

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 6TH DECEMBER, 2021

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 25TH OCTOBER, 2021

“C710 TRANSFORMING TOWNS: SUPPORT TO IMPROVE TOWN CENTRES (DL/ER) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The report presented an overview of the Welsh Government's Transforming Towns programme of investment for consideration.

The Transforming Towns Programme had been launched by Welsh Government in January 2020 to address the decline in town and city centres and the reduced demand for high street retail. The Council was prioritising its share of this programme of investment in the following town and district centre shopping areas (as defined in the Vale of Glamorgan Local Development Plan 2011 – 2026): High Street / Broad Street, Barry Town Centre; Holton Road, Barry Town Centre; Cowbridge Town Centre; Llantwit Major Town Centre; and Penarth Town Centre.

The report recommended the approval of delegated powers to finalise the Service Level Agreements for the Placemaking Grant 2021/22 and the Business Fund 2021/22 (Recommendations 2 and 3) and to authorise grants for third parties in Holton Road, Barry Town Centre (Recommendation 4). The report also recommended delegated powers to approve the use of the Placemaking Grant 2021/22 and the Business Fund 2021/22 (Recommendation 5).

Furthermore, the report recommended delegated powers (Recommendation 6) to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third parties for the purposes outlined in paragraphs 2.11 of the report; and delegated powers to appoint third-party suppliers / providers where required (Recommendations 7 and 8).

The Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration stated that the programme was ambitious and innovative with the Council having also been awarded a revenue grant for 2021/22 to part fund the preparation of a 20-year regeneration programme for Barry.

The Cabinet Member for Legal, Regulatory and Planning Services highlighted the ongoing work for Llantwit Major following some investment in the past few months. The Leader took the opportunity to confirm that the Council would be prioritising its share of the Transforming Towns programme of investments in the Town and District centre shopping areas as detailed in paragraph 2.1 of the report.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made in respect of the Transforming Towns programme of investment be noted.
- (2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Regeneration and Planning (in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration, the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services) to undertake all necessary actions to agree the terms of the Service Level Agreements for the Placemaking Grant 2021/22 and the Business Fund 2021/22.
- (3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to prepare, complete and execute the Service Level Agreements for the Placemaking Grant 2021/22 and the Business Fund 2021/22.
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Regeneration and Planning (in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration, the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services) to approve grants in Holton Road, Barry Town Centre as outlined in paragraph 2.5 of the report; and that delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third party grant applicants.
- (5) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Regeneration and Planning (in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration, the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer) to approve the use of the Placemaking Grant 2021/22 and the Business Fund 2021/22.
- (6) That delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third parties for the purposes outlined in paragraph 2.11 of the report.
- (7) That the Head of Regeneration and Planning (in consultation with the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services) be authorised to negotiate terms and conditions for the appointment of third-party suppliers / providers where required.
- (8) That the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services (in consultation with the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer) be authorised to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation to enable third-party suppliers / providers to be appointed where required.
- (9) That changes to the 2021/22 Capital Programme as outlined in paragraph 4.1 of the report be approved; and that changes to the revenue budget as outlined in paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3 of the report be approved.

(10) That the use of Article 14.14.2(ii) of the Council's Constitution (urgent decision procedure) be agreed in respect of the above resolutions.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(2&3) To obtain authority to enter into Service Level Agreements for the Placemaking Grant 2021/22 and the Business Fund 2021/22.

(4) To obtain authority to approve grants in Holton Road, Barry Town Centre as outlined in paragraph 2.5 of the report; and, to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third party grant applicants.

(5) To obtain authority to approve the use of the Placemaking Grant 2021/22 and the Business Fund 2021/22.

(6) To obtain authority to prepare, complete and execute the required legal documentation with third parties for the purposes outlined in in paragraph 2.11 of the report.

(7&8) To obtain authority to appoint of third-party suppliers / providers; and in doing so, contribute to the delivery of future investment and development opportunities in Vale of Glamorgan town centres.

(9) To obtain authority for the funding to be included within the 2021/22 Capital Programme and the revenue budget.

(10) The reporting of the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure is a requirement of the Council's Constitution."