

# CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR REGENERATION, LEISURE, CULTURE & TOURISM

11<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023

<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	<b>Portfolio:</b>
Cllr. Gareth John	Cabinet Member Decisions Meeting for Regeneration, Leisure, Culture & Tourism

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE FOLLOWING GRANT FUNDS: RURAL INNOVATION FUND

### Recommendations / key decisions required:

To consider 10 applications submitted under the Rural Innovation Fund, which forms part of the Rural Anchor within the Communities and Place intervention of Carmarthenshire's Shared Prosperity Fund.

The Rural Innovation Fund provides opportunity for third sector and public sector bodies to pilot and test new ways of working that provide innovative solutions to rural challenges.

In summary, 10 applications are considered for this meeting, of which 5 applications are recommended for approval, totalling £211,109.

### Reasons:

Development of sustainable, yet innovative solutions to address some of the economic, social and environmental challenges facing rural Carmarthenshire.

<b>Directorate</b> <b>Name of Head of Service:</b> Jason Jones	<b>Designations:</b> Head of Regeneration, Policy and ICT	<b>Tel: 01267 242367</b> <a href="mailto:JaJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">JaJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>
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**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 <b>subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:</b>	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was <b>not adopted:</b>	

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS MEETING FOR REGENERATION, LEISURE, CULTURE & TOURISM

11<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE FOLLOWING GRANT FUNDS: RURAL INNOVATION FUND

The Rural Innovation Fund provides opportunities for the third sector and public sector bodies to pilot and test new ways of working that provide innovative solutions to rural challenges.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

The purpose of this report is to consider applications that have been received as part of the first call for application under the Rural Innovation Fund, as part of the Shared Prosperity Fund.

It is recommended that 5 applications totalling £ 211,109 be approved and 5 applications not be considered for approval, as outlined below.

#### **SPF-RIF-05 The One Planet Centre**

Project title: Sustainability Support Champions' Training Programme  
Amount requested: £ 37,000

One Planet Centre, based in Llandovery offer consultancy, tools and training to assist individuals and organisations in becoming measurably more sustainable.

The project aims to train a sample (5) of local graduates to become experts in helping organisations transform into ecologically sustainable exemplars leading to the potential attainment of the One Planet Standard

Stages:

1. Recruitment
2. Training
3. Testing in a real-world environment
4. Employment.

A number of young people will be recruited and trained on a hybrid, part time basis in the principles of ecological footprint (EF) analysis and reduction as exemplified by The One Planet Standard.

#### **Recommendation:**

Approve grant of £ 37,000 based on a project expenditure of £ 37,000 due to innovative nature demonstrated in the application which is well aligned with the fund criteria.

### **SPF-RIF-07 CETMA**

Project title: Community Now/ Gymuned Nawr  
Amount requested: £ 43,079

CETMA (Community Engagement, Technology, Media & Arts) is a social enterprise that provides social engagement, training, health and well-being through the development of unique sustainable projects for individuals, organisations and businesses.

This project will help the community respond to life post covid and now the cost of living crisis by engaging with, collaborating with and empowering organisations, businesses and the people. By listening, we can give them the community they want now.

It is a partnership between the Community, organisations, villages/towns to:

1. connect the small communities together
2. promote local events and spaces,
3. promote local businesses and tourism opportunities.

Project activities will include: Project Launch; Stakeholder Meetings; Mapping exercise; Creation of a Community Events Directory; Grant fair; Deliver Community Training Workshop, Community Events and a Community Meeting Hwb.

#### **Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the application is not supported as does not align with the key criteria of the fund.

### **SPF-RIF-08 Actif Communities, Carmarthenshire County Council**

Project title: Developing a sustainable future for St Clears Leisure Centre  
Amount requested: £ 45,000

This project intends to respond to the desire of the Community, Elected members and Service to develop a new sustainable operating model for the leisure centre at St Clears, Carmarthenshire. There is a clear desire to find a sustainable co-created model for the centre to ensure its future, and ongoing place in the rural community around St Clears.

The project will fund further community consultation, free engagement events at the Leisure Centre and an officer to support the consultation and the wider project.

#### **Recommendation**

Approve grant of £ 45,000 based on a project expenditure of £ 45,000 due to innovative nature demonstrated in the application which is well aligned with the fund criteria.

### **SPF-RIF-09 Social Farms & Gardens**

Project title: Carmarthen Machinery Ring Pilot  
Amount requested: £ 44,571

Social Farms & Gardens is a UK wide charity supporting communities to farm, garden and grow together. The project will test, pilot and trial establishing a machinery ring that will focus on the needs of horticultural food enterprises in Carmarthenshire. It would aim to provide the opportunity for existing small-scale horticulture enterprises to scale-up from market gardening to field-scale production support existing farm enterprises not currently producing fruit and vegetable production to diversify their production without the risks associated with large investment.

A booking system for the machinery will be provided along with training on how to use the equipment safely.

### **Recommendation**

Approve grant of £ 44,571 based on a project expenditure of £ 44,571 due to innovative nature demonstrated in the application which is well aligned with the fund criteria.

### **SPF-RIF-10 Ynni Sir Gâr**

Project title: Bwrlwm

Amount requested: £ 39,950

The project aims to develop a pilot project to conceptualise and realise how Llandovery can become a vibrant, resilient and 'green' town - where electricity is generated and used locally/ The main outcome of Bwrlwm is to establish an Energy Local Club in the town, linking local renewable energy generators with local users, thereby ensuring a fairer cost for users and generators. The project will also support existing climate, energy and circular economy related projects (e.g. a proposed EV Community Car Club, the Repair Café, food growing initiatives, protection and enhancement of biodiversity and natural green spaces and the community orchard etc.), and support further ideas that have recently been discussed within the community (e.g. the creation of a coop owned, pop-up woollen mill and an electric bike club).

