

Meeting of:	Place Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	Tuesday, 16 September 2025
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Place Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Update on the delivery of the Shared Prosperity Fund 2022 – 2026
Purpose of Report:	To provide Scrutiny Committee with an update on the Shared Prosperity Fund Local Investment Plan 2022-2025, and the 2025/26 transition year
Report Owner:	Director of Place
Responsible Officer:	Operational Manager - Regeneration
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Legal Services - Committee Reports Operational Manager (Accountancy) Operational Manager - Partnerships and Community Manager – Community Learning and Resources Team Leader (Community Development, External Grants and Funding) Team Leader (Economy & Neighbourhood Regeneration) Finance Support Manager (Place) Director of Learning and Skills
Policy Framework:	This report has been produced in line with the existing policy framework and budget
Executive Summary: The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) was introduced by the UK Government in 2022 as part of its Levelling Up agenda, with the aim of building pride in place and increasing life chances. The Vale of Glamorgan received £14.029m for the 2022 to 2025 period. This was used to deliver a range of projects under the investment priorities of Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business, and People and Skills.	

- This phase of the programme has now concluded, and the full allocation was utilised. Delivery has supported a wide range of local initiatives, strengthening communities, supporting economic recovery, and investing in skills and employment opportunities.
- In late 2024 the UK Government announced a one-year transition extension of the SPF into 2025/26 financial year at a reduced level of approximately 60% of the 24/25 financial year budget. The Vale's allocation for 2025/26 is £4.668m. This provides continuity and stability for some, but not all, local partners, and projects whilst work progresses nationally on future funding arrangements.
- This report updates Scrutiny Committee on the final position for the 2022–2025 programme, and the approvals made within the current transition year.

Recommendations

1. That Scrutiny Committee considers the final position for delivery of the Vale of Glamorgan Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) 2022 to 2025 programme.
2. That Scrutiny Committee considers the position on the 2025/26 transition year programme and the approvals made to date.
3. That Scrutiny Committee receives a further report in 2026 on the final position, following the completion of the transition year programme.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. To provide oversight of the delivery and outcomes of the SPF 2022 to 2025 Local Investment Plan.
2. To ensure Scrutiny Committee is informed of the Council's use of SPF transition year funding.
3. To maintain effective scrutiny of programme delivery and financial management.

1. Background

- 1.1 The UKSPF formed part of the UK Government's wider Levelling Up White Paper commitments. In Wales, the fund has been managed regionally, with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council acting as the lead authority for the Cardiff Capital Region. Local authorities developed Local Investment Plans, setting out how the funding would be used to meet national and local priorities.
- 1.2 The Vale of Glamorgan's allocation for 2022 to 2025 totalled £14.029m. This was a mix of revenue and capital, providing flexibility to fund a range of activity. Local delivery was overseen by the Council in line with the priorities agreed with the Cardiff Capital Region. The lead body returned a further £145k to The Vale of Glamorgan in January 2025, which was allocated to projects. This increased the total fund to **£14.174m**.
- 1.3 In the 2024 Autumn Budget, the UK Government confirmed that SPF would continue for one transition year, 2025/26, before new arrangements are put in place. For the Vale, the allocation is £4.668m. While reduced, it has provided certainty and continuity of provision for some projects, though not all.

2 Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 The 2022–2025 programme is now complete. A summary of financial allocations is provided in Appendix A.

- 2.2 The Vale of Glamorgan allocation of £14.174m was fully utilised and projects were delivered across the three investment priorities. Examples included town centre regeneration schemes, business support programmes, support for community-lead initiatives and targeted skills interventions.
- 2.3 A transition year for 2025-2026 has been put in place by UK Government, operating under a similar, but simplified model.
- 2.4 The Vale continues to operate under a Service Level Agreement with the Cardiff Capital Region lead authority, Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC. Regular reporting and assurance processes are in place to ensure compliance with national requirements and to demonstrate delivery of outcomes.
- 2.5 The Vale of Glamorgan Council set up a Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) panel, which is responsible for appraising and approving projects, the membership includes:
- The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources
 - The Director of Place
 - Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal & Democratic Services
 - The Head of Finance / S151 Officer
 - The panel is supported by staff from the Place and Learning & Skills departments.

2.6 Shared Prosperity Fund 2022–2025 Vale of Glamorgan – Outcomes at a glance

Communities and Place

2,874m² public realm improved

11,571 trees planted

4,121m² green/blue space created or improved

529 local events and activities supported

2,101 projects successfully completed

493 households supported

2,781 people engaged through community projects

Supporting Local Business

265 enterprises supported (financial and non-financial)

79 enterprises received grants

42 commercial buildings improved

44 new enterprises created

28 people trained

2 jobs created (within the programme period 22-25)

25 organisations engaged in knowledge transfer.

People and Skills

424 economically inactive people engaged with keyworker support
470 receiving support towards employment
439 engaged in job-searching
260 people gained qualifications
112 people in work accessing training
324 supported in life skills
103 people moved into employment after support.

Multiply (Adult Numeracy)

272 courses run
2,763 participants supported
163 achieved maths qualifications
1,916 participating in courses towards Level 2.

- 2.7 Further outcomes will be captured in the period following April 2025 such as jobs created, due to the fact that businesses expected to create these roles and achieve other outcomes after the end of the programming period.
- 2.8 Appendix C is a case study document highlighting a variety of 2022-2025 projects and lists recipients of funding. It contains videos and a sample of written summaries of Vale of Glamorgan projects from across the three SPF themes and multiply.
- 2.9 The Vale's allocation for the transition year is £4.668m which represents a reduction of around 40% on the third year of the 2022-2025 programme period. UK Government simplified interventions and monitoring requirements, enabling greater flexibility and efficiency. With a focus on enabling projects to continue where possible, the Council reviewed its portfolio of projects to ensure alignment with local priorities. Approvals for the transition year are summarised in Appendix B. These include support for continuation of successful projects, targeted new interventions where gaps were identified, and activity aligned with Council priorities, such as town centre regeneration, business resilience, community development and skills. Budgets are broken down by theme and project.

3 How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

3.1 The SPF programme supports the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act through:

Long term: Projects such as skills training build resilience for the future.

Integration: Activity supports Council priorities in regeneration, skills, economic development, and community resilience.

Involvement: Delivery of most projects involves local businesses, community

groups, and residents.

Prevention: Interventions help address inequalities, support vulnerable communities, and strengthen the local economy.

Collaboration: Many projects see communities and businesses collaborating to achieve common goals.

- 3.2 Delivery aligns with the Vale of Glamorgan's Corporate Plan well-being objectives, particularly those relating to supporting a strong economy, reducing inequalities, and promoting sustainable communities.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1 Projects supported through SPF contribute to the Council's Project Zero ambitions. Examples include energy efficiency initiatives, support for business decarbonisation, and investment in active and sustainable travel infrastructure. Future projects supported under the transition year will continue to be required to demonstrate alignment with the Council's climate and nature priorities.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1 The Council fully utilised its 2022 to 2025 allocation of £14.174m. The Vale's transition allocation for 2025/ 6 is £4.668m. Details of financial allocations and project approvals are set out in Appendices A and B.

Employment

- 5.2 SPF funding has supported employment both directly (through programme staff and project delivery roles) and indirectly (through business support, skills training, and community interventions).

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.3 The Council accesses SPF funding via a Service Level Agreement with lead authority, Rhondda Cynon Taff. Equalities are considered throughout project development and delivery. All funded projects are required to demonstrate how they contribute to reducing inequalities and supporting inclusive growth.

6. Background Papers

None

Appendix A September 16 Place Scrutiny Committee

Investment Priority	Intervention
Communities & Place	W1 Improvements to town centres & High Streets
Communities & Place	W3 Creation of and improvements to local green spaces
Communities & Place	W5 Built & landscaped environment to design out crime
Communities & Place	W6 Local arts, cultural, heritage & creative activities
Communities & Place	W7 Support for active travel enhancements
Communities & Place	W9 Impactful volunteering and/or social action projects
Communities & Place	W10 Local sports facilities, tournaments, teams & leagues
Communities & Place	W12 Community engagement schemes, local regeneration
Communities & Place	W13 Community measures to reduce the cost of living
Communities & Place	W14 Relevant feasibility studies
Communities & Place Total	

Supporting Local Business	W17 Development & promotion of visitor economy
Supporting Local Business	W19 Investment in research and development at the local level
Supporting Local Business	W22 Enterprise infrastructure & employment / innovation sites
Supporting Local Business	W23 Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems
Supporting Local Business	W24 Training hubs, business support offers, incubators
Supporting Local Business	W29 Supporting decarbonisation whilst growing the local economy
Supporting Local Business	W31 Support relevant feasibility studies
Supporting Local Business Total	

People & Skills	W34 Employment support for economically inactive people
People & Skills	W38 Tailored support for the employed to access courses
People & Skills	W40 Green skills courses
People & Skills	W42 Local digital skills
People & Skills	W43 Funding to support engagement and softer skills development for young people
People & Skills Total	

Multiply	W44 Courses designed to increase confidence with numbers for those needing the first steps towards formal qualifications
Multiply	W45 Courses for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression

Total UKSPF Allocation (Capital + Revenue) £	% Fund Total
£ 456,581.11	3.22%
£ 45,437.74	0.32%
£ 100,553.91	0.71%
£ 677,151.87	4.78%
£ 2,106,109.26	14.86%
£ 1,333,088.37	9.40%
£ 554,360.32	3.91%
£ 46,802.96	0.33%
£ 183,178.59	1.29%
£ 211,610.08	1.49%
£ 5,714,874.21	40.32%

£ 470,735.14	3.32%
£ 808,357.52	5.70%
£ 1,502,743.64	10.60%
£ 387,997.80	2.74%
£ 237,410.10	1.67%
£ 118,760.44	0.84%
£ 106,246.15	0.75%
£ 3,632,250.79	25.62%

£ 1,957,991.88	13.81%
£ 5,735.00	0.04%
£ 38,950.00	0.27%
£ 54,423.01	0.38%
£ 256,892.00	1.81%
£ 2,313,991.89	16.32%

£ 336,242.62	2.37%
£ 434,232.26	3.06%

Capital Allocation	Revenue Allocation
£ 407,797.59	£ 48,783.52
£ 45,437.74	£ -
£ 100,553.91	£ -
£ 513,028.53	£ 164,123.34
£ 2,047,392.13	£ 58,717.13
£ 770,391.75	£ 562,696.62
£ 554,360.32	£ -
£ -	£ 46,802.96
£ -	£ 183,178.59
£ -	£ 211,610.08
£ 4,438,961.97	£ 1,275,912.24

£ 206,511.86	£ 264,223.28
£ 174,835.86	£ 633,521.66
£ 1,495,055.74	£ 7,687.90
£ 153,322.63	£ 234,675.17
£ -	£ 237,410.10
£ 113,966.67	£ 4,793.77
£ -	£ 106,246.15
£ 2,143,692.76	£ 1,488,558.03

£ -	£ 1,957,991.88
£ -	£ 5,735.00
£ -	£ 38,950.00
£ -	£ 54,423.01
£ 47,685.00	£ 209,207.00
£ 47,685.00	£2,266,306.89

£ -	£ 336,242.62
£ -	£ 434,232.26

Multiply	W47 Courses aimed at people who can't apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in order to access a certain job/career
Multiply	W49 Innovative programmes delivered together with employers – including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace
Multiply	W51 Courses designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money
People & Skills Total	

VoG Fund Administration
RCT Fund Administration
CCR Contribution

Grand Total

£ 329,048.27	2.32%
£ 294,789.27	2.08%
£ 134,479.87	0.95%
£ 1,528,792.29	10.79%

£ 565,348.91	3.99%
£ 216,450.68	1.53%
£ 203,114.00	1.43%

£ 14,174,822.77	100.00%
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£ -	£ 329,048.27
£ -	£ 294,789.27
£ -	£ 134,479.87
£ -	£ 1,528,792.29

