associated with the project is predominantly safety giving visitors to the Centre an opportunity to enjoy their activities in a secure environment.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £1,776 which is the total project cost inclusive of VAT (which is non-recoverable by the Club).

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 ongoing maintenance, repair (if vehicular impact) and upkeep of the Guard rails will be the responsibility of the Margam Youth Centre Management Committee.

There will be no revenue burden on 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 this project proposal to add 18 linear metres of heavy duty Guard Rail to the immediate entrance of the Margam Youth Centre is approved and that Councillor Robert Jones' allocation of £1,776.00, 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 Margam initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor R. G. Jones. The Quotes generated by the Youth Centre for the supply and installation of the equipment have been entered on File for reference. The supporting documentation (the Constitution, Accounts, Bank Account details, Insurances, Leasehold arrangements, etc.), that accompany a bid made to the Members Fund by a Third Sector Organisation, have been entered on record. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

Officer Contact

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