

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

CABINET: 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2016

REFERENCE FROM COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE: 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2016

“136 COMMUNITY ACTION SELF HELP (CASH) SCHEME (MD) –

The Section 151 Officer presented the report which had been prepared following a Request for Consideration from Barry Town Council.

In presenting the report, the Section 151 Officer advised that since July 2015 only one scheme could be put forward from each Town / Community Council and that all Town and Community Councils had been advised of the changes, with the request in April 2016 that any applications for grant be received by the Council by the end of April 2016. £30,000 had been included in the 2016/17 Capital Programme for the CASH grant scheme and grant awards would not be more than 30% of the Town / Community Council's precept to ensure the schemes progressed were proportionate to the size of the Town / Community Council.

Although the representative from Barry Town Council advised that he had not been given any information with regard to the request, Councillor N.P. Hodges stated that he had been present at the Town Council meeting when the request had been suggested. Councillor Hodges explained that as a result of the change of criteria, it was now set out in a way that larger Town / Community Councils would not be able to successfully apply for a grant in the future. Councillor M.R. Wilson from Penarth Town Council also commented on this aspect.

The Member for Cowbridge advised that although there were only nine applications and that she understood what both the Barry and Penarth Town Councils were saying, she did not agree with the suggestion to amend the criteria as their precepts were higher than those of other Community Councils and that the pot of money should not be used for large Town / Community Councils as it would not be fair to the smaller Community Councils. The Member for Llandow also advised that such grants could be a lifeline for small Community Councils. However, it was noted that out of the 26 Town and Community Councils in the Vale, only nine applications had been received.

Councillor Hodges, in response, advised that Barry Town Council had also signed up to the Charter like other Town and Community Councils and felt that in the interest of fairness the criteria should be reviewed.

Following a vote it was subsequently

AGREED –

- (1) T H A T Cabinet be requested to review the criteria for Community Action Self Help (CASH) Schemes.
- (2) T H A T Cabinet be requested to remove percentages detailed in the current criteria in order that all Town and Community Councils can have the opportunity to apply for the grants.
- (3) T H A T Cabinet be requested to consider increasing the £30,000 allocation for schemes in order that more opportunities can be encouraged.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1&2) In order that Cabinet can reconsider the criteria in light of its unfairness to a number of Town and Community Councils in the Vale of Glamorgan.
- (3) In order that more opportunities can be provided for grant funding.”

Attached as Appendix – [Report to Community Liaison Committee](#): 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2016