£ 41,741.82	£ 523,607.09
£ -	£ 216,450.68
£ -	£ 203,114.00

£ 6,672,081.55	£ 7,502,741.22
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Project Name	Organisation	Cap/Rev	Total UKSPF funding
W1 Improvements to town centres & High Streets			
The Knap Skatepark	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 217,000.00
Old Hall	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 151,000.00
NHW Community Connections	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 48,783.52
Cliff Top Car Park	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 39,797.59

W3 Creation of and improvements to local green spaces			
Tree Planting	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 45,437.74

W5 Built & landscaped environment to design out crime			
Alley Gates	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 100,553.91

W6 Local arts, cultural, heritage & creative activities			
Country Park Branding & interpretation project	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 70,380.00
Meaningful Movement	Motion Control Dance	Rev	£ 25,961.43
Community Growing	Slade Farm/ FieldWorks Studio	Rev	£ 93,552.02
Memo Arts Centre	Memo Arts Centre	Rev	£ 39,908.70
Penarth Athletic Club	Penarth Athletic Club	Cap	£ 95,000.00
Murchfield Recreation Ground	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 86,509.00
Cwrt Y Vil MUGA	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 96,694.42
Barry Swimming Pool	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 67,240.00
Fit for the Future	Ty Hafan	Cap	£ 24,800.00
Old Hall New Era	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap/Rev	£ 72,405.11
Makers Space	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 4,701.19

W7 Support for active travel enhancements			
Barry Wayfinding	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 261,994.50
Ty Iolo Bike Club	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 24,144.00
Public Rights of Way Access Improvement	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 600,184.70
Great Glamorgan Way	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 497,091.81
Electric Bike Loan Scheme	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap/Rev	£ 188,287.00
Walking Bus	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 12,773.13

Summer Bike Club	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	1,800.00
E Bike Study	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	20,000.00
Brompton Bike Docks	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	192,428.53
Subway Road Tunnel	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	87,725.00
Cosmeston Boardwalk	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	33,917.28
Pedestrian Improvements	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	185,763.31

W9 Impactful volunteering and/or social action projects				
Country Park Gateway re-development project	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	242,594.74
Tackling Poverty and Deprivation Programme	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	98,866.20
GVS- Third Sector Small Grants Scheme	Glamorgan Voluntraty Service	Rev	£	181,170.51
Cast Away Stress	Reel Minds CiC	Rev	£	38,672.00
Intersensory Club	The Intersesnory Club	Rev	£	25,473.60
Caru Cymru	Keep Wales Tidy	Rev	£	65,896.15
Cadog's Corner	Cadog's Corner	Cap	£	13,678.19
Chickenwood Park	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	119,743.74
Murchfield Roof	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	201,490.25
Strong Communities Grant (& staff)	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	24,307.23
Alexandra Gardens Community Association	Alexandra Gardens Community Association	Rev	£	9,726.01
DPVS	DPVS	Rev	£	6,193.08
Highlight Park Community Centre	Highlight Park Community Centre	Cap	£	21,962.00
Llandow Village Hall	Llandow Village Hall	Cap	£	16,650.00
Murch Bowling Club	Murch Bowling Club	Cap	£	10,347.82
Penarth Ministry (CIW)	Penarth Ministry (CIW)	Cap	£	34,659.55
Rhondda Cold Knap Lifeguard Club	Rhondda Cold Knap Lifeguard Club	Rev	£	8,552.58
Crawshay Court Residents Association	Crawshay Court Residents Association	Rev	£	3,732.20
Sully CC & Our Future Community	Sully CC & Our Future Community	Rev	£	11,376.00
Colwinston old Ford	Colwinston old Ford	Cap	£	11,043.00
Cowbridge Scout Group	Cowbridge Scout Group	Cap	£	14,158.95
Ogmore by Sea Village Hall	Ogmore by Sea Village Hall	Rev	£	7,500.00
The Intersensory Club	The Intersensory Club	Cap	£	18,717.60
Barry Athletic Club Feasibility Study	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	12,912.50
Restore the Thaw	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	48,789.17

Events Equipment	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	16,556.74
Youth Bus Staff	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	68,318.56

W10 Local sports facilities, tournaments, teams & leagues				
LM Changing Rooms	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	105,716.87
Coastal Infrastructure	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	14,356.87
Leisure Centre National Exercise Referral Scheme Equipment (NERS)	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	96,496.30
Wenvoe Pavillion New Roof	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	71,790.28
Penarth High Level PV Panels & Glazing	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	266,000.00

W12 Community engagement schemes, local regeneration				
Participation HQ	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	35,627.96
New Local	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	11,175.00

W13 Community measures to reduce the cost of living				
Bike hire scheme – Llantwit Major	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	58,374.84
Greenlinks Community Transport	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	81,370.10
Community Hack Events	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	8,001.83
Gibbonsdown Community Hub	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	27,431.82
CF61 PV Panels	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	8,000.00

W14 Relevant feasibility studies				
Green Infrastructure Plan	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	24,950.00
Tree Shrub and Plant Enterprise Study	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	38,500.00
Amelia Trust	Amelia Trust Farm	Rev	£	9,100.00
Food Vale Partnership Projects	Cardiff & Vale UHB	Rev	£	56,027.31
Move More, Eat Well	Cardiff & Vale UHB	Rev	£	21,676.02
Barry Library	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	25,306.75
Medieval Village Feasibility Study	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	36,050.00

Project Name	Organisation	Cap/Rev	Total UKSPF funding
W17 Development & promotion of visitor economy			
Destination Marketing & PR Campaign	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 44,961.00
Regional Consumer and Trade Marketing Activity	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 15,678.93
Vale of Glamorgan Events Programme	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 193,856.30
Foxy's Deli	Foxy's Deli	Rev	£ 4,700.00
TFSLET Ltd	TFSLET Ltd	Cap	£ 15,000.00
Bashed UK	Bashed UK	Cap	£ 29,473.38
Ewenny Garden Centre	Ewenny Garden Centre	Cap	£ 17,456.48
Old Industries Ltd- The Cross Inn	Old Industries Ltd	Cap	£ 80,000.01
Collar Club Summer Field	Collar Club	Cap	£ 11,057.36
Llandow Karting Circuit	Llandow Karting Circuit	Cap	£ 27,927.98
Mack Events Presents Ltd	Mack Events Presents Ltd	Cap	£ 13,650.00
Crafted Arts & Vale Jewellery	Crafted Arts & Vale Jewellery	Rev	£ 5,027.05
Zios Gelateria	Zios Gelateria	Cap	£ 11,946.65

W19 Investment in research and development at the local level			
Food & Farming	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 103,752.32
CGIC (Clean Growth Innovation Community Programme)	Cardiff Met	Rev	£ 150,438.77
CEMET	University of South Wales	Rev	£ 115,162.98
Innovation Net Zero	Innovation Strategy	Rev	£ 219,762.09
TerraDat UK Ltd	TerraDat UK Ltd	Cap	£ 47,064.50
Haya (UK) Ltd	Haya (UK) Ltd	Rev	£ 9,998.15
A.E. Dental Laboratory	A.E. Dental Laboratory	Cap	£ 1,285.65
Vale Hearing Healthcare Ltd	Vale Hearing Healthcare Ltd	Rev	£ 6,691.97
Love Lagree Ltd	Love Lagree Ltd	Cap	£ 22,243.59
Welsh Coffee Co	Welsh Coffee Co	Cap	£ 49,495.10
Iguana Apparel LLP	Iguana Apparel LLP	Cap	£ 22,249.52
Graven Guild Ltd	Graven Guild Ltd	Rev	£ 8,057.56
JMB Maintenance	JMB Maintenance	Rev	£ 7,806.50
ABC Designs	ABC Designs	Cap	£ 32,497.50

Blackletter Games	Blackletter Games	Rev	£	6,700.00
The Bearded Taco	The Bearded Taco	Rev	£	5,151.32

W22 Enterprise infrastructure & employment / innovation sites

Train Shed roof lights and windows	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	26,076.89
BSC2 - new fire alarm system	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	7,687.90
CEC new fire alarm system	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	17,559.30
BSC2 Renovations	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	1,119,737.93
TJ Williams Ltd	TJ Williams Ltd	Cap	£	64,055.70
Baffle Haus	Baffle Haus	Cap	£	10,608.02
The Milk Shed, Cowbridge	The Milk Shed, Cowbridge	Cap	£	57,017.90
C1V	Legacy Leisure	Cap	£	200,000.00

W23 Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems

Vale Town Centres	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	55,000.00
Business Hack Events	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	9,451.72
Cowbridge Farmers Market- Event Marquees	Cowbridge Farmers Market	Cap	£	14,897.56
Belle Vue Community Centre	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£	88,425.07
Purple Shoots- Self Reliant Groups in VOG	Purple Shoots	Rev	£	39,680.00
Business Grants Admin	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	22,881.10
Town Centre minor shop-front improvement grant scheme top-up	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	52,462.35
CCR Energy- Business Engagement & Social Value Lead	CCR Energy	Rev	£	55,200.00
Lloydstone Ltd t/a Brawd Health	Lloydstone Ltd t/a Brawd Health	Cap	£	50,000.00

W24 Training hubs, business support offers, incubators

Vale Business Start-up bursary top-up	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	100,300.30
Tramshed Tech	Tramshed Tech	Rev	£	137,109.80

W29 Supporting decarbonisation whilst growing the local economy

Milkshed Workspace Penarth	Milkshed	Cap	£	42,219.17
Holton House Services Offices	Holton House Services Offices	Rev	£	4,793.77

CCR Energy- Solar Panels	CCR Energy	Cap	£	11,000.00
C&P Super Ice Cream	C&P Super Ice Cream	Cap	£	18,000.00
Reggies Innovation Project	Reggies Pride	Cap	£	42,747.50

W31 Support relevant feasibility studies				
Hensol Feasibility Study	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	24,996.15
Buildings Decarb Study	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	31,000.00
Airport Feasibility Study	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£	50,250.00

Project Name	Organisation	Cap/Rev	Total UKSPF funding
W34 Employment support for economically inactive people			
Celt+	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 1,820,204.97
Steps to Progress	The Wallich	Rev	£ 104,396.41
Mind in the Vale	Mind	Rev	£ 33,390.50
W38 Tailored support for the employed to access courses			
EV Fitters	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 5,735.00
W40 Green skills courses			
Biodiversity training for Vale Council Staff	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 38,950.00
W42 Local digital skills			
Empower People	Cardiff Met	Rev	£ 54,423.01
W43 Funding to support engagement and softer skills development for young people			
STARN (Supporting those at Risk NEET)	Cardiff & Vale College	Rev	£ 209,207.00
Youth Bus	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Cap	£ 47,685.00

Project Name	Organisation	Cap/Rev	Total UKSPF funding
W44 Courses designed to increase confidence with numbers for those needing the first steps towards formal qualifications			
Engaging Numeracy & Financial Literacy	Cardiff & Vale College	Rev	£ 279,555.99
Multiply App	Vale of Glamorgan Council	Rev	£ 56,686.63

W45 Courses for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression			
Numeracy and Financial Literacy (ESOL, Family Learning and Intensive Support)	Cardiff & Vale College	Rev	£ 411,860.78
Cook Stars	Cook Stars	Rev	£ 22,371.48

W47 Courses aimed at people who can't apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in order to access a			
Adult Targeted Numeracy (ESW)	Cardiff & Vale College	Rev	£ 329,048.27

W49 Innovative programmes delivered together with employers – including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace			
Skills in the Workplace	Cardiff & Vale College	Rev	£ 162,738.25
Education at Llamau	Llamau	Rev	£ 132,051.02

W51 Courses designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money			
Make My Money Work	Passport 2 Employment Ltd	Rev	£ 134,479.87

