

TUESDAY, 25 AUGUST 2020

TO: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER FOR LEADER

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR THE LEADER** WHICH WILL BE HELD AT **2.00 PM**, ON **WEDNESDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2020** FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA.

Wendy Walters

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



PLEASE RECYCLE

Democratic Officer:	Martin. S. Davies
Telephone (direct line):	01267 224059
E-Mail:	MSDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Wendy Walters Prif Weithredwr, *Chief Executive*,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

A G E N D A

- 1. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST**
- 2. DECISIONS RECORD - 5TH AUGUST 2020** 3 - 4
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- 4. TARGETED REGENERATION INITIATIVE TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY GRANTS** 29 - 34
- 5. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE FOLLOWING GRANT FUNDS: WELSH CHURCH FUND** 35 - 42
- 6. REPORTS NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

FOLLOWING CONSIDERATION OF ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE AND FOLLOWING THE APPLICATION OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST TEST THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER MAY CONSIDER THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION AS THEY CONTAIN EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPH 14 OF PART 4 OF SCHEDULE 12A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION) (WALES) ORDER 2007.
- 7. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE ARFOR PROGRAMME** 43 - 74

Note:- The press and public are not entitled to attend the meeting. The decision record will be published normally within 3 working days.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR THE LEADER

WEDNESDAY, 5 August 2020

PRESENT: Councillor: E. Dole (Executive Board Member).

The following officers were in attendance:

J. Hancock, Flagship Social Enterprise Development Officer

K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer

Virtual Meeting - . - 10.00 - 10.08 am

1. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

2. DECISION RECORD - 22ND JULY, 2020

RESOLVED that the decision record of the meeting held on the 22nd July 2020 be signed as a correct record.

**3. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE FOLLOWING GRANT FUNDS:
TARGETED FINANCE FUND**

RESOLVED that the following application for assistance from the Targeted Finance Fund be approved subject to the usual terms and conditions and those specified in the report:

Targeted Finance Fund	
Applicant	Award
Menter Bro Dinefwr	£20,000.00

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

DATE

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Executive Board Member Leader 2nd September 2020

Executive Board Member:	Portfolio:	
Cllr.Emlyn Dole	Leader (Economic Development)	
Targeted Regeneration Investment Town Centre Recovery Fund		
Recommendations / key decisions required:		
<div>1. To accept Welsh Governments offer to top slice £75k of TRI funding allocation to deliver Recovery Fund in Primary Town centres</div> <div>2. To agree process and pro-formas to be utilised for delivery of fund as proposed</div> <div>3. To agree preferred routes for delivery</div> <div>4. To allow applicants to proceed at their risk with project delivery whilst formal approvals sought</div> <div>5. That in the event of applications being required to be submitted directly by Carmarthenshire County Council agreeing to fund the required capital allocation in line with required intervention rate. Funding to be made available from Transformation Strategic Project Fund.</div>		
Reasons:		
To support the recovery of Primary Town Centre economy post Covid 19 Lockdown		
Directorate: Chief Executives Name of Head of Service: Jason Jones	Designation Head of regeneration	Tel No. 01267 242336
Report Author: Mike Bull	E Mail Address: MAbull@carmarthenshire.gov.uk JaJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk	

Declaration of Personal Interest (if any):

None

Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):**DECISION MADE:**

Signed: _____ DATE: _____

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

The following section will be completed by the Democratic Services Officer in attendance at the meeting

Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was not adopted:	

2nd September 2020

Targeted Regeneration Investment Town Centre Recovery Fund

Introduction

Following Welsh Government's lifting of restrictions with regards to non-essential retail and leisure and hospitality businesses, a number of town centre based businesses across the county are facing the challenges of reopening and operating businesses within the limitations of revised government guidelines.

To support those primary town centre-based businesses across Carmarthenshire the Economic development team have been lobbying key external funders for support to assist with restart and recovery and has been advised that Welsh Government have approved a regional request from South West Wales Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI) group via lead body partner (Swansea) to allow the top slicing of TRI allocations for use in supporting town centre recovery. As part of that request Carmarthenshire has been advised that £75k funding can be top sliced to support each its 3 primary town centres (notional allocation of £25k per town).

