

Meeting of:	Welsh Church Act Estate Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 11 September 2023
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Corporate Performance and Resources
Report Title:	Applications for Financial Assistance 2023/24 Tranche 2
Purpose of Report:	To consider applications for financial assistance funded from the Welsh Church Act Estate.
Report Owner:	Tom Bowring, Director of Corporate Resources
Responsible Officer:	Matt Bowmer Head of Finance/ Section 151 officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Not applicable
Policy Framework:	Not applicable
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A budget of £56,880 has been set for issuing grants during 2023/24. • An unallocated budget amount of £12,120 carried over from 2022/23 is also available for allocation during 2023/24. • The total grants budget for 2023/24 is now set at £69,000. • Grants allocated at Committee in June 2023 totalled £10,150. • A further award of £13,813 is recommended as part of this report. • A remaining sum of £45,037 is available for a third tranche. 	

Recommendations

1. That Committee considers and approves the applications for grant assistance as set out in Appendix A of this report.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. In furtherance of the objectives of the Trust.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Welsh Church Act Estate Committee has delegated authority to manage the trust's affairs in accordance with "The Scheme" the Welsh Church Act Estate as vested in the Council.
- 1.2 The purposes for which the Welsh Church Act fund may make grants is set out in summary at Appendix B to this report.
- 1.3 The applications received are set out in Appendix A to this report.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 The revenue outturn for 2022/23 and the projections for 2023/24 are included in Appendix C. Income projections for 2023/24 assume that investment and rental income will be broadly in line with income received in 2022/23 with a slight uplift to reflect the increased returns on investment income in the year to date. Expenditure includes provision for Member training, valuation, and asset maintenance costs.
- 2.2 The projections for 2023/24 make provision for grant allocations of £69,000 in 2023/24. This includes a sum of £12,120 which has been carried forward for grant allocation from 2022/23.
- 2.3 Tranche 1 of 2023/24 grant awards were approved by Committee in June 2023 as set out in the table below.

Organisation	Scheme	Sum Awarded
		£
Penarth Methodist Church	Community Centre Repair & Access Improvements	4,000.00
Forget-Me-Not Chorus	Community Taster Sessions	1,150.00
Croes Y Parc Chapel	Repairs to Boundary Wall	5,000.00
Total		10,150.00

2.4 Appendix A to this report sets out a summary of the application to be considered these awards total £13,813 are summarised in the table below.

Organisation	Scheme	Sum Recommended
		£
Penllyn Church	Additional Works following Fire Damage in Autumn 2022	5,000.00
St Peters Church	Quinquennial Urgent Repairs	5,000.00
St Philip Evans Catholic Church	Installation of High-Definition CCTV System	1,978.80
Cardiff Lions RFC LGBT+	Provision of Essential Bus Transport Services	1,833.75
Total		13,812.55

2.5 This leaves a sum of £45,037 to be allocated as part of a third tranche in January 2023.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

3.1 The Trusts actions need to comply with Charity Law and its decisions are independent of the Councils obligations under the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

4.1 All applications shall be considered for climate and nature implications prior to recommendation. Consideration will be made of inclusion of a question in the application form in future to allow applicants to demonstrate consideration of the impact of the scheme.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

5.1 The sum of £56,880 has been provided for grants in the Trust's revenue estimates for 2023/24. A further amount of £12,120 carried forward from 2022/23 is also available for allocation during 2023/24 giving a total sum of £69,000 available for grant awards during the year.

5.2 A sum of £10,150 was allocated as part of Tranche 1 for 2023/24 at the June 2023 Committee.

- 5.3** It is recommended that an allocation of £13,813 made for applications for grant assistance as set out at Appendix A to this report, which will leave a remaining balance of £45,037 to be allocated during the remainder of 2023/24.
- 5.4** The Welsh Church Act Fund retains an unrestricted fund to fund unforeseen costs associated with the maintenance of its investment properties at 31st August 2023 this fund stood at £130,880.

