



GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL – 9TH MARCH 2023

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 October 2022 and 31st January 2023.
- 1.2 To inform the Panel of the applications for Welsh Church Acts Fund received between 1st October 2022 and 31st January 2023.

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 October 2022 and 31st January 2023.

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.

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	£9,120.00
Balance Remaining	£110,081.67

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 October 2022 and 31st January 2023, 16 new General Criteria awards have been made totalling **£2,300**. 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-GC048	Application from an individual	c	£130.00
22-GC049	Application from an individual	c	£130.00
22-GC050	Application from an individual	c	£130.00
22-GC051	Oakdale OAP Association	b	£150.00
22-GC052	1st Trinant Brownies	h	£100.00
22-GC053	1st Trinant Rainbows	h	£100.00
22-GC054	Application from an individual	d	£250.00
22-GC055	Application from an individual	c	£130.00
22-GC056	Application from an individual	c1	£120.00
22-GC057	Application from an individual	d	£250.00
22-GC058	Bargoed and District Art Society	o	£100.00
22-GC059	Application from an individual	c	£130.00
22-GC060	Application from an individual	d	£250.00

Ref	Name of organisation/ individual	Category	Amount awarded
22-GC061	Application from an individual	c	£130.00
22-GC062	Cardiac Fitness Solutions	y	£100.00
22-GC063	Glan-y-Nant Allotments	n	£100.00
		Total	2,300.00

5.1.4 No applications were received between 1st October 2022 and 31st January 2023 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 **£107,781.67**.

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.

Budget 2022/23	£57,760.00
Carry forward balances from 2021/22	£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	£43,008.71
Balance remaining	£203,994.61

5.2.3 Between 1st October 2022 and 31st January 2023, eight applications have been received totalling **£27,100.18**. 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-WCF012	Holy Trinity Church, Ystrad Mynach	Replacement of car park surface at Church Hall	£5,000.00
ORG22-WCF013	Caerphilly Veterans Support Hub	Various equipment for hub	£2,972.24
ORG22-WCF014	St Catwg Church, Gelligaer	Clearance of grass & weeds from paths in churchyard	£2,500.00

Ref	Name of organisation	Description	Amount awarded
ORG22-WCF015	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Maesycwmmmer	Repair work to flat roof	£5,000.00
ORG22-WCF016	Cefn Fforest Miners Welfare Hall	Provision of infrared heaters in main hall	£4,221.00
ORG22-WCF017	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Blackwood	Replacement water boiler for kitchen	£1,070.40
ORG22-WCF018	Tuesday Club, Fitzroy Lodge	Various equipment & outdoor items	£1,336.54
ORG22-WCF019	Tabernacle Baptist Church, Newbridge	Replacement doors at front of building	£5,000.00
		Total	£27,100.18

5.2.4 No applications were received between 1st October 2022 and 31st January 2023 which were outside the General Criteria.

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 **£176,894.43** remaining.

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 October 2022 and 31st January 2023 for the 2022/23 financial year.

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