



GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL – 8TH MARCH 2012

SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present to Members the applications for financial assistance received during the current financial year.

The Panel's budget for 2011/2012 is as follows:

Budget 2011-12	£85,000.00
Carry forward balance from 2010-11	£75,393.75
Total Budget 2011-12	£160,393.75
Total Grants awarded to date	(21,342.75)
GAVO Admin cost	(£1,399.42)
Balance Remaining	£137,651.58

- 1.2 The total of amounts requested for applications listed in **Appendix 1** is **£37,730.40** (44 No.) The total requested under **Appendix 2** is **£5,615.00** (38 No.). This currently gives a total sum requested of **£43,345.40**.

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 to 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 13th July 2009 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 Caerphilly county borough council received written confirmation on 5th July 2011 that the budget for 2011/12 is again **£76,742.00**. However, discussions with Monmouthshire CC have established that the underspends from previous years of **£93,829** can be carried forward, resulting in a total available budget for the current year of **£170,571**.

Applications received since the last meeting are appended in **Appendix 3**. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is **£8,858.67**. Members are advised that this figure relates to applications received since the last meeting. Some work is needed to confirm the position with the total number of applications received during the period for which GAVO was responsible.

3. DECISIONS OF OFFICERS

All applications shown above as allocated have not been processed. Once panel have met, the necessary action will be taken. This is to ensure that the correct procedure has been carried out.

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 Appendix 2 and 3.

Author: A. Morgan – Group Accountant (Revenue Advice and Support)
Consultees: N. Scammell – Head of Corporate Finance
N. Roberts – Principal Group Accountant (Financial Advice and Support)

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