Employment

- 5.5** There are no direct employment implications arising from this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.6** There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6. Background Papers

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2023-2024

WELSH CHURCH ACTS

Tranche 2

Committee Date 11th September 2023

APPENDIX A

ITEM NO	NAME OF ORGANISATION (Date of original application)	SPECIFIC PURPOSE FOR WHICH GRANT REQUESTED	CLASSIFICATION OF CLAIM	AMOUNT REQUESTED	GRANT RECOMMENDED	COMMENTS
New Applications						
1	Pennilyn Church, Pennilyn	Additional Works following Fire Damage in the Autumn of 2022 (actual fire damage covered by insurance). South nave floor to be replaced and lowered to improve disabled access. Installation of LED lighting. Repair work to north east corner chancel to combat water ingress and repair work to cracking external north east wall of vestry. Recommended by The Vale of Glamorgan Council	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	Total additional works project cost £54,490. Funded by Simon Gibson Charitable Trust Grant £22,000 (approved), James Gibson Charitable Trust grant £2,000 (approved), grant from the Church Representative Body £3,000 (in progress), Own funds £19,000 and £5,000 WCA (this application). The remaining £3,490 to be raised through fund raising. Tender Report from Caroe Partners Architects containing 2 quotations from David Siggery & Anthony A Davies for all work including the fire damage. Bank Statement and 2021/2022 accountants submitted in application. Constitution is Church in Wales.
2	St Peters Church, Dinas Powys	Quinquennial Urgent Repairs. Vestry roof investigative repairs allowing a greater understanding of construction to enable work to be planned to the wider roof structure which is nearing the end of its life, repairs to coping stones and chimney stacks, repointing and other misc stonework, rainwater goods and repairs/decorations, east window tracery repairs, remove and replace snowboards and repairs to saddlebars and blown stonework caused by rusting ironwork on window surrounds. Recommended by The Vale of Glamorgan Council	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	Total Project Cost £59,685.72. Funded by National Church Trust grant £10,000 (in progress), Diocesan Repair Fund grant £3,000 (approved), Heritage Fund (National Lottery) £10,000(in progress), Benefact Trust grant £10,000 (in progress) Garfield Weston grant £5,000 (in progress), Welsh Church Act Grant £5,000 (this application) and match funding £15,000 (already raised). Quinquennial Inspection Report by Amanda Needham RIBA, Schedule of Works from Volute Architects (accepted tender), other tenders received from David Siggery Ltd, Mike Mather, Spilitarth Limited and Taliesin Conservation. Statement of Significance also included. Current bank statement provided. Copy of National Church Trust grant application present. Church in Wales policies apply re the Constitution and Equal Opportunities. Award in principal pending the outcome of other grant applications.
3	St Philip Evans Catholic Church, Cardiff	Creating a Safer Space for Communities in Llanedeyrn, Pentwyn & Pontprennau. Funding is requested for the installation of a High-Definition CCTV System to combat anti social behaviour. The new system will be connected to the site's internet connection and will allow areas outside the buildings to be viewed on a variety of connected devices. In total, six cameras will be installed covering our front entrance/benches area, front driveway, rear car park and the rear of our building. This is where the majority of the anti-social activity takes place. Recommended by Cardiff Council	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£1,978.80	£1,978.80	Total Project Cost £2,638.80. Funded by Welsh Church Act Grant £1,978.80 (this application) and £660 Parish Reserves. Bank statement provided showing funds available. Quotes from Sonic Alarm Systems, Electrical Plus UK Ltd and SGD Group included in application. Letter of Support from the Archbishop of Cardiff also attached together with the Constitution of .Archdiocese of Cardiff .
4	Cardiff Lions RFC LGBT+	Essential Bus Transport Services. Funding is sought to facilitate Cardiff Lions RFC LGBT+ members to attend rugby matches across different locations. The project aims to ensure equal access and active participation for diverse team members, regardless of their individual transportation limitations. By providing reliable transportation, the organisation aims to eliminate the barriers that some members face in reaching away matches, fostering their engagement and camaraderie within the team. This project aligns with the organisations commitment to promote diversity and acceptance in sports, resulting in a more cohesive and empowered rugby team that is poised to achieve its best on and off the field. Recommended by Cardiff Council	Other Organisations	£1,833.75	£1,833.75	Total Project Cost £2,445.00. Funded by Welsh Church Act Grant £1,883.75 (this application) and £611.25 contribution from members. on days buses are required. Quote from Wheadon Coaches supplied, waiting upon second quote. Constitution, Financial Statement for year ended 2022/2023 and bank statement all included in application. Award in principle until second quote is provided.
Total Requested / Recommended				£13,812.55	£13,812.55	

