

# Public Document Pack



Neuadd y Sir / County Hall, Llandrindod, Powys, LD1 5LG

Os yn galw gofynnwch am - If calling please ask for  
Stephen Boyd

Ffôn / Tel: 01597 826374

Ffôn Symudol / Mobile:

Llythyru Electronig / E-mail: [steve.boyd@powys.gov.uk](mailto:steve.boyd@powys.gov.uk)

## CABINET

Tuesday, 15th June, 2021

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The use of Welsh by participants is welcomed. If you wish to use Welsh please inform us by noon, two working days before the meeting

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## S U P P L E M E N T A R Y P A C K

1.	<b>BIODIVERSITY AND RESILIENCE OF ECOSYSTEMS DUTY, SECTION 6 OF THE ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2016</b>
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To consider a report by County Councillor Heulwen Hulme, Portfolio Holder for Environment.

(Pages 3 - 6)

2.	<b>COVID RECOVERY FUND PROPOSALS</b>
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To consider a report by County Councillor Iain Macintosh, Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning & Economic Regeneration.

(Pages 7 - 32)

3.	<b>HEART OF WALES PROPERTY SERVICES</b>
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To consider the confidential report.

(Pages 33 - 38)

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**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.****CABINET EXECUTIVE**15<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Heulwen Hulme  
Portfolio Holder for Environment

**REPORT TITLE:** Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems duty, Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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**1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to put forward an approach to the Council meeting its duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 for consideration.

**2. Background**

2.1 Under section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Powys County Council (as a public authority) must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of its functions, and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.

2.2 To demonstrate compliance with these duties, the Council must publish two key documents; these are:

- A plan, setting out what the Council proposes to do to comply with these duties (the 'Section 6 plan'); and
- A report, setting out what the Council has done to comply with the duties under section 6 (the 'Section 6 report.'). The Section 6 report was completed by the end of December 2019; it must be updated and republished every three years thereafter. It was intended to bring the plan to Cabinet in the spring of 2020 but this has been delayed due to the pandemic.

2.3 A Section 6 report for Powys was prepared before the end of December 2019; it formed a baseline for subsequent reports and the Section 6 plan. The 2019 report reflects the position at that time; it does not include developments since then.

2.4 The section 6 plan does not need to be a document in its own right; it can be incorporated into existing Corporate reporting mechanisms. However, the individual actions that are being taken to maintain or enhance biodiversity need to be discrete and identifiable. This will allow for progress to be monitored and the information to be submitted to the Welsh

Government. The information will also be used to prepare the next section 6 report, which is due by the end of 2022.

### **3. Advice**

- 3.1 It is proposed that the contents of the Section 6 report (appendix A), be accepted as reflecting the position at that time in terms of the actions taken to maintain or enhance biodiversity. If accepted, a summary of the report can then be published on the Council website, to be accessible for the public. That will complete the actions required to meet the Council's duty to prepare a Section 6 report by the end of 2019.
- 3.2 It is proposed that rather than producing a separate document, the Section 6 plan be incorporated into the Council's Corporate Improvement Plan. This would be achieved by compiling a list of the activities being carried out by individual Services to maintain or enhance biodiversity. These would be captured as measures for 2022-23 and onwards, linked to an overarching biodiversity objective in the Corporate reporting programme.
- 3.3 The reason for proposing this approach is that it would allow the Section 6 plan to evolve each year, as opportunities arise and the situation changes. Most importantly, it better demonstrates the embedding of biodiversity consideration within the Council's functions; an approach welcomed by the Welsh Government, which has prioritised mainstreaming of the s6 duty in its Nature Recovery Action Plan 2020-21 (NRAP). The Section 6 report does include commentary on future actions as well as reflecting on those already taken and is reviewed every three years. As such, it is proposed that the Section 6 plan need not be a separate document.
- 3.4 Reporting against these measures will demonstrate the way in which the Council is meeting its duties to maintain and enhance biodiversity. In addition, the activities will deliver against the Powys Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) (previously the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan). Delivery of local NRAPs by Local Nature Partnerships (LNP) is a significant means of securing the objectives of the Wales NRAP. The NRAP for Powys is being finalised by the Powys Nature Partnership through the LNP Cymru project. It will reflect the actions being taken by a range of organisations and individuals across Powys to enhance biodiversity; as such, it is broader than the Section 6 duty, which relates to public authorities only.

