

## Pwyllgor Craffu Economi, Trigolion, Cymunedau a Llywodraethu

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Man Cyfarfod  
**By Teams**

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Dyddiad y Cyfarfod  
**Dydd Llun, 28 Chwefror 2022**

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Amser y Cyfarfod  
**10.00 am**

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I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch â  
**Wyn Richards, Rheolwr Craffu a  
Phennaeth Gwasanaethau  
Democrataidd**  
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Neuadd Y Sir  
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Powys  
LD1 5LG

Dyddiad Cyhoeddi

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Mae croeso i'r rhai sy'n cymryd rhan ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg. Os hoffech chi siarad Cymraeg yn y cyfarfod, gofynnwn i chi roi gwybod i ni erbyn hanner dydd ddau ddiwrnod cyn y cyfarfod

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### AGENDA

<b>1.</b>	<b>YMDDIHEURIADAU</b>
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Derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.

<b>2.</b>	<b>DATGANIADAU O DDIDDORDEB</b>
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Derbyn unrhyw ddatganiadau o ddiddordeb gan Aelodau yn ymwneud ag eitemau i'w hystyried yn y cyfarfod.

<b>3.</b>	<b>DATGANIAD CHWIPIAU'R PLEIDIAU</b>
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Derbyn datganiadau ynglyn â gwaharddiad chwip plaid a gyflwynwyd i Aelod mewn perthynas â'r cyfarfod yn unol ag Adran 78 (3) Mesur Llywodraeth Leol 2001.

(D.S: atgoffir yr Aelodau, dan Adran 78, na all Aelodau sydd wedi derbyn gwaharddiad chwip plaid bleidleisio ar fater gerbron y Pwyllgor.

<b>4.</b>	<b>DIWEDDARIAD AR NEWID YN YR HINSAWDD</b>
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Derbyn ac ystyried adroddiad yr Aelod Portffolio ar faterion yn ymwneud â Newid yn yr Hinsawdd, y Cynghorydd Sir Myfanwy Alexander.  
(Tudalennau 1 - 50)

<b>5.</b>	<b>CRONFA ADFER AR OL COVID</b>
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Derbyn ac ystyried adroddiad yr Arweinydd, y Cynghorydd Sir Rosemarie Harris.  
(Tudalennau 51 - 78)

<b>6.</b>	<b>RHAGLEN WAITH CRAFFU</b>
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Nodi bod cyfarfodydd y Pwyllgor wedi'u trefnu fel a ganlyn ar gyfer y dyfodol:

23-06-22 10.00 – 12.00	Stryd Fawr / Defnydd o Ganol Trefi yn y Dyfodol Tai – ailstrwythuro rheoli tai / stoc dai / digartrefedd
25-07-22 14.00 – 16.00	Perfformiad a Risg Chwarter 1 Cyfrifoldebau rheoleiddio – Eiddo, Cynllunio a Gwarchod y Cyhoedd
19-09-22 10.00 – 12.00	Rhwydweithiau cludiant cyhoeddus
31-10-22 10.00 – 12.00	Perfformiad a Risg Chwarter 2
12-12-22 10.00 – 12.00	

**Cyfle i'r Bwyllgor Adlewyrchu**

Gofynnir i'r Pwyllgor gymryd 5 i 10 munud i adlewyrchu ar y cyfarfo.

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ECONOMY, RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITIES**  
**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**28th February 2022**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Cabinet Member for Climate Change

**REPORT TITLE:** Climate Change Update

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**REPORT FOR:** Information / Discussion

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**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To update Members on progress with the implementation of the Council's Climate Change and decarbonisation agenda and key work areas.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In September 2020, Powys County Council agreed a cross-party motion on climate change which declared a climate emergency and committed to reducing carbon emissions to net zero by 2030 (Appendix 1 – Climate Change Declaration).
- 2.2 A Cross Party working group on climate change has been established to provide advice and directional guidance on climate change and the carbon reduction agenda.

**3. Climate Change Strategy**

- 3.1 The Council's Climate Change strategy has recently been finalised for approval (Appendix 2). The draft strategy was formally launched for public consultation in November 2021. Feedback received has been used to prepare a final document and is summarised in Appendix 3.
- 3.2 The document sets out the Council's vision and aims for action on climate change and its ambition for the future, and focuses on 5 key areas:
1. Buildings
  2. Mobility and transport
  3. Procurement
  4. Land use and Agriculture
  5. Council and governance

- 3.3 The strategy provides a framework for direct action by Powys County Council and will help guide collaboration with partners and influence stakeholders across the county. It will be taken forward through the development of delivery plans which will be subject to further engagement.
- 3.4 An internal Climate Change Programme Board has been established to support and oversee the implementation of the Climate Change Strategy. This consists of the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and senior officers. The Programme Board will provide strategic direction and support and act as advocates across the organization and with stakeholder for the Climate Change Strategy and its delivery.

#### **4. Council Carbon Accounts**

- 4.1 In May 2021, Welsh Government published the Welsh Public Sector Net Zero Carbon Reporting Guide. The guide provides a standard set of instructions for use by Welsh public bodies, to estimate baseline emissions, identify priority sources and to monitor progress towards meeting the target ambition of a carbon neutral public sector by 2030. This will help enable consistency and comparisons at a national level and across Wales.
- 4.2 For the purposes of the Welsh Net Zero reporting, emission sources are divided into scopes which have been used to support the operational boundary setting process and covers both direct and indirect emissions. Broadly, these fall into three categories, operational emissions, supply chain emissions and land use. The Council's carbon accounts cover the period 2019-20 (baseline) and 2020-21 (first year). Currently there are some limitations and minor gaps in available data which can be addressed going forward.
- 4.3 The first-year accounts (2020-21) compared to the baseline (2019-2020) shows a 13.5% reduction in operational emissions (Appendix 4). This is mainly from business mileage (6%), electricity (5%), and natural gas (2%). There is a common factor to all three of these: the shift to remote working and the wider impact of Covid. Offices have been closed and a shift to remote working made. Business mileage (2020-21) is less than half that of 2019, saving 4.8m vehicle km (57%). Electricity and natural gas savings combined (2021) provide a similar saving to business mileage.
- 4.4 Clearly the impact of Covid has resulted in some temporary reductions in emissions and additional effort will be needed to maintain this trajectory. New ways of working and energy efficiency opportunities will be central components in reducing the Council's emission going forward. The Council is delivering a range of energy efficiency programmes which will contribute to this. These include PV panels in schools; LED projects in corporate buildings; the 90% complete transition of street lighting to LED; electrification of our fleet including refuse collection vehicles and street

sweepers which all offer potential carbon savings. The Council's indirect emissions will be larger than direct ones and areas such as procurement will be key to achieving the net zero target.

## **5. Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Points**

5.1 The Council has already installed 16 x fast 22kw public charging points in 8 different car park locations around the county to help residents and visitors in the transition to electric vehicles. This initial phase was supported by a grant from the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) and Council investment.

5.2 Following an award from Welsh Government's ultra-low emissions vehicle transformation fund, the Council is now expanding its network into a further 5 car park locations, with 9 x fast 22kw public charging points being installed. This should be completed by end of April 2022 which will then bring the Council's EV charging locations up to 13 sites and a total of 25 charging points.

5.3 Council EV charging points are currently located at:

- Church St. Car Park, Welshpool
- Back Lane Car park, Newtown
- Maengwyn St. Car Park, Machynlleth
- Mount St. Car Park, Llanidloes
- Hereford St. Car Park, Presteigne
- High St. Car Park, Llandrindod Wells
- The Groe Car Park, Builth Wells
- The Watton Car Park, Brecon

5.4 Additional locations to be included are:

- Bowling Green Lane Car Park, Knighton
- Beaufort St. Car Park, Crickhowell
- Heol Eglwys Car Park, Ystradgynlais
- Dark Lane Car Park, Rhayader
- Oxford St. Car Park, Hay-on-Wye

5.5 The Council is liaising with Transport for Wales who are installing rapid charging points on behalf of Welsh Government. Rapid charging points will be installed in the following Council car parks in the coming months:

- Beaufort St. Car Park, Crickhowell
- Church St. Car Park, Welshpool
- Back Lane Car Park, Newtown
- Maengwyn St. Car Park, Machynlleth

