

Date/Dyddiad: 26 June 2018

Ask for/Gofynwch am: Miss Charlotte Pugh

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Your Ref/Eich Cyf:

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Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Strong Communities Grant Fund

I write to you to make you aware of the Strong Communities Grant Fund, which offers grants to Community Groups, the Voluntary Sector, Town and Community Councils and Social Enterprises, towards the cost of initiatives within the Vale of Glamorgan which help to support the Council's vision of "*strong communities with a bright future*".

The fund aims to:

- Improve the resilience of organisations/groups or their activities by funding activities which add value to their current work and reduce their reliance on grant funding in the future.
- Provide seed corn funding towards initiatives that can demonstrate longer term sustainability.
- Undertake consultation, feasibility, design and other specialist work to develop proposals for future activity and funding bids.
- Meet the capital costs of schemes by purchasing plant, machinery, equipment or other assets.
- Undertake work that would enable services to be provided, for example, through increased income generation potential.
- Support small scale and innovative projects.

The core Fund started with a total £672,000 over three years from 2017 until March 2020. There is no minimum or maximum grant limit for the Fund, however, value for money is a key assessment factor and we expect demand to be high.

Penarth to benefit from Section 106

In addition to the core fund, the Council has recently allocated an additional £50,000 to the fund, for groups specifically in Penarth to apply for. The Council received this money from Crest Nicholson pursuant to a Section 106 Agreement (associated with the development at Penarth Heights – reference 2007/00295/FUL), specifically to provide/enhance Public Art on site and within the vicinity of Penarth Heights. The monies are often referred to as "Section 106 monies".

There are terms and conditions associated with the Section 106 monies. The Section 106 Agreement defines "Public Art" as follows:

"means art that is the original work of a living professional artist and is created for a particular place on site, commissioned by or working in

collaboration with others such as architects, landscape designers, planners, developers, arts officers and community representatives and/or to provide a community facility including an arts venue (whether as part of the Development or otherwise), and such other provision as may be agreed by the Council in writing”

The Section 106 monies can therefore support schemes for “Public Art” on site; within the vicinity of Penarth Heights, or the wider area of Penarth.

The Council welcomes groups in the Penarth area to come forward and apply for Section 106 monies through the Strong Communities Grant Fund. The closing dates for the next two rounds are:

- 3rd August 2018
- 2nd November 2018

To get advice or check your eligibility for this grant programme, please contact me on the telephone number above. Anyone considering making an application must contact the Council’s Economic Development Team and Section 106 Officer, Charlotte Pugh, so that eligibility can be assessed at an early stage. If eligible, applicants will be provided with a Strong Communities Grant application form to complete and submit.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Charlotte Pugh
for Operational Manager Development Management