Appendix B Place Scrutiny Sep 16 2025

Investment Priority	Theme	Sub-Theme
Communities & Place	Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities	Healthy: Improve health and wellbeing
Communities & Place	Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities	Safe: Reduce crime and the fear of crime
Communities & Place	Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities	Inclusive: Bringing communities together, tackling homelessness
Communities & Place	Thriving Places	High Streets and town centres improvements
Communities & Place	Thriving Places	Development of the visitor economy
Communities & Place Total		

Supporting Local Business	Support for Local Business	Advice and support to business
Supporting Local Business	Support for Local Business	Enterprise Support and start up support
Supporting Local Business	Support for Local Business	Business Sites and Premises
Supporting Local Business Total		

People & Skills	Employability	Supporting people to progress towards and into employment
People & Skills	Employability	Support for young people who are or at risk of being NEET
People & Skills	Skills	Essential Skills (including numeracy, literacy, ESOL and digital)
People & Skills	Skills	Employment Related Skills
People & Skills Total		

Fund Administration (Revenue)		
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Grand Total		
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Total UKSPF Allocation (Capital + Revenue) £	% Fund Total
£ 457,775.64	£ 0.10
£-	£ -
£ 1,335,862.24	£ 0.29
£ 51,000.00	£ 0.01
£ 296,552.80	£ 0.06
£ 2,141,190.68	£ 0.46

£981,398.00	21.02%
£41,580.74	0.89%
£200,000.00	4.28%
£1,222,978.74	26.20%

£558,932.00	11.97%
£220,000.00	4.71%
£374,267.00	8.02%
£-	0.00%
£1,153,199.00	24.70%

£150,578.84	3.23%
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£4,667,947.26	100.00%
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Capital Allocation	Revenue Allocation
£ 438,250.00	£ 19,525.64
£-	£-
£ 674,790.00	£ 661,072.24
£-	£ 51,000.00
£ 226,552.80	£ 70,000.00
£ 1,339,592.80	£ 801,597.88

£720,000.00	£261,398.00
£-	£41,580.74
£200,000.00	£-
£920,000.00	£302,978.74

£-	£558,932.00
£-	£220,000.00
£-	£374,267.00
£-	£-
£-	£1,153,199.00

£41,741.82	£108,837.02
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£2,301,334.62	£2,366,612.64
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Project Name	Officer	Cap/Rev	Budget
Healthy: Improve health and wellbeing			
Great Glamorgan Way	Place	Cap	£148,250.00
Improved pedestrian access to Town Centre and Retail Areas in Penarth	Neighbourhood Services and Transport	Cap	£80,000.00
Bike Hire- Penarth & Barry	Neighbourhood Services and Transport	Cap	£80,000.00
Cosmeston Cycling & Footpath Access Improvement	Place	Cap	£100,000.00
SCGF- Pedal Power	SCGF	Cap	£15,000.00
SCGF- Llandough Community Council	SCGF	Rev	£2,750.00
SCGF- Reel Minds/Cast Away Stress	SCGF	Rev	£10,668.64
SCGF- With Music in Mind	SCGF	Rev	£6,107.00
SCGF- Penarth Cricket Club	SCGF	Cap	£15,000.00

Inclusive: Bringing communities together, tackling homelessness			
Tackling Poverty and Deprivation Programme	Corporate Resources/ Place	Rev	£78,827.00
Ty Iolo Bike Club (Barry Bike Club)	Neighbourhood Services and Transport	Rev	£10,500.00
Community Asset Transfer Capital Works (& officer time)	Place	Cap	£560,000.00
Community Growing: An Environmental & agricultural heritage project	External- FieldWork Studios/Slade Farm	Rev	£53,410.00
Old Hall - New Era the return	Learning & Skills	Rev	£61,000.00
Old Hall - New Era the return	Learning & Skills	Cap	£10,000.00
Play Friendly Communities	Environment & Housing	Rev	£14,861.00
Digital Community Schools- Schools & Communities Booking System	Corporate Resources	Rev	£55,000.00
Greenlinks Community Transport	Neighbourhood Services and Transport	Rev	£177,000.00
Makerspace	Learning & Skills	Rev	£5,000.00
GVS- Third Sector Small Grants Scheme	External- GVS	Rev	£94,000.00
SCGF- Celtic Way Community Centre	SCGF	Rev	£9,299.60
SCGF- Highlight Park Community Centre	SCGF	Rev	£8,270.40
SCGF- Cowbridge Charter Trust Old Hall Gardens	SCGF	Cap	£15,000.00
SCGF- Innovate Trust	SCGF	Rev	£15,000.00
SCGF- Forget Me Not Chorus	SCGF	Rev	£5,849.79
SCGF- Recovery Cymru / Vale Peer Support	SCGF	Rev	£11,300.00
SCGF- Rubicon Dance	SCGF	Rev	£14,848.00
SCGF- Dinas Powys Parish Hall	SCGF	Cap	£15,000.00

Caru Cymru	External- Keep Wales Tidy	Rev	£33,474.10
SCGF- CADS at Market Theatre Cowbridge	SCGF	Rev	£6,966.50
Youth Bus	Learning & Skills	Cap	£52,315.00
SCGF- Barry Athletic Bowls Club	SCGF	Cap	£12,475.00
SCGF- Llantwit Major Town Council	SCGF	Rev	£6,465.85
SCGF- The Gathering Place	SCGF	Cap	£10,000.00

High Streets and town centres improvements

Town Centre minor shop-front improvement grant scheme top-up	Place	Rev	£51,000.00
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Development of the visitor economy

Vale of Glamorgan Events Programme	Place	Rev	£50,000.00
Penarth Pier Pavilion Studio Theatre	Learning & Skills	Cap	£20,000.00
Penarth Pier Pavilion Kitchen Renovation	Learning & Skills	Cap	£41,952.80
Event facility improvements	Place	Cap	£57,100.00
Cosmeston – All weather car park improvements	Place	Cap	£107,500.00
Destination Marketing and PR Campaign	Place	Rev	£20,000.00

£2,141,190.68

Project Name	Officer	Cap/Rev	Budget
Advice and support to business			
Local Area Energy Plan Officer	Place	Rev	£63,598.00
Economic skills development	Place	Rev	£70,000.00
Food & Farming	Place	Rev	£75,000.00
Feasibility Study : Vale of Glamorgan Climate Change Risk Assessment	Corporate Resources	Rev	£30,000.00
EV Charging Infrastructure	Property	Rev	£22,800.00
Memo Arts Centre	External- Memo Arts Centre	Cap	£400,000.00
Pughs Garden Village	External- Pughs garden Centre	Cap	£120,000.00
Nells Point Toilet Block	External- Next Colour	Cap	£200,000.00

Enterprise Support and start up support			
Vale Business Start-up bursary top-up	Place	Rev	£41,580.74

Business Sites and Premises			
BSC/Engine Room Transformation Project	Place	Rev	£200,000.00

£1,222,978.74

Project Name	Officer	Cap/Rev	Budget
Supporting people to progress towards and into employment			
Career Development Apprentice	Corporate Resources	Rev	£30,932.00
CELT+	Learning & Skills	Rev	£528,000.00

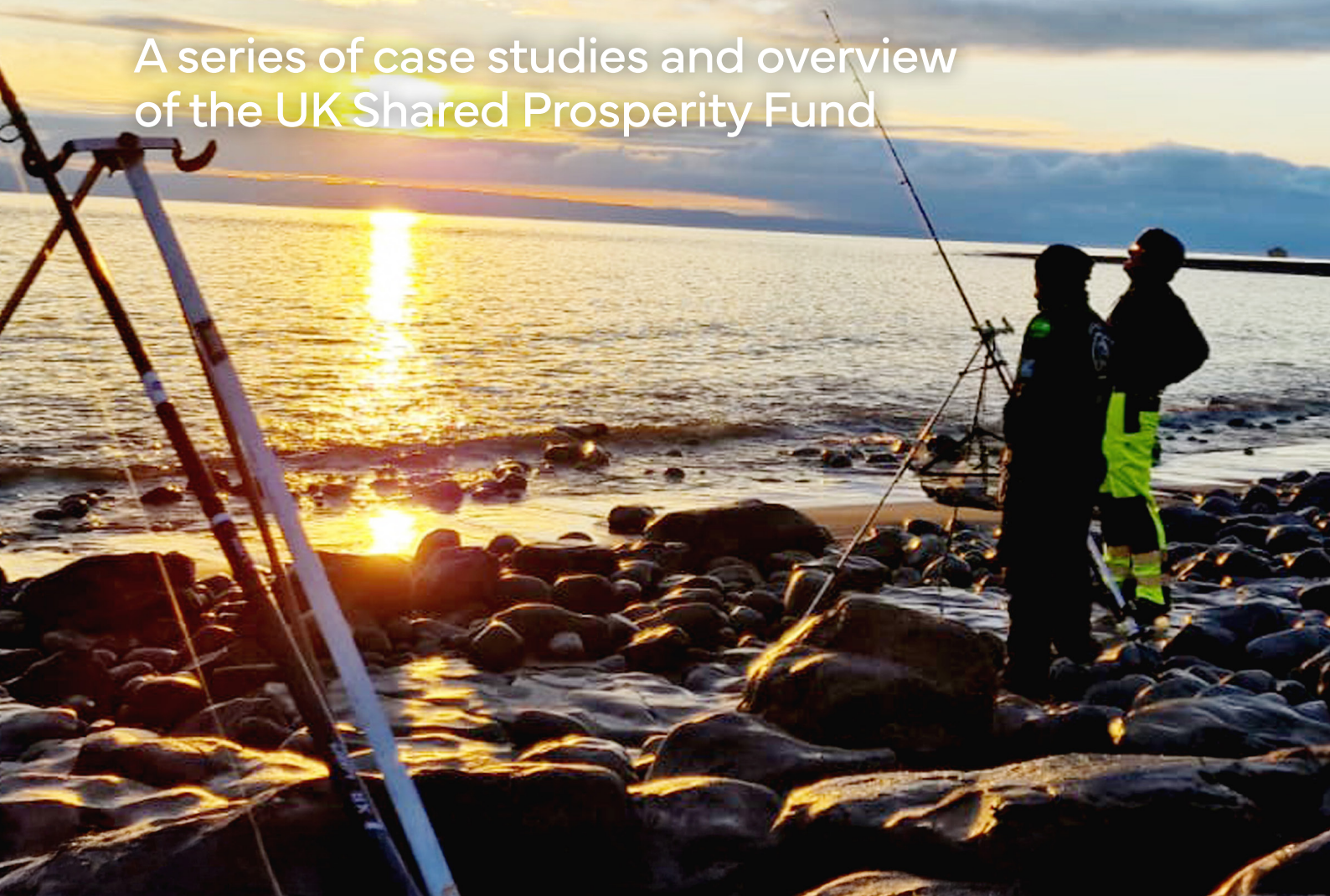
Support for young people who are or at risk of being NEET			
CELT+- Strive	Learning & Skills	Rev	£220,000.00

Essential Skills (including numeracy, literacy, ESOL and digital)			
Make My Money Work	External- Passport2Employment	Rev	£43,176.00
CAVC Vale Skills Programme x 4	External- CAVC	Rev	£299,091.00
Essential Skills for Parents	Learning & Skills	Rev	£32,000.00

£1,153,199.00

SHARED PROSPERITY IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN

A series of case studies and overview
of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund





FOREWORD

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) was launched in 2022 and formed part of the (previous) UK Government's wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK. The Vale of Glamorgan's allocation of **£14,029,222** was a mix of revenue and capital funding. The overarching aim of the fund was to build pride in place and increase life chances.

