



# The Welsh Procurement Alliance Community Benefit Fund



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## AMCANION

Sefydlwyd Cronfa Budd-dal Cymuned Cynghrair Caffael Cymreig i gefnogi Aelodau i wneud cais am arian i gefnogi achosion elusennol, gweithgareddau, grwpiau a phrosiectau sy'n ymwneud â'r themâu canlynol:

- cynhwysiant cymdeithasol
- cynhwysiant ariannol
- cyfranogiad digidol
- prosiectau cymunedol lleol
- cyflogadwyedd

## PWY A ALL YMGEISIO

Gall aelodau o Cynghrair Caffael Cymreig, wneud cais i gefnogi sefydliadau/grwpiau sy'n rhedeg prosiectau o bwysigrwydd yn eu hardal.

## GRANTIAU AR GAEL

- Gall yr Aelodau wneud cais am grant o £10,000

Nodwch, os gwelwch yn dda:

- Ni ddyfarnir grantiau'n ôl-weithredol, hynny yw, am gostau a achoswyd eisoes cyn derbyn y llythyr yn cynnig grant a llofnodi'r telerau a'r amodau;
- Ni chefnogir prosiectau a ddaw o fewn cyfrifoldeb y sector statudol, e.e., unrhyw beth a ddaw o fewn cwricwlwm yr ysgol;

## SUT I YMGEISIO

Rhaid i bob ymgeisydd gwblhau ffurflen gais. Cysylltwch â'r Sefydliad ar 02920 379 580 neu drwy anfon e-bost at [grants@communityfoundationwales.org.uk](mailto:grants@communityfoundationwales.org.uk) i gael linc i'r ffurflen ar-lein ac am fwy o wybodaeth.

## AIMS

The Welsh Procurement Alliance Community Benefit Fund has been established to support Founder Members to apply for funding to support charitable causes, activities, groups and projects which relate to the community benefit themes of:

- social inclusion
- financial inclusion
- digital participation
- local community projects
- employability

## WHO CAN APPLY

WPA Executive Committee Members can apply for a grant to support organisations/groups running projects of importance in their area.

## GRANTS AVAILABLE

- Members can apply for a grant of £10,000

Please note:

- Grants will not be awarded retrospectively i.e. for costs already incurred prior to receipt of the grant offer letter and signed terms and conditions
- Projects that fall within statutory sector responsibility eg. Anything that falls within the school curriculum will not be supported

## HOW TO APPLY

All applicants must complete an application form. Please contact the Foundation on 02920 379 580 or email [grants@communityfoundationwales.org.uk](mailto:grants@communityfoundationwales.org.uk) to be sent the link for an online form and for more information.

## Changes to Community Foundation Wales' monitoring requirements

**Please note** that Community Foundation Wales have recently made the decision to stop collecting interim (6 monthly) monitoring, to make the process easier and less onerous for our grantees. We have instead put more focus on ensuring that end of year or end of grant monitoring is completed to a high standard, including provision of photographs and case studies that really highlight impact, where possible.

# CFW Update

We at Community Foundation Wales are again this year delighted to be supporting the Welsh Procurement Alliance deliver funding to members to benefit communities across Wales.

As part of this report, this is an opportunity to ensure you are informed and up-to-date on other activity at CFW which may be relevant and of interest to the Welsh Procurement Alliance.

In February this year, we launched Our Communities Together – A Cost of Living Crisis Appeal to support charities and community organisations across Wales to help those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis. We partnered with Newport-based media company Newsquest on the appeal, with money raised being used to support the work of Welsh groups and charities making a huge difference for local people and communities facing crisis and hardship. We have utilised donations from the campaign to set up and open a new grant making fund, which was open to applications from community groups and charities across Wales.

We are currently in the process of embedding our new Impact Framework into our systems, which was developed over the last 12 months and will help us to analyse our data in more detail. This will help you and us to better understand the impact of funds and grants.

