

Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service

Your local county voluntary council



7. Finding and getting money

7.4.13 Local funding - Merthyr Tydfil

This information sheet is designed to give details about small grants, which are available for small groups and organisations within the voluntary sector in Merthyr Tydfil. The entries in this sheet are intended as a general guide, the contacts given will be able to provide you with more detailed information.

This sheet should be read in conjunction with **7.4.1 Small Grants** which details small grants which are available on a regional or all Wales basis.

Rural Development Plan (RDP)

The Rural Development Plan for Wales is part of a new European Union programme to promote the economic regeneration of rural areas. The RDP is aimed at assisting communities, helping to boost their local economy by supporting local businesses and voluntary sector/community organisations, improving basic services, village enhancement schemes, improving the local environment and promoting the Welsh language.

The rural areas within the Merthyr Borough have been recognised as an important part of the region. The areas deemed eligible as Rural Wards include Bedlinog, Cyfarthfa, Merthyr Vale and Vaynor. Plymouth has been designated as a Service Centre area. The RDP provides an opportunity to build on the achievements that have already taken place in these areas, and explore new possibilities. Tourism is very important in terms of the local economy of these areas, with activity tourism holidays growing in popularity, but with a minimum adverse effect on the environment. There is also the opportunity to build on the excellent services that are being delivered within the Rural areas and to make the local communities a more attractive and safe place to live.

There are three main objectives stemming from the Merthyr Local Development Strategy and all projects will fit in with at least one of the following objectives:

- Welsh Heritage and Culture
- Production of Local Food, Crafts and Services
- Tourism and Outdoor Activities.

For more information on grants available please contact the Rural Development Grants Officer on 01685 724919.

Merthyr Tydfil Development Fund

The Merthyr Tydfil Development Fund is an annual revenue fund which voluntary and community organisations working in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil can apply to for grants to support projects benefiting people in Merthyr Tydfil.

Applications can be made for grants of between £2, 500 and £10,000. The Fund is currently open and closes on 14 December 2011.

Contact:

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Civic Centre, Castle Street,
Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8AN
Tel: 01685 725309

Community Economic Development Programme

The (South East Wales) Community Economic Development Programme is a flexible grant scheme which support projects operating from December 2010 to August 2015, and is available in Bridgend, Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Torfaen. Funding is available to a wide range of organisations, that have ambitions to develop into economic sustainable organisations within the third sector i.e. voluntary sector and community organisations, charities, social enterprises, co-operatives and mutual's. The grant fund is aimed at supporting and developing sustainability within the third sector. Eligible projects must meet one or more of the following themes:

- Support development of services to benefit the community and local economy.
- Opportunities for acquiring new skills and learning.
- Promote sustainable development.
- Demonstrate partnerships / cross boundary projects.
- Activities that develop and improve local economies.
- Provision and improvement of community assets and services.
- Promotion and provision of schemes to tackle barriers to employment.
- Schemes aimed at addressing the social, economic, cultural, physical and environmental needs of each area.
- Purchase of property, refurbishment of buildings, or new builds.

Grants can be for revenue, capital or a mixture of both.

For further information please contact:

Social Economy Grants Officer - Tel: 01685 727411

Merthyr Tydfil Community Trust Small Grants Scheme

This fund is available to small voluntary and community groups for any charitable purpose (excluding religious activities).

Grants awarded will not normally exceed £200. The application must be for an activity based in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil. Applications can only be considered from organisations whose income in the last financial year was less than £10,000. An invitation to bid for grant funding is normally issued on an annual basis.

Contact:

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil
Voluntary Action Centre
89–90 High Street
Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8UH
Tel: 01685 353900
enquiries@vamt.net

Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil Capital Small Grants

Funded by the Welsh Government's Community Facilities and Activities Programme, the fund offers grants of up to a maximum of £4,000 for capital items only. The grants scheme is open to local organisations whose beneficiaries are within the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil. This includes:

- organisations only working in one ward or one area of the borough
- borough-wide organisations or
- local branches of national organisations.

National organisations themselves are ineligible to apply.

The scheme welcomes applications from new groups. However, your group will need to have a constitution or set of rules and a bank account set up in its own name, with at least two signatories (who must not be related to each other)

You should be able to spend your grant completely within six months of receiving it. If you find that you are unable to do so, we may ask for the unspent amount of your grant to be returned.

What types of projects can be funded?