### **4. Resource Implications**

- 4.1 Consultation with individual Services will be needed to compile a set of measures, reflecting the activities that will be carried out in 2022-23 to maintain or enhance biodiversity. This will require specialist officer time; as it will contribute to developing the Powys NRAP, it is proposed that the task be carried out by the Biodiversity officer. This post is externally grant funded, so this element of the work will be cost neutral to the Council.

- 4.2 In subsequent years, each Service will need to update their measures as part of the Integrated Business Plan process, using existing resource.
- 4.3 Implementing new activities to maintain or enhance biodiversity will have resource implications. However, it is anticipated that many of these activities will be delivered through grant funded programmes such as the Local Places for Nature funding, so any up-front costs will be met without placing additional demands on core Council budgets.
- 4.4 When planning grant funded enhancements, long term sustainability must be integrated in the proposal. Individuals or organisations in the community may be able to assist with maintaining assets or continuing any processes developed; for example, trained volunteers may be able to assist with ongoing survey work or look after a sensory garden.
- 4.5 In other cases, maintenance will need to be incorporated into ongoing Service work. Some activities to maintain or enhance biodiversity may result in a change to the 'business as usual' approach. An example of this would be the change to roadside verge cutting regimes to create Road Verge Nature Reserves. The resource impacts will depend on individual projects; however, it is not anticipated that Services will commit to enhancements that cannot be maintained through core revenue budgets and staff.
- 4.6 The Head of Finance (Section 151 officer) notes the content of the report, section 4 above states that Services should be able to implement new activities to maintain or enhance biodiversity from within existing resources or through specific grant funding, on this basis the recommendations can be supported.

## **5. Legal implications**

- 5.1 The Council has a statutory duty to prepare a section 6 report and plan and to report against the way in which it is meeting its responsibility to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of its functions. Adopting the proposed approach, as set out in points 3.1 and 3.2 above would address that legal requirement.
- 5.2 Legal Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and note that the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 places a statutory duty on the Council to publish a plan setting out what it proposes to do to maintain and enhance biodiversity and thereby promote the resilience of ecosystems. Legal Services therefore support the recommendations of this report.
- 5.3 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services ( Monitoring Officer ) has commented as follows: "I note the legal comments and have nothing to add to the report".

## **6. Data Protection**

6.1 The Section 6 plan, report and the measures and objectives in the Corporate Improvement Plan reflect the activities carried out by Services to enhance the quality of the environment. No information about individuals is included; as such, the proposal as set out in points 3.1 and 3.2 above does not require the processing of personal data.

## **7. Comment from local member(s)**

7.1 Not applicable - this report reflects an approach to monitoring and reporting on county wide activities to meet a legal duty. It is expected that Local Members would have opportunity to comment on individual schemes to maintain or enhance biodiversity in their Ward, as they arise.

## **8. Integrated Impact Assessment**

8.1 An Impact assessment is attached.

## **9. Recommendation**

It is recommended that:

9.1 The contents of the Section 6 report (appendix A), be accepted as reflecting the position at that time (December 2019) in terms of the actions taken to maintain or enhance biodiversity; and

9.2 The Section 6 plan be incorporated into the Council's Corporate Improvement Plan. This would be achieved by compiling a list of the activities being carried out by individual Services to maintain or enhance biodiversity. These would be captured as measures for 2022-23 and onwards, linked to an overarching biodiversity objective in the Corporate reporting programme.

9.3 The Section 6 report be reviewed in 2022.

## **10. Appendices:**

Appendix A – Section 6 report, prepared in 2019.

Contact Officer:	Sian Barnes
Tel:	01597 827595
Email:	sian.barnes@powys.gov.uk
Head of Service:	Matt Perry
Corporate Director:	Nigel Brinn

## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

## CABINET EXECUTIVE

15<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Iain Macintosh  
Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning & Economic  
Regeneration

**REPORT TITLE:** Covid Recovery Fund Proposals

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**REPORT FOR:** Decision

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**1. Purpose**

1.1 To outline proposed criteria for the Council's Covid Recovery Fund.

**2. Background**

2.1 As part of budget setting for 2021-22, Cabinet announced the creation of a specific reserve fund to help support council and community services recover from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The fund will be used over two financial years to deliver a programme designed to deliver county-wide support and complement existing and planned Welsh Government recovery activities. The allocation of £1.8million to set up the fund was approved by Council at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Initial proposals for the Covid recovery programme were considered by Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

2.2 The programme has two key themes: i. Community and ii. Economy & Environment.

**3. Advice**

**Theme 1 Community – Year 1 (2021/22) £400k**

3.1 Covid Community Recovery Grant Fund £300k

3.2 The Powys Covid Community Recovery Grant fund will aim to help community groups, charities, social enterprises, and voluntary organisations support people and communities to respond to the challenges presented by COVID-19. This has an indicative allocation of £300,000 for 2021-22 which includes £100,000 from the Council's existing Community Grant Fund.

