

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 10th January 2023

Title: Sport Wales Capital Grant Award for Cardigan Memorial Swimming Pool and Hall Trust

Purpose of the report: To agree that Ceredigion County Council acts in an intermediary role relating to Sports Wales capital funding for Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall Trust

For: Decision

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member: Councillor Catrin M.S. Davies, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services

1. Background

In August 2022, Sport Wales launched the latest round of its Capital funding grant scheme for National Governing Bodies, Local Authorities and Leisure Trusts. Expressions of Interest (EOIs) were invited to be submitted by 5th September 2022.

Cardigan Memorial Swimming Pool and Hall Trust (Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall) submitted an EOI independent of the local authority however officers did help in the completion of the EOI in recognition of the contribution that the organisation played in providing opportunities for citizens to be physically active in the county including the delivery of school swimming and the Free-Swimming Initiative.

The Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall were invited to submit a stage 2 application for their project, however Sport Wales requested that the application was submitted the local authority as one of its Stage 2 projects and act as a trusted partner as Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall were not deemed to be "Leisure Trusts" by Sport Wales's definition and therefore not be eligible to access the capital grant scheme directly.

This mirrors the approach taken by Sport Wales for Aberaeron Swimming Pool and Calon Tysul Ltd in their previous round of Capital Funding. (Report for Item 214 to Cabinet meeting held on 15.03.2022 in Background Papers)

On the 9th December 2022 a grant offer was received from Sport Wales of £470,261 funding towards total estimated project costs of £760,291. The grant offer is for the following projects:

	Sport Wales Funding	Matched Funding	Estimated Total Project Costs
1. Plascrug All-weather Pitch	£200,000	£215,000	£415,000
2. ATP Floodlight Upgrades	£45,000	£45,000	£90,000
3. Plascrug Squash Courts	£17,999	£7,001	£25,000
Sub Total	£262,999	£267,001	£530,000
4. Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall	£207,262	£23,029 (Self-funded)	£230,291
Totals	£470,261	£290,030	£760,291

The grant award for Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall is for £207,262 towards total project costs of £230,291 and the match funding is being provided by Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall.

For the 3 Ceredigion County Council projects, the grant award of £262,999 leaves a match funding requirement of £267,001 against estimated costs. Council officers are reviewing the project specifications to reduce the total estimated project costs. The final match-funding requirement is therefore expected to be no more than £220,000 from the Council's Capital programme for the projects.

2. Summary of Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall Funding application

- a) New Air Handling Unit
- b) New insulated roof above the toddler/hydrotherapy pool
- c) Installation of new Boilers
- d) Pool Covers & Motorised Roller
- e) Installation of an automatic Chlorinator
- f) Installation of new fire doors
- g) Decoration of the facility (Materials only)
- h) New Heat Exchanger for Toddler Pool

The aim of the project is to ensure the future sustainability of Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall. The project is essential because existing systems are antiquated and inefficient. The project will result in a reduction in energy consumption and costs, better use of resources, and a reduction in the facility's carbon footprint. It will also ensure the facility operates safely and economically in accordance with best practice and current legislation.

Like most leisure facilities, there has been a lack of capital investment in recent years at Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall. The works identified prioritise improving the energy efficiency of the building, which will reduce their running costs and make them more sustainable. The aim is to ensure that they are able to continue to provide opportunities for the public to be physically active for years to come.

3. Intermediary Role of Ceredigion County Council

The role of the local authority is to act as the initial grant recipient from Sport Wales and then make a parallel grant offer with Terms and Conditions reflecting those of Sport Wales to Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall. In effect a banker role, whereby the Council will then in turn make 1 or more capital grant payments to those entities at key milestone points.

Responsibility for procuring the works to deliver the identified projects rests with Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall. Officers from the council's Wellbeing Centre Service will ensure that each aspect of the projects has been delivered and will provide advice and assistance on request.

There is no financial liability or contribution from the local authority towards the projects and it is the responsibility of Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall to deliver the projects within the funding awarded. Any additional costs would have to be met by Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall.

	Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed?	No, not a policy or service change.
	Summary:	
	Long term:	Positive: The identified projects will increase the lifespan of the respective facilities
	Collaboration:	Positive: The local authority acting as a grant applicant to support community trust facility is an example of collaborative working to improve leisure facilities within the county
Wellbeing of Future Generations:	Involvement:	Positive: Facility Infrastructure was identified as the main concern of respondents to the council's public engagement exercise undertaken in August 2022.
	Prevention:	Positive: The proposed projects will improve the energy efficiency of the facility and will also support opportunities for citizens to be physically active
	Integration:	Positive: The local authority and a community trust working together to improve services for our citizens

- Recommendation(s):** That Cabinet agree:
1. To note the overall Sport Wales grant funding approval of £470,261, which comes with a match funding requirement from the Council of £220k.
 2. That the Council acts in an intermediary role as banker for the Sport Wales Grant of £207,262 in relation to Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall
 3. That the Schemes are included in the Capital Programme.

Reasons for decision:	To enable £207,262 of capital investment to be made into Cardigan Memorial Pool and Hall
Overview and Scrutiny:	No, due to the timing of receipt of the grant offer and the requirement of project to start by 31.03.2022
Policy Framework:	Ceredigion Corporate Strategy 2022-27
Corporate Well-being Objectives:	Creating Caring and Healthier Communities Creating Sustainable, Green and Well-connected Communities
Finance and Procurement implications:	Council to perform a banker role
Legal Implications:	None
Staffing implications:	None
Property / asset implications:	None
Risk(s):	If the recommendations are not supported, it would conflict with the decision made at Cabinet meeting 15.03.2022 Item 214 Project costings are based on estimates, projects may need to be scaled back following a procurement process
Statutory Powers:	
Background Papers:	Cabinet Report 15.03.22- Report- Sport Wales Capital Grant Award.pdf (ceredigion.gov.uk)
Appendices:	None
Corporate Lead Officers:	Elen James: CLO Porth Cymorth Cynnar Duncan Hall: CLO Finance and Procurement
Reporting Officers:	Carwyn Young: CM Wellbeing Centres
Date:	19.12.2022