Process

Guidelines and an application form for the fund have been developed and approved in conjunction with lead partner and Welsh Government. (guidance attached)

The key criteria is as follows:

Funding available to support initiatives in the following targeted towns:

- Llanelli
- Ammanford
- Carmarthen

Capital projects Only

Essential stakeholder engagement

Applications can be considered from the following:

- Local authority (direct delivery)
- BIDS / Town Councils
- Third party businesses

Funding is to be awarded at a maximum intervention rate of 80% in the case of BIDs / Town Council's and Third parties. Local authority intervention rates will need to be agreed with Welsh government on a case by case basis.

It is proposed that any application and award will have to follow the standard procedures already in place for the TRI programme which will involve:

Submission of application and supporting documentation

Assessment by Economic Development Officer / Co-ordinator

Assessment by Economic development funding panel

Political approval (EBM leader)

Ratification Lead Partner

Issue of Offer letter

Considerations

From discussions with the lead partner it has been identified that each local authority can consider whether they wish to deliver directly themselves, award directly to businesses or whether they wish to support Town Centre Organisations such as BID Groups and or Town Council to produce co-ordinated support packages. Having discussed with stakeholders in respective towns each delivery option has its own advantages and disadvantages, however it is felt that to achieve the best value for money in relation to the available grant whilst ensuring local ownership/buy in/local management, timely delivery and providing the town with a co-ordinated intervention the preferred routes for delivery are as follows:

Carmarthen – Joint application developed between Carmarthen Town Council and Carmarthen BID

Llanelli – Joint application developed between Llanelli Town Council and Llanelli BID

Ammanford – Direct delivery application developed by Carmarthenshire County Council in conjunction with Ammanford town Council and task-force and submitted by either Carmarthenshire County Council or a combination of Carmarthenshire County Council and Ammanford town Council

Due to urgency of delivery post approval at Economic panel stage consideration needs to be given to whether or not to allow applicants at risk to proceed with project delivery whilst formal political approvals are sought.

Recommendations

6. To accept Welsh Governments offer to top slice £75k of TRI funding allocation to deliver Recovery Fund in Primary Town centres
7. To agree process and pro-formas to be utilised for delivery of fund as proposed
8. To agree preferred routes for delivery
9. To allow applicants to proceed at their risk with project delivery whilst formal approvals sought
10. That in the event of applications being required to be submitted directly by Carmarthenshire County Council agreeing to fund the required capital allocation in line with required intervention rate. Funding to be made available from Transformation Strategic Project Fund.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: _____ Head of _____

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
NONE	YES	YES	NONE	None	NONE	None

2. Legal

TRI Offer letters have been developed previously in conjunction with CCC legal. There may need to be assistance where applications are for projects where licences are required.

3. Finance

In respect of the Ammanford application Capital finance may be required to fund required applicant intervention rate (maximum £6,250). This funding will be provided from Transformation Strategy Project Fund capital allocation if required.

6. Physical Assets

Support and assistance of the property team may be required where applications require licences to be agreed where projects are to be situated on Council land.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **Head of**

(Please specify the outcomes of consultations undertaken where they arise against the following headings)

1. Scrutiny Committee

None

2. Local Member(s)

Local members will be fully engaged via respective delivery groups in each town centre

3. Community / Town Council

Stakeholder discussions have taken place with Carmarthen Town Council, Llanelli Town Council and Ammanford town Council

4. Relevant Partners

Stakeholder discussions have taken place with Carmarthen and Llanelli BID and members of Ammanford task Force

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Scheme application Form	To be completed	To be completed (Delete as applicable)
Scheme Guidance Form	To be completed	To be completed (Delete as applicable)
To be completed	To be completed	To be completed (Delete as applicable)

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Criteria for Delivery of the Welsh Government Transforming Towns Thematic Covid – 19 Response 2020/21.

Overview

The Minister and Deputy Minister for Housing and Local Government have approved the proposal to re-purpose elements of the Transforming Towns 2020/21 budget allocation to allow Local Authority partners across Wales a much greater degree of flexibility in adapting to the comprehensive social distancing changes required in town centres as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is recognised that comprehensive social distancing measures will need to be introduced in our town, city and district centres to support the reopening of non-essential retail and wider town centre businesses. This is necessary in order to both encourage people to return to the high street once lockdown is eased and to ensure there is a general sense of wellbeing, safety and confidence in these areas.

