

Report of the Chief Social Services Officer

External Funding Panel – 6 September 2017

WELSH GOVERNMENT SUBSTANCE MISUSE ACTION FUND CAPITAL FUNDING

Summary	
Purpose:	To inform Panel of the intention to apply for a new grant proposal
Policy Framework:	Social Service and Well-Being Act 2014
Consultation:	Legal, Finance, Adult Social Services
Recommendation(s):	That Panel notes the implications contained in this report and approves the acceptance of the Grant.
Report Author:	Rachel Evans
Finance Officer:	Chris Davies
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer:	Ann Williams

1 Introduction

- 1.1 For a number of years, the Council has acted as a grant recipient to enable partner organisations to receive capital funding from Welsh Government. These grants are known as SMAF funding.
- 1.2 These grants fund organisations that operate within the Substance Misuse Sector to improve and secure their facilities. This has consequential benefits to service users, staff and the wider community.

2 Proposal

- 2.1 A grant of £85,491.07 has been offered to enable WCADA (Welsh Centre for Action on Dependency and Addiction) to fund improvements in their IT infrastructure.
- 2.2 The organisation is currently experiencing significant service issues due to a reliance on antiquated infrastructure. The replacement of such equipment will enable a more speedy and reliable service and will provide associated administrative benefits to the organisation.

2.3 WCADA will fund the running costs of the equipment and there are no costs to the Authority in accepting this proposal, other than the administration of grant receipt and disbursement.

2.4 This proposal has been approved by the Area Planning Board.

2 Equality and Engagement Implications

2.1 Equality impact assessment is not required as this funding opportunity relates to capital replacement.

3 Financial Implications

3.1 The total value of the grant is £85,491.07. The grant period is between August 2017 and January 2018.

4 Legal Implications

4.1 Generally the terms attached to Grant Funding are legally binding and should be formally recorded in an appropriate document/contract with external delivery partners as required.

4.2 Procurement rules (both EU and the Council's) and state aid rules will have to be fully complied with in all respects in relation to services or the procurement of services from external delivery agents.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - EFP1

Appendix 1



The City & County of Swansea

EFP1 PRE-SUBMISSION - Notification of Funding Bid to External Funding Panel

Ref:

THE EFP1 APPLIES TO HARD COPY AND ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS

1. Scheme background and details - this is to inform the External Funding Panel of the intention to apply for a new grant proposal –

a. Awarding Body	Welsh Government
b. Name and purpose of Scheme/Programme (attach proposal brief in cabinet style report)	Substance Misuse Capital Grant for the purpose of: IT Equipment at WCADA WCADA (Head Office) 41 St James Crescent Uplands Swansea SA1 6DR
c. Grant value in Total £	£85,491.07
d. Grant period / timescale for delivery	August 2017 - 31 ST January 2018
e. CCS acting as Lead Body or Joint Sponsor? Name other Partners.	CCS acting as Grant Receiving Body for capital projects specific to Swansea services.
f. Detail links to existing schemes at Local, Regional or National level	An integrated alcohol and drug service, NEWiD Cymru operates across Western Bay. To support this integration, the Community Drug and Alcohol Team (CDAT) are co-located with staff in Swansea and Bridgend, and they also use our buildings in Neath, Port Talbot and Cymmer to meet with service users.
g. Detail direct links to Council Policy, including, where appropriate, target areas	The funding supports the delivery of the Sustainable Swansea Programme, with a focus on prevention.
h. List key target and proposed performance measures	
i. For EUROPEAN schemes confirm that the scheme has been developed in conjunction with the European Unit – Yes /No (<i>delete</i>)	Not applicable

j. Does this grant require a continuation of funding by the Council after the grant period has expired? <i>This includes current or additional staff costs.</i> Yes	No
k. Does the application require match-funding? Yes/No if it does where is this coming from?	No
l. Will the project entail the employment of additional staff and on what basis?	No
M. Have you completed an EIA (Equality Impact Assessment) Screening Form (please attach)?	Project Leads for the individual schemes will be expected to consider equality and engagement implications and carry out EIA processes.
N. Is a full EIA report required?	No

2. Please complete the following financial information:

	Current financial year £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Year 4 £	Year 5 £	Total £	Ongoing £
Total project cost:	<u>85,491.07</u>						
Capital							
Revenue							
Grant applied for:							
Capital	<u>85,491.07</u>						
Revenue							
Match Funding Internal							
Match Funding External							

3. Please complete the following:

a. Does the funding meet the Council's priorities?	<p>Yes – the funding supports the Council priorities of:</p> <p>Safeguarding vulnerable people Building sustainable communities</p>
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b. What are the expected outcomes and are they clear and achievable? (link to 1h)

Yes –the new IT equipment will improve the effective running of substance misuse services across the region. Current equipment is antiquated and impacts on the day-to-day operations. For example, service users' recovery interventions and progress are recorded on a case management system, due to the age of the IT equipment this can be a slow process. Through having more modern IT resources, this will reduce the administration time for staff and enhance the delivery of services that require IT equipment, e.g. group work, educational courses and training, and outreach to service users and their families.


The current Wide Area Network (WAN) server is almost 10 years old and is experiencing problems with it crashing as it is unable to cope with the workload. This is causing an increasing amount of downtime within the organisation. A new server will rectify this problem.

The Ubiquity Unifi network being proposed to purchase takes the form of cloud managed Wireless Access points to cover the whole of the building with fast Wi-Fi and cloud controlled switch-gear to run them. It will allow the organisation to create different Wi-Fi networks – an unrestricted one for staff so they can access the network and the internet and a guest network for service users and guest without access to the network/servers and if needed restricted internet access. It is monitored in the cloud so the managed IT support provider can proactively maintain it and ensure its secure at all times.

The purchase of portable hard drives will also support the work in the community, e.g. displays/presentations for community events are too large to be stored on a memory stick. Events such as these provide an opportunity to raise awareness about alcohol and drug use, misuse, addiction and recovery, and the support available.

c. Is there an exit plan? (link to 1j/l)	Costs associated with maintenance, insurance and running costs will be sustained by WCADA's grant funding and fundraising activities. WCADA have the appropriate level of insurance in place and an agreement in place for managed IT support with Red Tree IT (www.redtree-it.co.uk), a Cardiff-based business.
d. How is Value for Money being obtained? (procurement/ third party arrangements etc.)	As the estimated cost of this proposal is in excess of £25,000, in line with the SMAF Capital Guidance 2017-2018, a formal tendering process will be adhered to ensure Value for Money when purchasing the equipment.
e. What is the governance / management structure for the scheme? – What board/management team will it be reported to?	<p>The regional Area Planning Board has been established to provide strategic governance and commissioning across the regional footprint. WCADA is a commissioned service with an existing contract in place that falls within this arrangement.</p> <p>The proposal was submitted to the APB on the 27th April for approval. Minutes of the meeting are available to provide evidence of approval.</p> <p>There is a regional commissioning team in place who will be responsible for commission spend.</p>
f. What are the major risks and how will they be managed?	The main risk concerns deliverability of the capital schemes within the strict timescales of the funding being available (2017/18).

4. Authorisation

	Name / Signature	Date
Responsible Officer:	Rachel Evans	21/07/2017
(Principal)/Accountant: Christopher Davies		28/07/2017
External Funding Panel		
Endorsed /Not Endorsed		