The CFW board of Trustees have in the past 12 months welcomed Derek Howell, Ian Thomas, Ruth James and Gaenor Howells as new Trustees. Nigel Annett and Gerry Jewson both completed their trustee terms – we are grateful to both for their time as trustees.

Supporters of CFW's work are invited to join us as Friends – and we are delighted to have seen new members joining this year, both as individuals and as business supporters. More details can be found at <https://communityfoundationwales.org.uk/giving/friends-of-community-foundation-wales/>



## Richard Williams

Chief Executive

Community Foundation Wales

# 2022/23 Grants Awarded

## Caerphilly County Borough Council

2022/23

### **Growing Space & Isolation project (total £14,400 awarded)**

Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) returned the £10,000 they were awarded in 21/22 as this had not been spent. They have added that to their 22/23 application to make a total project cost of £14,400, for the Growing Space & Isolation project.

Their project for is in two parts:

1. To work with adults with mental ill health, autism and learning difficulties across two Key sites - Hafod Deg in the North and Ty Siriol in the south of the borough. Across these two sites we work with around 60 participants per week offering a bespoke training package of 40 accredited and non-accredited qualifications.

2. A pilot project utilizing IT, using the RWGicare platform - which will enable to combat isolation through a 'home hub' approach. we are still feeling the effects of covid, and some of our community organisations are still providing shopping and prescription collection as well as 'kindness telephone calls'. We are aware that there are currently many isolated people.

Interim monitoring information collected:

#### **Hafod Deg total engagement per activity recorded to date:**

Connecting with Nature sessions – **325**

Healthy bodies – **7**

Lunch bunch – **108**

Art/Craft – **168**

#### **Ty Siriol sessions recorded to date:**

Nature – **478**

Art/Craft – **251**

**NB.** There has been a delay delivering the second part of the project, the Isolation project. We have agreed with CCBC that their partner, The Parish Trust, will now deliver this work in the community. We know The Parish Trust well and know they have a great track record locally. The Parish Trust will not be charging any fees to deliver the activity, and CCBC is aware that it is still the grant holder with overall responsibility to ensure the money is spent on time and to report back to us on this.



## Caerphilly County Borough Council Case study: Growing Space

Here at Growing Space, we believe that walking and engaging with nature is one of the simplest and most effective forms of improving your health.

This enjoyable activity turns exercise into a social and fun occasion where you can meet with new and old friends. Recently we enjoyed learning about different types of birds on a guided walk around the beautiful Park Cwm Darren lake.

This morning I was chatting to two ladies who have been attending the walking group for some time.

One of them told the group, *"I first started having difficulties with anxiety and panic attacks back in 2007. I use this walking group to get weekly exercise and to make friends, and it helps manage my mental health, depression, anxiety and reduce stress"*.



We talked about how walking can be great when we want some alone time. But it can also be enjoyed with friends or family.

Another group member felt that the group helped with her socialising and reduced feelings of loneliness. *"It gives me a chance to talk about how I feel out loud which can help me process my thoughts."*

We all agreed Regular exercise with others helps with stress and anxiety and boosts your memory. It can also reduce your risk of getting type two diabetes.

Something that has become increasingly important to the group is going for a daily walk. We have definitely missed a few rainy grey days but sticking to a rough daily routine really helps. More importantly, walking has allowed us to take some time to think and consider the day ahead and process our emotions without distractions or notifications. This is key to wellbeing.

## Bron Afon Community Housing

2022/23

### Pitch 4 Pounds (£7,000 awarded)

A continuation of the successful Pitch 4 Pounds initiative completed in the previous year.

Due to the great success of our previous Pitch 4 pounds project and the benefit it had on the local groups and community we would like to run the project again targeting different groups within our community. To provide an opportunity for local communities to apply for funding for local projects, planned and delivered by themselves for their communities.

