



VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 30TH NOVEMBER 2023

**SUBJECT: GRANTS AWARDED VIA THE GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY
SECTOR FUND AND THE WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND**

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

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee (VSLC) of the budget available for the Grants to the Voluntary Sector (GTVS) Fund for 2023/24 and the grants awarded between 1st May and 31st October 2023.
- 1.2 To inform the VSLC of the budget available for the Welsh Church Acts Fund (WCAF) for 2023/24 and the grants awarded between 1st May and 31st October 2023.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report advises the VSLC of the budget allocations for both the Voluntary Sector budget and the Welsh Church Acts Fund budget for 2023/24. It also provides details of applications received and approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers between 1st May and 31st October 2023, for each grant scheme.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That members of the VSLC note the applications received that meet the criteria for the GTVS Fund and the WCAF, which have already been approved by the Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer under delegated powers, and which are reported to the VSLC 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 This is the latest update to the VSLC in relation to grants awarded under the GTVS Fund and the WCAF, following the disbanding of the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel.

5.2 GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR BUDGET

5.2.1 The GTVS budget for 2023/24 is shown in the table below:

Budget 2023/24	£8,735.00
Carry forward balance from 2022/23	£106,351.67
Total Available Budget 2023/24	£115,086.67
Total 2023/24 Grants awarded previously	£2,960.00
Balance Remaining	£112,126.67

5.2.2 The GTVS budget and Discretionary Rate Relief budgets have been split for 2023-24. The GTVS budget has been calculated using the 2022/23 base and inflating by the rate agreed in the Council budget setting process (5%), which is an amount of £8,735. In addition, £106,351.67 has been carried forward from underspends in previous years, giving a total available budget for 2023/24 of £115,086.67.

5.2.3 Between 1st May and 31st October 2023, 67 new General Criteria awards were made totalling **£15,640**. These have been approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers and are reported to the VSLC for information only. The awards are summarised in the table below:

Ref	Name of organisation/ individual	Category	Amount awarded
23-GC018	No. 2353 Ystrad Mynach RAF Air Cadets	Boys & Girls Clubs/YMCA/Scouts/Cubs/ Brownies/ Guides/Boys Brigade/Crusaders (up to 50 members)	£100.00
23-GC019	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales at home	£130.00
23-GC020	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales at home	£130.00
23-GC021	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£250.00
23-GC022	Bargoed Hockey Club	Sports Club (up to 50 members)	£100.00
23-GC023	Rhymney Valley South Road Flying Club	Pigeon Clubs	£200.00
23-GC024	Crosskeys Community Spirit	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC025	Gilfach Ladies Bowling Club	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC026	Sirhowy Valley Hub CIC	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC027	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£250.00

Ref	Name of organisation/ individual	Category	Amount awarded
23-GC028	United Services (Machen) Club and Institute Ltd	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC029	Penuel Baptist Church, Rhymney	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC030	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales at home	£130.00
23-GC031	Crosskeys Krafters	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC032	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£250.00
23-GC033	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC034	Cwm Calon Community Association	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC035	Aber Valley YMCA	Other membership group e.g. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, St John Ambulance etc. (over 50 members)	£300.00
23-GC036	Cefn Fforest Jazz Band	Arts Groups e.g. Jazz Bands, Choirs, Arts Societies, Writers Clubs, Theatre Groups etc.	£200.00
23-GC037	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	£200.00
23-GC038	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	£200.00
23-GC039	Rhymney Castle Select South Road Flying Club	Environment Groups e.g. Allotments, Beekeepers Groups, Gardening Clubs, Tenants & Residents Associations, Pigeon Clubs etc.	£200.00
23-GC040	United Services (Machen) Club and Institute Ltd	Organisation or Association not owning a building	£200.00
23-GC041	Cefn Hengoed Ladies Choir	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC042	Valley Daffodils	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC043	Cariad Quilters	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC044	Caerphilly Uniform Exchange CIC	Organisation or Association not owning a building	£200.00
23-GC045	Caerphilly People First	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC046	Bargoed YMCA	Organisation or Association owning a building	£360.00
23-GC047	St Gwladys' Church Hall	Organisation or Association owning a building	£360.00

Ref	Name of organisation/ individual	Category	Amount awarded
23-GC048	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	£200.00
23-GC049	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC050	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC051	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC052	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC053	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC054	Bethel Quilters	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC055	Machen Bowling Club	Sports Club (up to 50 members)	£200.00
23-GC056	Fitzroy Lodge	Organisation or Association not owning a building	£200.00
23-GC057	YM Bit's and Bob's Community Group	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC058	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC059	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC060	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales at home	£200.00
23-GC061	Salvaged Creation Wales CIC	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC062	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC063	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC064	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC066	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC067	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC068	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC069	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC070	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC071	1st Trinant Rainbows	Other membership group e.g. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, St John Ambulance etc. (up to 50 members)	£200.00

