

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **CABINET**

**15th December 2021**

### **Report of the Chief Finance Officer – Huw Jones**

**Matter for:** Decision

**Wards Affected:** All Wards

**Report Title - Third Sector Grant Funding – Award of Grants for 2022/23**

#### **Purpose of Report**

1. To present Members with the outcome of the third sector grant applications for 2022/23 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 22 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 details of eight Strategic Partners and their proposed grant amounts for 2022/23. These grants were initially agreed for a three year period however a one year extension was agreed at the Cabinet meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

## **Background**

6. The application process for 2022/23 grant funding opened on 23rd August and closed on 15th October 2021.
7. Grants awarded under the Scheme are for 12 months or for a maximum of three years.
8. There are eight Strategic Partners who were granted a three year agreement by Cabinet in December 2018; with a further one year extension approved at Cabinet in July 2021.

## **Monitoring Arrangements**

9. The eight Strategic Partners listed in Appendix 3 were requested to submit six month monitoring form covering 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 30th September 2021, and to provide a statement setting out in clear terms how they intend to support the further development of community capacity building in 2022/23.
10. All single year grant recipients for 2022/23 are required to submit evidence of outcomes and performance achieved by the end of January 2023.

## **Assessment of Grant Applications for 2022/23**

11. Organisations bidding for new funding for 2022/23 were requested to specifically focus on activities that would help to further develop community capacity/ collaboration and build on the community response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
12. Those applications that are recommended for approval (as detailed 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 related to Capital premises costs which were outside the grant criteria.

- The application only provided limited benefit to communities and individuals in the Council Borough.

## 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 2021/22 the final settlement for Neath Port Talbot Council showed a year on year increase of 4.2%.
15. It is therefore proposed in this report that the Third Sector Grant Budget for 2022/23 be increased by 4.2% and the same increase is provided to the grant payable to our Third Sector Strategic Partners.
16. A summary of proposed allocations is shown below:

<b>Budget</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
Base Year Budget 2021/22	£542,783
Additional Budget Allocation for 2022/23	£22,797
<b>Total Base Budget 2022/23</b>	<b>£565,580</b>
<u>Allocations</u>	
Appendix 1 – New Applications	£177,900
Appendix 3 – Strategic Partners	£365,899
Community Safety (internal allocation)	£11,500
Miscellaneous	£2,500
<b>Total Allocated</b>	<b>£557,799</b>
<b>Balance in hand</b>	<b>£7,781</b>

17. 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**

18. 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.
19. All applications have been considered in alignment with the revised Scheme and therefore no further assessment is required.

## **Valleys Communities Impact:**

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

## **Workforce Impact**

21. There is no workforce impact.

## **Legal Impact**

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

## **Risk Management**

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

## **Consultation**

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

## **Recommendations**

25. It is recommended that Members
  - Confirm the 2022/23 Budget of £565,580 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**

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

### **Implementation of Decision**

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

### **Appendices**

28. Appendix 1 – Third Sector Applications 2022/23 – Applications recommended for approval
29. Appendix 2 - Third Sector Applications 2022/23 - Applications not recommended for approval
30. Appendix 3 – Grant proposed to Third Sector Strategic Partners for 2022/23

### **List of Background Papers**

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

### **Officer Contact**

32. Huw Jones, Chief Finance Officer  
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Third Sector Applications 2022/23 – Applications recommended for approval. (* table also shows current year recipients)					
Ref	Organisation	Grant awarded 2021/22	Funding applied for 2022/23	Amount of Grant Proposed	Overview of Outcomes to be delivered
1	Afan Arts		£5,200	£5,200	Our vision is to be a support network and develop a local mentoring support to the young people who need it most with our aim to provide positive creative activities and opportunities. Trustees have developed Afan Arts from scratch and through our experience and passion to help and support young people have earned a trusted and respected working relationship with other organisations throughout NPT. Core funding is essential for us to improve our capacity to deliver regular high-quality projects and have the tools to perform. It will enable us to deliver projects better, quicker, and more efficiently, deepening our impact. The core funding requested is important to allow our charity to become stronger and more able to sustain services going forward.
2	Neath Port Talbot Black Minority Ethnic Community Association	£14,599	£25,039	£25,039	This funding is important to enable us to continue the work we have been doing since being incorporated and to undertake new and different activities. The Association is more important now than it has been especially in regard to giving a voice to the BME community and to be a crucial channel for promoting positive health messages during the pandemic crisis. We wish to build on that momentum and to retain the new connections that have been made with the community and with other agencies and organisations.
3	The Community Impact Initiative - C.I.C		£10,000	£5,000	The support provided by our Engagement and Wellbeing Officer is a vital element of our community regeneration projects, having been introduced in direct response to the needs of both our participants and our staff. This role, which