Vale of Glamorgan

WELSH CHURCH ACT FUND

The Charitable purposes for which the fund may be applied.

Set out below is a **summary only** of the purposes for which the Fund may be applied:

- (i) **Educational** - Provision of benefits not readily available from other sources, and recreation, social and physical training facilities, at educational establishments, not normally provided by the LEA.
- (ii) **Relief in sickness** - Assistance to persons who are sick, convalescent, disabled, handicapped or infirm, where such assistance is not readily available from other sources.
- (iii) **Relief in need** - Assistance generally or to individuals in need, hardship or distress.
- (iv) **Libraries, museums, art galleries etc.** – Advancing the appreciation of Welsh arts and literature in general.
- (v) **Social and recreational facilities in general.**
- (vi) **Protection of historic buildings etc.** – Promotion of interest in Welsh architecture, history and science in general, for the benefit of Welsh people.
- (vii) **Medical and social research, treatment in general etc.**- Preservation and protection of the physical and mental health of society in general. Provision of nurseries, convalescent homes and hostels
- (viii) **Probation etc.** - Assistance to persons on probation or the families thereof.
- (ix) **Blind persons** - Provision of welfare including accommodation.
- (x) **Aged persons** - Provision of accommodation.
- (xi) **Places of worship and burial grounds** – Restoration and maintenance.
- (xii) **Emergencies or disasters** - Directly assisting persons in need.
- (xiii) **Other charitable purposes** – Contributions to charitable organisations not inconsistent with the purposes of the trust.

WELSH CHURCH ACTS

APPENDIX C

Revenue Estimates 2023/24

	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2023/24</u>
	As per Accounts	to 30/08/2023	Full Year
	Actual	Actual	Estimate
	£	£	£
Income			
Property Rents (73600)	11,305	0	10,000
Lease Income	7,625	10,917	7,625
Dividends			
Projected Investment Income	36,073	7,816	45,000
Interest - VoG on £100,000	2,238	0	2,200
Total Income	57,241	18,733	64,825
Expenditure			
Training Expenses	175	0	200
Court and Legal Fees	585	0	2,000
Valuation and Planning	350	0	1,235
Other premises costs e.g. Grounds Maintenance	1,962	0	2,510
Audit Fees	1,617	0	2,000
Grants	33,130	10,000	69,000
Total Expenditure	37,819	10,000	76,945
Total (Surplus)/Deficit for the year	-19,422	-8,733	12,120
Carried forward from Prev Grant allocation		-12,120	-12,120
Total Contribution (from)/to Reserves	19,422	0	0
Adjusted Total	0	-20,853	0

56,880

	Total
Grant Allocation 2022/23	45,250
Awarded at Committee 20/06/2022	-24,840
Awarded at Committee 10/10/2022	-10,000
St Dochdwy, Penarth (Claim withdrawn - Private Funding)	1,710
Balance remaining to be bfwd into 2023/24	12,120
Grant funds available:	Total
Grant Allocation 2023/24	69,000
Recommended Tranche 1	-10,150
Recommended Tranche 2 11th September 2023	-13,813 As shown in Appendix A
Balance remaining to allocate in year	45,037
Reserve Projection	Total
Opening Reserve 2023/24	143,000
Carried forward from Prev Grant allocation	-12,120
Projected Balance 31st March 2024	130,880