We have started the process in running another "pitch 4 pounds" funding project. We have given a 4-week period for groups to express interest in applying for funding between £50 and £1000. We have allocated the groups with Community development officers who will work with the groups to complete a short application form telling us about their projects and to ensure all projects hit the criteria. After this the successful groups will be able to pitch their project ideas to a panel.

End of grant monitoring is due for this project in February 2024.

## **Linc Cymru Housing Association Ltd**

**2022/23**

### **Cost of Living cupboard (£7,000 awarded)**

Essential goods as selected by tenants, for tenants (early indications say slow cookers, washing powder, sanitary goods, low energy light bulbs, children's essential items.)

We expect costs associated with volunteer expenses such as mileage for delivery of goods out to communities that need it most. We know and feel confident that once this project gets underway, we will attract donations which we will use to top up the goods purchased as part of this project.

So far, we have:

- obtained additional funding from the National Lottery Community Fund for an additional £24k
- sourced space in the Linc Office for the 'cost of living cupboard' to be set up
- allocated a project leader to manage the whole project
- shared the project with all team members so that they know they can refer tenants
- checked out the cheapest suppliers of food and toiletries to ensure we obtain best value for the products we have purchased
- We have purchased items for the cost of living cupboard based on both tenant and staff suggestions
- joined the Charis Platform which enables staff to download vouchers for residents
- used funds to top up the hardship fund
- Linked in with our partners Baobab Bach so that they can help us buy food and distribute it across communities hardest hit
- widely publicised the initiative internally and amongst our tenant groups
- been present at community events to share the contents of the cupboard via bags of shopping and used these opportunities to allocate vouchers to tenants in need
- produced publicity postcards to show where the support has come from
- used all the funding to issue vouchers for energy and food but also have supported tenants with items they could not previously afford such as fridges, cookers and carpets as well as other hardship purchases such as a phone for a resident suffering domestic abuse

## **Wales & West Housing**

**2022/23**

### **St Mary's Garden - Barry (£7,000 awarded)**

WWHG (Wales & West Housing Group) are hoping to use the £7000 towards a new project. Full projected costs are around £20,000.

WWHG were approached by St Mary's church (Barry) back in 2022. The church has its own charity group, and they operate as a not for profit. They came to us for £7,500 funding for to make their church garden more accessible, environmentally friendly, and beneficial to the community. The grounds are owned by the Church so plans/drawings have already been submitted to and approved by the Diocese of Llandaff.

Engagement, Inclusivity, Equality, Sustainability and Environmental factors are key in this project. The church is situated within the busy main shopping area of Penarth. It has good transport links and parking close by. Their committee already engage with the local community as they currently operate a foodbank, a Wellness group, Slimming World, Friends and Family group and Messy Play church sessions for children. The church is very excited at the prospect of the opportunity to become even more involved within the community.

An Open Day was held on 04/07/23. The local community, Barry Town Mayor, project sponsors, Diocesan representatives, St Helens RC Infants and Holton Road Primary along with Vale People's First were invited to celebrate. During the event the group met and consulted with visitors, they shared display plans and discussed achievements to date. They also took contact information for those interested in supporting the project.

Works completed to date:

- 60m of PVC coated metal fencing has been erected.
- 2x 6 foot double gates installed at the entrance (suitable for wheelchair users)
- 200 native saplings planted in front of fence, creating a natural hedge of approximately 1.1/2 metres wide, to encourage wildlife such as bees, butterflies, birds etc.
- Stone wall repaired and repointed

The church reports that there has been tremendous interest in this project which will be of great benefit to the community. They've even managed to secure additional sponsorships to support their project:

- Sponsorship of two friendship benches from the community
- Barry Brass Band have arranged a concert at the end of October at St Mary's Church, to raise funds for a further three benches
- CalonHearts will provide a fully-fitted, housed defibrillator for the garden
- Labour has been pledged from the Boys Probationary Group, the Church members and other local groups to build raised planters.

Final monitoring is due on this project in February 2024.

