

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

5 February 2020

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

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Port Talbot

### **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 Ward Councillors for Port Talbot.

#### **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. Application to better equip the 'Age Cymru' Community Centre, Port Talbot with a state of the art Cooking Centre/Rational Oven to increase the capacity, range and sophistication of their meal preparation for older people.

This project proposal is to add a Combination Oven/Steamer Cook Centre to the kitchens within the 'Age Cymru' Centre. Costs have been developed for procurement and installation, new pipework and isolation valves. The inclusion of the new oven will help grow the Lunch Club, respond to increased demand and provide more lunches quicker and relieve the pressure on existing resources.

The Lunch Club offers an invaluable service to disadvantaged and vulnerable older people whilst tackling loneliness and isolation. The provision of a new oven will allow more beneficiaries to enjoy a hot, nutritious daily meal (46% of clients surveyed would not otherwise eat a balanced, low cost, warm lunch as they often rely upon a microwave as a means of cooking).

The new installation will allow new cooking methods to be employed including low temperature steaming, sous vide and complete cycle baking. Updating the limited equipment will allow the creation of new dishes, a more expansive menu prepared more economically with greater energy efficiency. Meals will also be prepared to take home and eat.

The purchase cost of the oven, its installation and connection to cold and waste water pipework, the commissioning and testing has been competitively quoted for. The project will cost £5,698.99 and £4,517.93 of this cost is sought from the Members Fund attributed to Councillor Dennis Keogh. The remainder of the project and the shortfall in match funding (£1,181.06) has been secured from 'Age Cymru' unallocated Reserves.

### **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 help develop further sustainability as the modest income made through increased capacity and efficiency will augment provision and the continued popularity of this valued community hub. Upon completion of the project the maintenance of the installation will be met from the accommodation budget specifically set aside for repair of existing fixtures within the Centre.

There will be no future revenue expenditure 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 this project proposal to provide ancillary equipment to the 'Age Cymru' Centre in Port Talbot is approved and that Councillor Keogh contributes £4,517.93 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 Port Talbot initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Dennis Keogh and the Operations Coordinator at 'Age Cymru West Glamorgan '. The Quotation received for the supply and installation of the oven has been entered on File for reference. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

## **Officer Contact**

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