## **6. Council Housing Stock**

- 6.1 The Green Powys programme is designed to increase fuel efficiency and reduce fuel poverty for tenants of the Council and make tangible improvements to the wider environment, with a particular emphasis on increasing planting of trees, shrubberies and other actions to promote biodiversity, encourage appreciation of the natural world and give a greener feel to our communities.
- 6.2 For 2022-2023, Welsh Government asked all local authority landlords to estimate the costs of 'decarbonisation' of all municipal homes. Estimating such a figure is challenging, because of many factors outside the control of the Council or households themselves. For example, the way energy is produced and supplied to homes may make a major contribution towards 'decarbonisation' – the roll out of hydrogen availability produced by electrolysis using green electricity generated by wind, solar and nuclear power and increased grid capacity to supply more green electricity directly to homes. The increased use of recycled, long-life materials and products and components sourced locally within Wales and Great Britain, reducing environmental transport costs, may also contribute towards a more environmentally friendly – and economically beneficial - approach to the construction and refurbishment of homes.
- 6.3 The current estimates for the lifecycles of components such as heat pumps and solar panel inverters and the currently higher maintenance costs of the new technologies being promoted as making a contribution to 'decarbonisation', when balanced against the long life of such improvements as additional insulation mean that a prudent approach of spreading the initial costs over ten years has been adopted. This allows scope for replacement systems, where necessary, to be funded from 2033-2034 onwards and to account for any additional maintenance costs of more complex heating, ventilation and water management systems.
- 6.4 To address high energy costs, special attention is to be paid to those Council-owned homes that have an Energy Performance Certificate rating of 'E', 'F' or 'G'. A 'whole house' approach – called 'Project E, F, G' - is to be developed during 2022-2023 for work to start during 2023-2024 to reduce the need for energy in these properties, reducing the cost of living for those living in these homes as well as improving environmental sustainability. Funding for these properties will be prioritised within existing programme.
- 6.5 The Council has taken part in the initial phases of the Welsh Government's Optimised Retrofit initiative. Powys engaged with the Sero pilot project to develop a methodology to make sure that whole-house solutions to increase the environmental efficiency of homes are specified and introduced in a way that does not disadvantage residents or counteract each other.

6.6 The Council is paying particular attention to how it can efficiently and effectively replace gas-fired boilers with ones than can easily be converted to use hydrogen.

## 7. Data Analysis

7.1 The Council's Business Intelligence Team have compiled information on recent research and data relating to the impact of climate change at a Powys and Wales level. This is summarised in Appendix 5.

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## Appendix 1 – Climate Change Motion

At Full Council on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020 the following motion was supported by the Council:

1. Join with other councils across Wales in declaring and recognising that there is a Climate Emergency
2. That this council will endeavour to reduce its carbon emissions to net zero, in line with the Welsh Government target of 2030 and, call upon the Welsh Government and UK Government to provide adequate support and resources to achieve this target to support the implementation of Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales (March 2019) to make Powys County Council a net zero carbon local authority by 2030.
3. Request the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Housing and Regulatory Services lead on Climate Change mitigation and continue to actively engage with all members and stakeholders by:
  - A. working with the established cross-party working group and,
  - B. establishing a Powys-wide multi-stakeholder group, to develop a baseline picture @2020 and bring forward a strategy and action plan @2021 for a truly sustainable Powys.
4. That this council, with the assistance of the appropriate portfolio holder, newly appointed climate change officer and climate change working group, builds on the achievements to date and develops a working strategy and associated action plans to achieve this target.
5. That this council reviews all relevant policies, strategies and plans, to include its corporate plan and local development plan, to support the achievement of the above targets.
6. That this council promotes and publishes best working practices in limiting global warming whilst encouraging residents and businesses to take their own suitable actions to also reduce their carbon emissions in line with the Welsh Government target of 2030.
7. That this council, together with appropriate support and resources from the Welsh Government and UK Government, works with partners, other local authorities and organisations to help develop and implement best working practices, to publicise this declaration of a climate emergency, limit global warming and enable effective carbon reductions and transition to a green Powys economy.
8. Support our MPs to ensure the Local Electricity Bill succeeds in an Adjournment Debate to encourage and enable the local supply of electricity and facilitate more resilient Powys communities.



**APPENDIX 2**

# **Powys Climate Change Strategy**

**A Strategy for Climate change-  
Net positive Powys  
2021-2030**



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## Foreword

**We are facing a climate emergency. As a Council we need to act now to reduce direct and indirect carbon emissions to net zero. We also need to prepare and adapt to deal with the future impacts of climate change by ensuring that as a County, we become climate resilient.**

To achieve this, over the next decade, we will radically rethink how we live, work, learn, play and invest in the county. We also need action, not only on a local level but regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Powys County Council in collaboration with our partners are proud to lead this transition. Working collaboratively with communities, partners, and other organisations, we will together meet the challenge of climate change and have the 'future that we choose'.

With a clear position on the need for transformative action, the strategy sets the framework for Powys Council to take action, building on Powys successes and challenges to date. This strategy sets the vision for where we need to be in 2030 and how we aim to achieve our goal of being net carbon zero by 2030. By achieving this goal, we believe that Powys will contribute to:

- Making Climate Change everyone's business.
- Tackling the climate emergency, we all face.
- Cutting emissions by at least 95% in Wales by 2050 and delivering on our statutory duty as a local authority to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote resilience of ecosystems as outlined in Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- Making the public sector in Wales net carbon zero by 2030, as outlined in Welsh Government's Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales delivery plan.

Although we are facing a climate emergency and the challenges and actions required by every individual will not be easy, we will also see this as an exciting opportunity to address the challenge through the delivery of warm homes, reducing inequalities, creating more places for our children to play, cleaner air, jobs and opportunities for all.

We recognise that achieving our vision will not be easy. The Council will need to show strong leadership to create opportunities for all to participate in the delivery and benefits of this change.

## Introduction

On September the 24th 2020 Powys County Council declared a climate emergency and agreed to a cross-party motion on climate change. This declaration showed the commitment and ambition Powys County Council has to reduce its carbon emissions to net zero, in line with the Welsh public sector target of 2030. This document builds on that declaration. By formally declaring the emergency, the Council are saying that the work that we are doing to tackle climate change needs to grow and speed up.

Powys council in collaboration with our partners is uniquely placed to lead the challenge of climate change, as it is recognised that we have a democratic mandate for action, proximity to citizens and a key strategic role in leading public, private and voluntary sector partners. As so, Powys Council and our partners are proud to lead this transition. Working collaboratively with our partners and influencing communities, and other organisations, we will together meet the challenge of climate change and have the 'future that we choose' set out our shared vision in this strategy. We also believe we have a responsibility as one of the largest local employers to lead by example, and support the behaviour change needed.

Climate Change is close to home for many in Powys. We are already seeing increased extreme weather, especially flooding. With Covid, we have recently seen the need to act on science to address this emergency. Our recovery from covid provides us an opportunity to build back better, to have a green recovery. In Wales the public sector has an ambition to not simply meet net zero by 2050 as the whole economy must, or by 2040 as many in the private sector but to take global responsibility seriously, we are looking to be net zero in the public sector by 2030. This is an ambitious aim and for good reason.

**Acting on climate change saves lives.** Action required needs to consider reducing our impact (mitigation) on the climate and therefore the damages we will see and responding to the risks (adaptation) of climate change to build climate stability and resilience.

We have already been on a long journey, making changes to support climate action plus delivering numerous projects that have already reduced our impact on the environment, however the current level of action is not enough to meet the challenges that we are faced with and the goals that we want to achieve. **Now is the time to increase awareness, change behaviours, join forces, and increase the pace of action.**

We recognise the challenges and impacts of Climate change are different for citizens across Powys. 'We' as individuals; as a county need to unite and take action to tackle this climate emergency that we are facing, working alongside regional, and national stakeholders.

A key step change in this transition is behaviour, behaviour of individuals, communities, and businesses. Powys is unlikely to meet its vision and targets for reducing carbon emissions without a greater emphasis on behaviours which in turn will result in action and sustainability.

## Why act on climate change?

*The worlds temperature is rising because of human activity, and climate change now threatens every aspect of life. Climate and ecological change is the globally defining challenge of our time. It impacts all living things on Earth, including you and me. Left unchecked, humans and nature will experience catastrophic warming with worsening droughts, greater sea level rise and mass extinction of species.*

***We face a huge challenge, but there are solutions.***

**Ambitious action on climate change saves lives.** Climate change is a significant global issue with local impacts for everyone. Powys has already experienced extreme weather events including flooding and storm damage. These and other extreme events are also experienced globally and are making the news around the world.

Although we are already experiencing the negative impacts of climate change, we can still decide what our future looks like. Our actions today impact on both current and future generations. **The urgency is clear.**

Powys communities have received national recognition for their ability to rally together, especially at a time of crisis. In the challenges that Covid-19 has brought, we have seen the positive results of communities working together. We are capable of meeting challenges. Together we can restore our climate and rise to the challenge.

Some changes are already happening, though not at the pace and scale that will meet our carbon commitments. Both the pace and scale of change must be increased on this collective journey to securing a sustainable future for the next generation. Funding for the transition to net zero by local authorities is something the Welsh Government is currently investigating. Appropriate funding is relied upon to meet the scale and pace of change that is required to get to net zero by 2030.

