

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014-2015**

**COMMITTEE:  
COUNCIL**

**25<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

<b>Item No.8</b>
<b>Enabling Fund for Community Led Services</b>

**REPORT OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND FRONTLINE  
SERVICES**

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**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This report outlines a proposal to establish a Council Enabling Fund for Community Led Services.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

2.1 Agree an amount of £0.100M to be earmarked for the Fund; and

2.2 Agree the general purpose of the fund as detailed at Paragraph 4.

**3.0 BACKGROUND**

3.1 The Enabling Fund for Community Led Services is intended to support communities to come together and actively participate in delivering services.

3.2 The fund aims to support the outcomes and priorities of 'Delivering Change: a Single Integrated Plan for Rhondda Cynon Taf', specifically in terms of supporting the Local Service Board's vision that 'People in Rhondda Cynon Taf are safe, healthy and prosperous'.

3.3 The Fund will complement existing sources of funding, such as the Big Lottery's Community Asset Transfer Programme.

#### **4.0 PURPOSE OF THE FUND**

4.1 Financial support will be aimed at:

4.1.1 Proposals from community groups who are interested in developing and delivering projects which offer creative and sustainable solutions on how local services could be run differently and in doing so, contribute to the Council's Medium Term Financial planning budget saving requirements, either :

- in partnership or in collaboration with Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC;
- directly by them; or
- by members of their community.

4.1.2 Proposals that may or may not include the transfer and development of community based assets.

4.2 Applications will be considered from non profit distributing voluntary and community groups or companies for activities, services and facilities which benefit residents within Rhondda Cynon Taf.

4.3 Prospective projects will be subject to assessment against agreed criteria and funding awarded as appropriate in accordance with the Leader's Scheme of Delegation.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL**

5.1 The Council will earmark £0.100M to be made available for the fund. This will be allocated from the projected underspend position for the current financial year as reported to Cabinet Performance and Resources Committee on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014 (quarter 2) and the updated position due to be considered by Cabinet Performance and Resources Committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 (quarter 3).

5.2 There will be no maximum limit for applications but funding will usually be in the range of £1,000 to £10,000 although applications outside of these values will be considered in exceptional circumstances.

5.3 Successful applicants will be required to provide regular progress reports which include details of how the project is being progressed, implemented and the impact the project is having at a local level.

**6.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1 This report sets out proposals to establish an Enabling Fund for Community Based Services which will provide further support towards sustaining council services through alternative community based delivery models.

