



GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL – 21ST NOVEMBER 2022

SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Panel of the applications for Financial Assistance received between 1st June and 30th September 2022.
- 1.2 To inform the Panel of the applications for Welsh Church Acts Fund received between 1st June and 30th September 2022.
- 1.3 To inform the Panel of one application received from an individual in relation to the Welsh Church Acts Fund received between 1st June and 31st October 2022, and to seek a recommendation for approval or otherwise.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report advises Panel members of the budget allocations for both the Voluntary Sector budget and the Welsh Church Acts Fund budget for 2022/23. It also provides details of applications received and approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers between 1st June and 30th September 2022.
- 2.2 The report also asks Panel members to consider an application received from an individual in relation to the Welsh Church Acts Fund, and to make a recommendation for approval or otherwise.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Panel members note the applications received that meet the criteria for Financial Assistance and the Welsh Church Acts Fund, which have already been approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers, and which are reported to the Panel for information.
- 3.2 Panel Members make a recommendation in relation to an application received from an individual in relation to the Welsh Church Acts Fund. This recommendation will be approved under delegated powers by the Head of Financial Services/S151 Officer.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To ensure that the applications received under this report are determined in accordance with the Council's scheme of delegation criteria.

5. THE REPORT

5.1 GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR BUDGET

- 5.1.1 The Grants to the Voluntary Sector budget for 2022/23 is shown in the table below:

Budget 2022/23	£195,686.00
Less Discretionary Rate Relief (Estimated)	£187,367.00
Remaining Budget	£8,319.00
Carry forward balance from 2021/22	£110,882.67
Total Available Budget 2022/23	£119,201.67
Total 2022/23 Grants awarded previously	£3,790.00
Balance Remaining	£115,411.67

- 5.1.2 The projected Discretionary Rate Relief for 2022/23 is **£187,367**, which leaves a budget of **£8,319** available for 2022/23. Allowing for the projected spend on Discretionary Rate Relief, the available balance for schemes is **£119,201.67**, which includes carry forward balances.

- 5.1.3 Between 1st June and 30th September 2022, 33 new General Criteria awards have been made totalling **£5,330**. These have been approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers and are reported to the Panel for information only. The awards are summarised in the table below:

Ref	Name of organisation/ individual	Category	Amount awarded
22-GC015	Tredomen Allotment Association	Allotments	£100.00
22-GC016	Loren James Dance Fundraising	Junior Sports Club (over 50 members)	£200.00
22-GC017	Valley Daffodils	Community Groups	£100.00
22-GC018	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC019	Machen Ffwrwm Road Allotment Association	Allotments	£100.00
22-GC020	Bargoed Community Choir	Choirs	£100.00
22-GC021	Llanbradach OAP & Over 50's Club	OAP Association without own building	£150.00
22-GC022	Llanbradach OAP Welfare Committee	OAP Association with own building	£300.00
22-GC023	Cascade Keyboard Group	Clubs run From Churches/Chapels	£200.00
22-GC024	Bethel Quilters	Community Groups	£100.00

Ref	Name of organisation/ individual	Category	Amount awarded
22-GC025	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales abroad	£250.00
22-GC026	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales abroad	£250.00
22-GC027	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC028	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC029	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC030	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC031	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales abroad	£250.00
22-GC032	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales abroad	£250.00
22-GC033	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC034	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC035	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC036	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC037	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC038	Rhymney Valley Music Club	Community Groups	£100.00
22-GC039	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales at home	£130.00
22-GC040	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales abroad	£250.00
22-GC041	Pontlloftyn Allotment Association	Allotments	£100.00
22-GC042	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales abroad	£250.00
22-GC043	Crosskeys Krafters	Clubs run From Churches/Chapels	£200.00
22-GC044	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Maesycwmmmer	Clubs run From Churches/Chapels	£200.00
22-GC045	Application from an individual	Individuals representing Wales abroad	£250.00
22-GC046	Gilfach Ladies Bowling Club	Sports Club (up to 50 members)	£100.00
22-GC047	Fleur-de-Lys History Society	Community Groups	£100.00
		Total	£5,330.00

5.1.4 No applications were received between 1st June and 30th September 2022 which were outside the General Criteria.

5.1.5 After the awards detailed in the table above have been considered, the amount remaining in the current financial year is **£110,081.67**.

5.1.6 As previously agreed by the Panel, grants awarded during the 2022/23 financial year that exceed the budget allocation will be funded from the brought forward balances.

5.2 WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND

5.2.1 The total Welsh Church Acts Fund budget available for 2022/23 is **£247,003.32**. This consists of the annual allocation from Monmouthshire County Council (**£57,760**), unallocated sums from previous years (**£105,175**) plus an additional **£80,836.45** held by Monmouthshire County Council in relation to previous unallocated underspends.

5.2.2 In addition, since the last Panel meeting a project previously approved in 2020-21 (RCK UK Risca Covid Group **£3,231.87**) will not be progressing, so the value of this award has been recycled back into the funding pot.

Budget 2022/23	£57,760.00
Carry forward balances	£105,175.00
Underspend held by MCC	£80,836.45
Underspend from previously approved projects	£3,231.87
Total available budget 2022/23	£247,003.32
Total 2022/23 grants awarded previously	£19,090.18
Balance remaining	£227,913.14

5.2.3 Between 1st June and 30th September 2022, seven applications have been received totalling **£22,418.53**. These have been approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers and are reported to the Panel for information only. The awards are summarised in the table below.

Ref	Name of organisation	Description	Amount awarded
ORG22-WCF005	Bethel Baptist Church, Penyrheol	Audio & visual system upgrade, redecoration & new lighting	£5,000.00
ORG22-WCF006	Oakdale Baptist Chapel	Painting & decorating of chapel inside & out	£3,200.00
ORG22-WCF007	St Tudor's Church, Mynyddislwyn	Security camera system & replacement gates to church & graveyard	£5,000.00
ORG22-WCF008	Rhiw Syr Dafydd Allotments	Purchase of sheds, water butts and scaffolding boards	£5,000.00
ORG22-WCF009	Bethel Evangelical Church, Nelson	Two new windows and cills for vestry	£2,400.00
ORG22-WCF010	Western Valley Camera Club	Purchase of laptop	£729.99
ORG22-WCF011	New Beginnings	Purchase of various equipment for use by residents	£1,088.54
		Total	£22,418.53

- 5.2.4 Between 1st June and 31st October 2022, one application was received from individuals in relation to the Welsh Church Acts Fund, and a copy of this application is attached at Appendix 2. Panel Members are asked to make a recommendation in relation to this application, for approval or otherwise.
- 5.2.5 If the grants awarded in previous years but not yet drawn down spend to the maximum amounts allocated, there will be a balance of **£205,494.61** remaining, less any grant award made in relation to 5.2.4 above.

5.3 Conclusion

- 5.3.1 The report summarises all allocations made under the Grants to the Voluntary Sector and Welsh Church Acts Fund budgets between 1st June and 30th September for the 2022/23 financial year.
- 5.3.2 The report also seeks a recommendation from Panel Members in relation to one application from an individual to the Welsh Church Acts Fund.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 There are no assumptions as the 2022/23 budget has been confirmed, together with carried forward underspends from previous years.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 As this report is for information only a full Integrated Impact Assessment has not been undertaken.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The financial implications are those set out in the report.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications.

10. CONSULTATIONS

- 10.1 There are no consultation responses which have not been reflected in this report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

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

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 List of General Criteria
Appendix 2 IND22-WCF002 Application from an individual