

Gareth Chapman CSTJ., DL., LL.M., MBA., CMgr., DipLG., CCMI., Solicitor
Chief Executive/Prif Weithredwr



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
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MERTHYR TYDFUL

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Croesawn ohebu yn Gymraeg a fydd gohebu yn y Gymraeg ddim yn arwain at oedi.

Rhowch wybod inni beth yw'ch dewis iaith e.e Cymraeg neu'n ddwyieithog

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and corresponding with us in Welsh will not lead to a delay.

Let us know your language choice if Welsh or bilingual.

Croesawn alwadau yn y Gymraeg
We welcome calls in Welsh

Mr David J Rowlands AM
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NT

Dyddiad/Date: 27th November 2017

Ein Cyf./Our Ref.: 17 11 27 (L) DR/GC
Eich Cyf./Your Ref.:

Gofynnwch am/Please ask for: **Gareth Chapman**
Linell Uniongyrchol/Direct Line: **(01685) 725000**
e-bost/email: **chief.executive@merthyr.gov.uk**

Dear Mr Rowlands

FORSYTHIA YOUTH CLUB - 3G'S DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Thank you for your enquiry regarding the future of the Forsythia Youth Centre in the current Communities First North Cluster of Merthyr Tydfil. My officers have been working with the community throughout the year to minimise the impact of the closure of the Communities First programme where possible. As stated in our previous correspondence, current provision at Forsythia Youth Club was scheduled to remain in place until the full closure of this Welsh Government programme, in line with the delivery plan submitted to Welsh Government.

In preparing for the Legacy fund my officers have been working closely with elected members and colleagues across the third sector, as well as engaging with the public, to identify the communities priorities. We are committed to ensuring that services which may receive financial support through the Legacy arrangements meet both localised needs as well as being in line with needs of our overall Wellbeing Assessment of the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.

Having undertaken this work elected members very recently (22/11/17) received a report on the future legacy options and after significant deliberation agreed a suite of proposals for the allocation of this funding. Individual organisations, which include the 3G's Development Trust, will now be engaged in order to develop service specifications, in line with the funding available. In relation to the 3G's Development trust this will include the continuation of Youth provision on the Gurnos estate 'Forsythia'.

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... lle i fod yn falch ohono

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The decisions of the Council on future funding, through the Legacy arrangements, is in the process of being formally communicated to those organisations involved in the delivery of the current Communities First programme.

It is unavoidable however that there is going to be some concerns across the communities as the funding available is extremely limited, in comparison to the previous resources available and therefore can only meet a small number of the priorities which were considered.

If we can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Chapman
Chief Executive