



## RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

Key Decision ✓

**SUBJECT: 'RCT Together' Community Enabling Fund**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To approve further funding of £100,000 to the 'RCT Together' Community Enabling Fund in order to support community groups going through the asset and service transfer process.

In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended officer decision of the Director of Corporate Estates and Procurement.

**DELEGATED DECISION: (DATE) 1/3/17**

It was **AGREED**: that further funding of £100,000 is allocated to the Community Enabling Fund to aid and support community groups going through the 'RCT Together' community asset transfer process.

  
**Chief Officer Signature**

Cocw Artyeo  
**Print Name**

1/3/17  
**Date**

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution



**CONSULTATION**

Jaybosser

1/3/17

**CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE**

**DATE**

D Hanney

1/3/17

**CONSULTEE OFFICER SIGNATURE (if required)**

**DATE**

**CALL IN PROCEDURE RULES.**

**IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:**

YES  NO

**Reason for urgency:**.....

*If deemed urgent* - signature of Mayor or Deputy Mayor or Head of Paid Service confirming agreement that the proposed decision is reasonable in all the circumstances for it being treated as a matter of urgency, in accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rule 17.2:

.....  
**(Mayor)**

.....  
**(Dated)**

**NB - If this is a reconsidered decision then the decision Cannot be Called In and the decision will take effect from the date the decision is signed.**



FOR CABINET OFFICE USE ONLY

**PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES**

**PUBLICATION**

Publication on the Councils Website:- 01/03/17

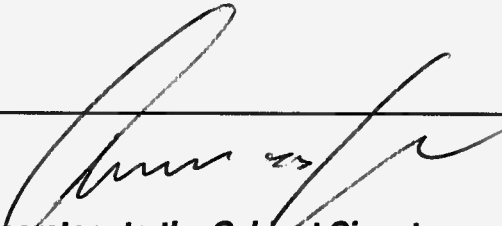
**DATE**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION**

**Note:** This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 5 clear working days after its publication to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

Subject to Call In the implementation date will be 09/03/17.

**DATE**



**Secretary to the Cabinet Signature**

CHRISTIAN S'S HANOGLAN  
**Print Name**

1/3/17  
**Date**



### Further Information

Directorate:	Chief Executive's Division - Regeneration and Planning
Contact Name:	Debbie Pike
Designation:	Enterprise Team Leader
Tel.No.	01443 495153

## **DELEGATED DECISION**

### **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

#### **REPORT TO ACCOMPANY A DECISION OF GROUP DIRECTOR, CORPORATE AND FRONTLINE SERVICES**

**DATE: 16<sup>TH</sup> February 2017**

**TITLE: 'RCT COMMUNITY ENABLING FUND'**

**AUTHOR(s):** Debra Hanney (Community Asset Development Officer), Debbie Pike (Team Leader Enterprise)

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended Officer decision of the Director of Corporate Estates and Procurement with a process to continue the successful grant scheme for community groups who are going through the 'RCT Together' approach, exploring alternative delivery models, that can sustain services and facilities for the future.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended:

- 2.1 In recognition of the good work achieved through the 'RCT Together Community Enabling Fund', further monies are allocated to the fund and will continue to be administered by the Regeneration and Planning Service under the same criteria as was adopted previously.

#### **3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Director of Corporate Estates and Procurement:

- 3.1 Agree a further amount of £100,000 to be earmarked from reserves for the fund.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The Community Enabling Fund was first allocated in March 2015 to support the Councils 'RCT Together' Community Asset Transfer process.



4.2 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 are safe, healthy and prosperous’.

4.3 The Fund will complement other existing sources of funding.

4.4 Since the launch of ‘RCT Together’, over 116 formal expressions of interest have been received from a variety of existing and newly established groups with proposals ranging from taking over small paddling pools to museums and day care centres. An active caseload of 60 cases is likely to result in further applications to the fund to support the asset transfer process.

4.5 To date the Fund has supported 13 organisations with investment of almost £95,000. A summary of the projects can be found at Appendix 1.

4.6 Currently there is one application under assessment and a further 4 proposals in development.

## **5. PURPOSE OF THE FUND**

5.1 Financial support will be aimed at;

5.1.1 Proposals from organisations 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 County Borough Council
- Directly by them; or
- By members of their community

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

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

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

## **6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required for this decision, as it applies to the general population i.e. anyone will have access to the fund.



