

Report To: Cabinet
Date of Meeting: 27th September 2016
Lead Member / Officer: Cllr. Hugh Evans, Leader
Report Author: Alan Smith, Head of Business Improvement & Modernisation
Title: TAP funded projects update

1. What is the report about?

The Town Champions Group have met to consider the progress of the outstanding projects derived from the Town and Area Plans. These are their recommendations.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The Town Champions Group has considered the position of the outstanding projects and would like to recommend that for some the funding is withdrawn and that others are funded in their place.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- That the uncommitted funding totalling £100,000 is used to support the schemes identified in the report.

4. Report details

In June 2015 the Town Champions Group undertook a rigorous review and prioritisation of TAP funded projects. These are the 'Horizon' projects, all of which were expected to have been completed by May 2017. Since then, the group has been monitoring their progress, including planning to re-allocate any project underspend that might arise.

The Town Champions were concerned that some projects on the list appeared at risk of not being delivered within the agreed timescale. These were:

St Asaph Library	£100k
Corwen Pavillion	£50K
Llangollen pre-school project	£30K

At the Town Champions meeting of the 25th July, all three of these projects were reviewed and Members concluded that:

- The funding for the Corwen pavillion project should continue to be made available, as current information indicated that this scheme would be delivered in the timescale.
- The original proposal for the Llangollen pre-school project had proved unviable, however a modified proposal had been submitted to improve the

existing building instead. Members considered that this provided similarly improved outcomes for pre-school children and could potentially be delivered in the available timescale, but wanted further information before making a decision.

- Members considered a significantly expanded proposal for the St Asaph Library project. They asked for more information on this in order to decide whether to support this revised proposal or to restrict funding to the original scheme. Members also wanted to be confident that either version of this scheme could be delivered in the timeframe available.

At the previous meeting of the 28th June, the group had requested proposals from Members for projects that could utilise the then expected underspend of £49,000. During the review of current projects, a further underspend of £20,000 was identified on the Llantysilio Link Path scheme, and so this too was added to the available pot, making £69,000 funding available for re-allocation.

17 proposals had been submitted to the group, and these were assessed using the same scoring system as had the original bids. Two projects were also re-assessed at the meeting after additional information had been submitted. On the basis of these assessments, the group decided to recommend to Cabinet that the following proposals should be funded:

Llangollen Sports Club – new grass cutting equipment	£ 5,400
Pentredwr – Community Centre refurbishment	£ 3,000
Cunning Green environmental improvements	£ 1,500
Rhuddlan Library Community Hub accessibility	£12,000
Rhyl Coastal Defence enhancement Phase 2	£35,000
Offa’s Dyke Trail Brass Plaques, Prestatyn	£ 5,000
Total	£61,900

At the September 6th Town Champions meeting, Members considered further information on the list of prioritised projects. As a result, Members decided to support the continued funding of the St Asaph Library scheme *as originally submitted*, providing it is delivered within the timescale. However, Members decided to *withdraw* the promise of funding from the Llangollen pre-school scheme, as no further information had been received on this and they were no longer confident of its successful delivery.

Along with some underspends from projects that had been completed under budget, this left a final amount of £38,100 to be reallocated. Based on the scoring criteria, Members decided to allocate the funding to three other projects on the list, these were:

Aberwheeler link path	£23,200
Meliden Goods shed	£11,500
Cae Cymro Business units	£ 3,400
Total	£38,100

It is expected that all the allocated funding will be spent by the end of May 2017. Delivery of all the live projects will be monitored through this period and progress reported back to Town Champions. There is now no further funding available for TAP projects.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

This decision will support the effective deployment of Council funds to support community initiatives.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

The costs are as set out in the report

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report

These should be carried out on an individual project basis where required.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

The report contains recommendations from the Town Champions group of Members, no other consultations have been carried out.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The proposals in the report can be funded within existing resources and can therefore be supported. The progress of the projects need to continue to be monitored to ensure their successful implementation and to ensure value for money is achieved.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

That funding allocated to community projects will not be fully deployed.

11. Power to make the Decision

Members have agreed that Cabinet should decide how to allocate this tranche of community funding.