- 3.3 The proposed grant criteria and application process for the Covid Community Recovery Grant Fund are provided in Appendix 1. The key objectives of the scheme are:
- To support organisations that need to adapt and change to find new ways of operating due to the Covid crisis.
  - To ensure that safe, resilient, and sustainable practises are introduced to allow continued and enhanced community activities and services to take place.
  - To develop and implement new services and activities, or the extension of existing projects that have been adversely affected by Covid, that benefit people in their local community.
  - To encourage healthier living and wellbeing, enhance the provision of local facilities, activities and community services that have been adversely affected by Covid.
  - To encourage communities to have an active role in the design and delivery of the services they need.
- 3.4 The fund aims to be flexible to support recovery and will be allocated where organisations can demonstrate a required need and where clear benefits and outcomes can be achieved. It will be open to:
- Registered charities
  - Community groups
  - Not for profit / social enterprises
  - Voluntary organisations
  - Community interest companies
  - Arts and cultural organisations
  - Town or Community Councils where they are acting as sole trustee for a Village/Community Hall or other community facility.
- 3.5 Grants will be offered up to an 80% intervention rate for capital and/or revenue expenditure. This is to encourage added value to the Council's investment however, recognising that some organisations may struggle financially, match funding can be either as cash contributions or as staff/volunteer time in kind. Grants will be available up to a maximum of £20,000 and will need to be spent over a maximum period of up to 12 months:
- Up to £5,000 grant for small projects.
  - Up to £10,000 grant for local projects, meeting local need.
  - Up to £20,000 grant will be considered however the council expects organisations to be able to clearly demonstrate that a wider geographical coverage and range of beneficiaries will be supported.
- 3.6 Organisations will apply through the Powys County Council website by completing an online application form (Appendix 2 – Application Form). Applications will be considered at regular intervals as set out in the guidance and scored against the following criteria which will be given equal weighting:
- Contribution to covid recovery

- Community benefits
- Scheme outputs / outcomes
- Value for money

Applications and officer recommendations for the award of grants will be considered by a Covid Community Recovery Grant Panel consisting of appointed Cabinet Members.

### 3.7 Public Convenience Support £100k

- 3.8 Funding of £100,000 is proposed to support community organisations running public conveniences in Powys. In recognition of the additional costs that COVID has introduced to those community groups running public conveniences, it is proposed to award an equitable sum of £1,785 to each group. There are currently 56 eligible organisations expected to receive grant support.

## **Theme 2 Economy and Environment – Year 1 (2021/22) £600k**

### 3.9 Business Recovery Support – 3 Officers grade 7 - £120k

- 3.10 The first proposal under the Economy and Environment theme is to fund three new Business Recovery Support Officers to help the local economy and businesses get back on their feet. These will be fixed term posts for 2 years. Contract will be issued for 12 months and will then be reviewed and extended as appropriate. The posts will: -
- Provide additional and dedicated officer resource to help ensure our businesses and communities receive specialist support and make full use of the recovery schemes available to them.
  - Assist the effective implementation and delivery of the Council's Covid Recovery Programme and wider support to help businesses and communities recover from the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - Assist the delivery and promotion of Council services and projects supporting the recovery of the Powys economy and its communities.
  - Help maximise the take up of external support and funding available to businesses and communities.

### 3.11 Highways Recovery Fund £340k

- 3.12 The second proposal will look to invest in our essential road network. The repair of potholes and preventing them from forming is an important element to improve the condition of roads for all users. Well maintained highways not only improve local productivity but also the environment and makes cycling, horse riding and walking more attractive. This additional funding will provide further support and facilitate the hire of an additional 'Jet Patcher' for circa six months to target priorities across the network. This funding will fix in region of 2500 potholes. (This is on top of the additional revenue funding of £250k 2020/21 and the HAMP investment of circa £10m 2021/22.)