The impacts of climate change for the future are dependent on the choices we make now. The next chapter of our collective journey on responding to climate change is one about what future we choose, by working together we can meet this even greater challenge.

## Impacts of climate change

The rise in global temperature is causing our climate and our planet to change.

### The impacts of climate change are:

- Hotter drier summers
- Warmer wetter winters
- More extreme weather events
- Sea level rise

### The impacts of climate change cause:

- More drought and wildfire
- Stronger storms
- More heat waves
- Flooding
- Damaged corals
- Less snow and ice and the thawing of the permafrost
- Changes in plant life cycles
- Changes to animal migration and life cycles

Before we set out the vision for Powys' Climate change strategy, we would like to define what is meant within this document when we talk about Climate change.

### **What is climate change?**

Climate is the average weather in a place over many years. Climate change is a shift in those average conditions. The rapid climate change we are now seeing is caused by humans using oil, gas and coal for their homes, businesses, and transport.

When fossil fuels burn, they release greenhouse gases- mostly carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). These gases trap the sun's heat and cause the planet's temperature to rise.

The world is now about 1.2C warmer than it was in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere has risen by 50%

## **Our Vision and Principles**

***In 2030 Powys County Council is carbon neutral and climate resilient.***

*We have collectively achieved a fair and inclusive transition, capturing the opportunities of new jobs and investment, improved health, wellbeing and education, and a better environment for local people. We are harnessing the power of nature and people working in balance and have a rich ecosystem and thriving green economy. We have contributed to a safer global climate.*



This vision is supported by a number of key principles

Long Term

We are looking to 2030 in our plans and split this into three terms for ease of focus. We acknowledge in many workstreams, that looking through a longer-term lens identifies opportunity for earlier intervention.

Integration

The recent publication of “Net zero carbon status by 2030 A route map for decarbonisation across the Welsh public sector” has been fully utilised and the structure of this document includes the headings found there. Based on work with the Partnership Council for Wales and published by the Welsh Government. This plan also includes work on all six priority areas of the Mid Wales Energy Strategy and incorporates suggestions from the Powys Public Service Board’s draft work on creating a Carbon Positive Powys. Bringing together Regional, Sub-national and National workplans into one document.

Involvement

We meet every month as a cross party working group with member representatives from across the county to discuss climate change. We are using the place-based approach to not only increase involvement and innovation, but to understand and meet the needs of the diverse communities across our vast region. We have published information on climate change, why it matters, what the council is doing and how you can get involved on our website.

Collaborative

We are working across the council through our climate champions group and our steering group. We attend regional steering groups and are the regional representative on the decarbonisation strategy panel at the national level.

Prevention

The work on inclusion, engagement, involvement, education, skills and just transition all work towards the prevention sustainable development principle.



Underpinning these principles is '**A strategy that is fair to all**' meaning outcomes will be fair, transformative, evidence-based, collaborative, and able to evolve in line with emerging technologies, changing individual and community behaviours, and new scientific findings. This means that the areas of climate action will support the County in securing wider benefits of social, economic, and environmental equality.

All people who live, work, learn and play in the County will be involved in the delivery of climate action. The action plans which will support the delivery of this Strategy and its outcomes will enable a transition for the county that is accessible and possible for all.

Below are some community-centred solutions which support wider social, economic, and environmental equality and are already in place.

- **Affordable warmth** including addressing fuel poverty, projects listed in buildings section of action plan
- **Zero Interest Loans Fund** for energy efficiency and renewable energy
- **New Ways of Working**, including remote working, avoiding travel time and cost
- **Digital Inclusion** so the shift to digital can be inclusive, including rural broadband
- **Public transport and Active Travel** improve mobility, health, and address transport poverty
- **Public EV Charging Infrastructure** facilitate a continuous roll out of charging infrastructure

## Taking action

The action that is needed to achieve our vision is complex and multi-faceted. The strategy details five key areas of change where climate action is needed to achieve the vision for Powys in 2030. Each of these five areas require clear plans and actions to ensure

that we achieve our vision. These detailed, measurable plans will be completed during the next stage of the strategy and will draw on a wide range of guidance from local, regional, and national good practice advice.

### **Five key areas of change.**

Below are the key areas of change which this strategy focuses on. Please note that these are high level areas and through the development of action plans and continued engagement they will evolve and be shaped by measurable outcomes.

These areas of change follow the publication – *“Net zero carbon status by 2030 – A route map for decarbonisation across the Welsh Public Sector”*. Through a consultation exercise we asked the residents of Powys how much they agreed that these five areas are suitable to support the goal of reaching net zero by 2030. We also asked them to prioritise the areas of focus and gave them the opportunity to share ‘what more can be done’ (See appendix 1 for suggestions via the public consultation). The following information is based on their feedback.

- 6. Buildings**
- 7. Mobility and transport**
- 8. Procurement**
- 9. Land use and Agriculture**
- 10. Council and governance**

## 1. Buildings



Areas of focus	Benefits
Energy efficient housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lower energy bills</li><li>• Long term income from renewable energy</li><li>• Build local skills in refurbishment</li><li>• Provide local jobs</li><li>• Decrease climate and financial risk</li><li>• Demonstrating our commitment to climate action and inspiring others</li><li>• Reduce Fuel and Child Poverty</li></ul>
Deploy renewable energy where possible at our sites and in our buildings	
21 <sup>st</sup> century net zero schools	
Use timber and other locally sourced/ available natural building materials where possible	

## 2.Mobility and Transport



Areas of focus	Benefits
Work with Transport partners to improve transport infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid and lower transport cost</li> <li>• Promote Healthier lifestyles and have healthier residents.</li> <li>• More energy efficient travel options</li> <li>• Increased electric charging points for all to use</li> <li>• Saved transport time from remote working</li> <li>• Lower Pollution levels in built up areas</li> </ul>
Promote public transport	
Reduce the need for travel – opportunities for remote working	
Active travel options will allow residents to make more positive choices	
Provide opportunities for the electrification of transport (including school transport)	

### 3.Procurement



Areas of focus	Benefits
Build local supply chains and industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The circular economy principles reduce the need to spend</li><li>• More opportunities are found for the Council to meet its needs</li><li>• Community benefits from procurement increased</li><li>• Demand for repairing helps create local skills which can service the wider community</li><li>• More sustainable products being purchased for day-to-day needs</li></ul>
Help develop the circular economy in Powys	
New frameworks make the sustainable choice visible to decision makers	
Create opportunities for the use of more sustainable products and services to supply to the council. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Innovative procurement to tackle climate change</li></ul>	

#### 4.Land use and Agriculture



Areas of focus	Benefits
Understand the environmental impact on our land and the opportunities available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1232 510 2004 550">• We can measure climate impacts from our land</li><li data-bbox="1232 622 1971 734">• Protect land-based businesses, including agriculture, horticulture and forestry through climate resilience</li><li data-bbox="1232 813 1937 853">• Improved community health and wellbeing</li><li data-bbox="1232 925 1635 965">• Decreased flood risk</li></ul>
Support and encourage best practice including local sustainability and innovators.	
Give our local communities a voice to help express local preferences through place-based planning	
Encourage community groups to develop green spaces and other similar initiatives	

## 5. Council and governance



Areas of focus	Benefits
Integrate emerging legislation and strategy plans from international to local – UN, UK, Wales, Mid Wales and Powys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gain the resources to enable the transition</li> <li>• Compliance with a complex and evolving regulatory framework</li> <li>• Be globally responsible</li> <li>• Identifying more funding options in support of net zero</li> <li>• Creating the environment for transformation</li> <li>• Create a highly desirable place to live, learn, work and play.</li> </ul>
Utilise best practice	
Develop clear roles and responsibilities	
Build on the inclusive governance and collaboration framework for Climate Action	
Develop policies in support of climate action	
Support communities with carbon positive initiatives	
Provide training for our staff	
Develop funding opportunities to support our transformation	

## Our Aims

To support the key areas of change and vision, we have identified some high-level key aims:

- To address climate change in a way consistent with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. Being prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, globally responsible, vibrant culture and cohesive communities by embedding climate change at the heart of vision 2025.
- To work in partnership to overcome barriers to the development of renewable energy across the county for local energy networks and to promote the sustainable and appropriate use of renewable resources from air, land and water
- To maximise opportunities for carbon sequestration and minimise carbon release through the appropriate management of our natural resources.
- To raise awareness so that our communities can understand the options and benefits of the choices they can make.
- To maximise the benefits of Welsh Government, UK government and wider funding opportunities to deliver change, innovate and scale-up.
- To promote funding programmes and initiatives in support of renewable energy and other energy saving projects.
- To rise to the challenge of the climate emergency and create a climate conscious and resilient Powys.



