



HOUSING AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 20TH APRIL 2021

**SUBJECT: REGENERATION PROJECT BOARD – MONITORING
REPORT 2020**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMY AND
ENVIRONMENT**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the projects being taken forward with the support of the Regeneration Project Board and Cabinet.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 On the 30th May 2018, Cabinet agreed that a Regeneration Project Board would be set up with a cross-party political representation of Councillors plus key officers. This group is supported by a Regeneration Assessment Panel consisting of officers from a range of service areas.
- 2.2 At the subsequent June 2018 Board meeting a Project Prioritisation Toolkit was approved for the Board to prioritise projects and this was subsequently agreed by Council on 17th July 2018.
- 2.3 The Regeneration Assessment Panel have met on numerous occasions to consider the prioritised list of capital projects, which have been identified by the Board to move to the Assessment Stage. Numerous projects have been endorsed with financial assistance provided (where necessary) from the Regeneration Project Board Development Funds.
- 2.4 In January 2019 Cabinet resolved to release £1.2m of reserves for the Regeneration Board prioritised projects, bringing the Total Development Fund budget allocation to £1.5m. To date, £1,392,200 has been allocated towards prioritised capital regeneration schemes, across the County Borough, leaving a residual balance of £107,800 from the total budget allocation.
- 2.5 Cabinet approval for the allocation of the residual £107,000 Regeneration Development Funds towards a scheme at Bedwas Bridge is subject of Cabinet consideration on the 21 April; and this report also asks Cabinet to note the allocation of £20,689.00 Licence to Innovate Funding for a Gelato Counter for Coffi Vista, Caerphilly.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Scrutiny Committee notes the progress made on progressing significant regeneration schemes of strategic importance by the Regeneration Project Board to date.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To ensure Members of the Scrutiny Committee are sighted on the strategically important Regeneration Schemes being progressed by the Regeneration Project Board.

5. THE REPORT

Background

- 5.1 On the 30th May 2018, Cabinet agreed that a Regeneration Project Board be set up. The Terms of Reference of the Board were approved by Cabinet at the same meeting.
- 5.2 At the subsequent June 2018 Board meeting a Project Prioritisation Toolkit was approved for the Board to prioritise projects and this was subsequently agreed by Council on 17th July 2018. An Assessment Panel has been set up to assess each of the projects using this toolkit. The Assessment Panel is an internal Officer panel from a wide range of Service Areas set up specifically to assess prioritised strategic physical regeneration schemes.
- 5.3 The Assessment Panel has met several times to consider a list of previously prioritised capital projects. These, for the most part, have been evaluated and considered by the Regeneration Project Board before being presented to Cabinet for endorsement and funding (where required) from the available Development Funds.
- 5.4 Additional funding has been secured to enhance and supplement the Regeneration Project Board Development Fund. On the 30th January 2019 Cabinet resolved to release £1.2m of reserves for Regeneration Board Projects bringing the Total Development Fund budget allocation to **£1.5m**. This has allowed additional projects to be considered for development support, prioritisation and funding. It is estimated that the investment made to date by Cabinet through the development fund will potentially leverage circa **£98m** investment into the county borough.
- 5.5 Projects that have been assessed by the Panel and considered by the Regeneration Project Board, and subsequently by Cabinet are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Schemes with an Agreed Funding Allocation:

Capital Project	Tranche	Agreed Funding Allocation
Llanbradach Park & Ride	1	£150,000
Caerphilly Interchange	1	£0
Oakdale Business Park	1	£100,000
Park Lane, Caerphilly	1	£40,000
	<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>£290,000</i>

Ystrad Mynach Park & Ride	2	£0
Cwmcarn Forest Drive	2	£75,000
Pentrebane Street, Caerphilly	2	£37,500*
	<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>£112,500</i>
Masterplan for Public Sector Land in Ystrad Mynach	3	£0 (£30K requested but project deferred)
Ty Du, Nelson (design of additional)	3	£40,000
Penallta Colliery - Former Powerhall Building	3	£0 (£20K requested but project deferred)
Coach Facilities – Caerphilly Town Centre/Castle	3	£50,000
	<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>£90,000</i>
Llanbradach Park and Ride revisit	4 (Tran 1 revisited)	£200,000
Ystrad Mynach Park and Ride	4 (Tran 2 revisited)	£170,000
	<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>£370,000</i>
TRI Thematic (Urban Centre Property/Living Environment grant programme)	5	£20,000**
Cwm Ifor Solar Farm request	5	£0 (£30K requested but funds taken from Council Reserves)
WG TRI Town Centre Covid-19 Response.	6	£142,700
WG TRI Bid – Caerphilly Place Making Plan	6	£126,000
Oakdale Business Park – Plateau 1.	6	£85,000
Caerphilly Workmen’s Hall & Institute.	6	£110,000
Cwm Ifor Solar Farm	6	£46,000
	<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>£509,700</i>
Regeneration Project Board Development Funds		£1,392,200
Residual balance		£107,800

* As per recommendation (iv) of the Exempt Report considered by Cabinet on the 2nd October 2019, a budget allocation of £37,500 towards this prioritised project was endorsed.

** As per recommendation (iii) of the Cabinet Report considered by Cabinet on the 29th January 2020, a budget allocation of £20,000 towards this project activity was endorsed.

- 5.6 To date, £1,392,200 has been allocated towards prioritised capital regeneration schemes, across the County Borough as outlined. A residual balance of £107,800 from the total budget allocation remains available to the Board.
- 5.7 Cabinet approval for the allocation of the residual £107,000 Regeneration Development Funds towards feasibility work for the highway improvement scheme at Bedwas Bridge is subject of Cabinet consideration on the 21 April; Importantly this Cabinet report also seeks further funding for the Development Fund to maintain the momentum that has been achieved to date by the Regeneration Project Board.
- 5.8 In December 2020 Cabinet approved the Council's Commercial and Investment Strategy and resolved that a further £50,000 from the Education and Corporate Services reserves be approved to progress Licence to Innovate ideas via the Regeneration Project Board. A Transformation Assessment Panel comprising relevant officers has been set up to vet projects prior to their formal consideration by the Board and thereafter Cabinet. The first project approved through this process is also contained in the Cabinet report which will be considered by Members on 21 April. Specifically, the report requires Members to note the allocation of £20,689.00 of the Licence to Innovate Funding for a Gelato Counter for Coffi Vista, Caerphilly.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 This report assumes that the identified projects, will be developed further and where applicable implemented, with assistance from appropriately sourced and secured external funding and with delivery partners where relevant.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 This is an information only item and therefore a completed IIA is not necessary at this stage.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 As detailed throughout the report.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There will be a requirement for Officers from Regeneration & Planning, Transportation & Infrastructure, Corporate Policy, Housing and Corporate Services Divisions within the Authority to dedicate human resources to the project activities outlined in order to progress them, the level of which depends on the status of each project. Otherwise, there are no personnel implications arising from this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

- 10.1 All consultation responses are reflected in the report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

11.2 Local Government Acts.

11.3 Town and Country Planning Act 1990

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Appendices: None