



**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 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 to be sent the link for an online form and for more information.

Established in 1999, Community Foundation Wales works with partners such as Welsh Procurement Alliance to help them deliver funding into Wales. We have a variety of grant-making funds and programmes available to Welsh third sector groups and organisations to help strengthen the communities in which they work. The programme of work with Welsh Procurement Alliance is different to many of the funds we distribute as the funding is only available to a discreet number of members to support their community benefit work. But what do we mean by community, and what is community benefit? In this instance, a community is a group of people living in the same place or locality or a group of people that could be considered as a community of interest, i.e.. having a particular characteristic in common. It can also be thought of as a community of sharing, having certain attitudes and/or interests in common. Community benefit reflects a commitment to improve that community, to make it a better place to live and/or work, in terms of employability, available resources and skills, and tackling inequalities by targeting under-representation. For Welsh Procurement Alliance members, community can be considered as a county specifically to those that are County Councils or could be the community supported by the relevant housing association, which could be spread much wider than one county.

Grants awarded in year one of this programme were varied in their approach to community benefit. Projects ranged from IT infrastructure support in local Community Centres to provide employability training and to support job clubs for local people, to improving outdoor green spaces in collaboration with local people as well as a resident led grant programme for local community groups.

Some members have changed the project applied for year on year, others have been more consistent applying for the same project each year, maybe with some tweaks. There is no right or wrong scenario, as long as the critical element of ensuring the £10,000 received annually is spent to benefit the community in whatever form that takes.

Year on year, we have seen an increase in members applying to distribute their grant as a grant programme for community groups. Funding grassroots community groups and organisations, is one of the areas in which we focus, we wonder if there is an opportunity to further support the groups members are funding, either by linking them to our [Grants Toolkit](#) where they will find information on how to strengthen governance to be in a position to apply for further funding either from us via our grant programmes or from other funders. If any members would be interested in exploring this further, please get in touch with Claire Buckley via email – grants@communityfoundationwales.org.uk

For the first time last year, we supported Trivallis, a Welsh Procurement Alliance member, to distribute a funding programme to the community they serve, namely Rhondda Cynon Taff. We have really enjoyed the opportunity to develop our knowledge and skills in regard to 'place based' funding. Trivallis too has welcomed our support and grant making expertise, which has helped to deliver a more transparent and robust portfolio of grants and has helped create some distance between them and the groups they support, which has been really helpful to maintain a fair and equitable process. Grant applicants then also benefit from our additional support and funding, we have matched some Trivallis grants to fully fund a project or have been able to offer funding from another of our programmes where the project didn't quite meet the Trivallis criteria. There is also the additional benefit of adding the Welsh Procurement Alliance grant to the [Trivallis Community Investment Fund](#) to help it to go even further. Please get in touch if you'd like to learn more – grants@communityfoundationwales.org.uk

We look forward to receiving a new batch of applications from members in the coming weeks and months, to reading about how they will work within their communities, as well as the difference last year's funding made to those communities. We very much welcome and encourage members to tell their story using photos, where possible, using quotes and by using case studies to describe the changes made to those they support. We will share these case studies to showcase innovation and to inspire others to consider the possibilities available to them.

Thank you for the opportunity to develop this partnership further as we look to the future, at a time when the cost-of-living crisis we are facing is really beginning to bite, so that we can continue to support, strengthen and sustain the Welsh third sector.

Andrea Powell

Director of Programmes (Deputy Chief Exec) Community Foundation Wales

Grants Awarded to Date

Caerphilly County Borough Council

2018/19

Community IT improvements (£10,000 awarded)

A grant awarded to cover the costs associated with replacing and/or updating the IT equipment in community venues within areas of high deprivation to ensure that IT facilities are not only accessible but 'worthwhile' and relevant to today's standards. An IT audit prior to application highlighted the need for the equipment needed to be able to provide IT based solutions to the communities problems. This enabled them to offer local Job Club's, access to financial inclusion projects, and the provision of 'coffee and click' club's targeting older people in a bid to increase digital participation and to combat social exclusion issues faced by our communities most vulnerable people. The project was delivered by the 2 paid staff members from the Council and 10 digital volunteers who extend their activities locally.