### 3.13 Financial Recovery Support - £40k

3.14 The third proposal will be to strengthen the Council's existing Money and Advice Team in order to help our local residents get back on their feet. This funding will allow for an enhanced Income and Awards Support Team by providing an additional dedicated Covid support officer.

3.15 The Income and Awards Money Advice team provide a holistic service to residents of Powys around income maximisation, debt advice, budgeting and fuel support. They support customers towards better financial health and last year supported 568 residents with £2m of income gains. Over the next 18 months or so we will see potentially more people losing their way financially as COVID support schemes come to an end. Using this fund to put in place an extra officer will help support this work, delivering financial support to those residents most in need. Each officer post brings in about £500k of income and support gains for customers each year.

### 3.16 Council Services and Project Specific Support £100k

3.17 The final proposal will help support all of our vital frontline services recover from the impact of the pandemic by providing additional funding to support small scale, recovery specific initiatives and activities which focus on strengthening organisational resilience that will provide for progressive and sustainable service delivery.

3.18 Examples could include: Library provision, arts and culture recovery, human resources, occupational health support for staff, care home support / development, pupil support initiatives. A proforma has been prepared for services to submit proposals under the fund (Appendix 3).

## 4. Resource Implications

4.1 Funding of £1.8m has been approved for the Council's Covid Recovery Fund and will be held in a specific reserve. This will be supplemented by £100k pa from the Council's existing Community Grant Fund taking the total sum available to £2m which will be drawn down over the next two financial years.

4.2 The Covid Recovery Fund has been developed to maximise the uptake of grant funding within Powys for our businesses, communities and third sector organisations. Any further grant funding secured from Welsh Government or other sources will be in addition to this Fund.

4.3 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes the content of the report and can support the recommendation.

## 5. Legal implications

**5.1 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)...**

**6. Data Protection**

6.1 The fund will be administered in accordance with the Council's data protection policy.

**7. Comment from local member(s)**

7.1 This is a county wide scheme.

**8. Integrated Impact Assessment**

8.1 No impact assessment required.

**9. Recommendation**

**9.1 That Cabinet approves the proposals for the Covid Recovery Fund as set out in this report.**

Contact Officer:	Gareth Jones, Professional Lead Regeneration
Tel:	01597 826230
Email:	gareth.jones3@powys.gov.uk
Head of Service:	Diane Reynolds, Head of Economy & Digital Services
Corporate Director:	Nigel Brinn, Corporate Director of Economy & Environment



# **Powys County Council**

## **Covid Community Recovery Grant**

### **Guidance for Applicants (Draft)**

**June 2021**

## **1. Overview**

Third sector organisations in Powys are facing challenging and uncertain times during the current Covid-19 pandemic. In recognition of the vital role played by the sector, this time limited fund has been made available by Powys County Council to support local organisations improve, develop and deliver their services and activities.

The purpose of the Community Recovery Grant is to help community groups, charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups supporting people and communities in Powys respond to the challenges and impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. It aims to assist recovery and help organisations develop flexible and responsive plans and activities to become more resilient and financially sustainable in the future.

## **2. Areas of Support**

- To support organisations that need to adapt and change to find new ways of operating due to the Covid crisis.
- To ensure that safe, resilient, and sustainable practises are introduced to allow continued and enhanced community activities and services to take place.
- To develop and implement new services and activities, or the extension of existing projects that have been adversely affected by Covid, that benefit people in their local community.
- To encourage healthier living and wellbeing, enhance the provision of local facilities, activities and community services that have been adversely affected by Covid.
- To encourage communities to have an active role in the design and delivery of the services they need.

### **Examples could be:**

- Expansion of services or activities into a new geographical area
- Activity to increase number of end beneficiaries / service users
- New income generation activities
- Building alterations or purchase of equipment to enhance facilities and services
- Formation of a trading subsidiary to expand service delivery to become more financially sustainable
- Recruitment and support of volunteers to provide additional capacity

## **3. Funding Level**

Grants will be offered up to an 80% intervention rate for capital and/or revenue expenditure. Match funding can be either as cash contributions or as staff/volunteer time in kind:

- Up to £5,000 grant for small projects.
- Up to £10,000 grant for local projects, meeting local need.
- Up to £20,000 grant will be considered however the council expects organisations to be able to clearly demonstrate that a wider geographical coverage and range of beneficiaries will be supported.