Beneath this sat three main investment priorities:

- **Communities and Place**
- **Supporting Local Business; and**
- **People and Skills**

And a dedicated budget for adult numeracy

- **Multiply**

The Vale of Glamorgan Council chose to support all investment priorities and launched a range of schemes to ensure the equitable distribution of funds which helped to support the Council's Corporate Plan priorities for 2020 – 2025.

We are proud of the outcomes we have achieved through the Shared Prosperity Fund in the Vale of Glamorgan. Our funding for communities' projects has offered a lifeline to our voluntary organisations, and along with our people and skills projects we

have focussed our investments to support those that need it most. We have also been able to support a number of local businesses to continue to support our efforts to grow a sustainable local economy.

We hope to build on that success through the Shared Prosperity Fund programme which has now been extended to 2025/26 which is a welcome investment in the Vale, particularly at this challenging time and will be supporting projects that align with our new Corporate Plan Vale 2030".



*Leader of the Council,
Councillor Lis Burnett*

THE NUMBERS
BEHIND THE FUND

Total amount
spent on projects
£13,393,023.18



470

People supported to
gain employment



11,571

New trees planted



433

Volunteering
opportunities created
as a result of support



93kg

Estimated carbon dioxide equivalent
reductions as a result of support



576

Local events and
activities delivered

3

Projects arising from
funded feasibility studies



4121m²

Amount of green or blue space
created or improved:

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COMMUNITIES & PLACE

REEL MINDS CASTAWAY STRESS

The “Castaway Stress” initiative, part of Real Minds, is a community-driven project that combines the therapeutic benefits of fishing with opportunities for social connection and mental health support. Established during the COVID-19 pandemic by Dave Williams and Josh Edwards, the project addresses the isolation many faced during lockdowns by creating safe, outdoor spaces for relaxation and interaction. Volunteer Paul, who has been involved with the project for two years, has seen first hand the transformative impact of this initiative on individuals and the wider community.

The Initiative

The project aims to make fishing, a traditionally costly hobby, accessible to more participants, by providing subsidised trips, equipment, and rig-making sessions. These activities are designed to create warm, welcoming spaces where participants can socialise, develop skills, and form lasting friendships.



Initially started as a way to help people get outdoors and improve their mental health, the initiative has grown significantly. What began as small gatherings now serves over 350 participants, with a growing online community of thousands. Rig-making sessions, which double as “warm hubs,” allow participants to come together, share a coffee, and connect in a supportive environment.

6	Volunteering opportunities created	1	Community wellbeing project delivered
214 individuals actively engaged through the programme			

Impact on Participants

Fishing provides participants with a unique mix of solitude and socialisation. For many, it has been a catalyst for personal growth. Some participants initially attended for just an hour but gradually increased their engagement, breaking through barriers of isolation and building confidence. The project has helped many individuals turn their lives around, fostering a sense of achievement and belonging.

Paul highlights the success of the initiative in encouraging participants to form their own social groups, enabling them to continue fishing and supporting one another outside of organised sessions. This ripple effect has strengthened the community and created a lasting legacy of connection and support.



Community Growth

The project’s impact extends beyond individual participants to the broader community. Rig-making sessions have become central to this effort, offering opportunities for social interaction and skill-building while bringing people together from across the Vale of Glamorgan. These sessions, often hosted in venues like Barry’s Bridge Hub, provide refreshments and a welcoming atmosphere, making them a cornerstone of the initiative’s outreach efforts.

Future Aspirations

The team behind “Castaway Stress” is ambitious about the project’s potential. Plans include increasing the number of trips and rig-making sessions, recruiting more volunteers, and expanding the programme to reach even more people. The goal is to ensure the initiative continues to grow, fostering a larger, more inclusive community where individuals can thrive.

Personal Motivation

For volunteers like Paul, the rewards of participating in “Castaway Stress” go beyond seeing the project’s growth. The smiles on participants’ faces, the visible improvement in their confidence, and the knowledge that the initiative has made a positive difference in someone’s life serve as powerful motivators. Paul describes the joy of knowing that even a single hour spent with the group can brighten someone’s day, reinforcing the value of their collective efforts.

Conclusion

“Castaway Stress” exemplifies how simple activities like fishing can be transformed into powerful tools for improving mental health and building community. By fostering connections, offering support, and creating opportunities for personal and collective growth, the initiative has made a lasting impact. As it continues to expand, it stands as a testament to the strength of grassroots projects in addressing some of the most pressing challenges of our time.

EXPLORE MORE:
WATCH THE VIDEO
CASE STUDY



SLADE FARM

FIELDWORK COMMUNITY INTEREST CASE STUDY

Graeme Wilson, founder of the Fieldwork Community Interest Company and owner of Slade Farm, has spearheaded an initiative to connect the community with the natural environment through immersive programmes in biodiversity, ecology, and farming. Supported by funding from the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF), this initiative has allowed for the creation of structured programmes aimed at fostering a deeper understanding of nature and agriculture among local residents, schools, and community organisations across the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Initiative

The programme leverages Slade Farm's resources to provide hands-on learning experiences, particularly for schools in urban areas like Barry. One of the core collaborations has been with the Pencoedre cluster of



schools. Over the course of a year, students visit the farm multiple times, engaging in activities such as biodiversity walks, food-growing projects, and animal care. These visits not only educate but also inspire students and teachers by connecting them to the origins of their food and the ecological importance of sustainable farming practices. The project extends beyond schools, incorporating family workshops that highlight the journey of food from seed



to plate. Volunteers, including those with aspirations in agriculture, have also become an integral part of the farm's community-oriented activities, gaining hands-on experience and contributing to its operations.

Impact on local community

Kate Reynolds, a teacher at Oakfield Primary School, has witnessed significant benefits for her students, who have been part of the programme for three years. For many students, the farm visits provide their first encounter with rural life, fostering curiosity and a greater appreciation for nature. Activities such as planting crops, feeding animals, and understanding seasonal food cycles have enabled students to build meaningful connections to their studies.

The programme has also encouraged discussions about sustainability, food miles, and balanced diets, leading some students to adopt more environmentally conscious habits. Beyond academics, hands-on activities have proven particularly effective for students who struggle in traditional classroom settings, igniting their curiosity and creativity.



Community Engagement

The programme has benefitted approximately 250 children annually, particularly those from urban backgrounds who may lack access to natural spaces. It has also created opportunities for families to bond while



learning about farming and food production. A standout success story includes two siblings who, inspired by a family visit, began volunteering at the farm while pursuing studies at an agricultural college.

Outcomes and Vision

The initiative has transformed Slade Farm into a community hub, fostering connections among diverse groups, from schoolchildren to volunteers. Graeme Wilson envisions the farm as an enduring community asset, promoting ecological awareness and providing hands-on educational opportunities. His passion for seeing people interact with nature and farming remains the driving force behind the project.

Future Directions

Building on the programme's success, there are plans to refine and expand activities, incorporating lessons learned to further engage the community. The ultimate goal is to deepen the farm's role as a space for learning, resilience-building, and fostering a sustainable connection between people and the land.

EXPLORE MORE:
WATCH THE VIDEO
CASE STUDY

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

SPF PROW IMPROVEMENT

The Public Rights of Way improvement project has focused on improving accessibility and user experience of the footpath network in the Vale Of Glamorgan. The aim is to encourage and support the use of the footpath network for leisure and activity to increase wellbeing and the use of the countryside.

We have worked throughout the county on existing public rights of way targeting those that link communities rural businesses and places of interest. We have liaised and negotiated with landowners to remove old more difficult to use traditional structures and replace with the least restrictive access possible. In some cases, this has meant we now have a gap where there was previously a stile but in most a step through gate. The target on completion will be the fitting of around 250 new gate structures across the County.

We have also worked on improving access through providing surfacing of the footpaths in key areas where a



surfaced path has meant the area is usable for a wider range of people.

We have replaced bridges and footbridges that due to the need to be stock proof were originally fitted with climb over stiles. The new bridges have been fitted with gates at either end where needed to improve accessibility but also to remain stock proof. The bridge is constructed from steel and recycled plastic to improve lifespan.

E-BIKES EMPOWER CARE SERVICES

The Vale of Glamorgan Council, in partnership with the charitable organisation Sustrans, implemented the “Travel With Care” scheme to address transportation challenges faced by domiciliary care workers. Funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the initiative provided e-bikes to care workers, aiming to enhance service efficiency, improve worker well-being, and contribute to the council's net-zero goals.

Domiciliary care workers often face logistical hurdles when travelling between appointments, especially in areas with challenging terrains, such as Barry, and in rural parts of the Vale. Many workers lacked access to personal vehicles or found the cost of driving unsustainable, and reliance on walking or public transport frequently resulted in delays and reduced the quality of care provided.

The e-bike initiative addressed these challenges by equipping care workers with electric bicycles, which were purchased by The Council and maintained by Sustrans. Training sessions and safety equipment were provided to ensure participants felt confident and secure using the bikes. The scheme yielded numerous benefits, including faster travel times between care calls, enhanced

physical fitness, reduced stress levels, and improved job satisfaction for care workers. For several participants, the initiative became a decisive factor in remaining in the sector, which has struggled with staffing shortages. Patients receiving care also benefitted, with fewer delays and improved service reliability.

The project demonstrated significant environmental advantages, achieving measurable reductions in carbon emissions by decreasing reliance on cars. These outcomes aligned with The Council's broader objective of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. The initiative proved popular among care agencies, with demand exceeding the available supply of 30 e-bikes.

As the pilot phase concludes, The Council is exploring ways to sustain the initiative such as continuing to loan the bikes to care agencies and seeking further funding to expand the scheme. The success of the initiative highlights its potential to address key challenges in service delivery, workforce retention, and environmental sustainability, providing a model for creative and impactful transportation solutions in the social care sector.

YOUR PLACE PROJECT - BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

The Vale of Glamorgan Council launched the “Your Place” initiative to address inequalities in three of its most deprived communities, identified through the Wales Index of Multiple Deprivation. Led by Senior Community Development Officer Sarah Cutting, the project aims to tackle challenges in health, employment, and other critical areas by working with residents, the Public Services Board (PSB), and external partners. Community workshops facilitated by the organisation New Local serve as a platform for identifying strengths, addressing challenges, and co-designing solutions that align with the residents' needs.

The project has already delivered a series of quick wins, such as installing recycling facilities in social housing, improving active travel routes, and supporting parent groups for neurodiverse children. It has also strengthened relationships between stakeholders, such as the NHS and local schools. Notable efforts include working with GPs to enhance community engagement and supporting schools with funding for student programmes like healthy

cooking courses. These interventions illustrate the project's balance between addressing immediate needs and laying the groundwork for long-term cultural and systemic change.

A key factor in the initiative's success is its bottom-up, community-driven approach. By consistently engaging with residents in informal settings, Your Place has built trust and shifted the focus from surface issues like fly-tipping, to deeper concerns such as mental health and domestic abuse. This sustained engagement builds stronger relationships between residents and service providers, paving the way for sustainable, community-led solutions. Ultimately, Your Place highlights the transformative potential of relationship-building and shared ownership in reducing inequality and improving quality of life in disadvantaged communities.

OLD HALL REVIVAL: FROM HERITAGE TO HUB



Nicola Sumner-Smith and her community development team have embarked on a project to transform the Old Hall in Cowbridge with help from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. As part of a broader placemaking strategy, the initiative aims to address community needs and unlock the site's potential as a cultural and economic hub. The Old Hall, a historic but underutilised building, will undergo a heritage impact assessment and feasibility study to determine its future use. This process, shaped by input from residents, tutors, and local stakeholders, seeks to ensure the building's redevelopment aligns with both community aspirations and practical constraints.

The project emerged from years of informal community feedback, formalised through the Placemaking plan for Cowbridge. Residents expressed a longstanding desire for enhancements such as a dedicated arts gallery, improved facilities for public gatherings, and expanded use of the building's grounds. The Council recently appointed architects to develop concept plans, sparking renewed excitement and engagement in the town. This marks a critical step in translating the Placemaking plan from theory into actionable development, demonstrating the Council's commitment to tangible progress.