## Trivallis

**2022/23**

### **Cost of Living support (£7,000 awarded)**

Supporting with community pantries - working with volunteers within our communities to set up food pantries to serve people within the local community, support with clothing and food provision, Christmas dinners to include meats, fruits, veg, Christmas dinners on Christmas day, items to support families at Christmas, clothes horses to dry clothes, fleeces and blankets, hot water bottles and any other emergency support that is required.

Final monitoring for this project is due this month.

# Merthyr Valleys Homes

2022/23

## Top to Toe – Trefechan to Trelewis

Both The Green (Trefechan) and Community Centre (Trelewis) will be equipped with 1 x digital projector, 1 x smart board, wi-fi provision, 1 x speaker system and 1 TV monitor which will be utilised as a digital notice board.

A pool of 10 tablets and 5 laptops is included in the project scope but at no cost, this is being met from redundant internal stock and this process will continue as kit becomes unfit for purpose. We have allowed for a shopping voucher for each volunteer (£50) and beneficiary (£25). This will be purchased for a Merthyr store of the person's choice to demonstrate our commitment to growing the foundational economy in Merthyr.

We have allocated £750 for the marketing and promotion of this project. This will include digital adverts and leaflets for distribution in MVH Homes, community facilities, supermarkets, doctor surgeries and other communal places. The project also allows for training to be received by MVH colleagues to operate the various equipment. Venue hire costs will be zero due to the project utilising space either managed or leased by Merthyr Valleys Homes.

**NB.** We have been in communication with the grantee who have explained they've come across some potential issues with the building in Trefechan, which might need capital expenditure/works done. If this is the case, they will spend that element of the money in Trelewis instead, with a larger digital capacity. They will report on this accordingly when their monitoring is due.

Final monitoring on this project is due in May 2024.

# Pobl Trust

2022/23

## Community Microgrant Fund Project (£7,000 awarded)

In the 2023 calendar year, the Pobl Trust will continue its work to raise funds and allocate microgrants (up to £1,000 per application) to community groups and organisations across Wales. Our aim is to improve the quality of life and create opportunities for people and the wider communities in areas where Pobl Group work. This funding will go towards the microgrant program.

Following the pandemic, we have placed particular emphasis on the need for these projects to be sustainable; we want our grants to reach as many people as possible and want the impact of the grant to be a wide range of organisations and projects that have longevity in their individual communities well past the point at which the grant ends. Pobl Trust is keen to encourage applicants to think about the ways in which they can help their communities to help themselves; this may be through the sharing of information, skills or training, or the sharing of resources. It may be through the passing on of tips and guidance on how to live more economically, or more sustainably, through live or digital events and groups.

Interim monitoring from the trust states they have spent the full £7,000 grant: The grant has gone towards funding our community support projects including, Pobl Caersalem house, Awen Cultural Trust, Make A



Smile Charity, Surf Therapy, The Family and Community Group, Hay Jnr Football Club and Cruse Bereavement Support Cymru.

# Tai Tarian

**2022/23**

## **Graig Trebanos Community Hub (£17,000 awarded in total)**

Tai Tarian returned their £10,000 grant from 21/22 as it was unspent. They have now added that allocation together with their 22/23 allowance of £7,000 towards the above project.

Graig Trebanos Community Hub & Garden is a new venture started in Autumn 2021 to transform the disused Graig Chapel Hall into a community hub and garden for the benefit of the whole community. The project is run by Gellionnen & Graig Unitarian Church and delivered by both chapel members and local volunteers, working closely with Ysgol Trebannws, local councillors, residents, and volunteer groups including My Green Valley.

£7,000 of the funding will go towards upgrading the external front area, by rebuilding a manhole, rebuild a stone wall and installing a wood fence along the front due to health and safety issues and general maintenance. The remaining £10,000 will go towards a total re-wire of the community hub & complete kitchen refurbishment.

This project started in August 2023, therefore there is no monitoring due until the same time next year.