2020/21

Caerphilly Cares (£20,000 awarded)

To establish a universal gateway model (called Caerphilly Cares) that provides a central coordination and response team that understands the different needs of individuals at risk or suffering from disadvantage. Providing advice, support and signposting through strength-based assessments to internal and external support services, to enable them to become more resilient and live as independently as possible. This will be achieved through a strength based, community centred model, which will be incorporated into the Caerphilly Cares provision as part of a phased approach. The grant funding will pay for volunteer training, volunteer expenses and small basic start-up costs for new and emerging community groups.

2021/22

Caerphilly Cares (£10,000 awarded)

A continuation of the Caerphilly Cares project. We aim to set up a small grants scheme which will enable our new and emerging groups the necessary funding to establish themselves and provide 'community self help'. This small grant scheme may also be applied for by established groups who may be struggling to get new initiatives off the ground, and would apply to diversify their current activities. The grant money will fund room rental, basic equipment, initial project activities and start up costs.

Flintshire County Council

2018/19

New Crisis Fund (£10,000 awarded)

Provide a 'crisis fund' to address fuel poverty by assisting vulnerable households with the cost of repairing or replacing their ineffective or broken heating systems. It helped alleviate problems and difficulties facing 19 vulnerable residents who were experiencing fuel poverty and significant health issues. It provided more energy efficient measures and made a significant improvement to people's quality of life.

In total 12 boilers were either repaired or replaced including:

- 10 gas boiler replacements
- 1 oil boiler to gas boiler replacement
- 1 gas boiler repair

2019/20

Community Transport Project (£10,000 awarded)

An accessible and inclusive community transport solution for residents in Saltney Ferry, supporting vulnerable and socially isolated people where a real need for transport has been identified.

The council has witnessed a major decline in commercial bus services operating in Flintshire. Residents without a car, and individuals that are disabled have experienced the lack of transport a major barrier in accessibility to core public services and amenities. As a result, residents have experienced social exclusion and isolation and have become extremely vulnerable. This has had further health and wellbeing, independence, and dignity, and created major barriers to employment, education and training.

The funding facilitated a free weekly community transport service for residents in Saltney Ferry to access core public services, wider transport links, retail, employment and education.

Bron Afon Community Housing

2018/19

Resident led grant scheme (£10,000 awarded)

We provide support, guidance, training and development to help local groups run projects that are important to them. They set the agenda entirely. All groups are run by volunteers. Finding funding to run smaller local projects is hard for them, so by having access to grants through our resident led grant scheme enables them to run activities, events and projects that benefit the local vulnerable residents. This round of grants would be entitled 'Winter Wonders' and will be for projects that run during the winter months to help communities.

These grants benefit residents and communities and a wide variety of ways. Age ranges are from 0-100 (from mother and toddler groups to older persons activity sessions). These groups drive change in their communities. By being involved the volunteers gain experience and training which helps with their skills development (and in some instances have led directly to new jobs), the communities gain empowerment and a voice, and the residents gain friendship, companionship, understanding, new skills, confidence, safety, comfort and community spirit.

2019/20

Helping Hands (£10,000 awarded)

The Community Involvement Team will provide support, guidance, training and development to help local groups run projects that are important to them and their communities. All groups will be run by volunteers. Finding funding to run local projects is often hard for groups, so having access to grants through our Community Grant scheme enables them to run these activities, events and projects that benefit the local vulnerable residents living within the area.

All projects must meet the criteria set by WPA and demonstrate that they follow the Bron Afon values. This round of grants would be entitled 'Helping Hands' and be for projects that run during the winter months to help communities. These could be anything from social inclusion events for those lonely at Christmas, to supporting door step challenges that provide meals and warm clothing to those who need it.