While still in its early stages, the project has already seen positive outcomes, including increased community engagement and validation of the Placemaking strategy. The feasibility study will provide an evidence-based roadmap, including cost estimates and design concepts for the Old Hall's transformation. By balancing new opportunities with the preservation of existing community activities, the Council envisions the Old Hall as a vibrant centrepiece for Cowbridge, reflecting its historical significance while addressing modern needs.

PENARTH ATHLETIC CLUB

A COMMUNITY HUB REIMAGINED

Penarth Athletic Club, an inclusive sports organisation in Penarth, integrates rugby, cricket, and hockey under one banner. However, the club's outdated facilities have caused great limiting factors when it comes to community engagement and usage. Sean O'Sullivan, chairman of Penarth Rugby Club, saw a great opportunity in the grant funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and has transformed the club into a thriving community hub.

The Challenge

Before the renovation, the club's facilities were far from inviting. The main room was dim and unappealing, resulting in limited bookings and underwhelmed visitors. Structural issues, including a lack of fire safety measures, rendered parts of the venue, such as the spectator stand, unusable. Additionally, health and safety concerns further diminished the usability of spaces like the kitchen and meeting areas.



These constraints significantly restricted community engagement and hindered the club's ability to host events or expand its outreach. Schools, local sports groups, and residents hesitated to use the premises, further isolating the club from its potential as a community centerpiece.

The Transformation

Thanks to the grant, Penarth Athletic Club underwent a comprehensive renovation, transforming it into a state-of-the-art facility. The refurbishment addressed critical safety concerns, introduced modern amenities, and created a welcoming atmosphere. The newly upgraded main room now boasts features like large screens and ample seating, while the revamped kitchen and stand offer functional and appealing spaces.

This transformation has been instrumental in elevating the club's profile within Penarth. Community members who once overlooked the venue now see it as a desirable destination for events ranging from sports tournaments to personal celebrations such as birthdays and christenings.

Community Impact

The renovated facilities have had a profound ripple effect on the local community, with the club now hosting approximately 500 individuals weekly, spanning rugby, cricket, and other activities. Schools, reluctant to engage previously, now eagerly use the facility. The improvement in amenities also helps retain members, boosting participation in youth and adult sports programme's.

Enhanced facilities have also attracted diverse revenue streams. Local businesses and individuals now rent the

space for meetings, parties, and other events, and this financial boost is being reinvested into club activities, supporting its sports programmes and community initiatives.

Since undergoing its renovations, the club has become a hub for non-sporting activities. Weekly art classes, led by a local artist, now thrive in the improved environment. Mental health support groups and initiatives like "Sporting Memories" also benefit from the welcoming space. These programmes, catering to diverse demographics, further solidify the club's role as a community cornerstone.

Looking Ahead

The new facilities empower Penarth Athletic Club to pursue ambitious goals. In rugby, the club aspires to

advance to higher leagues, using the upgraded space to attract and retain talent. It also plans to expand its outreach, welcoming more community groups and events, further enriching the lives of Penarth residents.

Conclusion

Penarth Athletic Club's revitalisation is a testament to the transformative power of investment in community infrastructure. By addressing long-standing issues and creating a modern, inclusive environment, the club has redefined its role in Penarth, and bringing with it unity, growth, and positivity.

EXPLORE MORE:
WATCH THE VIDEO
CASE STUDY



VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

REVIVING BARRY'S BIKE CLUB

Senior Sustainable Transport Officer Lisa Elliott, has been leading an initiative to revive a bike club project in Barry aimed at teaching children aged 6 to 10 how to ride bicycles. Previously established by a housing team colleague, the programme paused during the COVID-19 pandemic but was reinstated through funding from the Shared Prosperity Fund. The project, aided by Pedal Power in Cardiff, provided a new storage container, bicycles, helmets, and training resources, the last of which has enabled free cycle training for children, primarily from council housing. Over two years, the programme has engaged 70 children, offering them a fun, active, and confidence-building experience.

The programme's impact extends beyond cycling skills. Children often achieve the ability to ride after a single session, leaving both participants and their parents amazed. The club has seen positive community outcomes, improving



behaviour in the park and strengthening ties between residents and local police. This initiative has also boosted the council's reputation, garnering praise for its role in providing meaningful and accessible community activities.

Looking forward, the Council aims to expand the programme to other areas, potentially requiring additional infrastructure and training capacity. Lisa regards the project as one of the most rewarding initiatives of her career, highlighting its low cost and immense benefits. By instilling confidence, encouraging physical activity, and building community bonds, the bike club exemplifies the transformative power of small-scale, well-executed projects in public service.

MOTION CONTROL

MEANINGFUL MOVEMENT

Motion Control Dance, a community-focused charity based in Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, has long been recognised for its work with children and young people with disabilities. Recently, the organisation has expanded its reach by creating impactful programmes for older adults, thanks in large part to a grant from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This case study explores how Motion Control Dance, under the leadership of Lara Ward, has used this funding to enhance the lives of older adults through innovative movement and dance programmes.

Prior to receiving the grant, Motion Control Dance's engagement with older adults was limited. The charity relied on freelance sessions and lacked the resources to establish a cohesive, far-reaching programme. The COVID-19 pandemic further disrupted services, leading to reduced interaction with care homes and community spaces. The charity also faced challenges in maintaining a steady stream of participants for their activities and addressing the logistical and overhead costs of operating a studio and community sessions.

With the support of the Shared Prosperity Fund, Motion Control Dance was able to create a part-time role for an Older People Dance Coordinator. This role, filled by

Lara Ward, enabled the charity to systematically expand its programming and reach, and is now able to offer Tai Chi, creative dance, as well as specialised classes such as low-impact functional training for older adults, menopausal women's classes, and movement sessions for individuals with Parkinson's disease.

The grant has also facilitated a significant increase in care home engagements across the Vale of Glamorgan, allowing the charity to quadruple its reach, bringing regular sessions to numerous care homes and establishing a presence in Barry Hospital, where programs for individuals with dementia and their carers are delivered.

2x Tai Chi class attendance doubled

4x Care home engagement quadrupled

Lara has been able to introduce free sessions in accessible venues like Barry Library and initiated partnerships with community centres, and these efforts helped bring fitness opportunities to a wider audience and encouraged participation in longer-term community classes.



The enhanced programmes have had a transformative effect on participants and the community at large, with reported improvements in strength, balance, and overall physical fitness. Goals range from walking uphill without stopping to bending down with ease, illustrating the programmes' tailored approach to individual needs.



Movement sessions for dementia patients, incorporating music and props, have shown positive effects, triggering memories and improving engagement, and participants with early-onset conditions respond enthusiastically, highlighting the program's inclusivity and adaptability. The charity has witnessed a significant rise in attendance. Tai Chi classes in three different locations have seen numbers double, and the studio itself is now buzzing with activity. The classes have proved to be a welcoming and

supportive environment, helping older adults combat loneliness and build friendships. Thanks to the recently reopened café at the studio, the space has become a social hub for participants to meet up in before and after sessions.

Motion Control Dance aspires to maintain and expand its programmes, addressing growing demand. The organisation aims to secure funding to support additional staff, enabling further outreach. The charity also plans to deepen its partnerships with care homes and hospitals, ensuring consistent and impactful delivery of its unique movement-based therapies.

The Shared Prosperity Fund has allowed Motion Control Dance to pivot from a focus on youth to a holistic approach that includes older adults, effectively transforming lives across the Vale of Glamorgan. By providing accessible, inclusive, and engaging fitness opportunities, the charity has built a stronger community and laid a foundation for sustainable growth and continued impact.



EXPLORE MORE:
WATCH THE VIDEO
CASE STUDY

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS

MILKSHED REVIVING SPACES

Milkshed Workspace, owned and managed by John and Will, is a thriving business hub located in the heart of Penarth. Designed to provide flexible workspaces for freelancers and small businesses, Milkshed fosters a vision of local living, working, and shopping. The project began as a personal project of John and Will, but quickly evolved into an innovative community space aimed at reducing isolation and supporting the local economy.



The Initiative

Milkshed Workspace offers a variety of workspaces to accommodate a diverse array of tenants, including publishers, graphic designers, video production companies, and beauticians. By creating a collaborative environment, it enables individuals to leave home offices behind, work closer to their residences and schools, and contribute to a more vibrant local community. Sustainability is at the heart of the initiative. With the support of the Shared Prosperity Fund grant, the building has undergone significant renovations to enhance its environmental efficiency and tenant comfort. Upgrades

include replacing ageing timber windows with modern alternatives, installing a new slate roof, and preparing for the addition of solar panels. These improvements reflect Milkshed's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint and creating a model for sustainable business operations.

Impact of Renovations

The renovations have already yielded significant benefits. The building, once considered an “ugly duckling” of the street, has received positive feedback from neighbouring businesses and residents for its transformed appearance. The upgraded infrastructure has also improved tenant comfort, with solar panels expected to further reduce operational costs and environmental impact by generating most of the hub's electricity needs.

Community and Business Impact

Milkshed has become a central hub for collaboration and innovation in Penarth. By bringing together professionals from various industries, it fosters partnerships and reduces the isolation often experienced by remote workers. Tenants not only benefit from high-quality workspaces but also from opportunities to engage with a supportive local network.

John and Will are particularly proud of the workspace's role in enhancing Penarth's sense of community. Local businesses and residents have embraced Milkshed as a valued asset, recognizing its contribution to the town's prosperity and cohesion.

Future Aspirations

Looking ahead, Milkshed aims to build on its success by expanding opportunities for collaboration through networking events and social gatherings. The immediate priority is the installation of solar panels, which will solidify the hub's commitment to sustainability. With full occupancy already achieved, the focus will shift to maintaining high levels of tenant support and engagement, ensuring Milkshed continues to thrive as a cornerstone of Penarth's business community.

Personal Motivation

For John, living, working, and engaging in Penarth is a source of pride. He is driven by the opportunity to contribute to the town's success and prosperity, drawing

inspiration from its friendly, supportive atmosphere. By walking his dog Winston along the esplanade or simply enjoying a morning coffee, John is reminded of the unique character of Penarth and the importance of fostering its growth.

Conclusion

Milkshed Workspace exemplifies how thoughtful design and a commitment to sustainability can transform a simple building into a thriving community hub. By providing high-quality workspaces and fostering collaboration, it supports the growth of local businesses while enhancing Penarth's unique character. With its ongoing improvements and dedication to community engagement, Milkshed is poised to remain a vital part of the town's future.



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CASE STUDY

CEIC WALES CEIC'S CIRCULAR ECONOMY REVOLUTION

The Circular Economy Innovation Community (CEIC), based at Cardiff Metropolitan University and led by Jill Davies, tackles innovation by helping organisations rethink their processes and practices through the lens of the circular economy. Initially focused on public sector, CEIC expanded its scope to include businesses of all sizes, using the Shared Prosperity Fund to enhance collaboration across sectors. By connecting public, private, and third-sector entities, the program builds networks that encourage shared learning and support the development of sustainable, circular solutions. CEIC's efforts go beyond waste management to include reimagining supply chains, products, and organisational practices. Over six months, the program equips participants with design

thinking skills that encourage them to challenge traditional business models and find innovative alternatives, and as such, organisations have reported improved knowledge, new processes, and strengthened networks, with many continuing to collaborate post-programme. Businesses now ask critical questions about their supply chains, packaging, and workforce practices, demonstrating a shift in mindset. CEIC emphasises pre-empting waste by identifying potential byproducts as resources for other organisations, thus turning waste into value and enhancing profitability.

