

Appendix HH.

Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF089/T2

To acquire essential training and fitness equipment for the Neath Schools Intermediate RFU based at Neath RFC, Neath North.

This bid has been developed to 'Assist Voluntary Sector providers'.

The funding will be used to purchase training/match balls, cones, bibs, tackle bags and wedges, new kit and training apparatus such as kettlebells, ropes, resistance weights and slam balls.

The new acquisitions will help to re-establish the Academy which has suffered greatly during times of financial uncertainty at Neath RFC. The investment will allow the elite performers drawn from the local Comprehensive schools to re- group and start again with state of the art, quality training equipment.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of the local Ward Members. Concern has been voiced by coaching staff, parents and players that there was very little equipment available upon returning to the Academy set up and that it would be difficult to nurture players and prepare them for transition into the top flight without being adequately resourced.

Neath RFC, at the Gnoll, still uphold the proud tradition of being the birthplace of the WRU and continue to produce elite performers at Under 15's School boy level. This proposal has the backing of the Osprey's Regional Development Manager.

The scheme has no further financial implications for NPTCBC. The new equipment will be used by the Neath Schools Intermediate RFU under the watchful eye of qualified WRU coaches.

Recommendations

The project is valued at £8,804.57, which is the full cost of procuring the equipment. The Applicants, Councillors Mark Protheroe and Alan Lockyer would both wish to fund this project equally with a proportion of their remaining Members Fund allocation.

The project proposal is recommended for approval and financial support under the Members Community Fund.