Ref	Name of organisation/ individual	Category	Amount awarded
23-GC072	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC073	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	£200.00
23-GC074	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC075	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC076	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC077	BWORKZ	Environment Groups e.g. Allotments, Beekeepers Groups, Gardening Clubs, Tenants & Residents Associations, Pigeon Clubs etc.	£200.00
23-GC078	The Youth Centre, Cefn Hengoed	Organisation or Association not owning a building	£200.00
23-GC079	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC080	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC081	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC082	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC083	Oakdale Silver Band	Brass and Silver Bands	£480.00
23-GC084	1st Trinant Brownies	Other membership group e.g. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, St John Ambulance etc. (up to 50 members)	£200.00
23-GC085	Mynyddislwyn Ladies Choir	Arts Groups e.g. Jazz Bands, Choirs, Arts Societies, Writers Clubs, Theatre Groups etc.	£200.00
		Total	£15,640.00

5.2.4 After the awards detailed in the table above have been considered, the amount remaining in the current financial year is **£96,486.67** inclusive of the carry forward balance.

5.2.5 One application has been received from an organisation which is outside the General Criteria. This application will be considered at the Voluntary Sector Liaison Sub-Committee immediately following this meeting, and any grant award will be reported to a future meeting of the VSLC for information.

5.3 WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND

- 5.3.1 The total Welsh Church Acts Fund budget available for 2023/24 is **£224,508.57**. This consists of the annual allocation from Monmouthshire County Council (**£59,841.17**) plus unallocated sums from previous years (**£164,667.40**).

Budget 2023/24	£59,841.17
Underspend Held By Monmouthshire CBC	£56,259.68
Carry forward balances in CCBC accounts	£108,407.72
Total Available Budget	£224,508.57
Underspend from previously approved projects	£0.00
Total available budget 2023/24	£224,508.57
Total 2023/24 grants awarded previously	£25,634.98
Balance remaining	£198,873.59

- 5.3.2 Between 1st May and 31st October 2023, 13 applications were received totalling **£71,374.83**. These have been approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers and are reported to the VSLC for information only. The awards are summarised in the table below.

Ref	Name of organisation	Description	Amount awarded
ORG23-WCF006	Newbridge Memo	Replacing lighting with LED throughout building	£5,000.00
ORG23-WCF007	Rock Fellowship	Replacement roof and purchase of new kitchen appliances	£4,605.79
ORG23-WCF008	Senghenydd Community Centre	Upgrading all lighting to LED	£5,000.00
ORG23-WCF009	Mynyddislwyn Community Choir (Mynyddislwyn Male Choir)	Repairs to choir building (Penmaen Chapel)	£5,000.00
ORG23-WCF010	Helping Hands	Building works to create ramp and purchase of karaoke & bingo machine	£4,433.00
ORG23-WCF011	Raw Performance CIC	Purchase of laptops and equipment for fitness sessions	£4,960.31
ORG23-WCF012	Wattsville Community Group	Erection of safety fencing to protect children	£7,356.00
ORG23-WCF013	Markham Miners Welfare Scheme	Replacement heating system for building	£5,937.00
ORG23-WCF014	St Tyfaelog's Church Hall, Pontlottyn	Replacement flat roof and new ceiling, plus window blinds	£3,456.74
ORG23-WCF015	Crumlin Cricket Club	Supply & installation of permanent netted cricket call stop fencing	£7,500.00

Ref	Name of organisation	Description	Amount awarded
ORG23-WCF016	Cefn Fforest Community Centre Management Committee	Various equipment for young people	£7,103.59
ORG23-WCF017	Bushscout Cymru (Caerphilly)	Purchase of 5 gazebos with branding and fixing kits	£7,000.00
ORG23-WCF018	Friends of the Eco Park	Repairs to wall & steps, install handrail & cost of ramp	£4,022.40
		Total	£71,374.83

5.3.3 If all the grants awarded in previous years but not yet spent draw down the maximum amounts allocated to them, there will be a balance of **£127,498.76** remaining for new projects in 2023/24.

5.3.4 One application has been received from an individual in relation to the WCAF. This application will be considered at the Voluntary Sector Liaison Sub-Committee immediately following this meeting, and any grant award will be reported to a future meeting of the VSLC for information.

5.4 Conclusion

5.4.1 The report summarises all allocations made via the GTVS Fund and the WCAF between 1st May and 31st October 2023. Further allocations will be reported to the VSLC at future meetings.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

6.1 There are no assumptions as the 2023/24 budget has been confirmed. The carried forward underspends from previous years are provisional, as the statement of accounts are still draft and subject to audit.

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