

CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR HOMES & DEPUTY LEADER 27th October 2022

Cabinet Member:	Portfolio:
Cllr. Linda Davies Evans	Cabinet Member for Homes & Deputy Leader

POVERTY FUND

Purpose:

Cabinet Member considers and approves steps to support those facing poverty within the County via the establishment of a third-party grant.

Recommendations / key decisions required:

- Cabinet Member retrospectively approves the establishment of a Third-Party Grant to support those facing poverty. The fund will be administered by CCC Bureau team within Economic Development.
- Cabinet Member approves delegation to the Head of Regeneration to award funding of up to a maximum £10k per applicant

Reasons:

To support an increased number of people facing food poverty by providing financial support to enable local organisations to meet local needs.

Directorate Name of Head of Service:	Designation	Tel No. 01267 224124 E-mail: address: Jajones@carmartheshire.gov.uk
Jason Jones	Head of Regeneration	
Report Author: Rhian Phillips	E-mail Address: Economic Development Area Manager mrphillips@carmartheshire.gov.uk	

Declaration of Personal Interest (if any): None

Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):N/A

DECISION MADE:

Signed: _____ DATE: _____

CABINET 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
CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR HOMES & DEPUTY
LEADER
27th October 2022

POVERTY FUND

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT

As part of the Tackling Food Poverty and Addressing Food Insecurity EU Transition Fund, Carmarthenshire County Council was allocated a budget of £102,200 for financial year 21/22 (£45,591 of capital and £56,609 of revenue funding) by the WLGA to help tackle food poverty within the county.

Several projects were supported during 21/22, with a reserve balance of £48,236 (£21,295 capital and £26,941 revenue) that WG have confirmed can be utilised during financial year 22/23. We received an additional £27,120 from Welsh Government via its Direct Food Support Fund on the 6th October 2022.

In addition to this, £50,000 has been made available via Welsh Government's Discretionary Fund. It was agreed by Cabinet on the 3rd October 22 that this funding be utilised to enhance the Poverty fund. Subsequently a further £55,125 has been allocated via Welsh Government's Warm hubs initiative, bringing the total budget available to £180,481.

It is proposed that this funding is distributed through a Third-party grant, administered by the Bureau. The Third-party grant will be open to any constituted organisation which is seeking to support those that are facing poverty in Carmarthenshire. Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 will be made available.

The funding is available for initiatives that provide practical support to those on low incomes, and those living in poverty. Priority will be given to projects where there is no provision available locally.

The following are examples of eligible activities (this is not an exhaustive list):

Warm hubs/spaces – support for communities to establish warm hubs where individuals are provided with a welcoming, accessible, safe and warm environment to help reduce the cost of heating their own homes and to help people facing extreme fuel poverty this winter.

Development of community cafes – providing local residents of all ages an opportunity to meet and socialise, reducing social isolation.

Growing projects – Developing and strengthening food partnerships, providing skills for individuals to grow nutritious produce on a budget, eat healthily, save money and improve Well-being.

Social supermarkets/ community shops - reducing food waste by selling residual stock.

Fuel clubs – Creation of fuel syndicates to empower communities to buy oil in bulk and share the savings

Mobile cooking schools – Providing training and advice, improving peoples cooking skills in preparing nutritious meals on a budget.

The fund will be administered by the CCC central Bureau team via a Third-party grant process and will be open to ‘not for profit organisations’ that have an appropriate constitution.

All applications will be assessed by the Bureau funding panel. We request that delegated authority is given to the Head of Regeneration to approve all applications up to the maximum £10k.

Regular updates will be providing to cabinet member on progress

Activities supported via the fund will be promoted via the Authority’s website as well as via our third sector networks and Town and Community Councils.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	NO
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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	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy

The grant will support the County’s existing strategies and plans to support those facing poverty including the Corporate Strategy and Carmarthenshire Wellbeing Assessment.

The fund will also align with the 7 goals of the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act for Wales.

2. Finance

The support is fully funded, provided by WLGA and Welsh Government.

Balance available for 22/23 financial year £48,236 (Cap £21,295 and Revenue £26,941) plus an additional £50,000 from WG Discretionary grant as well as £27,120 from Welsh Government’s Direct Food Support scheme, £55,125 from Welsh Government’s Warm Hubs initiative, bringing the total budget to £180,481.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Jason Jones

Head of Regeneration

1. Scrutiny Committee N/A
2. Local Member(s) N/A
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:

THERE ARE NONE