

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

10 December 2020

Report of the Director of Finance & Corporate Services

H. Jenkins

Matter for: Decision

Wards Affected: All Wards

Third Sector Grant Funding – Award of Grants for 2021/22

Purpose of Report

1. To present Members with the outcome of the third sector grant applications for 2021/22 and to seek approval on the award of grants to those organisations recommended for funding next year as set out in Appendix 1.

Executive Summary

2. Assessments were undertaken for a total of 23 applications received this year as set out in appendix 1 and 2.
3. The applications were assessed by the Third Sector Grants Group, whose membership is made up of Directorate representatives already involved in the grant funding process and are responsible for the administration of the Scheme.
4. Appendix 2 contains those organisations not recommended for funding.
5. Appendix 3 contains for the eight Strategic Partners their proposed grant amount for 2021/22, which is the final year of the three year grant funding agreement ending 31 March 2022.

Background

6. The application process for 2021/22 grant funding opened on 12 August and closed on 16 October 2020.
7. Grants awarded under the Scheme are for 12 months or for a maximum of three years.
8. The grants which have been provided for three years are to partners the Council has identified as Strategic Partners. There are eight Strategic Partners and new three year grants were approved by Cabinet in December 2018 for these organisations covering the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2022.

Monitoring Arrangements

9. The eight Strategic Partners listed in appendix 3 were required to complete a monitoring form by end of April 2020 for the first year; in year two, two six monthly monitoring forms no later than 31 October 2020 and 30 April 2021 and the same for year three (no later than 31 October 2021 / 30 April 2022). Due to COVID-19 there has been a delay in requesting monitoring forms but these are currently in hand for issue.
10. All single year grant recipients for 2021/22 are required to submit evidence of outcomes and performance achieved by end of January 2022.

Assessment of Grant Applications for 2021/22

11. Organisations bidding for new funding for 2021/22 were requested to specifically focus activities that will help to further develop community capacity, building from the community action that has supported the response to the Covid-19 pandemic and/or supporting the Council in meeting humanitarian needs should there be further restrictions imposed by governments to deal with a rise in infection rates.
12. Those applications that are recommended for approval in appendix 1 have satisfied some or all of the criteria contained within Principle 1 of the revised Scheme and have also demonstrated their commitment to the above point.
13. The reasons for not supporting applications with any funding or for a lower amount than was originally applied for include:

- The application did not evidence sufficient action taken/proposed to support Covid response to reduce activity falling on Council services.
- The application relate to premises or parking related costs which were outside the grant criteria.
- Alternative service contracts are in place.
- The application only provided limited benefit to communities and individuals in the Council Borough.
- The funding requested was significantly greater than what is available or benefits that could be achieved.

Financial Appraisal

14. One of the principles of the Third Sector Grant Funding Scheme is that the amount of funds available will vary in line with the Local Government Settlement for the preceding financial year. In 2020/21 the final settlement for Neath Port Talbot Council showed a year on year increase of 4.5%. It is therefore proposed in this report that the Third Sector Grant Budget for 2021/22 be increased by 4.5% and the same increase is provided to the grant payable to our Third Sector Strategic Partners.

Table 1

Budget	2021/22
Base Year Budget including one-off grants	£517,225
Additional Budget Allocation for 2021/22 – NPT Settlement increase @ +4.5% (for 2020/21)	£23,275
Total Base Budget 2021/22	£540,500

Table 2 below illustrates the funds available together with the proposed distribution:

Table 2

Budget Summary	2020/21	2021/22
Community Safety	£11,500	£11,500
Miscellaneous	£2,500	£2,500
Total One-off Grants	£14,000	£14,000
Amount Available for Third Sector Grant Scheme	£499,630	£503,225
Additional Provision	£3,595	£23,275
Total available in year	£503,225	£526,500
Add amount carried forward	£12,800	£6,450
Amount Available December	£516,025	£532,950
Total recommended for approval:-		
Appendix 1 –Strategic Partners	£336,030	£351,151
Appendix 2 – New Applications	£148,180	£130,791
Additional approved to Age Connects re Covid Support Coordination for Safe and Well	£25,365	N/A
Total for Approval	£509,575	£481,942
Estimated balance (to be carried forward)	£6,450	£51,008

15. All grants payable are subject to successful delivery of outcomes as set out in the application forms / final grant offer letters and agreed by the Council with each applicant.

Integrated Impact Assessment

16. An Equality Impact Assessment was completed as part of the initial development of the Grant Scheme in 2016 and a further Integrated Impact Assessment was completed as part of the changes to the Scheme in 2018.
17. All applications have been considered in alignment with the revised Scheme and therefore no further assessment is required.