2020/21

Step Up Support Funding (£10,000 awarded)

To provide an opportunity for local communities to apply for funding for local projects, planned and delivered by themselves for their communities.

We are open to ideas on any projects that will support families and the community over the winter period. We are open to ideas that will increase wellbeing, connectivity, a helping hand in this current period or helping to reduce loneliness. social inclusion, financial inclusion, digital participation, local community projects and employability projects.

Offering a funding scheme to groups, organisations and businesses in Torfaen who have a link with the community and those in social deprivation and need. They will register their idea and projects outcomes and a panel of residents, and an Officer will scrutinise all applications. Groups will be able to apply for grants between £50- £1000 to deliver their project.

2021/22

Pitch 4 Pounds (£10,000 awarded)

To provide an opportunity for local communities to apply for funding for local projects, planned and delivered by themselves for the benefit of their communities. We are open to ideas that will increase wellbeing, connectivity, helping to reduce loneliness, social inclusion, financial inclusion, digital participation, and any local community projects. Through pitch for pounds they will register their idea and projects outcomes and a panel Officer will meet with all applications to complete an application form. If the group is successful in meeting the themes the group will then be invited to pitch their project idea to a panel in a fun Dragon's Den style setting. Groups will be able to apply for grants between £50- £1000 to deliver their project.

Linc Cymru Housing Association Ltd

2018/19

Community Benefit Project (£10,000 awarded)

The funding will be used to support existing community and voluntary groups to fund a service, facility or activity in partnership with Linc Cymru. Benefits will vary according to what is funded but could include:

- Increased use and access to green space
- Increased levels of recycling
- Increased quality of green space

2019/20

Maesyffynnon Extra Care (£10,000 awarded)

The funding will be used to support existing community and voluntary groups to fund a service, facility or activity in partnership with Linc Cymru. Benefits could vary according to what is funded but could include:

- increased use and access to green space
- co-design and development of natural play and forest school areas
- development of community growing spaces and projects

Our recent Natural Resources Wales funded project Growing Green Spaces produced a good practice guide which shows the learning from the project and our partners. There are many benefits from high quality green space and green infrastructure and access to it.

2020/21

Sirhowy Court and Morrison Court Greening Projects (£10,000 awarded)

We want to work with existing communities and tenants to improve green spaces and access to community grown food. This project will help enable community groups in Sirhowy Court in Tredegar and Morrison Court in Port Talbot to realise their plans to improve nature on their doorstep by:

- Growing fruit and vegetables
- Raised beds, planters, and benches
- Tree trimming and planting of feature trees and native hedgerows
- Removing some small areas of selected paving to replace with trees and shrubs
- Planting wildflower areas

Both communities are a mixture of young families and single people with a small number of older people's flats also situated at Morrison Court.

We also hope when safe to do so that the project will provide opportunities for multi-generational friendships, support and learning from each other in a safe socially distanced outdoor space. Which will ease loneliness for single people or those with small networks. There is significant evidence to show these positive effects and now more than ever access to outdoor space is crucial.

2021/22

Re-store Pilot Furniture Project (£10,000 awarded)

This pilot furniture project called Re-Store will focus on supporting Linc tenants in Newport and Torfaen, working in partnership with local recycling centres, our contractors and Pobl Group.

The aims of the pilot are to provide recycled furniture to:

- Low-income households who are experiencing financial difficulties and in need of specific items to improve their quality of life and sustain their tenancies. In this situation, tenants would receive 'Home Packs' to assist them.
- Tenants in crisis who have no money for furniture in their existing or new accommodation. The recycling centres, in this instance, would provide packs of emergency household items – bed, table, chairs, crockery and white goods, if available

The project will help them to set up home, improved their wellbeing and avoid a tenancy failure. It will also promote awareness of reducing, reusing and recycling for Linc and Pobl tenants, staff, contractors and the wider community.

