

Ein cyf/Our ref ATISN 11440

25/08/17

Dear,

ATISN 11440-Grant funding for Pembrokeshire Care Society Bond Scheme

Thank you for your request which I received on 31st July 2017 about the Pembrokeshire Care Society Bond Scheme. I can clarify that the bond scheme is a full part of the services owned and managed by Pembrokeshire Care Society. Pathway Lettings is a separate element of their services.

The information you requested is enclosed as follows:

- 1. The amounts awarded to Pembrokeshire Care Society to manage the bond scheme in 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 were £196,208.34, £192,162.82 and £187,551.00 respectively.
- 2. The purpose of the funding as set out in their grant application and is attached at appendix 1.
- 3. An extract from an external evaluation of the whole Homelessness Prevention Grant programme carried out for us in 2013/14, which considered the bond scheme and provided us with positive feedback. This extract refers to the bond scheme and another financial advice service. "Evidence indicates that these projects have a direct impact on the prevention of homelessness. The provision of bonds enables a significant number of clients to access accommodation in the private rented sector. Furthermore, the financial advice and assistance provided enables clients to avoid

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

homelessness by facilitating access to benefits. The projects operated with suitable management, accountability, and monitoring processes and are valued by the local authority."

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

Or, Email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House,

Water Lane, Wilmslow,

Cheshire,

SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

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Appendix 1 Pembrokeshire Care Society Bond Scheme ATISN 11440

Please describe the overall aim and purpose of the proposed activities

Prevention of homelessness whenever possible by providing easy access to good quality affordable housing advice

The ongoing development of partnership working with the Local Authority to compliment the changes to their own work practices due to Part 2 of the Housing Wales Act 2014.

Access to the private rented sector for those who are homeless or in need of alternative accommodation.

What is your proposed model of service to tackle and prevent homelessness?

To ensure safe affordable sustainable accommodation is sourced and accessed or preventative work is undertaken to maintain an existing tenancy.

Tools used for this aim include – *Access* to weekly outreach surgeries, daily appointments and emergency duty officer in main office, management of our Rural Travel Warrants Scheme for our own and other agencies clients – *Services include* Preventative housing advice, Options advice, debt assessment and financial management including maximising income, Welfare Benefit assistance, affordability checks, pre tenancy checks and preparation, landlord advice including a regular newsletter, property access and management via Pathway Lettings agency, Increasing the number of private properties available by promotion of Pathway Lettings, administration of bond and other financial assistance, referrals for other social needs and rough sleeper interventions.

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