#### **4. What Can be Funded**

The fund aims to be flexible to support recovery and will be allocated where organisations can demonstrate a required need and where clear benefits and outcomes can be achieved. You will be expected to break down what you plan to spend the funds on in your application. The grant is to be spent over a maximum period of up to 12 months.

As a guide, examples of eligible costs include:

- Marketing costs relating to new activity or an improved service.
- The costs associated with setting up or improving an income generation / fundraising strategy or activity.
- Costs associated with amending your website to include the ability to make sales / take bookings / accept donations etc.
- Capital purchases for equipment or materials needed for new or improved activity and services.
- Costs associated with adapting premises for re-opening, operating safely and broadening community participation.
- New or additional services delivered where these directly support recovery plans.
- Small capital expenditure to enable groups / volunteers to operate safely, signage, screens.
- Contributions towards staff salaries for new posts / consultants related to proposed recovery activity.

#### **5. What cannot be funded**

- Individuals for their personal needs
- Existing staff salaries
- Overseas travel or expeditions for individuals and groups
- Private groups or individuals operating as a business for profit
- General building or ground maintenance
- National appeals or campaigns
- Projects/services operating outside of Powys

#### **6. Who Can Apply**

The Powys Community Recovery Fund is open to:

- Registered charities
- Community groups
- Not for profit / social enterprises
- Voluntary organisations
- Community interest companies
- Arts & Cultural Organisations
- Town or Community Councils (acting as sole trustee for a Village/Community Hall or other community facility)

To be considered for support, your organisation must:

- Be an incorporated body based in Powys and benefiting Powys residents and communities
- Have governing documents (constitution) and related policies
- Have had significant disruption to operations and service delivery due to Covid-19
- Have been established and operating before 1st April 2020

#### **DE MINIMIS AID**

- De minimis aid is a generic term for small amounts of public funding awarded to a single recipient. The current de minimis threshold is set at €200,000 (approx. £160,000) over a rolling three fiscal year period. If you require further information, please follow the link:

<https://wcva.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/02-State-aid-Information-for-the-third-sector-01-10-19.pdf>

#### **7. Who Cannot Apply**

- Un-constituted groups
- Projects that promote or benefit a political party
- Private individuals
- Activities where UK or Welsh Government or another public body are the statutory funding agency
- Organisations with subsidiary entities (eg a separate trading arm) are only eligible to make one application

#### **8. Application Process**

- Organisations can apply through the Powys County Council website and will need to complete the online application form.
- Applications will be considered on a regular basis in accordance with the closing dates listed below:

<b>Funding Round</b>	<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>Panel Date</b>
One	30 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	13 <sup>th</sup> August 2021
Two	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	29 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Three	24 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Four	23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2022	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Five	17 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2022

- Please note the continuation of this fund will be dependent on the availability of funds. The Council has the right to cease the grant scheme should it become oversubscribed and if the funding allocation for 2021-23 is used up prior to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022.
- A grant cannot be sought for retrospective projects or expenditure, exceptions will be considered where the activity has been to implement Covid recovery response and incurred between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
- It is a requirement of the applicant to ensure all necessary legislation, permissions, regulations and consents are in place where required. The

applicant is wholly responsible for ensuring that all aspects of the scheme are in compliance. Failure to do so may result in no grant being paid. If your project requires permissions or consents, you can still apply but you will need to explain your timetable for obtaining them in your application.

- Once an application is validated it will then be processed and a decision will be made in accordance with the above panel dates.
- Applications will be scored against the following criteria on an equal weighting and considered by the Council's Community Recovery Grant Panel:
  - Contribution to covid recovery
  - Community benefits
  - Scheme outputs / outcomes
  - Value for money
  -
- If you are successful you will receive a grant agreement for you to sign and return to us. The grant agreement sets out the terms and conditions of our funding that we ask organisations to comply with in exchange for the grant.
- If you are unsuccessful, we will write to you and let you know the reasons for this.
- The funding will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. However, the Council reserves the right to move from a first come first served basis to a more selective process depending on demand and funds remaining.
- This is a discretionary grant and there are no rights to appeal the Council's decision.

## 9. Procurement

- In order to ensure best value for money, all goods and services claimed for as part of the project need to be openly and fairly procured. Applicants need to provide written quotes, references to catalogue listings or formal tenders as part of their application.
- The following guidelines should be followed depending on the value of an individual item:

**Up to £5,000** – A minimum of **2 written Quotation** must be obtained and retained.

**£5,000 - £20,000+** - A minimum of **3 written Quotations** must be sought from competitive sources. The quotes must be based on the same specification and evaluated on a like for like basis.

