

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR THE LEADER

WEDNESDAY, 2 September 2020

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

The following officers were in attendance:

M. Bull, Economic Development Area Manager;
L. Alvarez, Bureau Officer;
A. Nicholas, Rural Regeneration Officer;
M.S. Davies, Democratic Services Officer.

Virtual Meeting: 2.00 pm - 2.40 pm

1. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

2. DECISIONS RECORD - 5TH AUGUST 2020

RESOLVED that the decision record of the meeting held on the 5th August 2020 be signed as a correct record.

3. TARGETED REGENERATION INVESTMENT TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY FUND

The Executive Board Member considered a report on the Welsh Governments lifting some of its Covid-19 restrictions for non-essential retail and leisure and hospitality businesses, whereby a number of town centre businesses across the county were facing the challenges of reopening and operating businesses within the limitations of the revised government guidelines. In order to support those primary town centre businesses across Carmarthenshire the Welsh Government, following lobbying, had approved a regional request from the South West Wales Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI) Group, via the lead body partner (Swansea), to allow for the top slicing of TRI allocations to support town centre recovery. As part of that request, Carmarthenshire had been advised that £75k of its allocation could be top sliced to support each of the three primary town centres within the County (Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli) to receive a notional allocation of £25k per town.

The Executive Board Member thereupon considered the schemes parameters/guidelines and processes and how it would operate. If adopted, the preferred delivery routes to achieve the best value for money, whilst ensuring local ownership/buy in/local management, timely delivery and provided each of the towns with a co-ordinated intervention would be:

Carmarthen – A Joint Application developed between Carmarthen Town Council and Carmarthen Bid;

Llanelli - A Joint Application 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 to be submitted by either Carmarthenshire County Council or a combination of Carmarthenshire County Council and Ammanford Town Council.

It was reported that due to the urgency of delivery, post approval at Economic Panel Stage, consideration would need to be given to whether to allow applicants to proceed with project delivery whilst formal political approvals were sought

RESOLVED THAT

- 3.1 the Welsh Government's offer to top slice £75k of TRI funding allocation to deliver a Recovery Fund in Primary Town Centres be accepted;**
- 3.2 the proposed processes and pro-formas to be used for the delivery of the fund be agreed;**
- 3.3 the preferred routes for delivery be agreed;**
- 3.4 participants be allowed to proceed, at their risk, with project delivery whilst formal approvals were sought;**
- 3.5 In the event of applications being required to be submitted directly by Carmarthenshire County Council agreeing to fund required capital allocation in line with the required intervention rate, funding be made available from the Transformation Strategic Project Fund.**

4. TARGETED REGENERATION INITIATIVE TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY GRANTS

The Executive Board Member considered three applications for a Targeted Regeneration Initiative Town Centre Recovery Grant, as detailed within the report.

RESOLVED that the following applications for a Targeted Regeneration Initiative Town Centre Recovery Grant be approved subject to the usual terms and conditions and those specified in the report.

Applicant	Award
Carmarthen Town Council and Carmarthen Bid	£25,000.00
Ammanford Town Council & Carmarthenshire County Council	£25,000.00
Ymlaen Llanelli and Llanelli Town Council	£25,000.00

5. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE FOLLOWING GRANT FUNDS: WELSH CHURCH FUND

RESOLVED that the following application for assistance from the Welsh Church Fund be approved subject to the usual terms and conditions and those specified in the report.

Welsh Church Fund		
App. Ref	Applicant	Award

WCF-20-04	St Michael's & All Angels Church, Ammanford	£2,657.00
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6. REPORTS NOT FOR PUBLICATION

RESOLVED pursuant to The Local Government Act 1972 as, amended by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007 that the following items were not for publication as the reports contained exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

7. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE ARFOR PROGRAMME

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 6 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act).

The public interest test in this matter related to the fact that the report contained detailed information about the business and financial affairs and ambitions of the applicants. In this case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption under the 1972 Act in respect of this report outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information therein, as disclosure would be likely to place the person and businesses named in the report at an unfair disadvantage in relation to their commercial competitors.

The Executive Board Member considered applications received for assistance from the ARFOR fund.

RESOLVED that the following applications received for assistance from the ARFOR Fund be approved subject to the usual terms and conditions and those specified in the report:

ARFOR Programme Grant Fund		
App. Ref	Applicant	Award
AG4-02	TIQI	£20,000.00
AG4-03	Swper Box CIC	£15,126.60
AG4-06	Cegin Lean Kitchen Cyf	£8,892.00
AG4-07	Pitchfork and Provision	£20,000.00
AG4-08	Llaeth Derlwyn	£10,844.86
AG4-09	JK Lewis & Son	£11,828.39

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

DATE