

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

19 February 2020

Report of the Head of Transformation - A.Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Sandfields East

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. Supply and installation of a publicly accessible Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at the RNLI Port Talbot Lifeboat Station.

This bid has been developed to 'Assist Voluntary Sector Providers.' The defibrillator will be fashioned to the exterior of the building, which is situated on Aberavon Sea Front.

The defibrillator will be procured and installed via the Registered Charity, 'Cariad', which provides life-saving awareness and AED's to communities across Wales. 'Cariad' will supply the 'Zoll AED Plus' Defibrillator and accompanying insulated stainless steel cabinet. The cabinet is capable of maintaining the necessary ambient temperature to keep the AED batteries and pads ready for immediate use. The defibrillator will be placed on the Welsh Ambulance Service Control Register, so that rescuers can be quickly guided to it in the event of an emergency.

Aberavon beach and promenade receives many thousands of visitors per year. Activities taking place on a daily basis include swimming, surfing and running, alongside more ad-hoc usage by dog walkers, cyclists and people enjoying the cafes and restaurants overlooking the seafront. At any time one of these visitors, particularly those taking part in intense physical exercise could suffer from a cardiac arrest. The Lifeboat Station is a natural assembly point in the instance of an emergency, and the provision of a defibrillator at this

location would enable the deployment of potentially life-saving medical treatment whilst waiting for the Emergency Services to arrive.

This proposal is part of a wider initiative spearheaded by the Sandfields East Councillors to fully equip the Ward with publicly accessible defibrillators. 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. Time is critical. Cllrs Latham and Crowley have identified gaps in the provision of this life saving equipment at strategic locations across the Ward. These locations are in the most densely populated areas in Sandfields East and receive a huge amount of footfall.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £1,300 from Cllr Mathew Crowley's portfolio, which is the total cost of procuring and installing the defibrillator. Should this application be successful, Cllr Crowley will have exhausted his Members Fund allocation for Sandfields East.

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 custodians of the Lifeboat Station, the RNLI will be responsible for the defibrillator, and have made assurances that this important piece of medical apparatus will be appropriately insured and maintained for the foreseeable future.

Every defibrillator supplied by 'Cariad' comes with a seven year 'care package' offering regular checks, replacement batteries and pads, a 24 hour emergency call out service and automatic replacement of the AED if it is damaged or stolen. This will ensure that the defibrillator is kept in a state of readiness in case of an emergency.

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 a publicly accessible Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at the RNLI Port Talbot Lifeboat Station be approved, and that Cllr Mathew Crowley's of £1,300.00 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 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 Sandfields East initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Mathew Crowley, which has been retained for future reference. The quotation for the defibrillator and the bank account details for the RNLI Port Talbot Lifeboat Station have also been retained. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

15. Officer Contact

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