## Strategies and polices

There are a number of local, regional and national strategies and policies which have supported the development of this strategy. These include:

Local	Regional	National
<p><u>Powys County Councils Corporate Improvement Plan</u></p> <p>Public Service Board (PSB) climate change, step 7 – A carbon positive Powys. Which is part of the <u>Towards 2040 – Powys PSB Well-being Plan.-</u></p> <p><u>Brecon Beacons National Park Future Beacons</u></p> <p><u>Welsh Local Government Association</u></p> <p><u>Powys Climate strategy consultation</u></p>	<p><u>Mid Wales Energy Strategy</u></p> <p><u>Vision for Growing Mid Wales Strategic Economic Plan &amp; Growth Deal Roadmap (May 2020)</u></p> <p>Public Service Board Draft Regional Strategy by AECOM.</p> <p>Public Service Board Draft Regional Strategy Technical Companion Report by AECOM.</p>	<p><u>The Climate Change Act (2008)</u></p> <p><u>The Sixth Carbon budget (2020)</u></p> <p><u>Wales Climate Targets and Carbon budgets (2021)</u></p> <p>The Climate Change Risk Assessment (2021) from the climate change committee</p> <p><u>UK Gov road to zero Industrial decarbonisation strategy</u></p> <p><u>UK Gov Clean Air Strategy</u></p> <p><u>UK Gov Clean Growth Strategy</u></p> <p><u>The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution</u></p>

		<a href="#">Energy white paper: Powering our net zero future.</a>
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## Delivery/next steps

This Strategy sets out Powys County Councils ambition and vision for transformation climate action. The journey for delivery will be detailed in a range of delivery plans, which will be engaged on and developed.

This strategy provides a framework for direct action by Powys County Council and will help us collaborate with our partners and influence our stakeholders across the county; what needs to come next is ACTION. We need to move from Strategy to Action immediately. Two key things are required to enable this, they are;

- Committed and collaborative leadership to lead and influence
- Resource and capacity to deliver

These along with the key guiding principles will lay the foundation of action.

To support the journey of delivery the strategy and actions will follow the Welsh Governments route map for change as detailed below. This route map will provide a clear pathway to change.

# The Journey to net zero

## **Moving up a gear 2021–2022**

Where understanding the context and what needs to be done is vital, and where action needs to accelerate.

## **Well on our way 2022–2026**

Where there is an expectation that low carbon is becoming the norm and we are definitely on the way to a net zero Welsh public sector.

## **Achieving our goal 2026–2030**

Where choosing zero carbon has become routine, culturally embedded, and self regulating.



Once detailed action plans have been developed and agreed the outcomes achieved will align to these three step changes under our five keys areas of change: Buildings, Mobility and transport, Procurement, Land use and Agriculture, and Council and Governance.

## **How we will monitor progress**

An essential part of this strategy is monitoring and regular review. Once the Council has a county baseline along with detailed action plans, we will develop a robust monitoring framework to report on progress and outcomes. This will help us to understand which projects/actions work best, which provides the widest co-benefits, and which offer best value for money. The council's Performance Management and Quality Assurance Framework will be followed in establishing the evaluation and monitoring of the strategy.

There are currently several Boards, such as the Climate Programme Board, Public Service Board, and the Cross-Party climate working group which the climate agenda sits. Their roles and responsibilities will need to be reviewed and we will need to ensure

that there is an effective platform to drive, monitor and manage the counties Climate change journey. Key to this platform will be engagement and collaboration from our partners.

## Closing statement

When we chose the path of listening to the climate science and proactively acting in a strategic way, we see that the solutions to climate change are so often the solution to other hurdles. From affordable warmth to flood resistance, from energy efficiency to creating space for nature, these solutions and many more “multisolve”. Tackling climate change is a key part of transformation, a transformation which will affect us all and requires us all to embrace. Through this vision we will save lives, improve livelihoods, and offer a realistic and aspirational vision of sustainable living in Powys for all.

## Appendix 1

Below are a sample of suggestions of 'what more can be done' gathered via the Strategies public consultation exercise. Please note that the comments below are a sample.

### Buildings -What more can we do? Areas to consider for our action plans

Tudalen 27

<i>What about planning? Could more be done in the assessment of applications against the targets for net zero and natures recovery?</i>	<i>Work with Welsh Government to alter the subsidy land owners already receive to produce food, to focus more on land management to maximise opportunities for carbon sequestration and promote more biodiversity and places for nature.</i>
<i>Sell off more public buildings to simply reduce your corporate footprint and use recycled materials in construction and refurbished office furniture etc</i>	<i>Integration and scale are really important. Linking in with maintenance work and making sure work is done at a big enough scale to meet the challenge of net zero and at a pace which meets net zero by 2030.</i>
<i>Look to provide energy for council buildings that can also be used in nearby homes.</i>	<i>Promote net zero for all new building in private sector via planning etc</i>
<i>only use materials available within the County.</i>	<i>sustainable planning of community areas</i>
<i>provide relevant support for educating in key areas of need to meet the energy efficient housing by creating green jobs and developing a greener workforce.</i>	<i>Sustainable food production - of healthy, nutritious affordable food, and de-intensifying farming, creating shorter supply chains as local as possible</i>
<i>Give consideration to restoring and repairing buildings as an alternative to new build.</i>	<i>Working to inform Powys residents of the actions they can take personal responsibility for and facilitating these</i>
<i>Free up plots for self-builders with strong eco plans</i>	<i>Sustainable planning of community areas</i>
<i>A focus on lobbying for further reflections of the climate</i>	<i>. Given the old building stock in our town centres, I think</i>

<i>emergency in owner occupied housing - building regulations etc</i>	<i>we should have a programme of carbon footprinting businesses and shops and provide support to better insulate these buildings and instal other energy efficiency measures.</i>
<i>Industrial units and agricultural buildings - better regulation, education and monitoring regarding environmental impacts re pollution</i>	<i>provide training and help for local people to set up businesses to build energy-efficient buildings and carry out renewable energy retrofitting at an affordable rate for all to be able to improve the public's ability to be more energy efficient</i>

### **Mobility and Transport** -What more can we do? Areas to consider for our action plans

<i>Low-cost public transport to reduce car usage</i>	<i>Promote the development of alternative fuels such as hydrogen</i>
<i>Introduce small scale wind and solar generation to all Powys Carparks to subsidise the use of more charging points.</i>	<i>Support the re-opening of railway lines</i>
<i>Safer Cycling - Cycle lanes</i>	<i>The creation of subsidised carpools with up-to-date vehicles.</i>
<i>Affordable and available public transport, rural areas are forced to rely on cars due to very limited public transport availability</i>	<i>Reward and incentivise car and lift share; rationalise parking - do not insist on unnecessary parking spaces for new planning applications</i>
<i>Increase access to footpaths by better signing</i>	<i>Join up public transport- eg buses go to and stops at train stations.</i>
<i>Investigate further the concept of "20-minute neighbourhood" - i.e. provide as many services as possible within a 20 minute walk, including shopping, recreation and work.</i>	<i>Subsidise and increase the availability and spread of public transport - if more people can use it, they will be enabled and empowered to make a lasting change.</i>

<i>Safer Walking - Pavements</i>	<i>Charging network for electric vehicles</i>
<i>Transport partners to work closely with providers of essential services to provide transport plans to the essentials. Including active travel, public transport, shared mobility, and mobility hubs</i>	<i>Optional extra a tenner a month bus pass from each household on their council tax bills.</i>
<i>Provide support for the uptake of e-bikes, e-cargo bikes and adapted cycles</i>	<i>Reduce the speed limit on country roads, which will lessen pollution and make the roads safer for different modes of transport</i>
<i>•Implement 20mph limits in built up areas to increase safety for people walking, wheeling and cycling</i>	<i>Improve and reinstate footpaths, bridleways, and cycleways in rural areas to link homes to villages and towns to support Active Travel options</i>
<i>Promote locally produced food so the distance to market is shorter</i>	<i>Better broadband would help reduce travel, increase education and availability to those not IT enabled</i>

**Procurement-What more can we do? Areas to consider for our action plans**

<i>Minimum environmental impact should be given weight in procurement</i>	<i>Focus on reducing the need, prior to sourcing the products.</i>
<i>Encourage and enable the growing of more plant based foods in the county, especially fruit, vegetables and oats.</i>	<i>Food from local farmers</i>
<i>Make sure that local foods are used in School dinners and County Council refreshment areas as much as possible</i>	<i>Enabling Local Markets at community centres or schools</i>
<i>Make the right policies first to build the business case for circular and sustainable economy in Powys. Have strict criteria on what can't be purchased i.e very polluting products or high carbon products.</i>	<i>Creating localised buying club to overcome the issues of value for money and be prepared to break down contract sizes as Powys has no supplier giants able to compete.</i>
<i>Carbon audit on all procurement decision making</i>	<i>Support and encourage responsible procurement by others</i>