## 10. Payment of Grant

- On completion of projects, organisations will be required to provide evidence of work / activities carried out and submission of paid invoices/receipts/timesheets etc. We will need to see proof that the invoice(s) / costs have been paid.

## **11. Monitoring & Evaluation**

- Grant recipients will be asked to provide a report summarising progress against the delivery of agreed outcomes / outputs identified in the proposal. The Council's Officers may visit to verify details of the project.

## **12. Publicity**

- The Council will require successful applicants to fully acknowledge the support received from Powys County Council. This may take form in a number of ways, depending on your project.
- The Council reserves the right to publicise any grant support.

## **13. Further Information**

For further information please contact [communitydevelopment1@powys.gov.uk](mailto:communitydevelopment1@powys.gov.uk)  
tel. 01597 827659.

# Powys County Council

## Covid Community Recovery Grant Application Form

**(Draft)**

**Please read through the application criteria and guidance notes before you start to fill in this application.**

This form has been designed so you can provide the standard information we need to assess your proposal. Your answers should show that you have thoroughly considered every aspect of your proposal.

Along with your application please submit the following:

- Your organisation's constitution or memorandum and articles of association
- A copy of your latest audited accounts
- Your organisation's equal opportunities policy
- Your organisation's health and safety policy
- Your organisation's child protection policy (if applicable)

If you are unable to do so, please explain here:

**Before you submit this application form please check that you have:**

- Completed every question on the application form
- Kept a copy of the application form for your own records
- Included any additional information requested

For further information or support please contact  
[communitydevelopment@powys.gov.uk](mailto:communitydevelopment@powys.gov.uk) or tel. 01597 827659

**1. Your Organisation**

Name of Project	
Organisation	
Contact Name	
Position	
Organisation Address	
Post Code	
Telephone Number	
Email	
Website Address	

**2. What is your organisation's legal status?**

Please tell us the legal status of your organisation eg. registered charity, not for profit / social enterprise etc

Company or Charity Number (if applicable):

**3. When was your organisation established?**

**4. How many people are involved in running your organisation?**

Board/ committee members/ trustees	
Paid employees: full time	
Paid employees: part time	
Volunteers	

### 5. Organisation aims, objectives and governance

What are the main aims and objectives of the organisation and what is its governance structure?

### 6. Please indicate the level funding you are applying for

Up to £5,000 grant for small project	
Up to £10,000 grant for local projects meeting local needs	
Up to £20,000 grant covering a wider geographical coverage and range of beneficiaries	

### 7. Project summary (max 300 words)

Tell us what you are looking for funding from the Community Recovery Fund to do and how it will have a positive impact for the people and communities you work with.

### **8. Need for the project (max 300 words)**

Explain how the project will respond to the challenges and impacts of Covid and help support recovery. How have members of the community been engaged in the planning and design of the project?

### **9. Partner organisations**

If you are applying as part of a partnership, please tell us who you are working with and how you will work together.

### **10. Implementation**

What arrangements will be put in place to ensure the successful management and delivery of the project?

**11. Show how your project contributes to Powys County Council's Vision 2025 priorities (your project may not fit in all 4 categories)**

<b>Supporting the Economy</b>	
<b>Supporting Health &amp; Care</b>	
<b>Supporting Residents &amp; Communities</b>	
<b>Strengthen Learning &amp; Skills</b>	



### 16. Match Funding

Please give details of other funding sources for this project/activity

Description	Amount	Name of funding	Confirmed Yes/No

### 17. Government Support (De-minimis)

Please give details of other funding sources for this project/activity

Description	Amount	Name of funding	Confirmed Yes/No

### 18. Funding risks

Which, if any, of the funding is at risk? State the reason and contingencies that are in place if the funding is not available.

### 19. Outputs

Please list estimated outputs which will be delivered through the project eg. number of new users supported, new income generated etc

Output	Quantity

## 20. Monitoring

What procedures are to be put in place to monitor and project and its outputs?

## 21. Value for money

Please describe how this project demonstrates value for money.

## 22. Forward Strategy

Please state how the project will continue after the grant funding support ceases or how the project will be wound up.

**Data Protection**

Information collected in this form will be used confidentially in accordance with the Council's privacy and data protection policies (insert link).