With over 300 participants to date, CEIC has built an active alumni network that creates ongoing collaboration, using tools like LinkedIn to share resources, seek partnerships, and solve circular economy challenges collectively. Looking forward, CEIC aims to reach more organisations, especially those yet to begin their sustainability journey. By cultivating a self-sustaining community of practice, CEIC exemplifies how targeted training and strategic networking can drive lasting innovation and sustainability in business.

GROUND BAKERY

EXPANSION AND COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

Ground Bakery is an artisan bakery and coffee house and has established itself as a cornerstone of local communities with its dedication to quality and community engagement. Under the leadership of Operations Manager Amy, the bakery has seen significant growth since its inception three years ago. With four retail outlets and a production unit in Sully, Ground Bakery combines fresh, daily baked goods with a commitment to creating welcoming spaces that resonate with its customers.

Expansion Through Strategic Investment

In 2024, Ground Bakery leveraged grant funding to expand and enhance its Cowbridge location. Previously operating in a space that lacked dining facilities, the funding enabled the transformation of a derelict section of the property—a former dry cleaners unused for decades—into a vibrant dining and brunch area. This expansion not only restored a previously overlooked section of the high street but also revitalised the space in alignment with the brand's aesthetic and customer expectations.

The additional funding ensured that Ground Bakery could execute its vision without compromise. The redesign created a cohesive experience across its locations, preserving the unique “Ground” atmosphere. Outdoor seating and a brunch service were added,

providing a new gathering space for the community. The outdoor area quickly became a hotspot, especially for local cyclists and day-trippers drawn to Cowbridge's independent business scene.



Impact on the Local Community

The Cowbridge expansion has significantly impacted the local high street and its community. By increasing capacity to over 60 covers, Ground Bakery caters to both locals and tourists, further enriching the area's reputation as a destination for independent shopping and dining. The increased footfall from Ground Bakery's loyal customers has also benefitted neighbouring businesses, creating a thriving ecosystem of independent shops.

Ground Bakery's staffing strategy reflects its commitment to local engagement, with nearly all employees hailing from Cowbridge and nearby villages. This local hiring approach not only supports the regional economy but has also strengthened the bond between the bakery and its community.

Future Aspirations

Looking ahead, Ground Bakery aims to continue innovating and exploring new opportunities to engage its community. Plans for summer events, pop-ups, and evening services are on the horizon, with a focus on collaboration with other local businesses. By utilising its outdoor space for creative ventures, Ground Bakery hopes to expand its offerings while maintaining its commitment to quality and customer experience.

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Core Values and Success Factors

Ground Bakery attributes its success to its loyal customer base as well as the strength of its teams; their dedicated employees deliver exceptional service, creating a friendly atmosphere where regulars are greeted personally, and their stories and lives are valued.



VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

THE ENGINE ROOM



Natasha Davies, Team Leader for Economy and Neighbourhood Regeneration, has embarked on a transformative project to redevelop a long-standing council-owned asset into a thriving business hub. Named **The Engine Room**, the project is designed to create 13 modern business units and enhanced parking facilities, all while maintaining the site's historical and industrial charm. Previously underutilised and unfit for purpose, the space has been revitalised with sustainable features such as a green wall and an energy-efficient heat pump. This effort aligns with The Council's broader goals of nurturing economic growth and supporting the local business community.

Funded through the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF), the project addresses the critical need for larger, more flexible business spaces in the area. Demand for such spaces is driven by small enterprises outgrowing their current facilities, as well as medium-sized businesses seeking to expand. The Council envisions The Engine Room as a central component of Barry's Innovation Quarter, creating opportunities for local businesses to grow and generate employment. The project, currently under construction and running on schedule, has already sparked interest among potential tenants and strengthened connections with the local supply chain.

Upon completion, The Engine Room will serve as a dynamic business hub with shared meeting spaces and networking opportunities, designed to encourage collaboration among tenants and with neighbouring enterprises. The Council anticipates that this initiative will bolster inward investment, create jobs, and contribute to sustainable economic development in the region. By merging industrial heritage with a vision for the future, The Engine Room symbolises the Vale of Glamorgan's commitment to innovation, growth, and community impact.

TRAMSHED TECH

POWERING SOUTH WALES CREATIVE COMMUNITY

Background and Goals

Tramshed Tech, a hub for startups, scale-ups, and enterprises, has long been committed to supporting tech and creative businesses through workspace offerings, tailored programmes, and community-driven events. With a strong presence in South Wales, including an office in Barry, the organisation identified a unique opportunity to assist creative professionals in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Shared Prosperity Fund enabled Tramshed Tech to launch a programme specifically aimed at upskilling small creative businesses in the region. Hannah Price, the Project Officer for the initiative, explained that the programme is designed to support a sustainable creative community, addressing the challenges faced by isolated freelance creatives. The programme also addresses essential topics such as intellectual property protection, the use of AI in creative industries, and effective grant writing for funding access.

Moreover, Tramshed Tech encourages collaboration by connecting creatives with industry experts. These connections not only enhance skills but also help establish a thriving local network. Workshops often transition into dynamic social events, further strengthening community ties.

15 Creative businesses supported with expert guidance

10 Green enterprises given strategic support

10 decarbonisation plans developed to drive net-zero goals

Positive Outcomes

The programme has already achieved several significant milestones by deploying workshops to aid skill development which in turn is increasing collaboration and



networking, and by introducing new audiences to the local area, it has enhanced the region's economic and social vitality.

Future Aspirations

Hannah envisions the programme as a blueprint for future initiatives, both within the Vale and across other counties in Wales. The ultimate goal is to sustain and grow the creative cluster beyond the program's lifecycle, welcoming more members and developing long-term relationships among participants. This sustainability will ensure continued innovation and collaboration in the local creative industry.

Reflections

For Hannah, the project combines her passion for creating connections and driving innovation with her affinity for the creative sector. Watching the community flourish and knowing the impact it will have on individual careers and the local economy has been a deeply fulfilling experience.

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VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

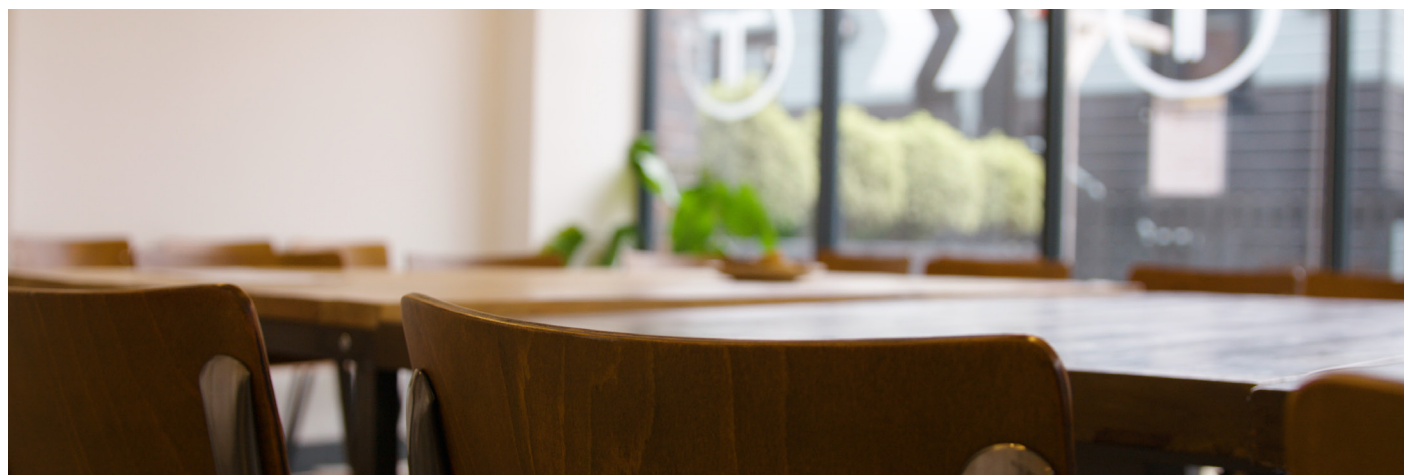
TRANSFORMING BARRY'S TOWN CENTRES

The Vale of Glamorgan Council, led by Nia Hollins, Principal Tourism and Marketing Officer, launched a campaign using the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to boost local economies. Focused on encouraging residents to shop locally, the initiative aimed to support independent businesses and revive town centres like Barry High Street and the Goodsheds. Through positive messaging and social media outreach, the campaign emphasised the economic impact of local spending, fostering stronger ties between residents and businesses.

The campaign gained traction with engaging activities, including a popular Christmas video featuring local

traders. Many businesses, previously unfamiliar with digital marketing, saw increased visibility and customer engagement. Feedback from both residents and businesses highlighted the campaign's influence on shopping habits, reinforcing its value in strengthening community connections and economic stability.

While future funding is uncertain, the campaign's success has inspired aspirations for continued collaboration. This initiative demonstrates how targeted, community-driven efforts can revitalise local economies and build lasting pride in town centres.



BAFFLE HAUS

EXPANDING WITH PURPOSE

Sam is one of the co-founders of Baffle Haus, a business with a vision of creating a unique destination combining hospitality with an automotive twist. Initially starting with one location, Baffle Haus serves as a space for food, drinks, and community interaction, and despite being a relatively young business, they have seized an opportunity to expand to a second venue, supported by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The Expansion Journey

The decision to expand arose when a property agent presented a promising location. While the team initially hesitated, feeling unprepared for such a leap, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund enabled them to broaden their scope and embrace a much larger vision. The new space has allowed them to expand out their brand in a retail area, as well as opening a meeting space upstairs.

Supporting Staff and Creating Careers

A core motivator for the expansion was the desire to offer long-term career opportunities in the hospitality industry, which is often viewed as transient for employees. By opening a second venue, Baffle Haus has been able to create new managerial roles and growth opportunities for its team. The staff can now see a clear trajectory within a business that is dynamic and expanding.

Community and Environmental Impact

The new venue, located in the Vale of Glamorgan, is situated in a previously neglected building. For Sam and the team, revitalising this dilapidated structure was a matter of local pride, and bringing the building back to life has not only restored its vibrancy but also contributes to the local economy. The addition of a small coffee shop near the main building has already become a favourite for locals, providing a convenient stop along a major road and nurturing community interaction.



The project also aims to attract tourists, replicating the success of their first location in Monmouthshire, which drew visitors from outside the immediate area.

Sustainability is another priority. Incorporating solar panels into the new site aligns with Baffle Haus's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint, ensuring that growth is environmentally responsible.

Looking Ahead

The past year of taking on and renovating the new site has been a whirlwind for the team, filled with challenges but also opportunities. Moving forward, their focus will be on refining their operations, building relationships with locals, and creating a welcoming environment for staff and visitors alike. With the renovations nearly complete, the team looks forward to a phase of enjoying the results of their hard work and continuing to grow the brand.



The Passion Behind the Brand

Reflecting on the journey, Sam emphasised the passion that drives the business. Despite entering the hospitality industry without prior experience, the founders were inspired by their shared love for coffee shops and the culture surrounding them.

For Sam, the joy of the job lies in doing something he genuinely loves—spending time in coffee shops and creating spaces for others to enjoy the same experience.

Through its thoughtful expansion and focus on community and sustainability, Baffle Haus demonstrates how a small business can grow with purpose while staying true to its core values.

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CASE STUDY

TERRADAT UK LTD

MAPPING THE FUTURE WITH CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

Terradat, a geophysical mapping company with over 35 years of expertise, has leveraged cutting-edge technology and strategic funding to enhance its capabilities. Founded by Cardiff University graduates Nick Russill and Rob McDonald, Terradat serves a wide range of industries, including engineering, mining, and renewable energy. With a team of over 20 geoscientists, the company recently received a UK Shared Prosperity Fund Grant, enabling the acquisition of the Sensys Magneto MXV4 magnetometer. This advanced equipment has revolutionised their efficiency, expanding survey capabilities from 2 to 20 hectares per day and significantly reducing project timelines.

