

URGENCY PROCEDURE

Officer: Hamish Cameron	Position: Economic Development	Date: 24 May 2021
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Subject of Urgency:

Welcome Back Fund-

Reason for Urgency:

This report is to request an urgent decision to support the passing down of a percentage of the Welcome Back Funding to Town councils. This funding has been awarded as part of the Government's Covid-19 response and has been delivered with a clear indication that an element of the funding has been passed to lower tier authorities.

This is required as the timeframes in relation to this funding require us to start this process before the next C&R meeting in late June. This fund is available now and the scope is specifically to support the summer months and prepare for the lifting of the pandemic restrictions.

Torridge District Council has been awarded £161,179 for the Welcome Back Fund. We also still have £25,000 remaining from the Re Opening High Streets safely fund which was to support High streets after the first lockdown eased in 2020.

The Welcome Back Fund is an ERDF funded programme to help support the return to high streets safely and help build back better from the pandemic. The fund is designed to allow local authorities to put in place measures to create and promote a safe environment for local trade and tourism, particularly in high streets as their economies re-open. Part of the fund specifically will be used to provide support for coastal resorts across England to support areas as they prepare for a great summer to safely welcome holiday makers in the coming months.

MHCLG expects local authorities to engage with key stakeholders and where appropriate enter into suitable delivery partnership arrangements with suitable delivery partners. Torridge District Council is looking to engage in a 'financial' delivery partnership with the 4 main Town Councils in our district. We are looking to agree Service Level Agreements with Bideford, Holsworthy, Great Torrington, and Northam Town Councils and allow them to manage their own opportunities on the scheme whilst adhering to the same scope, procurement, eligibility, claim process and regulatory requirements required for ERDF funding.

Torridge District Council is looking to award the Town Councils the following funding allowance to utilise within their areas.

- Bideford- £39,869.79
- Great Torrington - £18,476.22
- Holsworthy- £7,697.63
- Northam- £33,956.36

This equates to £100,000 of the total funding available. These figures have been generated by allocating 70% of the £100,000 based on property numbers and 30% was based on the geographic area of each Town Council.

The remaining funding is to be used for various other more strategic areas within scope to

support the wider community and in particular the visitor economy that we know will significantly increase in the coming months. This will include funding street marshals to support the locals and visitors in Bideford, Westward Ho! and Appledore, an increase in toilet provision in Westward Ho! and an increase in waste and cleaning services to support the safer return to public spaces.

Each town council has supplied a guide to their spending plans and will be able to liaise with Torridge District Council as the 'Principal' authority for this funding to help ensure they are spending in scope. The claims process will be managed by Torridge District Council but will require the Town councils to supply all the relevant procurement and defrayal information for each claim quarter.

Ward and/or Lead Member(s) comments:

Date:

Head of Communities & Place Agreement: :

Signed:

Date: 3/6/21

Member Agreement:

Signed:

Date: 3/6/21

Leader of Council / Deputy Leader of Council*

Signed:

SEE ATTACHED EMAIL CONFIRMATION

Date: 03/6/21

Chair / Vice Chair of Community & Resources Committee*

Chief Executive Approval of Decision:

Signed:

Date: 3/6/21

*delete as appropriate

Once completed a copy of this form should be given to the Democratic Services for record purposes.

IMPORTANT: Please ensure that a report is prepared for the next Community & Resources Committee meeting in accordance with the Report Writing Protocol.

Parish	2020/21
	Taxbase With CTS 99.00%
Bideford	5,409.80
Great Torrington	1,706.99
Holsworthy	1,079.11
Northam	5,097.95
	13,293.85

Total No. of Properties As @ 30.11.19
8,659.00
2,664.00
1,677.00
6,808.00
19,808.00

Percentage based on property numbers	70% 70000
43.71%	£30,600.26
13.45%	£9,414.38
8.47%	£5,926.39
34.37%	£24,058.97
100.00%	£70,000.00

Parish	Percentage based on geographic area
Bideford	30.90%
Great Torrington	30.21%
Holsworthy	5.90%
Northam	32.99%
	100.00%

30% 30000	Total Additional Grant
£9,269.53	£39,869.79
£9,061.85	£18,476.22
£1,771.23	£7,697.63
£9,897.39	£33,956.36
£30,000.00	£100,000.00

Sean Kearney

From: Robert Hicks <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 03 June 2021 15:45
To: Sean Kearney
Subject: Re: Urgent Decision

Fine by me
Bob

On 3 Jun 2021 15:11, Sean Kearney <Sean.Kearney@torridge.gov.uk> wrote:
Hi Bob

I hope you are well.

Please could you take a look at the attached urgent decision required to start working on the Welcome Back fund proposals. You will see that I and Ken have signed it and Steve will sign if you are happy also.

Thanks

Sean

Sean Kearney Head of Communities & Place
Torridge District Council Riverbank House, Bideford, EX39 2QG
Phone 01237 428708
Email sean.kearney@torridge.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: Sean Kearney <Sean.Kearney@torridge.gov.uk>
Sent: 03 June 2021 15:07
To: Sean Kearney <Sean.Kearney@torridge.gov.uk>
Subject: Scanned from Torridge XD-CEX

Please open the attached document. It was sent to you using a Xerox multifunction printer.

Attachment File Type: pdf, Multi-Page

Multifunction Printer Location: Room: Landing Riverbank H First Floor
Device Name: XD-CEX

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