Valleys Communities Impact:

18. Some of the applications will be delivering projects to support valley communities.

Workforce Impact

19. There is no workforce impact.

Legal Impact

20. All successful grant recipients will be required to sign a Grant Agreement.

Risk Management

21. The successful grant recipients will assist the Council to provide important services within the County Borough or specific areas.

Consultation

22. There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

23. It is recommended that Members

- Confirm the 2021/22 Budget of £540,500 for Third Sector Grants.
- Approve the award of Grants to the Third Sector organisations as set out in Appendix 1 of this report.
- Confirm that grants not be awarded for the applications set out in Appendix 2 of this report.
- Confirm the amount of grant payable to each Strategic Partner as set out in Appendix 3

Reason for Proposed Decision

24. To approve grants to third sector organisations in line with the Council's Scheme.

Implementation of Decision

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

Appendices

26. Appendix 1 – Third Sector Applications 2021/22 – Applications recommended for approval
27. Appendix 2 - Third Sector Applications 2021/22 - Applications not recommended for approval
28. Appendix 3 – Grant proposed to Third Sector Strategic Partners for 2021/22

List of Background Papers

29. The Neath Port Talbot Third Sector Grant Funding Scheme.

Officer Contact

30. Hywel Jenkins, Director of Finance & Corporate Services.
Email: h.jenkins@npt.gov.uk

Third Sector Applications 2021/22 – Applications recommended for approval. (* table also shows current year recipients)					
Ref	Organisation	Grant awarded 2020/21	Funding applied for 2021/22	Amount of Grant Proposed	Overview of Outcomes to be delivered
1	Age Connects Neath Port Talbot	10,000	45,617	10,000	This project will enable Age Connects to maintain capacity to meet the increased demand for COVID19 Response Services whilst also gathering knowledge, understanding and evidence of the impact felt by older people with reduced family/support networks through the pandemic. The impact of not having local family, friends or support networks in place for whatever reason has been acutely felt by many older people, especially those shielding through the COVID19 pandemic.
2	Age Cymru West Glam		10,000	5,000	A priority at Afan Nedd Community centre is ensuring that they provide hot nutritional meals to vulnerable housebound older people across Port Talbot. The funding will be used directly to cover some of the core costs vital lifeline to the older residents of Port Talbot in early 20/21 and to partially cover the costs of PPE, supplier ingredients, volunteer expenses and service delivery staff costs including overheads.
3	Neath Port Talbot Black Minority Ethnic Community Association		27,902	15,000	Funding will enable them to continue the work with and on behalf of the BAME communities in the area with the support of NPTCBC and NPTCVS.

**Third Sector Applications 2021/22 – Applications recommended for approval.
(* table also shows current year recipients)**

Ref	Organisation	Grant awarded 2020/21	Funding applied for 2021/22	Amount of Grant Proposed	Overview of Outcomes to be delivered
4	Canolfan Maerdy		33,500	25,000	Proposal to develop the current community transport car scheme model and look at how this can reduce their carbon footprint by introducing electric vehicles (E.V's) or ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEV'S). This scheme would run alongside their usual community car scheme and would open up the option for this scheme to apply for windfarm and/or big lottery funding to aid with the future purchase of a vehicle.
5	Care & Repair Western Bay	4,980	10,000	4,980	This funding will maintain capacity of the organisation's core Casework and Technical Service and enable home adaptations, repairs and improvements to be made for older people living in poor or inappropriate housing.
6	Canolfan Gymunedol Ystradowen Community Centre CGYCC		17,000	4,000	This 12 month funding will help them keep key workers who are fundamental in the running of the organisation at this time and responding to Covid19 across communities on the County Borough boundary.
7	Gwynfi Miners	5,000	10,000	5,000	The funding will contribute towards the core costs that are required to keep the facility operational. This will enable the Gwynfi Miners Community Hall, external bodies and community groups who hire space to concentrate on providing and supporting provision for the benefit of the community.

**Third Sector Applications 2021/22 – Applications recommended for approval.
(* table also shows current year recipients)**

Ref	Organisation	Grant awarded 2020/21	Funding applied for 2021/22	Amount of Grant Proposed	Overview of Outcomes to be delivered
8	MMI	5,000	18,390	5,000	To support the running costs of the hub which forms the basis of a blend of services from across the sectors, including social services, health, voluntary sector to work collaboratively in supporting people to gain access to services, information, help and advice.
9	Neath Young Men's Christian Organisation		1,000	1,000	A 12 week pilot project tailored to the needs of the Neath community by offering wellbeing activities to all ages that recognise health and social outcomes. It will develop community capacity by introducing physical activity sessions and learning that will have a positive impact on people's skills, knowledge and confidence; with the intention of motivating them to adopt a healthy lifestyle. This involvement will support people to positively impact on others.
10	Neuadd Cwmllynfell	12,200	12,000	10,000	To contribute towards the running of the hall and provision of a wide range of social, recreational and educational activities for local people of all ages.
11	NPT Carers Service		26,631	15,000	Young at Heart - NPT Carers Service plans to expand its volunteering and short breaks service to attract younger people with the aim of developing an intergenerational project bringing benefits to the carer, cared for, young and older volunteers. A paid employment opportunity will be created for a young person to work with the NPT Carers Service Volunteer Co-ordinator and Engagement & Information Officer and our schools.