It is therefore agreed that elements of the Transforming Towns 2020/21 budget be allocated to COVID -19 recovery so as to allow a greater degree of flexibility in adapting to the short term changes required in town centres as a result of the pandemic.

This is a capital fund only, so revenue expenditure will be considered ineligible. This criteria for support will be reviewed on a regular basis in order to ensure that they reflect any new Welsh Government guidance or agreed amendments.

Target Towns

This support is available to all town centres across Wales.

This support is available in the town centres initially prioritised within the Targeted Regeneration Investment programme. It should be delivered within town centre locations and should be aligned with the agreed red line boundaries set out in the approved Regional Plans for Regeneration.

In addition, this support is also available in other priority locations where there is a clear need and opportunity. Any newly chosen locations should be either town, city or district centres. Where possible these new locations will build on other Welsh Government or public sector support so as to enforce natural clustering and investment multiplier effects.

Any new proposals brought forward as a result of this funding should, where possible, be aligned with local reopening plans for town, city and district centres.

Please discuss new settlement proposals with your local Welsh Government Regeneration Manager.

It is important that local authority partners engage in a comprehensive manner locally across all town centres so as to gauge interest from all stakeholders in accessing this funding. It is important that all innovative and creative ideas are captured in delivering this new opportunity.

Who can apply for this funding?

The funding can be accessed by Local Authorities, the private sector or Third sector partners. It will be the responsibility of Local Authority partners to promote this new offer and advertise its availability and the process for application.

It should be noted that this support is also available to town councils, community councils and Business Improvement Districts (BIDS) where they exist. This will ensure that key stakeholders and groups have equal and adequate opportunity to deliver on their local Covid – 19 plans and re-opening strategies.

Local Authority partners are encouraged to use this funding directly, particularly where there are larger scale interventions required or where there are natural clusters of businesses who would collectively benefit. This approach would also ensure Local Authority partners have more control on design, safety and uniformity of approach, particularly in regards to visual amenity and public realm. There is also the potential for Local Authorities to benefit from economies of scale if a wider area or whole town based approach were to be adopted. This though is a decision for local delivery.

This funding is being made available up to a maximum intervention rate of 80%. It is for the local authority to determine the appropriate level of intervention for individual projects; however, it is the responsibility of partners to ensure that 'best value' is achieved in delivery. In this regard, where projects may be delivered through loan funding, or at a lower intervention rate, this should be examined so as to ensure the maximum level of projects are delivered and the greatest level of impact is achieved. If the local authority is the recipient of the grant then the intervention rate should be agreed with the Welsh Government.

Regional Delivery

Each region will have a designated lead body which will have responsibility for administering this funding. This role will include the responsibility for legal arrangements, managing the distribution of the funding to individual Local Authorities, receipt of claims and evidence from regional partners and submission of claims to the Welsh Government. It is the responsibility of the lead regional Local Authority to

provide quarterly update reports, inclusive of photographic evidence, to the Regional Town Centre Action Groups and Welsh Government Regeneration Managers. Individual Local Authorities will be responsible for assessing applications, awarding funding, overseeing delivery and assessing and processing project claims before submission to the lead body.

Decisions on the quantum of funding allocated to each regional Local Authority partner should be made at a local level whether this be on a needs basis or proportional distribution.

What can be supported through this Thematic Covid - 19 fund?

This proposal is an urgent and immediate response from Welsh Government, working in partnership with Local Authorities across Wales, to address the issues faced in town centres as a result of the Covid – 19 pandemic. It is designed to ensure that our town centres are working economically and, more importantly, are safe environments.

This funding allocation is aligned with the Welsh Government £15.4 million Transport Funding. This funding is complementary and strategic alignment should be demonstrated where possible.

This funding is to be used for external interventions in order to facilitate social distancing and a lower density of occupation in external areas where customers and members of the public are to congregate, be served food or drink or rest.

Applicants, working in conjunction with Local Authority partners, will need to consider the risk of each intervention and how any potential areas of concern may be addressed. Key considerations on risk and their mitigation will need to be documented prior to implementation. As such Risk Registers should be revisited and revised as often as necessary so as to ensure they are aligned with any revised guidance issued.

Any physical measures support through this funding mechanism will need to be COVID secure; they will need to be accompanied by appropriate behavioural measures such as signage, guidance and training of staff where necessary.

