



## **POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 9TH JULY 2019**

**SUBJECT: CORPORATE SERVICES AND MISCELLANEOUS FINANCE REVENUE GRANTS 2019-20**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION & CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To provide information to Members relating to revenue grants for 2019/20 for Corporate Services and Miscellaneous Finance.

### **2. SUMMARY**

2.1 The report provides details of the 2019/20 revenue grant funding for Corporate Services and Miscellaneous Finance. The report excludes grant funded schemes where CCBC merely acts as banker for Partnership schemes. During the financial year further grants are often made available subject to new funding being identified and successful outcomes to bids.

2.2 The report is provided to ensure that Members are aware of grants and their intended purpose. Further details of individual grants can be made available to Members if requested.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 That Scrutiny Committee Members are requested to note the contents of the report.

### **4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 To ensure that Members are aware of the revenue grants for Corporate Services and Miscellaneous Finance.

### **5. THE REPORT**

5.1 Appendix 1 provides a list of grants known at this point in time, along with a brief description of the use of the grant funding. Grant funding applies in the main to specific schemes and initiatives and is often time limited.

5.2 The current administration arrangements are such that each grant has an agreed set of terms and conditions. The grant funding body at year-end requests information to satisfy itself that the grant monies have been spent in accordance with its terms and conditions and for the majority of grants an external audit is required.

5.3 Where required, Auditors will assess expenditure against the terms and conditions of the grant. This assessment would normally comprise a random sample of spend, followed by an in-depth scrutiny of the sampled items. This could involve ensuring proper procurement processes have been adhered to and confirming spend complies with the conditions of the grant. Any issues identified will be investigated; this could lead to a need to review a larger sample of expenditure. The External Auditors produce a report annually summarising any issues that have come to light during their audit of the Authority's grants.

## **6. ASSUMPTIONS**

6.1 As identified throughout this report.

## **7. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

7.1 The effective utilisation of grant funding will support the Authority in delivering its stated aims and objectives.

7.2 Effective financial planning and financial control contribute to the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015: -

- A prosperous Wales.
- A resilient Wales.
- A healthier Wales.
- A more equal Wales.
- A Wales of cohesive communities.
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language.
- A globally responsible Wales.

## **8 WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS**

8.1 Effective financial management including the effective utilisation of external grant funding is a key element in ensuring that the Well-being Goals within the Well-Being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 are met.

## **9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 This report is for information purposes, so the Council's Equality Impact Assessment (EqLA) process does not need to be applied.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Grant funding levels can change leading to uncertainty of funding. The majority of grants are subject to external audit and the expenditure must comply with the grant terms and conditions. Failure to comply may result in a qualification of the grant by the External Auditors, which could result in the clawback of the grant funding.

## **11. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 Grant funded posts may be at risk if the funding is withdrawn. Wherever possible this risk is mitigated through fixed-term appointments to grant funded posts.

## 12. CONSULTATIONS

- 12.1 This report has been sent to the Consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

## 13. STATUTORY POWER

- 13.1 Local Government Act 1972 and 2003 and the Council's Financial Regulations.

Author: D. Roberts - Principal Group Accountant (Financial Advice and Support).  
[roberda@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:roberda@caerphilly.gov.uk) Tel: 01443 863342

Consultees: R. Edmunds – Corporate Director for Education & Corporate Services.  
S. Harris – Interim Head of Business Improvement Services & Deputy S151 Officer.  
M. Eedy – Finance Manager.  
R Tranter – Head of Legal Services  
L Donovan – Head of Peoples Services  
L Lucas – Head of Customer & Digital Services  
C Harrhy, Interim Chief Executive  
Lesley Allen, Principal Accountant, Housing.  
Shaun Couzens, Chief Housing Officer.  
D Street, Corporate Director Social Services  
Mark S Williams, Interim Corporate Director Communities  
Mark Williams, Interim Head of Property  
A. Southcombe, Finance Manager Corporate Services.  
Jane Southcombe, Finance Manager, Education, Lifelong Learning and Schools  
Cllr B. Jones, Deputy Leader/Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Governance.  
Cllr C. Gordon, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services.  
Cllr L. Phipps, Cabinet Member for Homes & Places.  
Cllr J Pritchard, Chair of P&R Scrutiny.  
Cllr G Kirby, Vice Chair of P&R Scrutiny.

Background Papers:  
Grant Allocation Reports 2019/20

Appendices:  
Appendix 1- Schedule of Corporate Services and Miscellaneous Finance Grants 2019-20

**Appendix 1 - Schedule of Corporate Services and Miscellaneous Finance Revenue Grant Funding for 2019-20**

Grant	Funding Body	Grant Funding	Matched Funding	Division	Lead Officer	Purpose of Grant	Subject to Audit
Housing Benefits	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	£602,219		Housing Benefits	Benefits Manager	Funds housing benefit staff who process housing benefit claims.	Yes
New Burdens Funding	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	£69,601		Housing Benefits	Benefits Manager	Funds housing benefit staff who process housing benefit claims.	Yes
Universal Credits	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	£91,227		Housing Benefits	Benefits Manager	Funds housing benefit staff who process housing benefit claims.	Yes
Housing Benefit Subsidy	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	£50,435,645		Housing Benefits	Benefits Manager	Funds the housing benefits payments	Yes
Discretionary Housing Payments	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	£493,012		Housing Benefits	Benefits Manager	Funds the discretionary housing benefits payments	Yes
Police & Crime Panel	Home Office	TBC approx. £71895		Legal & Governance	Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer	Funds the panel members and associated costs in running the panel.	Yes
Community Safety Grant	Police & Crime Commissioner	£31,822		Corporate Policy	Community Safety Officer	Funds a full-time member of staff based in the Community Safety Partnership team.	No
Community Safety Grant	Police and Crime Commissioner via Torfaen CBC	£14,822		Corporate Policy	Community Safety Officer	Part funds staff involved in anti-social behaviour case management	No
Children & Communities Grant	Welsh Government	£248,230		Corporate Policy	Community Safety Officer	Formerly Promoting Positive Engagement. Funds programmes of support for young people and families, and diversionary activities to reduce crime (including posts.)	No
Domestic Abuse	Welsh Government via Newport CC	£45,834		Corporate Policy	Community Safety Officer	Funds Independent Domestic Violence Advocate.	No
Area Planning Board	Welsh Government via Newport CC	£16,638		Corporate Policy	Community Safety Officer	Funds Admin Officer	No
Strengthening Local Government Delivery of the Covenant	Ministry Of Defence	£30,667		Corporate Policy	Corporate Policy Manager	To fund a regional post to support the Armed Forces. Only 6 months of the two year fixed term post	No
Housing Support Grant	Welsh Government	£167,406		Housing	Housing Advice Manager	Fund Homeless Prevention Services/Initiatives	No
<b>Total: -</b>		<b>£52,247,123</b>					