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					provides additional wellbeing support to our participants, has become even more vital during the pandemic as the financial, physical and mental circumstances of those we support have become more severe.
4	Calon DVS		£34,330	£34,330	Calon DVS is one of a limited number of organisations that offer the ACEs Recovery Toolkit for both Adults and Children and Young People (CYP) in Mid and South Wales. The ACEs Recovery Toolkit uses a trauma informed psycho-educational approach to facilitate learning. This funding would enable us to deliver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 adult programmes - each adult programme can be delivered to 6-8 adults, reaching 24-32 adults over the years funding</li> <li>• 3 CYP programmes - each CYP programme can be delivered to up to 5 CYP, reaching up to 15 CYP over the years funding</li> </ul> ADULTS. The main aim of the programme is to give adults the opportunity to focus on the life trauma(s) they have lived and develop new coping skills to improve their lives, their mental wellbeing, confidence and self-esteem, and to reduce harmful behaviours such as self-harm and substance misuse.
5	Care & Repair Western Bay	£4,980	£10,000	£4,980	This funding will enhance 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. This will assist with both facilitating hospital discharge and with community prevention services. The link between housing and health is becoming more widely evidenced to show the correlation between poor housing, poor health and social care outcomes for older people.

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6	Catwg After School Club		£4,000	£4,000	Funding to help employ extra staff, train new and existing staff in areas, including well-being, emotional check-ins and mindfulness. Extra staff will mean that when children attend club, there will be an awareness of creating a space for those who need it, listen to the children and their needs and have the time to listen. Children would have the choice to play outside or inside. At present, due to staff shortage, children don't have the choice, this is to adhere to the CIW standards and ratio of staff.
7	FAN		£10,000	£10,000	At its core, this funding will deliver 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.
8	GROW		£13,370	£13,370	The purpose of this project is to provide much needed support for adults living with or experiencing mental health as a result of COVID19. The need for this project is to improve the understanding of mental health amongst women and in particular black and minority ethnic women and increase their knowledge of trigger points and how to manage them appropriately at home. The core funding will enable this to happen and in the short and long term reduce the need of the beneficiaries to access the mental health service. Due to the stigma surrounding mental health amongst women including BME women who are likely to be isolated encourage/force women to wait until they are having a crisis and then present at A&E. This just adds to the pressures on the NHS. If our



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					application for funding is successful then by educating and raising awareness women/beneficiaries will enable the beneficiaries to better manage their mental health.
9	Gwyfi Miners	£5,000	£10,000	£5,000	Gwynfi Miners Community Hall have now been operating for eight complete years and no doubt this could have been potentially one of our most financially uncertain and precarious. Especially with the prevailing climate of austerity and more recently the Covid 19 Pandemic. We exercise a very tight financial discipline and prudently manage our funds. All of our expenditure is scrutinized and like our utility costs we obtain multiple quotes for services and purchases to ensure we get the resources for the lowest possible price. Despite this we have a continuing yearly financial gap that means we struggle to build our reserves and we remain heavily dependent on donations and grants.
10	MMI	£5,000	£16,053	£5,000	MMI would like to apply for funding that will directly support guests to access the respite service at MMI. At present MMI support 25-30 people each week with access to transport, without this service these guests have stated that they would not be able to come to MMI and inevitably would be at home alone. In our experience and research with families we have found that transport throughout NPT is a major obstacle for people and many find themselves isolated as a result.

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11	MMI Trading with Care		£30,049	£10,000	Previous funding has supported the development of a community hub at Brynhyfryd House, Briton Ferry. This application is for the continuation of support and is essential to the continued success and growth at the HUB. The HUB is currently supporting our parent charity to hold its successful long established services, including day break , Community Friendship and Family/Friends support network. Along with other initiatives that are being developed to support people with mental health issues, people with additional needs, other people find themselves lonely and isolated in the community. Our partnership with MMI has strengthened over the last 12-18 months, especially during the pandemic when in partnership with MMI we managed to successfully stay open for critically assessed clients, helping families through an extremely stressful time.
12	Mullany Fund		£20,000	£5,000	The funding we are applying for is important because it would support the continued delivery of services that raise educational standards and attainment for children and young people of Neath Port Talbot (NPT). There is often a direct correlation between the economic situation of a child's parents/carers and academic achievement. Children from poorer communities without access to career support are less likely to continue with higher education, as currently only 16% of those eligible for FSMs are attending University. . In 2018, 29.3% (206,000 children in Wales) were recorded as living in poverty. In NPT this figure is 26.2% of 0-19 year olds. The impact has been exacerbated during COVID 19.

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Ref	Organisation	Grant awarded 2021/22	Funding applied for 2022/23	Amount of Grant Proposed	Overview of Outcomes to be delivered
13	Neath3A		£502	£503	This project will benefit older people from the Neath and district areas. It will support our current members (50) plus any new members who join in the coming months/years. These communities were drastically affected by the pandemic being isolated from their wider communities and loved ones. Many had to shield and so went many months without face-to-face contact with loved ones. The effects of isolation are already being seen and will continue to be seen in the mental and physical wellbeing moving forward as we come out of Covid19. This funding will help us to provide safe and inclusive opportunities for these individuals to meet others and improve their wellbeing.
14	Neaudd Cwmllynfell	£10,000	£10,000	£9,750	Fund part of the cost of the Centre Manager
15	NPT Mind	£13,661	£29,956	£14,978	We are applying for funds to employ a Liaison Officer for a year. Funding for this role is critically important to meet an increased, Covid-19 related, need for mental and emotional health support and to ensure that people get timely and supported access to the services they need, whether from Neath Port Talbot Mind or our local partners.
16	Port Talbot Stroke Club	£500	£900	£500	To continue to provide vital support to stroke victims in NPTCBC.