The grant-supported technology was first deployed in 2020 during a 290-hectare solar farm survey in Ireland, cutting the timeline from months to just three weeks. This project marked a turning point, establishing Terradat's reputation in large-scale energy projects and driving new



client acquisitions. Beyond the energy sector, Terradat has focussed on the archaeological field, using magnetometry to produce detailed maps of buried historical features. Their efforts include community collaborations, such as offering heritage surveys in the Vale of Glamorgan and launching a STEM outreach programme with Cowbridge School to inspire the next generation of geoscientists.

Looking ahead, Terradat aims to expand its presence in the archaeological sector and diversify into housing developments and other energy projects. The team's passion for discovery and storytelling drives their work, with plans to showcase their expertise through a dedicated archaeology website and public case studies. By combining innovative technology, community engagement, and strategic growth, Terradat continues to lead in geophysical exploration while inspiring curiosity and preserving heritage.

PEOPLE & SKILLS

THE WALLICH EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS THROUGH THE STEPS TO PROGRESS PROGRAMME

The Wallich, a homelessness charity operating across Wales, focuses on three key goals: helping individuals off the streets, preventing them from returning, and nurturing opportunities for growth through learning and employment programmes. With support from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, The Wallich launched “Steps to Progress,” a pre-employability programme aimed at building the confidence, skills, and resilience of its service users.

Steps to Progress Manager, Jo Esposti, highlighted the organisation’s belief in the right of every individual not just to housing but to a future where they feel safe, valued, and optimistic. The programme was designed based on feedback from service users, emphasising a need for a structured but approachable path to training, volunteering, and eventual employment. Many face complex challenges, including trauma and long-term unemployment, making traditional job placement unrealistic in the short term.

Workshops cover practical skills such as using public transport, navigating community spaces, and participating in social activities. By focusing on manageable milestones such as travelling on public transport or visiting a coffee shop, the programme builds a foundation for participants to engage more actively in training or volunteering. This incremental approach empowers individuals to develop the

confidence to undertake these activities independently, broadening their horizons for work and education opportunities. Graduates of the programme have engaged in meaningful volunteering roles, such as working at local care homes or museums. These positions allow participants to contribute to their communities while gaining valuable experience and social connections.



One graduate, Lauren Rose Miller, transitioned from feeling stagnant to discovering her passion for arts and crafts. After completing the programme, she began leading creative sessions for older adults, fostering intergenerational learning and personal fulfilment.

The Wallich hopes to sustain and expand the Steps to Progress programme beyond its current funding which is currently set to conclude in March 2025. Plans include enhancing the programme’s framework, reaching more individuals, and using it as a model for similar initiatives in other regions.



Jo’s passion for creating positive change drives her dedication to Steps to Progress. In her words, the programme offers a reprieve from the often-bleak narratives surrounding homelessness and inequality, enabling her to contribute to tangible improvements in people’s lives. For participants like Lauren, the programme has been life-changing, unlocking hidden talents and providing a sense of direction.

Lauren now approaches each day with optimism and looks forward to new challenges and opportunities, embodying the programme’s core mission of empowerment.

Through Steps to Progress, The Wallich demonstrates the transformative power of tailored, empathetic programmes that meet individuals where they are, offering a pathway to brighter futures while strengthening the community.

17	Economically inactive individuals connected with keyworkers	15	People supported to build essential skills
15	Participants guided into job searching	16	People moved into work or further learning



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MULTIPLY

P2E

MAKE MY MONEY WORK

P2E is an organisation dedicated to education and empowerment and has recently extended its reach into the Vale of Glamorgan to address the challenges posed by the cost-of-living crisis. Through funding and local engagement, P2E's initiative focuses on financial literacy, budgeting, and numeracy skills. Josh Edwards, a tutor and the project's lead, has played a pivotal role in transforming how residents of the Vale manage their finances and build independence.

The Challenge

As the cost-of-living crisis deepens, many individuals face financial instability, overspending, and mounting debt from credit cards and loans. A lack of essential skills in budgeting and financial planning exacerbates these issues, often leading to increased dependence on loans from organisations like the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Without access to structured financial education, residents in the Vale struggled to make informed decisions about managing their money and navigating economic challenges.

The Solution

Through the Vale of Glamorgan project, P2E introduced free financial education and support programmes tailored to the community's needs. The initiative offered practical, actionable advice to improve financial literacy and nurture independence. Key aspects of the programme have included helping participants learn to manage bank accounts, interpret pay slips, understand tax codes, and create effective budget planners. P2E emphasises the importance of selecting affordable

alternatives, such as switching to lower-cost food and energy options. By helping tackling the root causes of financial instability, such as overspending and lack of budgeting knowledge, the programme helps individuals break the cycle of debt.

They've also developed a fraud awareness programme that is tailored for over-50s, a demographic particularly vulnerable to scams. seeks to educate participants on identifying and avoiding scams, equipping them with the knowledge to protect themselves from financial fraud and ensuring greater financial security.



To complement financial advice, P2E provides level-one numeracy qualifications. These sessions enhance participants' math skills, empowering them to better manage their money and make informed decisions. P2E works closely with local organisations and community centres, providing a referral system that encourages residents to attend courses. For example, clients seeking advances from the DWP are required to complete money management sessions, ensuring they gain skills to avoid future financial pitfalls.

Sustainability and Future Goals

Looking ahead, P2E aims to secure additional funding to sustain and expand its operations in the Vale. The programme has successfully integrated into local centres and the Vale of Glamorgan community, building trust and long-term relationships with residents, and now they are hoping to deepen their presence in the community, offering more sessions in local centres and reaching a wider audience.

136 Learners boosted their maths skills in W44

73 Adults took part in maths courses in W45

104 Participants supported through learning in W51

3 individuals engaged in numeracy support in W52

Conclusion

P2E's Vale of Glamorgan initiative demonstrates the power of localised, practical financial education in addressing the challenges of the cost-of-living crisis. By equipping participants with essential skills, fostering independence, and promoting financial stability, the project has made a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

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CELT+ THE POD

In the Vale of Glamorgan, the Celt+ initiative is spearheaded by Giovanna, the programme coordinator, to address the challenges faced by deprived individuals in the area. Initially funded to assist those aged 50 and above, the programme's scope expanded in 2023 using the UK Shared Prosperity Fund grant. This extension introduced mentoring services targeting 18-to-30-year-old neurodiverse individuals, emphasising training, employment, and volunteering opportunities. To ensure comprehensive support, Celt+ also launched the POD—a central hub designed as a one-stop shop for various wraparound services in Barry.

The Celt+ Approach

Celt+ is built on a holistic service model. It integrates efforts across multiple organisations, including Communities for Work, Cardiff and Vale College, and MIND Cymru, to avoid duplication and provide tailored support. Key elements include assisting individuals with complex needs, offering mental health resources,



addressing housing challenges, and facilitating access to training and employment. A distinctive feature is the hands-on approach of employment mentors, who not only help participants secure jobs but also accompany them during their initial weeks in the workplace.

Achievements and Impact

Since April 2023, Celt+ has supported over 1,240 individuals. Key milestones include:

72 individuals securing sustainable employment	42 individuals receiving workplace support,
86 economically inactive individuals accessing benefits	33 participants transitioning to volunteer placements

The POD has played a pivotal role, serving as a welcoming, accessible space where individuals can receive personalised guidance and support. The hub has been instrumental in empowering participants, improving mental health and self-esteem, and fostering community connections.

Collaborative Partnerships

A cornerstone of the Celt+ initiative is its collaboration with local organisations. This network ensures a seamless journey for participants, enabling them to access the resources they need. By co-locating services and maintaining strong ties with agencies like Glamorgan Voluntary Services, the programme has created a robust support ecosystem.

Community Impact

The program's transformative effect extends beyond statistics. Giovanna highlights the joy of witnessing individuals regain confidence and purpose. Many enter the POD feeling uncertain but leave equipped with a plan and renewed optimism. The initiative has also become a vital resource for the community, catering to diverse needs—from securing bus passes for the elderly to offering job search assistance.



Future Aspirations

Looking ahead, Giovanna and her team aim to secure additional funding to sustain and expand Celt+. The program's success has underscored its necessity, with growing demand from local residents. Ensuring its continuity will be critical to maintaining the progress achieved in empowering individuals and addressing systemic barriers.

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COOK STARS EMPOWERING FAMILIES THROUGH COOKING AND EDUCATION

Gemma Hill, a former primary school teacher, combined her passion for teaching and cooking by launching **Happy Healthy Cook Stars**, an extension of her Cook Stars franchise in the Vale of Glamorgan. This programme introduces families to healthy eating while integrating educational concepts, particularly mathematics, into interactive cooking sessions. Participants learn skills such as measuring and portioning ingredients, building confidence in math and cooking in a relaxed, supportive environment.

Initially, schools struggled to afford the sessions, but grant funding enabled Gemma to offer them free of charge, significantly expanding access. The programme has since transformed participants' attitudes toward maths and healthy cooking, with parents often rediscovering their

abilities and children building trust and independence. Families leave inspired, frequently recreating recipes at home and adopting healthier habits.

Despite administrative challenges in reaching more schools, Gemma remains driven by the programme's impact. Watching families collaborate and grow through cooking reinforces her mission to encourage healthier, more confident communities across the Vale of Glamorgan.



CARDIFF & VALE COLLEGE

WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND COMMUNITY INTEGRATION INITIATIVES AT CATERFIELD VALE COLLEGE

Cardiff Vale College (CAVC) has been at the forefront of innovative educational programmes aimed at community development and lifelong learning. Led by Emma McGoughlin, Deputy Head of Widening Participation, and supported by Senior Manager Wayne Carter, the college has leveraged collaboration, intergenerational learning, and strategic community engagement to transform lives.

The Programme: Families Learning Together

One of the hallmark initiatives under the Widening Participation department is Families Learning Together. This programme adopts an intergenerational approach, bringing families into the learning journey together. By engaging parents and children in shared activities centred around literacy, numeracy, and STEM subjects, the programme not only improves academic outcomes for children but also reignites parents' interest in personal education. Parents are equipped with the tools to support their children while simultaneously exploring pathways for their own development.

In areas like the Vale of Glamorgan, the programme has focused heavily on mathematics, ensuring that both children and their caregivers develop foundational skills in tandem. The initiative has been particularly successful in engaging under-served community members, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other caregivers who play pivotal roles in children's lives.

Impact and Outcomes

The Families Learning Together programme has had wide-ranging benefits. Many participants, initially hesitant due to past negative experiences with education, noted an improved sense of belonging to both the school and the broader community. The programme has also opened up new avenues for personal and professional growth, with some parents progressing to formal education, obtaining accreditations, and others secured employment within schools or pursued advanced certifications like HGV licences.

The initiative has also addressed post-COVID isolation. For families who lacked opportunities to connect during

the pandemic, the programme facilitated meaningful interactions, fostering friendships and a stronger sense of local community.



Collaboration through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The success of these programmes has been bolstered by funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This resource enabled CAVC to collaborate with local councils and other education providers, ensuring that programming addressed specific community needs without duplication. This partnership-driven approach allowed for a wider range of course offerings and targeted outreach to areas previously underserved.

Youth-Centered Initiatives: The Starn Project

Beyond family-focused initiatives, CAVC's STARN project addressed the unique needs of young people unable to access traditional post-16 education. Under Wayne Carter's leadership, the project emphasised skills development for independence, employability, and health

and wellbeing. Working in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council, the project tailored its services to provide vulnerable youth with second chances and pathways into employment.

A notable outcome of this project was a community-driven art exhibition held at Barry Library. Young participants showcased their talents in a public gallery, earning recognition from peers and family alike. This success reinforced their confidence and employability skills, demonstrating their potential to contribute meaningfully to the community.