The recycling centres will provide volunteering opportunities for our tenants and run upcycling sessions and open days to promote the project. The wider community and recycling centres will also benefit from improved

awareness and increased furniture donations,

Wales & West Housing

2018/19

Community Benefit (£10,000 awarded)

Wales & West Housing will provide a community garden makeover to offer a safe, secure and therapeutic environment for adults and children fleeing domestic abuse.

The project will provide a safe but fun place for young children to play; the garden will also provide a therapeutic area where the adults who access the service may relax with one another. This will include seating and a variety of plants and flowers to create a sensory garden. There are also plans for staff to work with residents and children to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs, and potentially create a mural.

When a family flees domestic abuse it can be a very chaotic and daunting experience so if we were able to provide an area where people could feel safe and integrate with, encouraging them to become part of a small community, then this would be a huge benefit for all the adults and children accessing the service. The facility aims to be a home from home and feel less institutional so improving this area will be crucial to achieving this environment. The improvements to the area will provide a much-needed space to improve both physical and mental health amongst service users.

2019/20

Access Improvements (£10,000 awarded)

Create a new safe route around the park for play; improve surface and width of existing pathways and access into the park. The surplus soil will be used to also create a pump bike track for people to use.

The pathways and picnic seating area are made of gravel and mud, they are worn, uneven and in need of improvement to ensure full accessibility for wheelchair users and general safety. The pathways are too narrow for pushchairs/wheelchairs/parents walking with children.

Working with the Secondary School for their students to participate whilst working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. We would like the Primary School to get involved in creating sensory areas around the footpath. The local nursery use the park daily and keen to be involved in the project, improving better access to the park will enable them to visit with younger children, currently limited to access due to the pushchairs. They will also support with developing the sensory areas.

2020/21

Cofio – Remember (£10,000 awarded)

We support residents living with dementia, Parkinson's and poor mental health. In addition to the care and support we already provide we would like to introduce a new project 'To transform spaces in our extra care homes to create social areas that can relieve boredom and depression, allow interaction, increase nutrition, and improve mental wellbeing such as memory loss'. Success of the project will be evidenced through qualitative and quantitative information.

Installing a RemPod in our extra care homes would enable us to transform the space and create interactive social spaces. This grant would be used to purchase four RemPods. We work with contractors who gift their skills, materials and time to help us deliver community projects. We can also draw upon staff volunteer days to help.

RemPods offer a variety of reminiscent scenes, and by installing a RemPod in each of our schemes we hope to

provide safe, therapeutic and calming environments to reduce anxiety and agitation of our residents. We understand that familiarity for dementia sufferers is important and being able to introduce ways to stimulate smells, sound, taste can help transport people back in time and enable us to work with them more effectively. The RemPod can be used on a 1:1 to basis or for groups.

2021/22

Ardal Cymunedol Maenclochog Community space (£10,000 awarded)

There are 3 steps to the project. Although step 1 is not reliant on step 2 and 3 being delivered.

Step 1 costs £56,519 – to purchase new equipment for the play area (including zip wire, swings, boulders, net swing, springies, resurfacing of the area)

The WPA funding would contribute to Step 1 costs, of which £40,500 has already been secured. The WPA funding of £10k would mean there is only a shortfall of £6,019.98 which the Community Council and WWH will look to secure via alternative funding means or alternative goods at a reduced costs will be used.

Trivallis

2019/20

Community Benefit Projects (£20,000 awarded)

There are three elements to this project:

Community engagement projects - this will focus on two areas of stock where we will support a range of community activities (fit and fed, youth activities etc) that will encourage and support local people to become involved in the decisions that will affect their community going forward.

Improving training and employment opportunities - Trivallis will work with our tenants and a business provider to review, change and embed new practices which will allow us to increase the training and employment, community benefit and social value from our future investment. This will provide tangible benefits such as increasing local training and apprentice opportunities, improving community facilities and supporting locally managed co-operatives.

Improving the wellbeing of our communities - we will work with Merhyr and the Valleys Mind to deliver a range of therapeutic services to our tenants to support them improving their mental health and overall wellbeing. This project will use evidence-based therapies and support the most vulnerable to engage.

