



CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA
DINAS A SIR ABERTAWE

Councillor Robert Smith
 Vice-Chair
 Scrutiny Programme Committee
 City & County of Swansea

Please ask for:
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 WEVHD

24th February 2016

If you require this or any other information in another format e.g. Braille, audio tape or a different language, please contact me

Dear Councillor Smith

Re: Cabinet Member question session on the 11th January 2016

Thank you for your letter dated 10th February 2016, regarding the Cabinet Member question session held on 11th January 2016. I will outline below responses to your specific questions.

1) A list of Grow Local Grants awarded in the past 12 months, as well as information about any plans for the scheme for 2016/17;

This is a list of all the Grow Local grants awarded to date in 2015/16:

Ref	Description: Grow Local - Awards Apr 2015- Jan 2016 £20,000 Budget	£20,000
	Budget	
GL15-01	Clase Family Centre	600.00
GL15-02	HIPPO Hafod	2,750.00
GL15-03	Oaktree Playgroup	1,200.00
GL15-04	Clase Primary School	2,000.00
GL15-06	Walsingham Support	2,300.00
GL15-08	CHAPS (Gwalia)	550.00
	Total	9,400.00

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Ref	Deferred by Panel 01.12.15	
GL15-05	Mumbles Development Trust	1,000.00
GL15-07	Friends of Fairfield Allotments	2,568.00

The Grow Local Grants scheme will continue to run in 2016/17, supported by the Partnerships team in Poverty & Prevention.

2) Ensuring that local councillors are automatically informed of Grow Local grants awarded for schemes in their areas;

The panel met in December 2015 and awarded 6 grants whilst deferring 2 pending further information. Acceptance paper work must be received before payments are made and as a result these payments were not made until mid-January 2016. Both deferred applications are almost complete and awards will be made imminently. All associated ward Councillors will then be notified of the 8 approved schemes.

3) An update on progress towards setting up a social enterprise for a Community Cooking organisation as per the model in Liverpool.

Initial work to date:

- An assessment of the size and capacity of the social enterprise sector in Swansea
- Scoping the scale of food poverty in Swansea
- Meetings with key officers and local agencies regarding buy-in and resources
- Planning a Food Poverty Conference – to launch the CIC
- Obtaining all the forms and advice ready to register the Community Interest Company
- Identification of the Swansea Model, based on Liverpool's experience
- Development of an outline business case, discussions with senior officers

4) A more detailed breakdown of homelessness figures;

The figure of 63% of not homeless or prevented cases refers to cases where no homelessness duty was accepted by the Council. We aim to engage with households at risk of homelessness as early as possible in order to improve the possibility of attaining a successful outcome.

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Therefore, these cases had a solution to their housing need prior to them becoming homeless.

A typical and common example of a case in such circumstances may be a household living in rented accommodation with rent arrears. They may be at risk of losing their home but are not actually homeless at that time. The Council's approach is to intervene early, negotiate with the landlord and give advice to reduce arrears.

Where cases were either at risk of homelessness or actually homeless and the Council had a legal duty to provide advice and assistance / a duty to find a solution, the majority will have been assisted into alternative accommodation with either the Council, Registered Social Landlords or the Private Rented Sector.

For the cases who remained at home, we provided measures such as target hardening for cases of Domestic Abuse, Money Advice for those who were struggling with their rent/mortgage and negotiating with family and friends who were asking an applicant to leave their home.

'Target hardening' refers to work arranged at a property to assist someone to stay put in cases of domestic violence.

The Police advise on appropriate measures such as security locks and intruder alarms. Works are determined based on the circumstances of each particular case.

5) A list of what services / community assets have been transferred to date or in progress.

The Community Action Transformation Fund (CATF) has been created to support the delivery of the aims of the Community Action strand. In particular, funding will be aimed at proposals from community groups to:

- Develop proposals to run Council services locally and/or
- Facilitate the transfer of community assets.