<i>Make sure all your contracts are accessible locally by local suppliers and providers. Keep the money we pay to Powys in Powys for the benefit of Powys people.</i>	<i>Help the public to be able to choose more sustainable products at a price we can afford ie. not more expensive than current non-environmentally friendly products and packaging</i>
<i>Development of guidance, tools and training for procurement professionals to support low carbon decisions</i>	<i>Emphasise to decision makers how important making the most sustainable choices is</i>
<i>Carbon audit on all procurement decision making</i>	<i>Purchase food from local suppliers in all council buildings/schools</i>

### **Land use and Agriculture** -What more can we do? Areas to consider for our action plans

<i>Nature recovery to increase biodiversity</i>	<i>Education of our environment and its impact needs to be better delivered to schools and communities</i>
<i>Focus on supporting upland farmers and landowners to increase soil carbon and thus soil water storage capacity through improved grazing/pasture management - important for carbon sequestration</i>	<i>Providing the tools to deliver on best practice and lead on local sustainability and innovation.</i>
<i>The promotion of agroforestry (planting trees amongst crops) in the local area should be a top priority to combat soil degradation.</i>	<i>I would like to a focus on financial support for farmers to move away from sheep and poultry farming, so that land can be used for activities that promote carbon sequestration (eg tree-planting), reduce agricultural carbon footprints and river pollution, and promote the expansion of biodiversity</i>
<i>Council farms to be net zero by default</i>	<i>more supportive of the Welsh Government's targets on phosphate levels in rivers.</i>
<i>Encourage and facilitate tree planting and local water retention</i>	<i>- Reduce the need to, for example, remove hedgerows, trees, wild areas - add to them instead</i>
<i>All hill tops should be covered in trees to reduce erosion</i>	<i>Support Community groups (via funding etc) to create</i>



<i>and flooding downhill.</i>	<i>strong localised services and opportunities.</i>
<i>Encourage local food growing initiatives to build food security, supporting organic and regenerative agriculture.</i>	<i>Support those who want to convert land in Powys to horticulture, especially the younger generation who lack access to suitable land.</i>
<i>We want to see every public owned land being used for people and nature (greenspaces used for sustainable urban drainage, native street trees and new woodlands, wildflowers everywhere, support plans for beaver reintroductions, stop using pesticides</i>	<i>Plant native woodlands, food forests and agroforestry, transfer land management to local communities.</i>
<i>Buy unused/unsustainably used land for use by sustainable community projects</i>	<i>Alternative business model for livestock farmers, producing different crops, sequestering carbon, and generating energy</i>

## Appendix 2

### Glossary/definitions

<b>Net Positive</b>	Net Positive is a way of doing business which puts back more into society, the environment, and the global economy than it takes out.
<b>Climate resilient</b>	The ability to prepare for, recover from, and adapt to climate change.
<b>Ecosystems</b>	The ecosystem is the structural and functional unit of ecology where the living organisms interact with each other and the surrounding environment. In other words, an ecosystem is a chain of interaction between organisms and their environment.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Biodiversity is a term which describes every living organism within a single ecosystem or habitat, including numbers and diversity of species and all environmental aspects such as temperature, oxygen and carbon dioxide levels and climate.

## Appendix 3 – Climate Strategy Consultation Summary

### Climate Strategy Survey Summary

The Climate Strategy survey was conducted from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

The survey was advertised to stakeholders via external communications channels including press, email, and regular social media posts and internally to staff.

There were 170 respondents to the online survey and five responses by email.

### Key Findings

#### Climate Change

*(The statistics below are based on respondents who answered ‘strongly agree’ or ‘agree’ to the statements).*

Climate change is important to me	<b>97%</b>
I am concerned about the impacts of climate change	<b>96%</b>
The council should have science-based climate targets	<b>96%</b>

**96%** are already taking action on climate change. The **top 5 actions** already being taken by respondents are:

- **14%** reduce what they buy new.
- **13%** repair what they already own.
- **13%** expand the lifetime of products through good maintenance.
- **13%** buy used, refurbished or re-manufactured goods.
- **12%** buy sustainable options e.g. from recycled content or low carbon

#### The Climate Strategy

*(The statistics below are based on respondents who answered ‘very satisfied’ or ‘satisfied’ to the statements.)*

The title of the report – Red Kite Climate Vision and Strategy	<b>43%</b>
The motivation statements (foreword, introduction, the need for action now)	<b>54%</b>
The view ahead (vision, what could Powys look, sound and feel like)	<b>63%</b>
The mission statement	<b>51%</b>
The six objectives	<b>50%</b>

Those who selected ‘dissatisfied’ or ‘very dissatisfied’ were given the opportunity to comment why they had answered in that way, the main themes included:

- The use of ‘Red Kite’ in the title and as a repeated example throughout the report
- Lack of clarity on the ‘plan of action’ - just words
- No specific agriculture/food security/farmland references
- No ‘urgency’ or emphasis on ‘emergency’
- Lack of mentions of ecological crisis/biodiversity

- Nothing on waste management/recycling
- Should mention benefits to people e.g. better health, etc.
- Could be simpler/less jargon
- Objectives are not SMART

### Approach, focus and priorities

The publication - [“Net zero carbon status by 2030 - A route map for decarbonisation across the Welsh public sector”](#) suggests five priority areas of Buildings, Procurement, Mobility and Transport, Land use and Governance.

The statistics below are based on respondents who answered ‘strongly agree’ or ‘agree’ that these areas are suitable for the public sector to reach net zero by 2030:

Buildings	<b>89%</b>
Mobility and transport	<b>89%</b>
Procurement	<b>87%</b>
Land use	<b>85%</b>
Council and governance	<b>82%</b>

Top areas of focus for each of the key areas for change were provided and ranked by respondents (*where 1 is top priority*):

#### Buildings

1. Energy efficient housing
2. Deploy renewable energy where possible at our sites and on our buildings
3. 21<sup>st</sup> Century net zero schools
4. Use timber and other locally available natural building materials where possible

#### Mobility and transport

1. Work with transport partners to improve transport infrastructure
2. Promote public transport
3. Reduce the need for travel – opportunities for remote working
4. Active Travel options will allow residents to make more positive choices
5. Provide opportunities for the electrification of transport (including school transport)

#### Procurement

1. Build local supply chains and industries
2. Help develop the circular economy in Powys
3. New frameworks that ensure that the most sustainable choice is clear to decision makers
4. Create opportunities for the use of more sustainable products and services to supply to the Council

#### Land use

1. Understand the environmental impact on our land and the opportunities available
2. Support and encourage best practice including local sustainability and innovators
3. Give our local communities a voice to help express local preferences through place-based planning
4. Encourage community groups to develop green spaces and other similar initiatives

When asked if they would add a different area of focus to the list, themes included:

### **Buildings**

- Net-zero private sector housing
- Support/advice/grants on how to make homes more energy efficient
- Restore/repair/conservate/retrofit older (and listed) buildings
- Educate builders/trades
- Planning controls
- All buildings not just residential

### **Mobility and Transport**

- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Low-cost/Free public transport and taxi service for remote areas
- Promote and reward/incentivise car sharing
- Hydrogen vehicles

### **Procurement**

- Food/produce from local farmers/suppliers
- Guidance to help businesses support low-carbon decision making
- Emphasis on Powys Pound

### **Land use**

- Tree planting
- Sustainable practises, including food production
- No intensive farming
- Community green spaces/growing areas/sustainable projects

## **Just Transition**

All large changes have impacts, while climate change is referred to by some as an equality issue due to the impacts often hitting those least responsible and the poorest hardest. While the end goal benefits all, i.e. a safe climate, lower risks of flooding, storm damage, erosion, etc.

A 'Just Transition' means to make sure that changes are fair, and opportunities for involvement are maximised, including for those on low incomes and otherwise vulnerable. A 'Just Transition' is 'very important' or 'important' to **92%** of respondents.