## **7. CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Council has no legal duties to consult on this decision, but partner organisations have been consulted during Voluntary Liaison Steering group meetings in November 2016 and January 2017 and agree to the ongoing approach.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

8.1 The Council will earmark £100,000 to be made available for the fund, through available resources.

8.2 There will be no maximum limit for applications but funding will usually be in the range of £1000 to £10,000 although applications outside of these values will be considered in exceptional circumstances.

8.3 To ensure that the Fund has maximum impact, applicants are encouraged, in the first instance, to explore alternative sources of funding and, where possible, secure a match funding contribution towards the overall project cost.

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

## **9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

9.1 Advice has been sought from Legal Services and the Local Authority is able to establish such a fund with reference to:

- Section 111 Local Government Act 1972 – provides that a local authority shall have power to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any other functions.
- Section 2 Local Government Act 2000 – provides that every local authority in Wales have the power to do anything which they consider is likely to achieve any one or more of the following objects – (a) the promotion or improvement of the economic well-being of their area, (b) the promotion or improvement of the social well-being of their area, and (c) the promotion or improvement of the environmental well-being of their area. This power allows the Council to (a) incur expenditure, (b) give financial assistance to any person, (c) enter into arrangements or agreements with any person, (d) co-operate with, or facilitate or co-



ordinate the activities of, any person, (e) exercise on behalf of any person any functions of that person, and (f) provide staff, goods, services or accommodation to any person.

## **10. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ SIP.**

10.1 The 'RCT Together' approach is a key initiative of the Council and supports the principles set out in the Corporate Plan 2016-2020 by supporting communities to become more involved and resilient, building a sustainable county borough. It has strong links with Medium Term Service Planning and the Single Integrated Plan priorities to make Rhondda Cynon Taf a safe, healthy and prosperous place to live and work.

## **11. CONCLUSION**

11.1 This report sets out the proposal to replenish the existing Community Enabling Fund to support the ongoing demand by community voluntary groups who require funding to support their to deliver sustainable services in their communities.





**COMMUNITY ENABLING FUND - APPROVED PROJECTS**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Grant (£)</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Muni Arts Centre	10,000.00	Refurbishment and furnishing of public areas within the Muni Arts Centre.
Valleys Kids	10,000.00	Solicitor's fees, insurance, training and equipment to support the purchase of Penygraig Library and its development into a community resource.
Friends of Ferndale	10,000.00	IT equipment and furniture for the former Maerdy Library which has been developed into a community learning and resource centre.
Treherbert Regeneration Ltd	3,001.25	Insurance and solicitors fees to support the transfer of the Treherbert Community Education Centre and its redevelopment as a community hub.
Camau Cyntaf i Ddsgu	5,465.00	Architects, surveyors and design costs to establish feasibility of developing a childcare facility in Llantwit Fardre Sports Centre.
Too Good To Waste	9,450.00	Drawing up full building plans to support redevelopment of Treorchy Community Education Centre into a showroom, creating workshop, providing training and employment opportunities.
Beddau and Tynant Library	4,160.00	Installation of a heating system following the transfer of the Library to the Community Library Group. Part of a wider project which includes support from Welsh Church Act Fund and Trivallis.
Cynon Valley Museum Trust	10,000.00	Appointment of a Transition Consultant to support the Trust during the transfer of the Museum and Gallery. Part of a wider project which includes support from the Welsh Church Act Fund, Coalfields Regeneration Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund.
Autism Life Centre	10,000.00	Solicitors fees, insurance and fixed term running costs to support development of alternative delivery model for adults on autistic spectrum prior to potential transfer of asset.
Age Connects Morgannwg	6,930.00	Consultation costs associated with feasibility of enhancement of older peoples day services provision in Aberdare.
Taff Ely Foodbank	1,030.44	Proposal for insurance for vehicle being donated by RCT CBC via the Trussell Trust.
FeelGood Factory	4,584.99	Solicitor's fees and equipment to support the development of the former Penygawsi Day Nursery into the Feel Good Factory.
Cambrian Village Trust	10,000.00	Contribution to wider project to redevelop the car park at the entrance to Lakeside buildings, providing additional parking spaces, and a well lit, safe access to the facility. <b><i>This grant offer is subject to authorisation of the asset transfer.</i></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94,621.68</b>	



### ***Relevant Scrutiny Committee***

- Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Community

### ***Background Papers***

- None

### ***Contact Officer***

- Debbie Pike – Regeneration and Planning – Enterprise Team Leader (01443 495153)