The specific interventions proposed consider the following, but further interventions may be suggested by Local Authorities:

- Outdoor awnings, canopies, igloo bubbles, outdoor heating, marquee coverings. These external enhancements need to be delivered in such a way so as to ensure that they are aligned with current medical advice. They should facilitate outdoor trading space. The effects of sunlight, wind direction and intensity, social distance and effective handwashing should all be considered

alongside any intervention. Specifically in regards to the use of physical coverings, awnings, gazebos or marquees should be open on 3 or 4 sides so as to be considered and treated as an external environment. Coverings, awnings, marquees or gazebos need to be either transparent or of light cover so as to ensure transmission of sunlight. It is imperative that if marquees are to be adopted for use they need to be effectively used and policed so as not to allow for an excessive confined congregation which would not accommodate effective social distancing.

- Outdoor tables, chairs and seating provision. To be delivered in accordance with current guidance on social distancing requirements.
- Outdoor screening, bollards, planters. To be delivered in accordance with current social distancing requirements. Any proposals delivered should not impede pedestrian traffic on pavements, pathways or public realm areas.
- Outdoor serving facilities.
- The establishment of parklets (using parking spaces and the provision of decking on which to construct timber structures so providing small covered areas offering some weather protection).
- Small Green Infrastructure schemes especially where there is seating provision.
- The establishment and adoption and temporary use of vacant trading spaces to facilitate overspill, meanwhile uses, pop ups and entrepreneurship action
- Electricity supply and lighting to outdoor trading space.
- The establishments of outdoor market provision to include electricity provision.
- Social distancing measures
- Other interventions can also be considered that facilitate social distancing and a lower density of occupation in the external environment such as shop front modifications, courtyard / rear garden improvements, and adaptations to the public realm (subject to planning and local approval). If you wish to discuss any ideas please raise these with your Welsh Government Regeneration Managers.

Whilst this is considered a short term and immediate solution, all of the proposals to be supported should be able to demonstrate that they have lasting impact on our town centres and be aligned where possible with wider proposals relating to public realm adaptations and projects being delivered through the Transforming Towns Green Infrastructure support.

Any interventions supported in the public realm must be of sufficient quality to ensure they provide a sustained and lasting impact, are delivered, as appropriate additions to

the public realm and provide an aesthetic uplift to areas. Works must be delivered to appropriate construction and safety standards and provide safe and appropriate access for all.

Alignment

The funding of adaptations in our town centres will facilitate trading, public safety and enhance the look and feel of town centres to help restore confidence. This proposal is aligned with the initial discussions of the Ministerial Town Centre Action Group and also the Regional Town Centre Action Groups. The delivery of this re-purposed funding will be monitored by Welsh Government officials with oversight being provided by the Ministerial Town Centre Action Group.

Further References

- Re-opening Wales published 14 May 2020
<https://www.fsb.org.uk/resources-page/reopening-wales.html>
- Ailagor Cymru (14 Mai 2020)
<https://www.fsb.org.uk/resources-page/ailagor-cymru.html>
- Open for Business: Repurposing Public Spaces for Economic Recovery published 8 June 2020
<https://www.fsb.org.uk/resources-page/open-for-business.html>
- Ar Agor Am Fusnes: Ailbwrrpasu Mannau Chyoeddus Ar Gyfer Adferiad Economaidd (8 Mehefin 2020)
<https://www.fsb.org.uk/resources-page/ar-agor-am-fusnes.html>
- Welsh Government: Safer Public Spaces Guidance issued on 17 June 2020 -
<https://gov.wales/creating-safer-public-places-coronavirus>
- Llywodraeth Cymru: Creu mannau cyhoeddus mwy diogel: coronafeirws (17 Mehefin 2020)
<https://llyw.cymru/creu-mannau-cyhoeddus-mwy-diogel-coronafeirws>
- Updated UK Hospitality Guidance in relation to Wales:
<https://www.ukhospitality.org.uk/page/WalesGuidance>
- Coronavirus: guidance for tourism and hospitality businesses for a phased and safe re-opening (updated) – 10 July 2020
<https://gov.wales/tourism-and-hospitality-businesses-guidance-phased-reopening-html>
- Coronafeirws: Canllawiau i fusnesau twristiaeth a lletygarwch ar gyfer ailagor yn raddol ac yn ddiogel
https://llyw.cymru/busnesau-twristiaeth-lletygarwch-canllawiau-i-ailagor-yn-raddol-html?_ga=2.164224511.155747889.1594653161-1723596760.1558079454