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17	Port Talbot Women's Aid	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000	Neath Port Talbot and the Afan Valley are recognised on social indices as being amongst the most deprived areas of South Wales, with a very low average income per family and unusually high incidences of domestic abuse. The need for organisations which address domestic abuse and other forms of violence against women remain essential in today's society. Indicators suggest that the incidences of domestic violence will continue to worsen as the COVID-19 pandemic continues and whilst further public sector and welfare cuts are made.
18	South Wales Miners Museum		£35,000	£8,750	Our main aim is to secure core funding covering our utility bills and museum expenses to help us transition from the difficult Covid period into full operation. By creating a sustainability plan this will help taking the museum into the foreseeable future and securing the years ahead with peace of mind. Our aim is to provide training for new and existing volunteers and also provide volunteer expenses, by paying their travel expenses it would encourage volunteers to volunteer and attend regularly, making the museum more secure and beneficial giving the public and schools a great experience when they visit, along with training new and existing volunteers and for them to gain qualifications for certain roles here that would benefit the museum greatly.
19	Y Iolfa	£1,150	£1,500	£1,500	Y Iolfa provides a volunteer-run community library hub serving the communities of Cwmgors, Gwaun Cae Gurwen, Tairgwaith and Lower Brynaman wards. The service offers access to NPTCBC and Lolfa lending book collections and a range of linked activities including children and adult book clubs, Welsh language groups, local history, creative writing, and French

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					groups. Y Lolfa receives no core funding apart from previous Third Sector grants, and relies of fundraising and grants to support its continued operations. The core funding covers the minimum necessary level of expenditure for the organisation to continue its basic operation as a volunteer-run library service. It seeks other funding to support its outreach activity but this would not be possible without the core costs being met since most grant schemes will not cover them.
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£280,899</b>	<b>£177,900</b>	

Third Sector New Applications 2022/23 - Applications not recommended for approval			
Ref	Organisation	Amount applied for 2022/23	Activity
1	Awel Aman Tawe	£30,000.00	Our vision is to develop a Zero-carbon Centre 'Hwb y Gors' to bring together the various strands of our work within the field of renewable energy, by developing a public hub - a co-working space for the community. Within walking distance to our community windfarm, it will be a flagship centre for promoting a transition to a greener economy. A key aspect of Hwb y Gors is to help people forge connections, share ideas, gain confidence and work together – all in a zero-carbon building. Our project will help transform our area from one dominated by a history of large scale fossil fuel production, to an area which retains ownership of its natural resources, develops skills, and provides sustainable employment for local people.
2	Cwmavon Hornets	£5,200.00	We cater for boys, girls, ladies and men starting from the age of six. This instils a sense of discipline respect for others and introduces them to exercise which becomes a habit for life increasing their wellbeing physically and mentally. New flooring will increase the floor space we can use which in turn will increase the amount of people who can use the gym at one time. We having been going for many years and have produced over 100 national champions and an olympic silver medalist in London 2012. The gym is used by people from all walks of life and ethnicity and all are made welcome. We are open three nights a week and also take boxers to competitions and all coaches are qualified volunteers we do our best to keep children off the streets and out of trouble
3	Melin Community Trust	£15,000.00	The Melin DIY project is there to benefit both the men and women of the Melin. There is two strands to the Melin DIY project, one strand will be to work with the male members of the community to provide them with the opportunity to come to our Payne Street Center to take part in DIY sessions, providing them with tools and materials to make and create products that we can sell in the community ie window boxes, raised bed boxes and potentially small items of furniture ie bedside tables and coffee tables. The second strand will be to offer DIY classes in the community for women, these classes will look at basic DIY ie changing a plug, using cordless power tools and generally give them confidence to tackle any minor issues that may arise in their homes. These activities will be delivered in the Payne Street Center, we will be

			working on our own behalf however we will be hiring qualified professionals to deliver the DIY classes to the female members of the community.
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£50,200</b>	

## Appendix 3

<b>Grant Award to Third Party Strategic Partner Organisations 2022/23</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>
1. Canolfan Maerdy	£26,000	£26,182	£27,360	£28,509
2. Citizens Advice Bureau	£80,000	£80,560	£84,185	£87,721
3. DANSA Transport	£32,000	£32,224	£33,674	£35,088
4. DOVE Workshops	£35,000	£35,245	£36,831	£38,378
5. Glynneath Training Centre	£42,000	£42,294	£44,197	£46,053
6. NPT CVS - Core Funding Contribution	£43,695	£44,000	£45,980	£47,911
7. NPT Shop Mobility	£45,000	£45,315	£47,354	£49,343
8. Ystalyfera Development Trust	£30,000	£30,210	£31,570	£32,896
<b>Total</b>	<b>£333,695</b>	<b>£336,030</b>	<b>£351,151</b>	<b>£365,899</b>