

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL
PORTFOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION
by
COUNTY COUNCILLOR JAMES EVANS
PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND
REGULATORY SERVICES.

March 2020.

REPORT AUTHOR: Jenni Thomas.
Professional Lead for Regeneration.

REPORT TITLE: Community Development Fund Grants Programme

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Following Council budget setting for financial year 2019-2020 an annual allocation of £100,000, to be either used as capital or revenue, was set aside for a new community grant programme.

2. Background

- 2.1 Community Development Fund has supported many projects over The years recognising the importance of the many organisations Who are helping to sustain their own communities with the short-term financial support given. Projects include a number of significant events and property builds.
- 2.2 This proposal is based on the need for the Regeneration Service to continue to support the Community from the available budget and show the Council's commitment to other external funders, such as Lottery and Welsh Government.
- 2.3 The fund aims to improve local conditions and enable people to participate in their local community in line with vision 2025.

3 Advice

- 3.1 At Full Council budget setting for financial year 2019-2020 an annual allocation of £100,000, to be either used as capital or revenue, was set aside for a new community grant programme.
- 3.2 Regeneration Services have undertaken a scoping exercise and propose to deliver a grant programme with two funding streams:

70% Capital Programme (£70,000) and

30% Revenue Programme (£30,000)

- 3.3 Both programmes are open to applications from Third Sector Organisations, Registered Charities, and voluntary and community Groups, bids have been received and evidence of spend is being collated and audited,
- 3.4 Given the decrease in the budget, the Capital Grant would be a maximum award of £10,000 to improve the built or natural environment for local people. The fund would be able to consider up to 50% match funding of the total project cost with financial match funding secured. The grant schemes does not consider any 'in-kind' contributions as match.
- 3.5 The "One-Off Project Revenue" grant applications will be to a maximum of £3,000. The budget is designed to support new grassroots community projects through a guarantee against financial loss. Therefore, this is not an outright grant, but should the event incur a loss, the grant will support the project up to the maximum grant value to cover the agreed loss.

4. Resource Implications

- 4.1. The Capital and Financial Planning Accountant supports the proposal to seek applications for the Community Development Fund for projects over £10,000 for capital schemes.
- 4.2. Finance Manager (Resources and Transformation) support the proposal to seek applications for revenue projects as outlined at point 3.5.
- 4.3. Communications comment: The report is of public interest and requires use of proactive news release to publicise the recommendation/decision.
- 4.4 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) can support the recommendation.

5. Legal implications

- 5.1 Legal: The recommendation can be supported from a legal point of view.
- 5.2 The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If the Portfolio Holder has an interest, he/ she should declare it, complete the relevant notification for and refer the matter to Cabinet for decision.

6. Data Protection

- 6.1 All applications are received from Third Sector Organisations and does not contain personal information and as such the information is open to public scrutiny.

7. Comment from local member(s)

- 7.1 Local members are supportive of the Authority continuing a community grant scheme for the Third Sector in Powys.

8. Integrated Impact Assessment

- 8.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment was issued to full council in May 2019 and this is a subsequent report detailing the new funding scheme developed as a result of full council decision.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 That Powys County Council notes and supports the implementation of the Community Development Fund grant programme.

Contact Officer:	Jenni Thomas
Tel:	01597 827672
Email:	Jennit@powys.gov.uk
Head of Service:	Nina Davies
Corporate Director:	Nigel Brinn