Key Success Factors and Aspirations

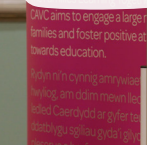
Looking forward, the college aims to expand its programmes, including progression courses for learners who have completed initial offerings. Both McGoughlin and Carter are driven by a shared commitment to uplifting individuals and communities, creating spaces where learners can thrive, and inspiring confidence through small, meaningful steps.

Conclusion

Cardiff and Vale College has established itself as a beacon of hope and opportunity within its community. By supporting intergenerational learning, building collaborative networks, and addressing the nuanced needs of its participants, the college continues to make a tangible difference. These programmes not only empower individuals to succeed but also contribute to the social and economic vitality of the region.



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FULL LIST OF PROJECTS

Project Title	Theme	Organisation	Total SPF Funding
Barry Wayfinding	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£261,994.50
Ty Iolo Bike Club	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£24,144.00
Bike hire scheme – Llantwit Major	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£58,374.84
Public Rights of Way Access Improvement	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£600,184.70
Country Park Branding & interpretation project	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£70,380.00
The Knap Skatepark	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£217,000.00
Community Hack Events	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£8,001.83
Old Hall	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£151,000.00
Country Park Gateway re-development project	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£242,594.74
Green Infrastructure Plan	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£24,950.00
Tackling Poverty and Deprivation Programme	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£98,866.20
Greenlinks Community Transport	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£81,370.10
Tree Shrub and Plant Enterprise Study	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£38,500.00
Great Glamorgan Way	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£497,091.81
GVS- Third Sector Small Grants Scheme	Communities & Place	Glamorgan Voluntraty Service	£181,170.51
Cast Away Stress	Communities & Place	Reel Minds CiC	£38,672.00
NHW Community Connections	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£48,783.52
Memo Arts Centre	Communities & Place	Memo Arts Centre	£39,908.70
Meaningful Movement	Communities & Place	Motion Control Dance	£25,961.43
Community Growing	Communities & Place	Slade Farm/ FieldWorks Studio	£93,552.02
Intersensory Club	Communities & Place	The Intersesnory Club	£25,473.60
Amelia Trust	Communities & Place	Amelia Trust Farm	£9,100.00
Caru Cymru	Communities & Place	Keep Wales Tidy	£65,896.15
Cadog's Corner	Communities & Place	Cadog's Corner	£13,678.19
Food Vale Partnership Projects	Communities & Place	Cardiff & Vale UHB	£56,027.31
Chickenwood Park	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£119,743.74
Penarth Athletic Club	Communities & Place	Penarth Athletic Club	£95,000.00
Move More, Eat Well	Communities & Place	Cardiff & Vale UHB	£21,676.02
Murchfield Recreation Ground	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£86,509.00
Murchfield Roof	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£201,490.25
Strong Communities Grant (& staff)	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£24,307.23
Alexandra Gardens Community Association	Communities & Place	Alexandra Gardens Community Association	£9,726.01
DPVS	Communities & Place	DPVS	£6,193.08
Highlight Park Community Centre	Communities & Place	Highlight Park Community Centre	£21,962.00
Llandow Village Hall	Communities & Place	Llandow Village Hall	£16,650.00
Murch Bowling Club	Communities & Place	Murch Bowling Club	£10,347.82
Penarth Ministry (CIW)	Communities & Place	Penarth Ministry (CIW)	£34,659.55
Rhondda Cold Knap Lifeguard Club	Communities & Place	Rhondda Cold Knap Lifeguard Club	£8,552.58
Crawshay Court Residents Association	Communities & Place	Crawshay Court Residents Association	£3,732.20

Project Title	Theme	Organisation	Total SPF Funding
Sully CC & Our Future Community	Communities & Place	Sully CC & Our Future Community	£11,376.00
Colwinston old Ford	Communities & Place	Colwinston old Ford	£11,043.00
Cowbridge Scout Group	Communities & Place	Cowbridge Scout Group	£14,158.95
Ogmore by Sea Village Hall	Communities & Place	Ogmore by Sea Village Hall	£7,500.00
The Intersensory Club	Communities & Place	The Intersensory Club	£18,717.60
Barry Athletic Club Feasibility Study	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£12,912.50
Cwrt Y Vil MUGA	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£96,694.42
Restore the Thaw	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£48,789.17
Electric Bike Loan Scheme	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£188,287.00
Walking Bus	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£12,773.13
Barry Swimming Pool	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£67,240.00
Gibbonsdown Community Hub	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£27,431.82
Fit for the Future	Communities & Place	Ty Hafan	£24,800.00
CF61 PV Panels	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£8,000.00
Events Equipment	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£16,556.74
Summer Bike Club	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£1,800.00
E Bike Study	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£20,000.00
Brompton Bike Docks	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£192,428.53
Subway Road Tunnel	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£87,725.00
Barry Library	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£25,306.75
Youth Bus Staff	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£68,318.56
Old Hall New Era	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£72,405.11
Medieval Village Feasibilty Study	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£36,050.00
Makers Space	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£4,701.19
Alley Gates	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£100,553.91
Pedestrian Improvements	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£185,763.31
Coastal Infrastructure	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£14,356.87
Cosmeston Boardwalk	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£33,917.28
LM Changing Rooms	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£105,716.87
Leisure Centre National Exercise Referral Scheme Equipment (NERS)	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£96,496.30
Tree Planting	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£45,437.74
Cliff Top Car Park	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£39,797.59
Wenvoe Pavillion New Roof	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£71,790.28
Penarth High Level PV Panels & Glazing	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£266,000.00
Participation HQ	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£35,627.96
New Local	Communities & Place	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£11,175.00
Destination Marketing & PR Campaign	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£44,961.00
Regional Consumer and Trade Marketing Activity	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£15,678.93
Vale Town Centres	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£55,000.00

FULL LIST OF PROJECTS

Project Title	Theme	Organisation	Total SPF Funding
Business Hack Events	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£9,451.72
Train Shed roof lights and windows	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£26,076.89
BSC2 - new fire alarm system	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£7,687.90
CEC new fire alarm system	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£17,559.30
Vale of Glamorgan Events Programme	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£193,856.30
Food & Farming	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£103,752.32
Cowbridge Farmers Market- Event Marquees	Supporting Local Business	Cowbridge Farmers Market	£14,897.56
Belle Vue Community Centre	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£88,425.07
CGIC (Clean Growth Innovation Community Programme)	Supporting Local Business	Cardiff Met	£150,438.77
Purple Shoots- Self Reliant Groups in VOG	Supporting Local Business	Purple Shoots	£39,680.00
CEMET	Supporting Local Business	University of South Wales	£115,162.98
Innovation Net Zero	Supporting Local Business	Innovation Strategy	£219,762.09
Town Centre minor shop-front improvement grant scheme top-up	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£52,462.35
Vale Business Start-up bursary top-up	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£100,300.30
Business Grants Admin	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£22,881.10
Milkshed Workspace Penarth	Supporting Local Business	Milkshed	£42,219.17
BSC2 Renovations	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£1,119,737.93
TerraDat UK Ltd	Supporting Local Business	TerraDat UK Ltd	£47,064.50
Haya (UK) Ltd	Supporting Local Business	Haya (UK) Ltd	£9,998.15
A.E. Dental Laboratory	Supporting Local Business	A.E. Dental Laboratory	£1,285.65
Foxy's Deli	Supporting Local Business	Foxy's Deli	£4,700.00
TFSLET Ltd	Supporting Local Business	TFSLET Ltd	£15,000.00
Bashed UK	Supporting Local Business	Bashed UK	£29,473.38
Vale Hearing Healthcare Ltd	Supporting Local Business	Vale Hearing Healthcare Ltd	£6,691.97
Eweny Garden Centre	Supporting Local Business	Eweny Garden Centre	£17,456.48
Holton House Services Offices	Supporting Local Business	Holton House Services Offices	£4,793.77
Love Lagree Ltd	Supporting Local Business	Love Lagree Ltd	£22,243.59
Hensol Feasibility Study	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£24,996.15
Buildings Decarb Study	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£31,000.00
TJ Williams Ltd	Supporting Local Business	TJ Williams Ltd	£64,055.70
CCR Energy- Solar Panels	Supporting Local Business	CCR Energy	£11,000.00
Old Industries Ltd- The Cross Inn	Supporting Local Business	Old Industries Ltd	£80,000.01
Tramshed Tech	Supporting Local Business	Tramshed Tech	£137,109.80
CCR Energy- Business Engagement & Social Value Lead	Supporting Local Business	CCR Energy	£55,200.00
Collar Club Summer Field	Supporting Local Business	Collar Club	£11,057.36
C&P Super Ice Cream	Supporting Local Business	C&P Super Ice Cream	£18,000.00
Llandow Karting Circuit	Supporting Local Business	Llandow Karting Circuit	£27,927.98
Reggies Innovation Project	Supporting Local Business	Reggies Pride	£42,747.50
Welsh Coffee Co	Supporting Local Business	Welsh Coffee Co	£49,495.10

Project Title	Theme	Organisation	Total SPF Funding
Lloydstone Ltd t/a Brawd Health	Supporting Local Business	Lloydstone Ltd t/a Brawd Health	£50,000.00
Iguana Apparel LLP	Supporting Local Business	Iguana Apparel LLP	£22,249.52
Graven Guild Ltd	Supporting Local Business	Graven Guild Ltd	£8,057.56
Mack Events Presents Ltd	Supporting Local Business	Mack Events Presents Ltd	£13,650.00
Crafted Arts & Vale Jewellery	Supporting Local Business	Crafted Arts & Vale Jewellery	£5,027.05
JMB Maintenance	Supporting Local Business	JMB Maintenance	£7,806.50
ABC Designs	Supporting Local Business	ABC Designs	£32,497.50
Blackletter Games	Supporting Local Business	Blackletter Games	£6,700.00
Baffle Haus	Supporting Local Business	Baffle Haus	£10,608.02
Zios Gelateria	Supporting Local Business	Zios Gelateria	£11,946.65
The Bearded Taco	Supporting Local Business	The Bearded Taco	£5,151.32
The Milk Shed, Cowbridge	Supporting Local Business	The Milk Shed, Cowbridge	£57,017.90
C1V	Supporting Local Business	Legacy Leisure	£200,000.00
Airport Feasibility Study	Supporting Local Business	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£50,250.00
Celt+	People & Skills	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£1,820,204.97
STARN (Supporting those at Risk NEET)	People & Skills	Cardiff & Vale College	£209,207.00
Steps to Progress	People & Skills	The Wallich	£104,396.41
Empower People	People & Skills	Cardiff Met	£54,423.01
Biodiversity training for Vale Council Staff	People & Skills	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£38,950.00
Mind in the Vale	People & Skills	Mind	£33,390.50
Youth Bus	People & Skills	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£47,685.00
EV Fitters	People & Skills	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£5,735.00
Make My Money Work	Multiply	Passport 2 Employment Ltd	£134,479.87
Engaging Numeracy & Financial Literacy	Multiply	Cardiff & Vale College	£279,555.99
Numeracy and Financial Literacy (ESOL, Family Learning and Intensive Support)	Multiply	Cardiff & Vale College	£411,860.78
Adult Targeted Numeracy (ESW)	Multiply	Cardiff & Vale College	£329,048.27
Skills in the Workplace	Multiply	Cardiff & Vale College	£162,738.25
Education at Llamau	Multiply	Llamau	£132,051.02
Cook Stars	Multiply	Cook Stars	£22,371.48
Multiply App	Multiply	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£56,686.63
CCR Payment	Regional Contribution	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£203,114.00
Core Management & Administration (60% of 4%)	Management & Adminsitration	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£487,767.91
Multiply Management & Administration (60 % of 4%)	Management & Adminsitration	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£77,581.00
Core & Multiply Management & Administration (40% of 4%) RCT Contribution	Management & Adminsitration	Vale of Glamorgan Council	£216,450.68
Total			£14,174,822.77