



REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 17TH JULY 2012

**SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND STRATEGY 2012 – 2017**

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the Draft Caerphilly County Borough Council Heritage Lottery Fund Strategy 2012 – 2017 as a strategic framework for supporting bids by the Council and other bodies for Heritage Lottery Funding.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Strategy identifies a number of heritage projects within Caerphilly county borough through which the Council and its partners will seek to conserve, sustain and share the county borough's heritage for the enjoyment of present and future generations. The Strategy aims to increase community participation, access to and learning about heritage assets and increase awareness of Caerphilly's heritage.
- 2.2 The nine key heritage projects have been grouped to align with four of the Heritage Lottery Fund's main funding streams. They are further categorised according to their degree of readiness for implementation.
- 2.3 This document is intended to provide a strategic framework for supporting bids for Heritage Lottery Funding on the basis of a five year rolling programme of projects.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Heritage Lottery Strategy directly supports one of the key Objectives of the Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan - specifically Key Objective 24 that states: -
- “24. Protect and enhance the overall quality of the historic natural and built environment of the County Borough.”
- 3.2 The development of sustainable tourism opportunities, as proposed in several of the projects contained in the Strategy is a key Regeneration Objective in the Caerphilly Community Strategy and is also a critical action in protecting and developing the economy as highlighted in the Council's Regeneration Framework.
- 3.3 Developing such tourism projects forms part of Visit Wales' overall aim of maximising tourist contributions to the economic, social and cultural prosperity of Wales. The Strategy also supports the Welsh Government's 'Achieving Our Potential 2006 - 2013 - a Tourism Strategy for Wales'.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 The Caerphilly County Borough Council Heritage Lottery Fund Strategy 2012 - 2017 document has been prepared by the Planning Division in consultation with the Development Manager of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) with the primary purpose of forming a strategic framework for supporting future HLF bids.

4.2 The HLF priorities are based on 3 key principles that inform all grant giving. These are:-

- Help people to learn about their own and other people's heritage.
- Conserve the UK's diverse heritage for present and future generations to experience and enjoy;
- Help more people, and a wider range of people, to take an active part in and make decisions about heritage.

The projects listed in the Heritage Strategy therefore reflect these objectives of the HLF

4.3 The Strategy provides information in respect of nine schemes that are currently in various stages of progress towards securing Heritage Lottery Funding. They are: -

1. Llancaiach Fawr Manor House, Nelson
2. Navigation Colliery complex, Crumlin
3. Bedwas Workmens' Hall and Institute, Bedwas
4. Ruperra Castle and outbuildings, Rudry
5. Manmoel Historic Land Study and archaeological dig
6. Caerphilly District Miners' Hospital
7. Universal Colliery Memorial (Senghenydd) 100 year anniversary of the Universal Colliery mining disaster in 2013
8. King Arthur Themed Project being led by the Heritage Group of the Greater Bargoed Communities First Partnership
9. Handball Court, Nelson Community Partnership

4.4 Appendix 2 of the document summaries the nine projects and is included also as an appendix to this report. The projects have been categorised A, B or C according to their readiness for implementation – Category A being 'ready to go' and category C projects being just at the aspirational stage.

4.5 Of the nine projects, only the first – enhancement of Llancaiach Fawr Manor House – is in the direct ownership and responsibility of Caerphilly county borough council. The remainder are owned or proposed by a variety of partner organisations, many in the voluntary sector. The Council has an interest as a tenant in the Bedwas Workmen's Hall.

4.6 Although the Council has very limited ability to provide financial support for these other projects, the political support of the Council through this Heritage Strategy is important to their success in obtaining Lottery and other funding.

4.7 The Council has also provided support through provision of officer time and advice to voluntary bodies in particular in pursuance of their heritage projects, building on the recent success in obtaining Heritage Lottery and other funds to restore the Memo and Institute in Newbridge.

4.8 It is envisaged that the document represents a five-year programme that will be updated at regular intervals and 'rolled forward'. It is also envisaged that a full Conservation Strategy for the county borough will be prepared in the future, dealing with listed buildings, conservation areas and all other aspects of conservation of the built environment.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The financial implications of the Strategy to the Council are limited to the bid to the HLF for a 90% grant for the enhancement of Llancaiach Fawr. This bid has already been approved by cabinet at its meeting on 1st November 2011, which also approved a 10% contribution by the Council to the project.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific Personnel implications to this report.

7. CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Report and the Heritage Strategy itself reflect the responses received from consultees and in particular the Heritage Lottery Fund.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That the Caerphilly County Borough Heritage Lottery Fund Strategy 2012-2017 be supported as a strategic framework document.

9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 To support bids for Heritage Lottery Funding.

10. STATUTORY POWER

- 10.1 Local Government Act 2002

Authors: Patricia Martin, Roger Tanner

Consultees: Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning
Anthony O'Sullivan Director of Planning / Chief Executive
Jeremy Rowe - Leisure Services Manager
Pat Mears - Head of Regeneration and Planning
Jan Bennett – Community Regeneration Officer

External Consultee: Liz Girling, Development Manager (HLF)

Background Papers:

'Valuing Our Heritage, Investing In Our Future' (HLF)

'Our Heritage Our Future: Towards the Heritage Lottery Fund's Third Strategic Plan 2008-2013' (HLF)

Appendices

Appendix 1 Caerphilly County Borough Heritage Lottery Fund Strategy 2012-2017

Appendix 2 H L F Project Cost Estimates Table