## **Appendices**

When asked about the appendices of the strategy, respondents were asked to rate their preference for each one with both recommended as 'adds important information to keep':

- Appendix 1: Building a vision - **75%**
- Appendix 2: Integration - **81%**

## **Potential stakeholder group**

**36%** of respondents highlighted that they would be interested in joining a stakeholder group.

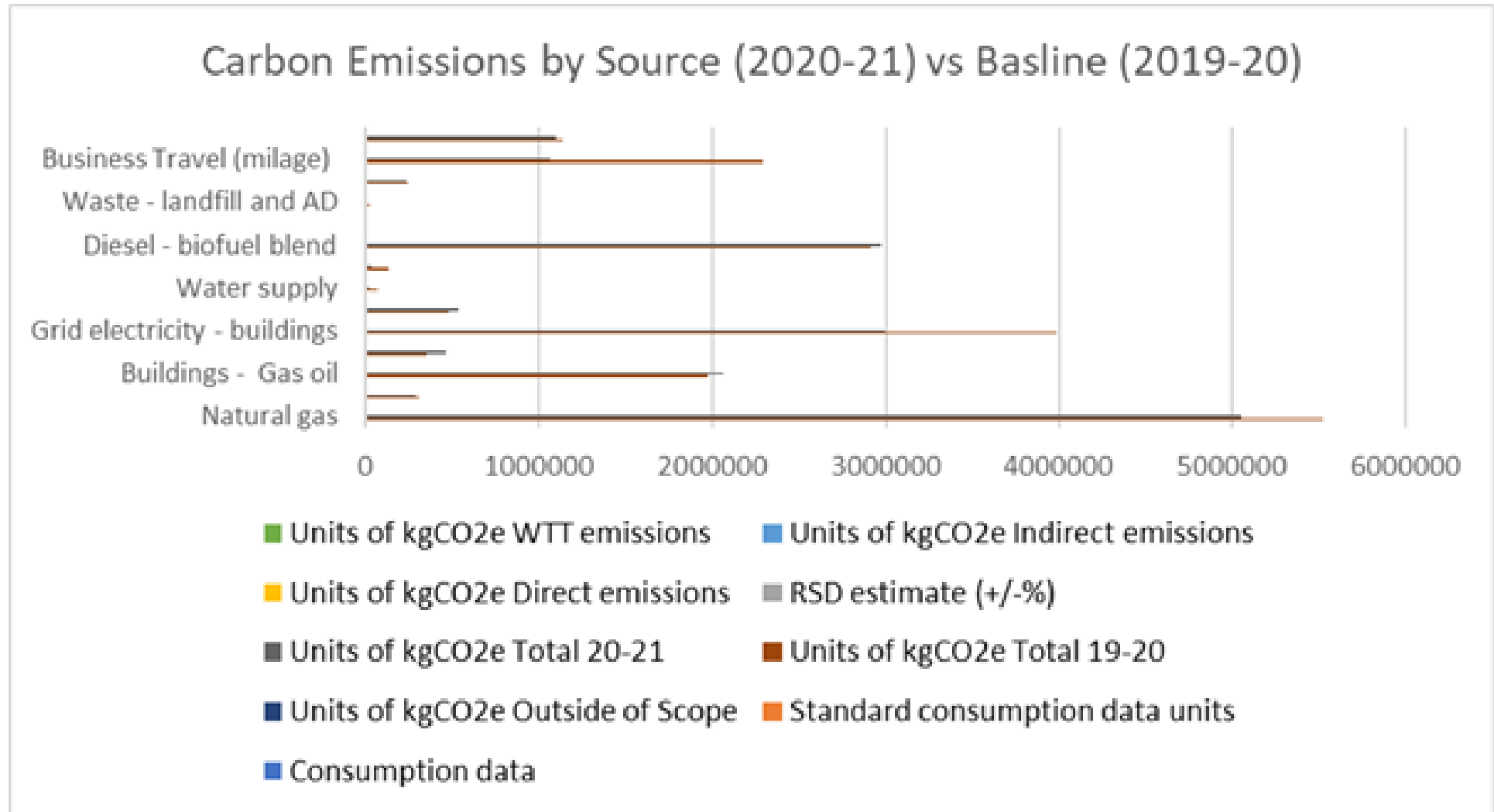
Those with an interest were asked for their name and contact details and some follow-up questions:

Topics they would be interested to talk on (out of the key priority areas mentioned earlier in the survey): Buildings; Mobility and transport; Procurement; Land; and Governance. Land was the most popular choice (35%) and Procurement the least popular (9%).

Level of expertise in climate change (from Casual Observer through to Professional with 10 years+ experience):

- Casual observer: **7%**
- Long-term interest: **56%**
- Professional - new to field: **4%**
- Professional - 2 years experience: **4%**
- Professional - 5 years experience: **2%**
- Professional - 10 years+ experience: **27%**

## Appendix 4 – Carbon Accounts Data Comparison



Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwiadol



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## WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE UK?

Recent reports have confirmed that the UK climate is already changing rapidly. The '[State of the UK Climate](#)' report for 2020 (Royal Meteorological Society, 2020), finds that disruptive climate change is impacting on our daily lives, with the UK becoming 6% wetter and 0.9C warmer in the last 30 years. These changes will have impacts for the frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events such as heatwaves and floods.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have recently published the findings of [Working Group 6](#), presenting the physical science basis underpinning our understanding of how climates may change in the future (IPCC , 2021). The [Summary for Policy Makers](#) finds that extreme weather events such as heatwaves and intense rainfall have become more frequent and intense across most of the Earth's landmasses since the 1950s, due to human influence on the climate system (IPCC , 2021).

Want to find data about Powys? Click here to view our



WELL-BEING INFORMATION BANK



NATIONAL AWARD WINNER  
2021 **Laria** BEST USE OF DATA  
(LOCAL AREA RESEARCH & INTELLIGENCE ASSOCIATION)

Lle gwych i weithio, byw a chwarae  
Gweledigaeth 2025

A fantastic place in which to work, live and play  
Vision 2025



The chart below shows projected annual emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> across five illustrative scenarios (SSPs) used by the IPCC:

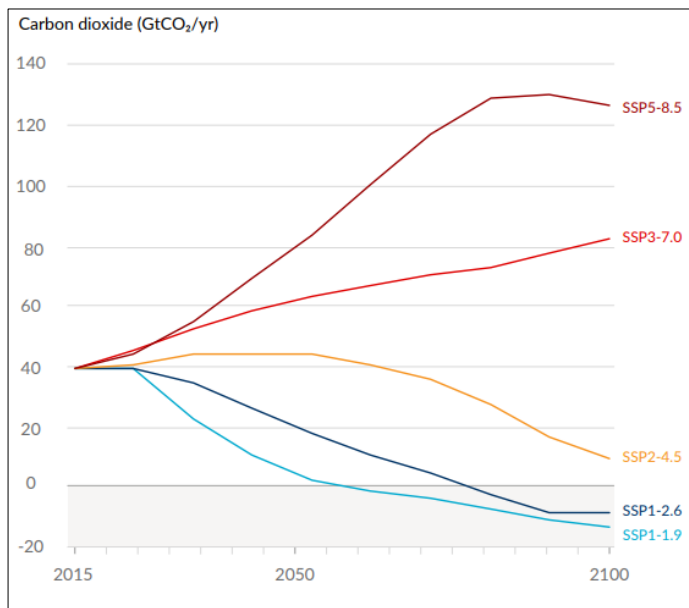


Figure 1: Different scenarios of projected annual emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>, IPCC 2020

In 2021, the UK [Climate Change Committee](#) released the [third independent assessment of UK Climate Risk](#) (CCRA3) (Climate Change Committee, 2021).

Key findings from the report show that adaptation has not kept pace with evidence that the climate risk is likely to be more severe than previously thought.

**Eight risks have been marked as the highest priority UK wide** which require urgent adaptation action in the next two years:

1. Risks to the viability and diversity of terrestrial and freshwater habitats and species from multiple hazards
2. Risks to soil health from increased flooding and drought
3. Risks to natural carbon stores and sequestration from multiple hazards leading to increased emissions
4. Risks to crops, livestock and commercial trees from multiple hazards
5. Risks to supply of food, groceries, and vital services due to climate-related collapse of supply chains and distribution networks
6. Risks to people and the economy from climate-related failure of power system
7. Risks to human health, well-being, and productivity from increased exposure to heat in homes and from other buildings
8. Multiple risks to the UK from climate change impacts overseas

## WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN WALES?

The Climate Change Committee have also produced a [Summary for Wales](#) (Climate Change Committee, 2021), which shows that **26 risks from climate change** have increased since the second risk assessment carried out five years ago.

Table 1: Climate change risks for Wales that have increased in the last 5 years (CCC 2021)

Risk and opportunity	Urgency score CCRA2	Urgency score CCRA3
N2. Risks to terrestrial species and habitats from pests and pathogens and invasive species	Sustain current action	More action needed
N6. Agricultural and forestry productivity	Research priority	More action needed
N7. Risks to agricultural and forestry from pests and pathogens and invasive species	Sustain current action	More action needed
N14. Risks to marine species, habitats, and fisheries from changing climactic conditions	Research priority	More action needed
N16. Risks to marine species and habitats from pests, pathogens and invasive species	Sustain current action	More action needed
N.18 Risks and opportunities from climate change to natural heritage and landscape character	Watching brief	Further investigation

CCRA 3 also lists new risks that did not appear in CCRA 2.