2020/21

Trivallis & Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council Food Fund Partnership (£10,000 awarded)

Trivallis would like to work in partnership with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC) to form a Food Fund, a grant funding provision allowing community groups to apply for funding for food. This will be for local, vulnerable communities in RCT. RCTCBC will be part funding the Food Fund with £10,000 and the CFW grant we are applying for will be used to match fund.

2021/22

Trivallis & RCTCBC Food Fund (£10,000 awarded)

The project aims to support foodbanks and food support projects in Rhondda Cynon Taf that have been established during the Covid-19 pandemic. Organisations applying to the fund must deliver food support to

residents and communities within RCT.

Applicants will be able to apply for a grant of £500, which must be used to deliver a food provision in their community. There is an open call for applications with no deadlines for submission. Proposals will be assessed on a first come first served basis, subject to eligibility and available budget. Groups may apply for more than one grant providing funds are available.

Carmarthenshire County Council

2020/21

Next Steps (£20,000 awarded)

Next Steps is an innovative multi-organisation initiative that offers young people training in Construction, an opportunity to gain a modern apprenticeship with either local contractors or Carmarthenshire County Council whilst working on a community based project.

The project involves Carmarthenshire County Council, Coleg Sir Gar, CCTAL/CYFLE, Lloyd & Gravel Ltd, and TRJ Ltd. Young people apply for a place on Next Steps and if successful at interview are offered a two week placement at Coleg Sir Gar before joining a site based team undertaking a Community Benefit Project.

In the past projects have included constructing sensory gardens and outside spaces in Care Homes and Respite Centres, Schools for pupils with learning difficulties and Glangwili Hospital Children's Ward.

Merthyr Valleys Homes

2020 - 2022

Various community projects (£28,600 awarded)

Project 1 – Calon Las Environmental Project

Project 2 – Recycling for Sport

Project 3 – Croeso i Lys Sant Tudful - Intergenerational Project

Project 4 – Acts of Christmas Kindness

Project 5 - Young Men's Mental Health Kit

Project 6 – A Feel Good Christmas

Project 7 - Mini Members

Project 8 - Young Voices

Project 9 - You and Your Wellbeing

Project 10 – Get Crafty (Dementia Mats)

Pobl Trust

2020/21

Community Trust Project (£10,000 awarded)

The funding would be directly distributed to beneficiary groups; Pobl Trust's overheads and core costs would be covered by the Trust/Pobl Group. The beneficiary groups would have discretion over how they spent the money, provided it was in accordance with the Trust's terms and conditions (for example, a direct project cost).

2021/22

Community Fund Project (£10,000 awarded)

The Pobl Trust Community Fund will provide micro-grants (up to £1,000 per application) to support community initiatives and organisations working in the areas where Pobl Group operates.

Tai Tarian

2020/21

Brynhfryd House – A place to share (£10,000 awarded)

Brynhfryd House is a community hub developed for the people of Neath Port Talbot, a warm friendly base where you can access services under one roof.

In the last year the hub has set up a food donation service for the wider community. This has become very successful and the demand is growing. The room that is currently being used is not fit for purpose. It requires a full make over, wall units and base units to store the food, worktops, new nonslip floor, plastering, painting, create a grocery store, stacking shelves, electric points for fridges and freezers.

This will hugely benefit the wider community. The aim to help reduce food poverty in the area, bring people into the building and whilst visiting they will see other activities, services and opportunities they can access, such as volunteering, training, employment support and charity shop.

2021/22

Canolfan Maerdy (£10,000 awarded)

Canolfan Maerdy is an organisation for the upper Amman Valley and one of our most deprived rural areas. It provides a multifunction community hub, meeting the needs of the community as part of a collaborative effort to regenerate local economy. The services they provide under one roof include: Lots of tots nursery, Youth Club, Community Café, Food Hub, Community Transport and facilities to deliver adult learning courses. This funding will cover materials, non-voluntary expenditure, fruit trees, compost bins, plants and seeds for the hub.