Base Principles for Covid -19 Response Funding

	<p>The creation of parklets and seating provision in town centres</p> <p>Parklets (Copyright: Paul Carstairs / Arup)</p>
	<p>The use of inexpensive plastic seating should be discouraged for use via this funding. The funding should be used for products and interventions that add to amenity of areas.</p> <p>https://www.goodfreephotos.com</p>
	<p>The use of large scale planters in order to enhance wellbeing and segregate areas should be encouraged.</p> <p>Source: Carmarthenshire County Council</p>

	<p>Outdoor seating provision using awnings and planting provision.</p>
	<p>Outdoor seating provision to enable social distancing.</p>
	<p>Delivery of street markets and associated costs such as the establishment of permanent power and utilities supply.</p> <p>www.uplandsmarket.com</p>

This note is to inform partners the factors that should be considered in regards design principles for the flexible funding revision to the Transforming Towns Thematic programme.

The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (as amended) impose temporary statutory restrictions and are regularly reviewed in accordance with Regulation 3.

<https://gov.wales/health-protection-coronavirus-restrictions-wales-regulations-2020-amended>

This guidance contains information and examples of temporary interventions that may be undertaken by the owners and operators of public spaces to keep people safe as and when the restrictions are relaxed and urban spaces become busier.

This guidance applies in Wales only and does not impose any legal obligations other than those in place as part of the grant stipulations or statutory permissions.

CARMARTHENSHIRE TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY FUND

APPLICATION FORM

Local Authority, Town Council, Business Improvement District

80% Maximum Grant – Capital spend only

- **Eligible schemes include:**
 - **Awnings, canopies, marquees, outdoor heating where they facilitate outdoor trading**
 - **Outdoor chairs and tables**
 - **Screening, bollards, planters where linked to safety improvements**
 - **Outdoor servery**
 - **Outdoor market provision**
 - **Social distancing measures**
 - **Adaption to public realm**
 - **Creation of Parklets**

Please return your completed application to:

Email: businessfund@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS, AND TICK APPROPRIATE BOXES WHERE NECESSARY.
INCOMPLETE FORMS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO THE APPLICANT
Applications will be considered on a first come first served basis

SECTION 1 – APPLICANT DETAILS

Name & Address of Applicant

Postcode:

Telephone No:

Fax No:

Email:

SECTION 2 – PROJECT DETAILS

All items purchased through the grant must adhere to CCC 3rd party procurement guidelines. All supporting information must be submitted with application.

Quotes up to £4,999 net – 1 quote

Value between £5,000 net - £24,999 – 3 quotes

Note: The grant will be assessed on the lowest quote for eligible expenditure only. Please see copy of Third Party Procurement rules.

Please give a description of your project and what you intend to purchase

Please provide details of preferred supplier for each item (You may chose your preferred supplier, however, the grant awarded will be based on the lowest quote)

Please refer to guidance document

Item	Supplier	Net £	VAT £	Gross £
Item:	Supplier:			
	Reason:			
Item:	Supplier:			
	Reason:			
Item:	Supplier:			
	Reason:			
Item:	Supplier:			
	Reason:			
Item:	Supplier:			
	Reason:			

NB. If you are purchasing second hand equipment, please refer to the Guidance Document. Items purchased through lease purchase, hire purchase, extended credit will not be considered for grant funding.

Cash purchases will not be considered for grant payment.

Items purchased with credit cards are eligible but applicant will need to demonstrate that the amount on the credit card bill associated to the item(s) in the grant application has been paid in full prior to grant claim.

Please give details of the sources of match funding below:

Specify source	e.g. savings, business account etc	Amount	Status - secured / applied for / to be applied for
Own			
Bank Loan			
Bank Overdraft			
Other Borrowings			
Other sources			

SECTION 3 – Licences and Permissions

Are you planning on installing items of equipment or furniture on land you own?

Yes/no (delete as appropriate)

If yes, please provide copies of the necessary permissions to allow approval from landowners or licensees. In the event that these are required, applications will need to be submitted in advance of any payments being made.

