

GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL – 4TH MAY 2011

SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

1.1 Outturn 2009/10

The accounts for 2009/10 indicate that the expenditure for last year came in on budget.

- 1.2 The Panel's budget for 2010/2011 is £245,279. Members are reminded that growth of £40,000 was awarded as part of the 2010/2011 Budget. The following amounts have been allocated to date:

	£
Discretionary Rate Relief (Actual)	159,557.78
Grants awarded by Panel	5,875.94
General Criteria Grants (determined by Officers)	14,070.00
Total Budgeted Expenditure	179,503.72

Therefore, the balance available for grants to the voluntary sector is £65,775.28

The total of amounts requested for applications listed in Appendix 1 is £3,500 (7 No) including one for which no amount has been specified. The total requested under the General Criteria in Appendix 2 is £3,230 (21 No). This currently gives a total sum requested of £6,730.

- 1.3 Members are advised that any unspent balance will be carried forward to 2011/12 and added to the budgeted figure for next year of £247,732, of which Discretionary Rate Relief is anticipated to be £167,365.
- 1.4 Members are also reminded that future reports will be prepared by GAVO, in line with the arrangements recently agreed, the first of which is anticipated to be in July 2011.

2. WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND

- 2.1 At previous meetings of the Panel it was decided that the following criteria would apply when considering applications for assistance from the Welsh Church Fund.
- (i) A grant of no more than £1,500 be given to partly fund projects of £4,500 and over;
 - (ii) Smaller projects less than £4,500 be grant aided up to a third of the total cost;
 - (iii) All organisations receiving grants produce the necessary financial records to show the expenditure has been incurred;

(iv) No organisation be allowed to apply in consecutive years.

- 2.2 At the meeting of 13/07/09 Members agreed that in future, officers would approve those groups meeting the Church Act Fund criteria, using delegated powers. Such decisions would then be reported to the Panel for information, where Members could ask for further information if required.
- 2.3 The Council's normal annual allocation from the Fund is £46,045. However, Monmouthshire C. C. have advised us that additional funding of £30,697 has again been allocated for 2010/11 giving a total for this year of £76,742. The current year's applications are appended in Appendix 3. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is £32,409.95, of which £16,071.30 has been approved and released in accordance with the previous paragraph.

3. DECISIONS OF OFFICERS

All applications shown above as allocated (to the value of £14,070) have been processed and paid.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications are those set out in the foregoing report.

5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

There are no personnel implications.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members assess the applications contained in Appendix 1 and note the applications in Appendices 2 and 3.

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Cllr. C.P. Mann – Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Sustainability

Appendices:
Appendix 1 Panel Awards
Appendix 2 General Criteria Awards
Appendix 3 Welsh Church Fund Awards