**Declaration**

*I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief, all of the information I have given in this application form is accurate in all respects, and I confirm that if there is any change to the information provided above I will write and advise accordingly.*

*I also confirm that the proposal in the application falls within the objects and powers of the constitution or Memorandum and Articles of Association.*

Name:
Position:
Signed:
Date:

### Appendix 3 – Covid Recovery Fund Service Specific Proposal Proforma

<b>Service Area:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
		<b>Prepared by:</b>	
<b>Requirement</b> <i>summary of proposal</i>			
<b>Background</b> <i>context to proposal</i>			
<b>Need</b> <i>how will the proposal support covid recovery?</i>			
<b>Preferred Solution</b> <i>why is this option proposed?</i>			
<b>Outputs / Outcomes</b> <i>What will the proposal deliver?</i>			
<b>Funding Request</b> <i>Total and itemised costs</i>			
<b>Signatures</b>	Proposed by (Requisitioner)	Authorised by (Service Head)	
	..... Date:	..... Date:	

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## **Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee**

### **Scrutiny Observations to Cabinet on: 15-06-2021**

The Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee met on 10-06-2021 and considered the following documents:

- Covid Recovery Fund

The Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee thank the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Planning and Economic Regeneration and officers for attending scrutiny.

### **Scrutiny make the following observations:**

- The Committee welcomed:
  - the proposal for a Covid Recovery Fund
  - that the fund would be used to assist communities and businesses identify and draw down other funding from sources as they became available
- The Committee expressed concern:
  - regarding the proportion of the funding being spent on highways improvement, as this was not viewed by Members as a covid related matter
  - regarding the timescales for Phase 1 applications being submitted given the report being considered by the Cabinet had been delayed. Officers agreed to review the timescales for applications.
  - that some community organisations who had funded costs in the previous year would be barred from applying to the fund as it was considered to be retrospective funding. Officers clarified that the fund could not be used where funding had been obtained from elsewhere previously, but agreed to review the wording in the proposal.
  - that faith based organisations would not be eligible to apply for funding e.g. food banks as they undertook significant work in communities and received some funding currently by the Council. Officers agreed to review this section.
- The Committee questioned:
  - whether there was an overlap in the provision of service provided by the Council's Money Advice Service and the Citizen's Advice Bureau. Officers agreed to expand the detail in the report prior to consideration by the Cabinet.
  - why the Covid Recovery Fund had been identified to fund highways improvements rather than the Levelling Up Fund.
- The Committee asked:
  - that the service provided by the Council's Money Advice Service be promoted more widely than it is currently
  - for sight of the evidence from the business sector in Powys which led to the decision about the need to improve rural roads as they are a barrier to business.
  - that if possible and if additional funding from elsewhere could be identified that some be used to assist the repairs and maintenance of the public footpath network which was seeing unprecedented use during the pandemic.

- that the Council clarifies whether the grant funding provided by Welsh Government to Town and Community Councils for public conveniences on trunk roads was likely to continue for the next financial year.

Scrutiny's Recommendation to Cabinet	Accept (plus Action and timescale)	Partially Accept (plus Rationale and Action and timescale)	Reject (plus Rationale)
<b>1 that the timescales for the receipt of Phase 1 applications be reviewed</b>	Accept by – paper amendment by 15 <sup>th</sup> June		
<b>2 that the possibility of funding retrospective costs be considered</b>		Partially Accept – retrospective from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021 in response to Covid recovery – timescale 15 <sup>th</sup> June	
<b>3 that the in-eligibility of applications from faith based organisations be reviewed</b>	Accept – paper amendment 15 <sup>th</sup> June		
<b>4 that scrutiny be provided with the evidence from the business sector on which the highways proposals were determined</b>			
<b>5 that clarification be sought from Welsh Government regarding the ongoing funding of public conveniences on the trunk road for 2021-22</b>			
<b>6 that scrutiny receives a progress report on the delivery of the proposal in 6 months time</b>	Accept – report by 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2022		

In accordance with Rule 7.27.2 the Cabinet is asked to provide a written response to the scrutiny report, including an action plan where appropriate, as soon as possible or at the latest within 2 months of the date of the Cabinet meeting i.e. by 15-08-2021

Membership of the Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 10-06-2021:

County Councillors:

M Dorrance, D Selby, D Evans, D Jones-Poston, G Jones, J Charlton, J Pugh, J Wilkinson, K Lewis, K Curry, L Corfield, P Pritchard

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