

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014-2015

COUNCIL

29th OCTOBER 2014

AGENDA ITEM No.9

FUNDING PACKAGE FOR THE VIBRANT AND VIABLE PLACES PROGRAMME
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REPORT OF:
THE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND PLANNING

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1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To outline the funding package for the Vibrant and Viable Places Programme in the Pontypridd Settlement Area.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 To note the programme package, and the inclusion of the projects within the Council's Capital Programme

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 In March 2013, Welsh Government launched a new regeneration framework for Wales 'Vibrant and Viable Places' following public consultation launched in October 2012. A budget of £90 million to fund integrated regeneration programmes across Wales was later announced in May.

3.2 Welsh Government would consider one application from each local authority for just one settlement area and at the meeting of Cabinet on 22nd July 2013, the proposed settlement area of Pontypridd was approved and the submission of the Stage 1 application was endorsed.

3.3 Welsh Government announced the outcome of the Stage 1 applications on 4th September and of the 22 applications submitted to Welsh Government, 11 including Rhondda Cynon Taf were invited to proceed to the next stage. The

Stage 2 submission was subsequently endorsed at the meeting of Cabinet on 18th November 2013.

3.4 The Minister for Housing and Regeneration announced the outcome of Stage 2 applications on 31st January 2014 and Rhondda Cynon Taf received a notional allocation of £5.980 million, which was significantly less than the £14.949 million requested.

3.5 The Stage 2 application was subsequently revisited and revised following feedback received from Welsh Government and in June 2014 the Council received a funding approval from Welsh Government for the full allocation of £5.980 million.

4.0 PROGRAMME COSTS AND FUNDING

4.1 The programme consists of projects that are led by both the Council and Third Sector organisations.

4.2 The approved programme is as detailed below:

April 2014 - March 2017		
Vibrant & Viable Places	Other Funding	Total Project Cost
£5,980,000	£9,331,962	£15,311,962

4.3 The approved programme consists of the following projects:-

- Homes Above Retail Premises
- Homestep Plus
- Heat and Save Ponty
- Regenerating Lady Windsor Colliery
- The YM Centre of Creativity and Wellbeing
- Townscape Enhancement Programme

4.4 The Council's management costs are funded from the Vibrant and Viable Places allocation and are apportioned across the individual projects.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The £5.980 million funding approval from Welsh Government now allows the programme to proceed. The programme of regeneration projects will add value to the significant regeneration investment that has already taken place and will act as a catalyst for further regeneration activity in the area.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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Freestanding Matter

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