

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

5 February 2020

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

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Pontardawe

### **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 Pontardawe 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 relocate and house two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in the Pontardawe area, as a means of working towards the first 'Defib Friendly Community', offering universal 24 hour access to lifesaving equipment.

This bid has been developed to 'Assist Voluntary Sector Providers' and is partnered by the Pontardawe Town Council, the 'Heartbeat Trust UK' and the Leon Heart Fund.

The defibrillators are to be relocated to allow for greater emergency access which is essential in a lifesaving situation. Permissions have been received to locate externally mounted defibrillators within protective cabinets at Pontardawe Arts Centre and the Town Council Offices at Herbert Street. This bid is to provide the cabinets, external signage, information boards and publicity material to build awareness and highlight their location.

This proposal is part of a wider initiative spearheaded by the Town Council to fully equip the Ward of Pontardawe with 24 hour accessible defibrillator coverage. On average, 8,000 people in Wales suffer a sudden cardiac arrest outside of hospital each year, and the survival rate is just 3-5%. The chances of survival are greatly increased when an AED is deployed within 5 minutes of arrest. The Town Council has completed an extensive mapping exercise and has identified clear voids in provision and this proposal is the precursor to fully equipping the Ward and becoming a 'defib friendly community'.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £942, the total cost of raising awareness and relocating the defibrillators to new externally mounted cabinets. Councillor A.J. Richards has been asked to support this initiative from his remaining Members Fund allocation.

### **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 defibrillators within the new cabinets will be maintained by the Welsh Ambulance Service.

The defibrillators supplied by the 'Heartbeat Trust UK' are insured for a 10 year period against vandalism or theft .The replacement pads and batteries are covered for 5 years or whenever used on an individual who has suffered a cardiac arrest. This will ensure that the defibrillators are kept in a state of readiness in case of an emergency.

There is no ongoing financial revenue impact for the 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 to relocate and house two Automated External Defibrillators (AED's), intended for Pontardawe Arts Centre and Herbert Street, Pontardawe is approved, and that Councillor Richard's allocation of £942 is awarded under the Members Community Fund.

## **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 end of the financial year. 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 Pontardawe initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted jointly by Councillor Anthony Richards and Pontardawe Town Council. The quote for the work and the Bank Account details for the Town Council 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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