The Summary for Wales identifies the **following risks as high magnitude**, requiring action now:

9. The impact of climate change on the natural environment (terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine, forests and agriculture)
10. Increases in the range, quantities and negative consequences of pests, pathogens, and invasive non-native species
11. More frequent flooding and coastal erosion, leading to: (a) damage to coastal businesses; (b) increased severity and frequency of flooding to homes and communities; and (c) damage to infrastructure services (energy, transport, water supplies and ICT)
12. The impact of high temperatures, high winds, and lightning on the transport network
13. The impact of high temperatures on people's health and well-being
14. Extreme weather events causing disruption of health and social care services
15. Changes in temperature, precipitation, groundwater, and other landscape changes causing damage to cultural heritage assets
16. International impacts of climate change (e.g., food availability, safety and security, risks to international law/governance) that could affect the UK through disruption of trade routes, supply chains and public health

(Climate Change Committee, 2021),

NRW's [State of Natural Resources Report 2020](#) (SoNaRR NRW, 2020) draws on the [Welsh Donut Report](#) (OXFAM, 2020), which evaluates how well we are living within sustainable levels in respect of a suite of both environmental and societal parameters.

**Currently, Wales is not meeting goals related to society and well-being, nor are we within sustainable limits for our use of environmental resources** (SoNaRR NRW, 2020).

As outlined above, CCRA 3 Summary for Wales specifies eight high magnitude risks that require action to enhance adaptation and resilience to future climatic shifts. CCRA 3 also highlights those UK-wide risks that require urgent action in the next two years.

The [Welsh Donut Report](#) (OXFAM, 2020), SoNaRR 2020 and CCRA 3 all make it clear that in order to address the challenges faced by climate change, a transformative approach is needed. Technological, societal, and economic systems need fundamental reorganisation coupled with equally important input from individuals to reduce production and consumption while maintaining levels of well-being. Reducing our environmental footprint cannot come at the expense of the well-being of our societies and communities.

In a report produced by the [National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory in 2021](#), it shows that **68% of all emissions in Wales are produced by energy supply, businesses, and transport** (National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory, 2021). It is therefore recommended that policies and strategies are aimed at these areas in the first instance, while seeking to tackle the highest priority risks identified in CCRA 3.

The Welsh Government [Well-being of Wales Report 2019](#) makes it clear that if everyone used resources at the same rate as we do in Wales, it would require 2.5 planets. This is clearly not sustainable for the future (Welsh Gov, 2018/19).

SoNaRR 2020 uses the example of [‘One Planet Cardiff’](#) as a case study of the kind of transformative, integrated approach required to ensure that we fulfil the principles of SMNR, while meeting the seven well-being goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

**Ideas that could be adapted for Powys and explored include:**

- Reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and energy consumption
- Prioritising green infrastructure across the county, increasing, and connecting green spaces in both rural and more urban areas
- Encouraging an increase in the use of active travel and public transport, with a focus on ‘clean’ vehicles
- Increase recycling rates and minimise waste – ensure Powys participates fully in making Wales a Zero Waste nation by 2050
- Reduce the impact of food choices on the environment, e.g., community farms and gardens
- Undertaking appropriate actions to increase the resilience of our communities to flooding and other extreme weather events

With regards to a regenerative economy, SoNaRR 2020 recommends using the [‘DISRUPT’](#) approach (NRW, 2020):

- Design for the future
- Incorporate digital technology
- Sustain and preserve what is already there
- Rethink the business model
- Use waste as a resource
- Prioritise regenerative resources
- Team up to create joint value

## TRANSPORT

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**Transport remains the third highest producer of greenhouse gases in Wales for 2019.**

Wales has had [consistently high rates of car use for commuting since 1990](#), which is likely to be due to the rural nature of much of the country, and this is particularly true in Powys (NRW , 2020).

In such a challenging context, SoNaRR 2020 recommends considering actions in the social sphere, driving change in how and why people travel or transport things.

- Build on the change of lifestyle we all experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic - more working from home, limited travel, people staying local for holidays and recreation
- Build on the impact Covid-19 had on how we shop – encourage the purchase of local produce to reduce transport costs
- Enact policies to convert to electrically powered vehicles for public transport, where possible

- Increase the number of fast charging points for electric vehicles – Powys as a county is approximately 112 miles from top to bottom, so having opportunities to charge vehicles will be critical to the uptake of electric cars
- Establish community networks for electric car users (this has already commenced in Powys) to share tips and knowledge
- Improve active travel routes, particularly in towns or areas where commuting in this way is possible; try to join up existing schemes that can be piecemeal in nature

## ENERGY

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**Powys has old and inefficient housing**, and therefore there are potentially significant reductions in carbon output to be made in terms of improving energy efficiency. Some things to consider are:

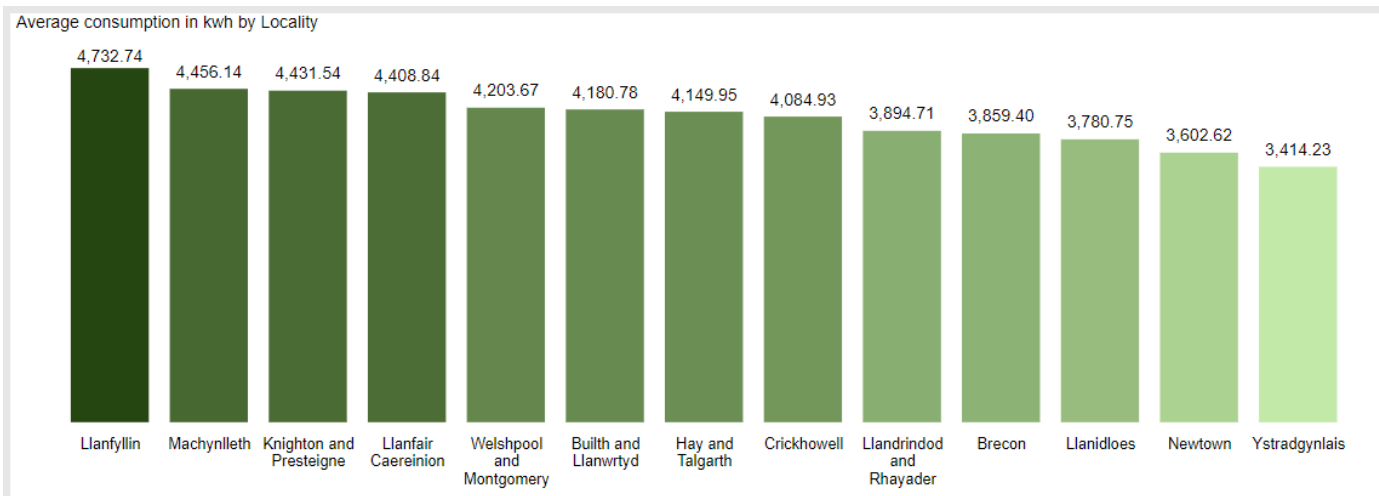
- Encourage the local generation of energy (e.g., support the installation of technology such as solar panels or battery storage systems; transfer communities to electrical heating from fossil fuels).
- Promote demand management and energy efficiency (e.g., the roll out of smart meters).
- Establish policies to include energy efficient technology into any new housing development.
- Establish policies, networks and community initiatives to encourage ‘prosumers’ - energy users who produce and/or conserve energy through use of solar panels, heat pumps, energy storage devices (such as batteries) and electric vehicles.

**Many homes in Powys are not connected to the gas network due to Powys’ rural nature.** These homes are likely to rely on other, more carbon intensive and expensive forms of heating, such as oil, liquid petroleum gas, and coal (ONS, 2011).

**Powys’ average household electricity consumption is significantly higher than the Welsh average**, as well as the UK average (Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, 2021).

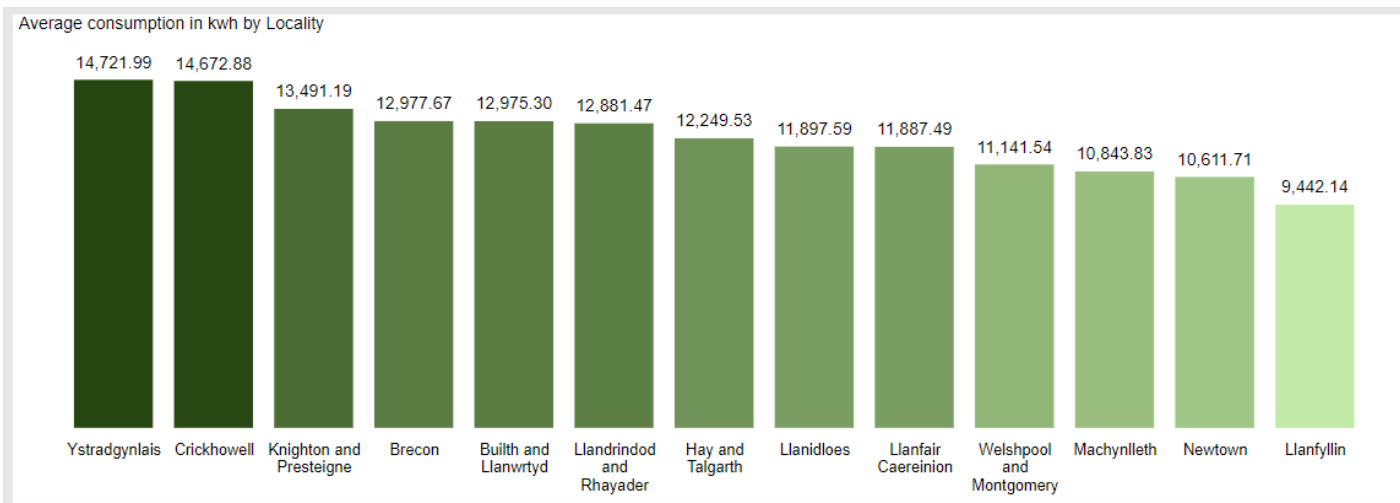
The **average domestic electricity consumption is 4,037 kWh per annum for Powys**, which is higher than the Welsh average 3,578 kWh/annum, but lower than the GB average 4,079 kWh/annum. Between 2015 and 2019, electricity consumption in Powys has fallen by 5%, Wales and GB have fallen by 8%.

