



HOUSING AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – FOR INFORMATION

SUBJECT: REVENUE GRANTS 2020/2021

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide information to Members relating to revenue grants for 2020/21 for Communities Directorate service areas.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report provides details of the 2020/21 revenue grant funding for Communities Directorate. The report excludes grant funded schemes where CCBC merely act 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 Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Members are requested to note the contents of this report and the summary grant pages that follow in respect of Regeneration & Planning Division, which all fall within the remit of this Scrutiny.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To inform Members of the 2020/2021 revenue grant funding position for Communities Directorate services.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 The attached Appendix provides summary details of revenue grants currently available to the Directorate in 2020-21. It includes a list of the grants, the grant funding bodies, the value of the grant, brief description of the purpose of the funding, together with details of the responsible officer. As highlighted in the appendix, there is a diverse range of grants available to the Authority.
- 5.2 Grants will have an agreed set of terms and conditions, covering the type of initiatives and expenditure that will be funded, the methods for submitting grant claims and documentary evidence required in support of the claims. The grant funding body will request information to satisfy itself that the grant monies have been spent in accordance with its terms and conditions. Expenditure in respect of grants is usually subject to an external audit.

5.3 External audit would assess expenditure against the terms and conditions of the grant and 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/or assets purchased have been located, along with the confirmation that spend complies with the conditions of the grant. The External Auditors produce a report annually summarising any issues that have come to light during their audit of the Authority's grants.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 External grant funding is very important in helping the Authority deliver some key services and appendix 1 summarises the revenue grants for 2020/2021 and the service area's they support. It is important that services receiving grant adhere to any specific terms and conditions linked to the grant and ensure financial processes and procedures are in place in relation to expenditure incurred and grant claims produced.

7. ASSUMPTIONS

7.1 Details of grant funding included in this report is based on formal notifications of specific grant awards for 2020/2021 or based on the latest estimate of grant likely to be received.

8. LINKS TO RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES

8.1 The Council has a number of corporate strategies and this report deals with the use of resources in the achievement of those strategies.

8.2 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

9. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

9.1 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.

10. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no equalities issues.

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Grant funding for service initiatives and schemes can change from year to year and uncertainty of funding or reductions in funding needs to be considered and managed,

including implications for future service provision, employment implications, redundancy costs and alternative funding streams.

- 11.2 Expenditure must comply with the grant terms and conditions, and/or bids. 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.

12. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 Grant funded services provide employment opportunities within the Authority and loss of or reduced grant provision can sometimes impact on employment and possible redundancy.

13. CONSULTATIONS

- 13.1 There are no consultation responses, which have not been included in this report.

14. STATUTORY POWER

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

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Councillor Christine Forehead, Vice Chair Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Mark S Williams, Interim Corporate Director of Communities
Robert Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, Community & Leisure Services
Rhian Kyte, Head of Regeneration and Planning
Marcus Lloyd, Head of Infrastructure
Steve Harris, Head of Business Improvement Services & Section 151 Officer
Jane Southcombe, Education Financial Services Manager
Dave Roberts, Principal Group Accountant
Paul Adams, Senior Assistant Accountant
Mike Jones, Interim Financial Services Manager Social Services

Background Papers:
Grant Allocation Reports 2020/21

Appendices:
Appendix 1- Schedule of Communities Directorate Grants 2020-21