Management Plan

As per the terms of the grant CCC reserve the right to monitor applicants at 1, 3 and 5 year intervals as requested by Welsh Government. Please detail below your management plan for the items purchased through the grant.

Branding

Please detail how any applicable items will align with the bilingual town centre branding.

SECTION 4 –BANK DETAILS *(required for grant payment)***Account Name:****Name and Address of Bank:****Bank Sort Code:**

- -

Bank Account Number:

- *I/we authorise the Council to make any enquiries necessary to verify any information needed to determine my application. The information provided in this application may also be shared with colleagues in other departments and business support organisations in order to assess the application.*
- I/we declare that all the information given on the form is correct, to the best of my knowledge, and that the giving of a false declaration may result in action by the Council against the signatory for recovery of the grant plus costs, charges and expenses relating thereto.
- I/we also confirm that I have full power and authority to act on behalf of the business/organisation that is making this application.

Signed**Print
Name****Position in
Company / Job
Title****Date**

Any information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence but may be stored on computer and is therefore subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998

Checklist for submission

Signed application form	
Copies of quotations *	
Management plan	
Licences / statutory approvals (where applicable)	
Site plan (if applicable)	

Please return this completed application form together with the relevant supporting information to:-

Email: businessfund@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

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Targeted Regeneration Investment - Covid 19 Recovery Fund

Introduction

Following Welsh Government's lifting of restrictions with regards to non-essential retail and leisure and hospitality businesses, a number of town centre based businesses across the county are facing the challenges of reopening and operating businesses within the limitations of revised government guidelines.

To support those primary town centre-based businesses across Carmarthenshire the Economic development team have been lobbying key external funders for support to assist with restart and recovery and has been advised that Welsh Government have approved a regional request from South West Wales Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI) group via lead body partner (Swansea) to allow the top slicing of TRI allocations for use in supporting town centre recovery. As part of that request Carmarthenshire has been advised that £75k funding can be top sliced to support each its 3 primary town centres (notional allocation of £25k per town).

Process

Guidelines and an application form for the fund have been developed and approved in conjunction with lead partner and Welsh Government. (guidance attached)

The key criteria is as follows:

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- Llanelli
- Ammanford
- Carmarthen

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Essential stakeholder engagement

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- Third party businesses

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It is proposed that any application and award will have to follow the standard procedures already in place for the TRI programme which will involve:

Submission of application and supporting documentation

Assessment by Economic Development Officer / Co-ordinator

Assessment by Economic development funding panel

Political approval (EBM leader)

Ratification Lead Partner

Issue of Offer letter

Considerations

From discussions with the lead partner it has been identified that each local authority can consider whether they wish to deliver directly themselves, award directly to businesses or whether they wish to support Town Centre Organisations such as BID Groups and or Town Council to produce co-ordinated support packages. Having discussed with stakeholders in respective towns each delivery option has its own advantages and disadvantages, however it is felt that to achieve the best value for money in relation to the available grant whilst ensuring local ownership/buy in/local management, timely delivery and providing the town with a co-ordinated intervention the preferred routes for delivery are as follows:

Carmarthen – Joint application developed between Carmarthen Town Council and Carmarthen BID

Llanelli – Joint application developed between Llanelli Town Council and Llanelli BID

Ammanford – Direct delivery application developed by Carmarthenshire County Council in conjunction with Ammanford town Council and task-force and submitted by either Carmarthenshire County Council or a combination of Carmarthenshire County Council and Ammanford town Council

Due to urgency of delivery post approval at Economic panel stage consideration needs to be given to whether or not to allow applicants at risk to proceed with project delivery whilst formal political approvals are sought.

Recommendations

1. To accept WG offer to top slice £75k of TRI funding allocation to deliver Recovery Fund in Primary Town centres
2. agree process and pro-formas to be utilised for delivery of fund as above
3. to agree preferred routes for delivery as highlighted under considerations
4. To allow applicants to proceed at their risk with project delivery whilst formal approvals sought
5. In the event of applications being required to be submitted directly by Carmarthenshire County Council agreeing to fund the required capital allocation in line with required intervention rate. Funding to be made available from Transformation Strategic Project Fund.