All sorts of projects will be considered providing that projects fall into the Communities Facilities and Activities Programme priority areas:

- Creating or refurbishing facilities available to the community as a whole, or adapting them to ensure equal access to disabled people by October 2004, as required under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.
- Acting to improve the built or natural environment for local people
- Providing facilities or activities which reduce poverty, inequality, discrimination and social disadvantage
- Improving the well-being of the community by encouraging active and healthy life styles. Also, by encouraging people to share responsibility for maintaining good health and well-being by making some simple and inexpensive changes to their lifestyle.
- Providing facilities or activities which support the reduction of poverty (including child poverty) and financial exclusion, inequality, discrimination and social disadvantage.
- Encouraging training for local people, in particular, training that targets vulnerable or excluded people, and assists with the promotion of job opportunities and increased incomes.
- Stimulating community businesses and social enterprises.
- Assisting the promotion of job opportunities and increased incomes
- Involving people of all ages and abilities in the community and addressing the needs of socially excluded groups
- Strengthening the cultural and linguistic identity of the community
- Strengthening Community Safety issues for the Community

Closing dates each year are normally 30 September and 30 January. For more information please contact VAMT 01685 353900 or enquiries@vamt.net

Welsh Church Act Fund

The Welsh Church Act Fund grant scheme is available to voluntary and community groups operating in Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr and Bridgend. It provides funds to organisations that have charitable or alms giving purposes, for capital expenditure only.

Who Can Apply?

- Applications invited from Churches, Chapels, Community Organisations and Charities.
- Applications will only be considered from organisations working in Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr and Bridgend.
- In considering applications from organisations, which exist to provide hobby activities for its members, the facilities, which they provide, should be available to members of the public at large, and any assistance given will be towards projects/expenditure of a capital nature incurred by the organisation.
- Priority will be given to Churches, Chapels and Places of Public Worship, and projects that do not exceed £20,000.

What Can It Fund?

Applicants can apply for grant support for the following purposes:

- Support for places of Worship and Community Buildings
- Small items of equipment
- Works to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act
- Other purposes beneficial to the community
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What can't it Fund?

- Normal running expenses
- Planning Permission costs
- Organisations with a liquor licence.
- Retrospective costs i.e costs for work already undertaken or equipment that has been purchased prior to a formal grant offer, are ineligible from this fund and should not be included in any application you may wish to make.

Applicants can apply for **capital costs** (including repairs and renewals) and may be awarded the following grant rates:

Category	Maximum Grant	Match Funding Contribution
Small	Up to £2,000	Nil
Large	Up to £10,000	At least 50%

There are no set deadlines for applications, however there are limited financial resources available.

Contact:

Regeneration and Planning
Level 5, Unit 3
Ty Pennant House
Catherine Street
Pontypridd
CF37 2TB
Tel: 01443 495151

Please note that should your project be successful that payment will only be made on submission of invoices **at the completion of the project.**

Sports Council for Wales -Community Chest Grant

Community Chest is a Sports Council for Wales, National Lottery grant funded scheme that is designed to encourage more people to become more physically active more often. Under new guidelines, the maximum grant awarded has been increased to £1,000, however if you are a club then you are now eligible to apply for £1,000 for club development and also for a further £1,000 for physical activity/health initiatives within your club.

The grants can be used to support amongst other things:

- Walking or cycling projects
- Projects to encourage employees to become more physically active
- Recruitment and development of volunteers, leaders and coaches
- Extending existing sports clubs to provide new activities
- Parent recreational session whilst their children are training in a club session

Contact:

Wendy Groves, Team Leader,
Sports Development

Tel: 01685 725408 wendy.groves@merthyr.gov.uk

or the Sports Council for Wales

Tel: 0845 045 0904

Merthyr Valleys Homes Grants

Merthyr Valleys Homes' vision is to 'continually provide excellent and innovative services that improves the quality of our tenants' homes and the wider community'

The vision and direction set by the Board acknowledges that Merthyr Valleys Homes has a social responsibility to invest in local communities in ways that will improve people's quality of life. Our aim is that the grant will assist local communities in achieving their objectives by operating a policy which is open and accountable to our residents. It is proposed to provide a grant scheme that has two funding streams:

Small grant up to £1,000 – there will be 10 grants made available per annum.

Medium grant up to £5,000 – there will be 5 grants made available per annum.

Grant is defined as a request for money from a community-based group or an individual to support a specific event that achieves the objectives listed below (at the end of the sponsorship information).

Sponsorship

Sponsorship is defined as a request for money from a community-based group or an individual to support a specific event or provision of activities over a specified period i.e. three years that achieves the following objectives:

- Activities or projects that involve children and young people
- Projects that help to create a sense of community spirit, cohesion, pride and respect
- Projects that will help to improve the appearance of the local neighbourhood
- Projects that help to make people feel safer and reduce the fear of crime
- Projects that help to build the confidence and capacity of local residents to get more involved in their local communities.

For more information visit:

www.mvhomes.org.uk/community/index.aspx?section

Disclaimer

The information provided in this sheet is intended for guidance only. It is not a substitute for professional advice and we cannot accept any responsibility for loss occasioned as a result of any person acting or refraining from acting upon it.

For further information contact**Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service**

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