



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

CABINET

21st March 2022

Report of the Chief Finance Officer

Wards affected – All

Revenue Grant Funding 2021/22 – Update on late notifications received

For information

Background

The Cabinet received an updated budget monitoring position to the end of December 2021 at their meeting of 28th February 2022. The purpose of this report is to provide details of grants received from Welsh Government since that position which will impact on the Council's end of year financial position.

Grants received

Since the last budget monitoring position was prepared a number of grants have been awarded to the Council by the Welsh Government (WG). This is due to the fact that WG have spare funding which they are passing to local authorities.

Due to the lateness in the financial year these grants cannot be spent on any new proposals so will inevitably increase our underspend and increase reserve balances.

Proposals for specific reserve requests will be dealt with as part of the year end outturn report when the overall financial position is known and are not proposed for consideration as part of this report which is for information only.

Details of the most significant grants received are listed below:

Additional Revenue Support Grant (RSG) - £2.8m

WG have increased the RSG quantum by £60m on an all Wales basis. The consequence of this is an additional £2.8m in funding for this Council. The grant offer letter indicated that the funding should be set aside for electric vehicles and driving lessons for domiciliary care workers. WG officials have since confirmed that they only expect approximately 1/6th (c£450k) to be earmarked for these purposes with the balance being available for other priorities.

Social care winter pressures - £2.5m

This funding has been provided to offset costs in the social care sector. The grant will be used to fund costs which we would have previously been expecting to fund ourselves.

Funding to support independence of peoples with care and support needs - £0.5m

Again this grant will be used to fund costs which we would have previously been expecting to fund ourselves as it is too late in the year to develop any new strategies or interventions.

Additional funding for waste and recycling - £0.3m

This funding has been awarded to offset additional costs incurred in this service area as a result of Covid.

School revenue maintenance - £2m

The above funding has been provided directly to all schools to assist with revenue maintenance backlogs. Given the time of year awarded it is unlikely that schools will be able to organise, commission and undertake works by the end of March. As a consequence the funding will increase schools delegated reserves at year end.

Various school improvement grants - £1.3m

Additional funding has been provided for a number of school improvement initiatives. This funding will in the main be transferred to

schools but again due to the timescales involved it is unlikely that anything can be delivered before the end of the financial year.

The above list is not an exhaustive list but details the higher value grants received. Given the proximity to the end of the financial year it is not expected that anything additional of significance will be received.

Integrated Impact Assessment

There is no requirement to undertake an integrated impact assessment as this report summarises the Council's financial position

Valleys Communities Impacts

No Impact

Workforce Impacts

No Impact

Legal Impact

No Impact

Risk Management Impact

No Impact

Consultation

This item is not subject to external consultation

Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- **Note** the contents of this report which is for information

Reason for Proposed decision

No decision required

Implementation of Decision

No decision required

Appendices

None

Background Papers

Welsh Government grant notifications

Officer Contact

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