2nd September 2020

Executive Board Member:	Portfolio:
Cllr Emlyn Dole	Leader

TARGETED REGENERATION INITIATIVE TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY GRANTS

Recommendations / key decisions required:

To approve the projects submitted to the Targeted Regeneration Initiative Town Centre Recovery Grants

Reasons:

Please see detail noted below in the Executive Summary.

Directorate	Designation	E Mail Address:
Name of Head of Service:	Head of Regeneration	JaJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Jason Jones		
Report Author:	Economic Development Area Manager	MABull@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Mike Bull		

Declaration of Personal Interest (if any):**Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):****DECISION MADE:****Signed:**

DATE: _____

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

The following section will be completed by the Democratic Services Officer in attendance at the meeting

Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was not adopted:	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Board Member Leader

2nd September 2020

Targeted Regeneration Initiative Town Centre Recovery Grants

CARMARTHEN

Applicant : Carmarthen Town Council and Carmarthen BID

Project description: Carmarthen Town Council and Carmarthen BID have met with a number of businesses within Carmarthen town centre, and have identified an area within the Castle Concourse in Nott Square to assist with a number of hospitality businesses in trading whilst maintaining social distancing measures as a result of Covid 19. They have also identified some 'On Demand' stock, which can be utilised in other areas as and when required.

The following equipment has been identified within the application:

- **Picnic Tables w/ benches** - to increase outside seating capacity
- **Parasols** - to cover outside areas and enable use during inclement weather
- **Benches** – to increase outside seating capacity

Total Project Cost: £31,987

Grant request: £25,000

Match funding: £6,987

Recommendation:

Recommendation to grant award of £25,000 towards an eligible project cost of £31,250 on this project.

AMMANFORD

Applicant : Ammanford Town Council & Carmarthenshire County Council

Project description: Ammanford Town Council have engaged with businesses within Ammanford Town Centre. They have identified an area at the top end of the Arcade, which will assist with the food and drink businesses nearby. They have also identified businesses within Quay Street who would benefit from tables/ chairs and barriers to assist with outdoor seating to maintain social distancing.

The following equipment has been identified within the application:

- **Gazebos** – to enable businesses to extend outside seating and standing areas
- **Canopies** – to cover outside areas and enable use during inclement weather
- **Barriers** – to ensure outside seating areas are safely cordoned off
- **Benches** – to increase outside seating capacity
- **Tables and chairs** - to increase outside seating capacity

Total Project Cost: £31,250
Grant request: £25,000
Match funding: £6,250

Recommendation:

Recommendation to grant award of £25,000 towards an eligible project cost of £31,250 on this project.

Llanelli

Applicant : Ymlaen Llanelli and Llanelli Town Council

Project description: Ymlaen Llanelli and Llanelli Town Council have liaised with a number of hospitality businesses in Llanelli town centre which have identified a need for support to assist them in adhering to the social distancing measures put in place as a result of Covid 19.

The following equipment has been identified within the application:

- **Gazebos** – to enable businesses to extend outside seating and standing areas
- **Heaters** – to enable to ongoing use of outdoor spaces during colder weather
- **Canopies** – to cover outside areas and enable use during inclement weather
- **Barriers/windbreakers** – to ensure outside seating areas are safely cordoned off
- **Tables and chairs** - to increase outside seating capacity
- **Planters** – to ensure outside seating areas are safely cordoned off

Total Project Cost: £31,250
Grant request: £25,000
Match funding: £6,250

Recommendation:

Recommendation to grant award of £25,000 towards an eligible project cost of £31,250 on this project.

**DETAILED REPORT
ATTACHED?**

No

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Jason Jones

Head of Regeneration

Policy and Crime & Disorder NONE	Legal YES	Finance YES	ICT NONE	Risk Management Issues NONE	Organisational Development NONE	Physical Assets NONE
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1. Finance

The funding will come from the Targeted Regeneration Initiative Town Centre Recovery Grants.

2. Legal

The Targeted Regeneration Initiative is lead by Swansea City Council the following paragraph is included in the offer letter:

The provision of Funding is subject to compliance with State aid rules. Funding is payable under the *de minimis* exemption. Under this regulation an entity can receive public aid of no more than approx 200,000 euros over three financial years. As a pre-condition of the Funding, the Recipient must advise the Council if it has received public funding above this level in the relevant time period and provide such additional information as the Council requires. The Council reserves the right to withdraw the offer of Funding, or recover Funding from the Recipient at its sole discretion, for any breach of State aid rules.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Jason Jones

Head of Regeneration

(Please specify the outcomes of consultations undertaken where they arise against the following headings)

1.Scrutiny Committee N/A

2.Local Member(s) Local Member has been advised of the recommendation.