**Third Sector Applications 2021/22 – Applications recommended for approval.
(* table also shows current year recipients)**

Ref	Organisation	Grant awarded 2020/21	Funding applied for 2021/22	Amount of Grant Proposed	Overview of Outcomes to be delivered
12	NPT Mind	20,000	13,661	13,661	The core funding will employ a part-time Digital Officer from beginning July 2021 – end March 2022. This role has already received funding to June 2021 by way of response to C19 and received funding from Moondance for an initial period (July 2020-January 2021) and then extended period to June 2021. This role provides r mental and emotional health support services to local communities throughout and beyond any evolving lockdown measures.
13	Port Talbot Stroke Club	500	900	500	To provide stroke survivors and their families with support, signposting and information on stroke and other services they can utilise to improve their living conditions and wellbeing. Members being able to access services and organisations in our locality to enrich their lives.
14	Thrive - Women's Aid		20,000	15,000	The funding will allow Thrive Women's Aid to continue to employ a full time Family Support Officer within its Community and Outreach Service. The Family Support Officer will identify and address support needs of individuals and families who are escaping domestic abuse, with a specific emphasis on providing practical and emotional support. A key requirement will be to provide empowerment and personal welfare support in a safe, supportive and welcoming environment and to ensure that women are provided with a high quality service.
15	Y Lolfa Community Library	1,500	2,302	1,150	To continue to provide a volunteer run community library hub serving communities of Cwmgors, GCG, Tairgwaith and Lower Brynaman wards

**Third Sector Applications 2021/22 – Applications recommended for approval.
(* table also shows current year recipients)**

Ref	Organisation	Grant awarded 2020/21	Funding applied for 2021/22	Amount of Grant Proposed	Overview of Outcomes to be delivered
16	Ystalyfera Development Trust		1,000	500	Contribution to run a series of IT surgeries, where members of the community can come for assistance with any digital issues they may have. During the lockdown there has been increasing demand for the need to shop online and many elderly people are nervous about attempting this for the first time. At the surgery, they will receive confidence and skills to be able to access these services in order for them to be self-reliant.
	Total		249,903	130,791	

Third Sector New Applications 2021/22 - Applications not recommended for approval			
Ref	Organisation	Amount applied for 2021/22	Activity
1	Afan Arts	5,000	To provide free, regular, accessible creative activities in association with YMCA in the town's new community hub 'The Plaza'.
2	Church Hall Baglan	2,000	Improvements to Building.
3	F.A.N Community Alliance	13,015	Delivering a strong community of all ages, plus the running, maintenance and development of a building and outdoor spaces catering to the changing needs of local people. With covid-19 restrictions changing frequently, the upcoming challenges of Brexit and the impacts of the climate and ecological crises, it is difficult to predict what activities / projects we will be running. FAN would usually organise and host around 100 events per year.
4	F.A.N Community Alliance	13,185	Improving the surface of the Friend And Neighbours Centre Car park, so that it can become a multi-use space. Resin bound surfacing will remove hazards that currently exist and create a smooth space that will help support people with mobility problems that currently find the area difficult to use'
5	Melin Community Trust	38,045	Core funding for MCT. Limited support provided in 2020 in relation to response to Covid 19 pandemic.
6	Resolven Building Blocks	11,525	To continue the delivery and co-ordination of Building Blocks Food Bank, delivering food parcels across Neath Port Talbot to families living in poverty. The funding would support the employment of the part time post of the food bank co-ordinator. Current external funding in place until 8th January 2021.
7	Your Voice Advocacy	22,450	For the last three years the YOLO project has been supporting adults with a learning disability in the County Borough but the Council has alternative service contracts in place.
	Total	105,220	

Appendix 3

Grant Award to Third Party Strategic Partner Organisations 2021/22	2019/20 Year 1	2020/21 Year 2	2021/22 Year 3
1. Canolfan Maerdy	£26,000	£26,182	£27,360
2. Citizens Advice Bureau	£80,000	£80,560	£84,185
3. DANSA Transport	£32,000	£32,224	£33,674
4. DOVE Workshops	£35,000	£35,245	£36,831
5. Glynneath Training Centre	£42,000	£42,294	£44,197
6. NPT CVS - Core Funding Contribution	£43,695	£44,000	£45,980
7. NPT Shop Mobility	£45,000	£45,315	£47,354
8. Ystalyfera Development Trust	£30,000	£30,210	£31,570
Total	£333,695	£336,030	£351,151