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There have been three funding rounds, December 2014, March 2015 and September 2015:

- 17 Applications received in total
- 9 Applications approved to the amount of £171,300
- 8 Applications refused or deferred for further information

Round 1 December 2014

Group	Proposal Synopsis	Amount
Bonymaen RFC	East Side Academy For Sport The application is to fund a feasibility study for a proposed project entitled the 'East Side Academy for Sport'.	£20,000
Mumbles Community Association	Underhill Park Mumbles The City and County of Swansea Council has recently granted, subject to negotiation, a lease for 125 years on Underhill Park to Mumbles Community Association. The grant requested is based on the cost of setting up the organisation as a Charity, receiving Legal and Architectural advice, ensuring that the trustees and Management Committee are adequately prepared and have the resources to undertake the transfer, management	£19,985
Swansea Gymnastics Club	Re-establish Swansea Gymnastics Club in a non-council facility. The Club propose using the funds to pay for costs relating to the start-up costs in operating from a new premises, which would be entirely owned by the centre, without reliance on further Council support. These are listed under specific financial costs later in the application but include professional fees in entering into a new lease, allowing us to vacate the existing property. Removal costs of dismantling and transferring equipment, IT and office/café equipment	£24,931
Boys and Girls Club of Wales	Redevelopment of Swansea Boys Club Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales has a vision to redevelop the old Swansea Boys' Club site, situated at the top of Mayhill, and create a Community Hub which would rate as one of the finest in the country. The centre would be dedicated to serving the needs of the whole of the community, both locally and across the city, supporting equality and the fight against poverty.	£25,000
TOTAL		£79, 931

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Round 2 April 2015

Group	Proposal Synopsis	Amount
Mumbles Community Council	<p>Oystermouth Bowling Green</p> <p>Mumbles Community Council is applying for fees which will enable them to be granted a lease of not less than 25 years over the bowling green at Oystermouth with MCC then being responsible for maintaining the green and any associated buildings.</p> <p>C&CS currently maintain the green and building at their own expense of £10,000 per annum.</p>	£5,500
Friends of Dunvant Park	<p>Dunvant Park Pavilion</p> <p>The 'Friends of Dunvant Park' (FDP) was established in April 2014. The historic pavilion, located in the centre of the park is seen as key to the future development and improvement of the park. However, its use has become more and more restricted and it lacks some basic amenities and services. The purpose of the grant would be to fund a feasibility study to assess the condition of the pavilion and the viability of the FDP taking on its management.</p>	£7,524
Ospreys Rugby	<p>King George V Playing Fields Sport Facilities</p> <p>Swansea RFC, Swansea University and Ospreys Rugby have held preliminary discussions about the need for creating a range of sustainable sports facilities that will support the local authority in achieving its aim of Swansea becoming the 'City of sport', as well as utilising the power of sport and the 3 organisations to tackle key social objective such as poverty, obesity, healthy living, educational attainment and social inclusion.</p> <p>The projects aim is to Conduct a feasibility study into the opportunity to create a Joint Venture Company that will have the opportunity to create and operate a range of community sports facilities at King George V playing Fields</p>	£25,000
TOTAL		£38,024

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Round 3 September 2015

Group	Proposal Synopsis	Amount
Ynystawe Cricket and Football Club	<p>Ynystawe Park – Maintenance of Pitches</p> <p>The project is for the transfer of asset and responsibility for the Cricket and Football pitches at Ynystawe Park to the club.</p> <p>The grant will be utilised to purchase various items of machinery to enable the club to take over the maintenance and administration of facilities to a high standard for use by football and cricket clubs, schools and the wider local community.</p> <p>Estimated (by Applicant) saving to CCS: approximately £15,000 pa</p>	£23,070
Coed Bach Park Community Bowls Association	<p>Merger of Bowling Clubs</p> <p>The application is made by Coed Bach Park Community Bowls Association. The Association is recently formed to represent three lawn bowls clubs of long standing, who are based at Coed Bach Park, Pontarddulais, Swansea. The associated bowls clubs being Coed Bach Bowls Club (incorporating Merched Coed Bach Ladies), Graig Merthyr Bowls Club and Pontarddulais Bowls Club.</p>	£30,275
TOTAL		£53,345

I trust this provides you with the information requested.

Yours sincerely



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