3.Community / Town Council N/A

4.Relevant Partners N/A

5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations N/A

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

None

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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR THE LEADER 2ND SEPTEMBER 2020

Executive Board Member:	Portfolio:
Cllr. Emlyn Dole	Executive Board Member Decisions Meeting for the Leader

Financial Assistance from the following grant funds: Welsh Church Fund

Recommendations / key decisions required:

Welsh Church Fund – Annex 1

1 Application – Total Value = £2,657.00

Total Number of Applications - 1 Total Value = £2,657.00

Reasons:

Development of Sustainable Communities within Carmarthenshire

Directorate Name of Head of Service: Helen L Morgan Report Author: Lorena Alvarez	Designations: Development Manager Regen & Policy Bureau Officer	Tel: 01267 242367 HLMorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk Tel: 01269 590216 LAlvarez@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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Declaration of Personal Interest (if any):

None

Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):

N/A

DECISION MADE:

Signed:

DATE: _____

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

The following section will be completed by the Democratic Services Officer in attendance at the meeting

Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was not adopted:	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR THE LEADER

2nd September 2020

**Financial Assistance from the following grant funds:
Welsh Church Fund**

To approve the following:

RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

Welsh Church Fund – Annex 1

1 Application – Total Value = £2,657.00

Total Number of Applications - 1 Total Value = £2,657.00

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed:

Head of

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Helen L Morgan

Development Manager Regeneration & Policy

1. Local Member(s) As per individual report
2. Community / Town Council As per individual report
3. Relevant Partners As per individual report
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations As per individual report

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Welsh Church Fund	WCF-20-04	County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

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Welsh Church Fund 2020-2021
Report Author: LAlvarez@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01269 590216
Balance Available: £67,798.71

Report Value: £2,657.00

1 of 1

Application Reference – WCF-20-04

Project Title	Treatment of damp and growth on West wall of church
Applicant	St Michael's & All Angels Church, Ammanford
Project Description	<p>St. Michaels and all Angels is a Victorian Church built in 1885 on land donated by Lord Dynevor to fulfil the need for a new place of worship at a time when the population in the town was increasing dramatically.</p> <p>St Michael's is a community parish church within the Church in Wales, and they have a responsibility to offer Church and community provision to every person in the geographical parish between Betws and Ammanford. They provide all services as well as community provision, which means they must make the building available to any groups who ask and to provide and support community initiatives such as sure start/ young families.</p> <p>They also want to start a 'social gathering' such as 'Saturday Cwtsh' that would allow older people who would be on their own at home all through the weekend a chance to come out for a social gathering.</p> <p>This funding request is for restoration work to remedy damp ingress causing staining of plasterwork and algae growth at the West and South – sides of the church which has badly stained the existing plaster work, which has triggered algae growth affecting the exposed ashlar stonework.</p>
Total Project Cost	£10,628.00 - Gross
Eligible Capital	£10,628.00 - Labour, materials, and scaffolding
Eligible Revenue	Nil
Ineligible Costs	Nil
Cllr and Officer Consultations Undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Deian Harries • Community Consultation survey form provided. • Minutes of PCC consultations and Diocesan applications provided

Ownership/ Lease	Church in Wales - Building registered with Representative Body of Church in Wales
Funding Package	£10,628.00
Value of Community Investment	£10,628.00
Amount of grant requested	£2,657.00 @ 25%
Value of Levered Funds	£7,971.00 £1,500.00 – Allchurches Trust secured £6,471.00 – Own funds secured
Economic Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals into training/education • Number of individuals into volunteering • Number of community groups/organisations assisted - 1 • Number of social enterprises created • Number of social enterprises supported • Number of jobs created • Number of jobs safeguarded • Public and private leverage funding - £7,971.00
Officer Comments	This has been a project in the pipe line for a long time, the group have taken time to find quotes that are good value for money and to secure match funding and this project would be ready to start immediately, with support from the Welsh Church fund.
Officer Recommendation	Award - £2,657.00
Subject to	

Agenda Item 7

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007.

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