### **Recommendation**

Approve grant of £ 39,950 based on a project expenditure of £ 39,950 due to innovative nature demonstrated in the application which is well aligned with the fund criteria.

### **SPF-RIF-11 The Family Foundation**

Project title: Prosiect Embrace

Amount requested: £ 25,000

Prosiect Embrace will help organisation across 8 rural areas in Carmarthenshire (Garnant, Glanaman, Llandybie, Hendy, Llannon, Pontyberem, Llanfihangel -ar-Arth) to train key staff, trustees or volunteers within organisations and community groups to plan and map out their compliance processes in their organisations to identify new and innovative ways of working to be resilient and compliant. The training will include how to write Risk Assessments correctly in line with current guidance, help groups to understand their responsibilities for event Health & Safety and Fire Safety and what paperwork they need to complete along with helping them understand the new GDPR law and technicalities.

The project will run 100 sessions in a blended format offering from group and online training, webinars and surgeries and if requested 1to1.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the application is not supported as does not align with the key criteria of the fund.

### **SPF-RIF-12 Potential to Succeed CIC**

Project title: The INNOVATE & EVOLVE Project

Amount requested: £ 24,750

The INNOVATE & EVOLVE Pilot Project aims to provide 28 Community Groups /

Organisations / Social Enterprises (with up to 84 members (3 per group) attending 121 or small group training and implementation support) from Whitland, Llanboidy, St Clears with Llansteffan, Laugharne Township, Cenarth and Llangeler, Cynwyl Elfed, Abergwili and Llandeilo with up to 6hrs dedicated digit-tech training and implementation time via Tech Implementors helping them to efficiently and effectively; use and embed innovative, digital technologies and systems into their set-up, day to day running of their Group / Organisation.

The project will provide support with Max Tax Digital, Data & GDPR, Marketing and Digital Media. 28 Groups / Organisations will be supported.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the application is not supported as does not align with the key criteria of the fund.

### **SPF-RIF-14 Tetrim Teas Cyf.**

Project title: Tŷ Te Trimsaran Tea Hub

Amount requested: £ 44,588

There are three main components, brought together through the Tŷ Te (Tea House/Hub) project. These three components are:

1. Local Welsh language jobs for a local tea company. 50% funding is requested for three roles for one year: R&D Officer PT, Business and Community Development Officer FT and Community Officer PT (local support role).
2. Tŷ Te weekly club– this will be a weekly tea club based at Canolfan Plas y Sarn, through the medium of Welsh. A two-hour slot, once a week, Tŷ Te will be an opportunity for local people to receive support (primarily around health and well-being), with different advisors and speakers, linking in with the school, the Wellbeing Health Assessment Research Unit in Aberystwyth and other village groups.
3. Business development and continued research. This will involve social partnering and working closely with local growers and supply chains to develop partnership working that goes beyond pure commerce.

They also plan to develop new blends of health teas in the future where additional specialist staff will need to be employed.

### **Recommendation**

Approve grant of £ 39,950 based on a project expenditure of £ 44,588 due to innovative nature demonstrated in the application which is well aligned with the fund criteria.

### **SPF-RIF-15 Kidwelly Hub CIC**

Project title: The Pelican

Amount requested: £ 11,000

The Pelican, a prominent building located in the town centre of Kidwelly opposite the Town Square, requires regeneration. The aim is to transform the building into a vibrant space, offering accommodation, retail space, space for street food pop-ups with a dining area to help start-ups, and a space for culture.

Initially, funding is required for a feasibility study, relevant surveys and architectural plans.

The study will also include further public consultation with residents, businesses and other stakeholders to ensure the project meets the needs of the community and a long-term strategy, with all the plans needed to move forwards with its transformation.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the application is not supported as does not align with the key criteria of the fund and applicant be signposted to other funding opportunities more suited to the project activity.

**SPF-RIF-16 Trimsaran Community Council**

Project title: Regeneration of Trimsaran Miners Welfare Hall

Amount requested: £ 45,000

The Miners Welfare Hall is held in trust by the Community Council and has a charity status. The hall is very much in need of renovation. Prior commencing to a capital grant application, the Community Council believe that a full and comprehensive study is needed of the building in order to calculate costs, sustainability future use and risks. Project activities will be to explore, calculate and plan the future regeneration of the much loved Trimsaran Miners Welfare Hall in order to return it to its rightful place at the heart of the community.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the application is not supported as does not align with the key criteria of the fund and applicant be signposted to other funding opportunities more suited to the project activity.

**Total Number of Applications recommended for approval - 5    Total Value = £211,109**

**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 ICT

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

## Legal

The grant scheme terms and conditions of the grant have been approved by CCC legal team.

## Finance

In line with current policy, the finance department will undertake a financial assessment of proposed applicants over £25k. The funding requested will be provided from the Rural Innovation Fund as part of the UK government SPF programme.

# 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. Local Member(s)

## 2. Community / Town Council

## 3. Relevant Partners

**4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** Rural Innovation Fund and Sustainable Communities Fund Panel ( to include Regeneration Partnership Communities and Place Sub group members)

## 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
Rural Innovation Fund	SPF-RIF-05 SPF-RIF-07 SPF-RIF-08 SPF-RIF-09 SPF-RIF-10 SPF-RIF-11 SPF-RIF-12 SPF-RIF-14 SPF-RIF-15 SPF-RIF-16	County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP