



## VOLUNTARY SECTOR SUB-COMMITTEE - 5TH DECEMBER 2012

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC FACILITIES GRANT SCHEME**

**REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide additional information on the Public Facilities Grant Scheme, as requested by this Committee, at the September 2012 meeting.

### 2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report seeks to answer some questions raised at the last meeting, and is an information report only.

### 3. THE REPORT

- 3.1 Some comments were made about the 'Public Facilities Grant from the Welsh Government'. Essentially, this grant provides £500 annually for businesses in or near town centres, to provide toilet facilities to the public.
- 3.2 As part of the conditions of the scheme, participating businesses have to display a sign indicating that they are part of the scheme. Also, bilingual fliers have been produced and widely distribute, indicating those businesses taking part.
- 3.3 As a direct result of another comment from the last meeting, Waste Management have modified the comprehensive list on the Caerphilly CBC website. The original list had the town / village locations, and names of the businesses, taking part in the scheme, along with opening times. The recent additional column to the list, now indicates whether the location is accessible, or not. If there are any other comments on the businesses and their locations please contact Waste Management.
- 3.4 The properties currently included on the list are the result of sustained canvassing of suitable properties. It was very difficult to persuade some of the businesses to participate in the scheme.
- 3.5 Participation in the scheme is of course voluntary and whilst it would have been ideal if applicants had longer opening hours or could offer a larger range of facilities, Waste Management were very limited in their choice of properties, as they struggled to achieve the number allowed within the grant allocation.
- 3.6 Waste Management, who manage the Grant scheme say that, at this time the full grant allocation has been awarded to a variety of businesses, throughout Caerphilly County Borough.

If members of this Committee are aware of any other properties that offer enhanced facilities, increased opening hours, and have expressed an interest in participating in the scheme, then if they could provide contact details to Waste Management, they will forward copies of the contract with a view to including them in any future arrangements.

3.7 Copies of the website pages are attached to this report as Appendix 1.

#### **4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Most equalities implications have been considered for the Scheme.

#### **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Only those stated above, and these are from a Welsh Government budget.

#### **6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 None arising directly from this report.

#### **7. CONSULTATIONS**

7.1 The report is for information and not consultation.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 The Committee is asked to note the details in this report.

#### **9. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 The report is for information only.

#### **10. STATUTORY POWER**

10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Public Facilities Grant Scheme – Businesses taking part in the scheme.