**The average electrical consumption differs across Powys**, with Llanfyllin locality showing the highest electricity consumption of all 13 localities, the lowest being Ystradgynlais.



The **average domestic gas consumption per meter in Powys is 12,442kWh/annum** which is lower than both the Welsh average 13,502 kWh/annum, and higher than the GB average 12,368 kWh/ annum. Between 2015 and 2019, mean domestic gas consumption in Powys has risen by 2%, and Wales 2% GB by 1%.

**The average gas consumption differs across Powys**, with the opposite from electrical consumption Ystradgynlais locality showing the highest gas consumption of all 13 localities, the lowest being Llanfyllin.



Due to the rurality of Powys, more rural localities will not be connected to the gas network.

**In Powys, 53% of properties are not connected to the gas network (Wales: 15%, UK: 10%).**

Estimates of the number of properties not connected to the gas network vary, with one source **estimating that 43,000 properties in Powys are not connected to the gas network** (ONS, 2011)

Due to rising energy prices, many residents are finding it difficult to heat their homes to a comfortable standard.

**The percentage of households in Powys who are in fuel poverty was 17%** (Welsh average: 12%).

**Powys ranks third highest amongst all local authorities in Wales** (Gwynedd is highest (23%) and Ceredigion second highest (21%) (Welsh Gov, 2018).

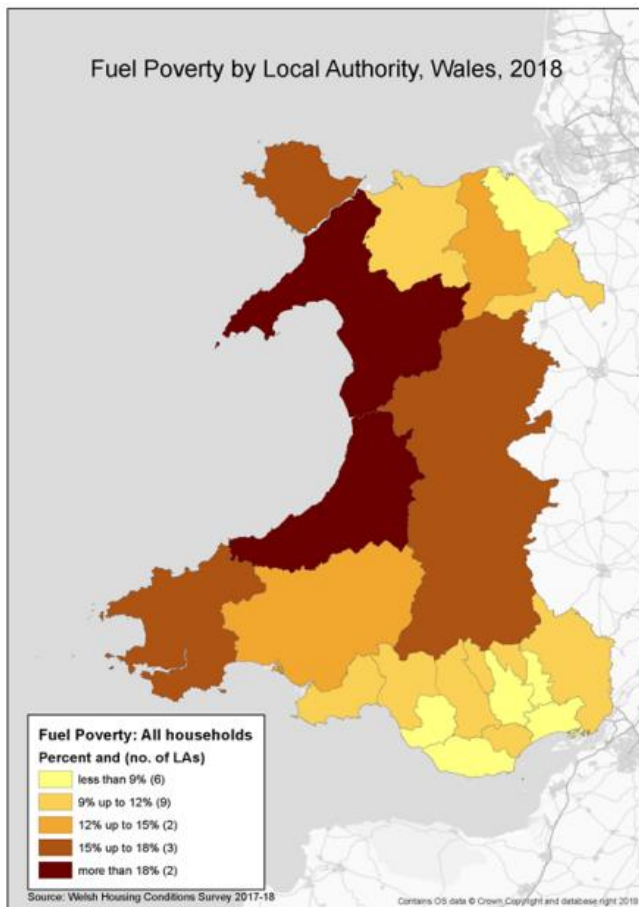


Figure 2 Map: Proportion of households in fuel poverty (10% definition), Wales, 2018

Follow the link to view more about [energy consumption in Powys and our 13 localities via our interactive report](#).

## FOOD

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The food system, in meeting society's nutritional needs, is responsible for many impacts on the environment. Examples include emissions of pollutants, depletion of resources, loss of biodiversity and



degradation of ecosystems in Wales and beyond. Options for making the existing food system more efficient include:

- Low carbon management practices
- Increased biodiversity-friendly management practices
- New incentives and regulatory mechanisms
- Changing diets
- Reducing food waste
- Increasing food production from a smaller area of land

## WHAT HAVE PEOPLE SAID?

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Living in Powys survey (July 2021)

82% of 468 respondents to the 'Living in Powys' survey agreed or strongly agreed that we are seeing more extreme weather events including flooding. 5% answered that they strongly disagreed, and 13% answered neutral.

When asked "what action they are taking to address climate change", 12% of respondents said that they would source renewable energy.

- 83% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that action to address climate change is important to them.
- 74% agreed or strongly agreed that they are acting to address climate change and 72% felt informed about climate change.

Respondents were asked what action they take to address **climate change**, highest answers included:

- 17% reduce what I buy new
- 17% repair what I already have
- 16% expand lifetime of products through good maintenance
- 14% buy used, refurbished or re-manufactured
- 14% buy sustainable options e.g. From recycled content or low carbon
- 10% source renewable energy
- 1% said do nothing

For those selecting 'nothing' they were asked what is preventing them from acting, responses included:

- "I feel climate change is an exaggerated problem designed to increase taxation of everyday items, force us into buying very expensive electric cars and undermining our lifestyles."
- "Absolutely no need to do anything."

- “Climate has always changed, CO2 is not a pollutant, wind and solar are expensive yet useless. Wasteful use of resources is wrong but so far fossil fuels are the most effective, efficient, and beneficial provisions of the Creator God for mankind. The Maldives will show us when sea level change happens. I am all for good stewardship of resources, but not to be done under the false pretenses of the current "climate change" agenda. "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease". God's promise, Bible (Genesis).”
- “It is over exaggerated. All climate is cyclical.”

Some respondents mentioned **electric and hybrid cars** in their response to what their priorities would be in a well-being plan:

- “Powys will need many more charging stations for all the electric and hybrid cars that will be taking over from petrol and diesel vehicles. How will you make sure there is capacity for us all to charge when we are not at home?”
- “Businesses can install more electric vehicle charging infrastructure and create more green spaces around the town.

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## CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Panel  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Rosemarie Harris, Leader

REPORT TITLE: Covid Recovery Update

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 REPORT FOR: Information
 

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**1.0 Purpose**

1.1 At the meeting of the Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022, It was requested that additional information be brought forward on two specific areas of the Covid Recovery Programme. These areas being the Highways Maintenance Programme and the Covid Recovery Community Grant Scheme.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 As part of budget setting for 2021-22, Cabinet announced the creation of a specific reserve fund to help support council and community services recover from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The fund will be used over two financial years to deliver a programme designed to deliver county-wide support and complement existing and planned Welsh Government recovery activities. The allocation of **£1.8million** to set up the fund was approved by Council at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Initial proposals for the Covid recovery programme were considered by Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021. The programme has two key themes: i. Community and ii. Economy & Environment.

2.2 To date the funding has been awarded against the following themes for the first financial year;

- Theme 1 Community – Year 1 (2021/22)  
Covid Community Recovery Grant £498,990  
Public Convenience Support £92,414
- Theme 2 Economy and Environment – Year 1 (2021/22)  
Business Recovery Support £120k  
Highways Recovery Fund £340k  
Financial Recovery Support £40k  
Council Services and Project Specific Support £85,145

2.3 The total allocated for year 1 is £1,176,549 leaving a year 2 balance for Covid Recovery of £623,451. The breakdown of the 2022/23 funding allocations has yet to be finalised.

### **3.0 Highways Recovery Fund**

3.1 The Economy, Residents and Communities Scrutiny Committee requested additional information on Highways works funded through the programme. These are listed below, all works are on schedule for completion by the end of the current financial year;

- 140k spend on hire of 'Archway Jetpatcher' in Area 1 north Powys. This has increased the capacity of Highways Team to resurface necessary patches in the Area.
- Work done to reduce the backlog of cat 2 defects in Area 1.
- £28k allocated to Resurfacing on three small sites in Area 1 North, B4393, B4395 and B4580.
- £86k allocated to South area Sites.
- £86k allocated to Mid area.
- South and Mid sites will be complete now the capital programme is completed, and extra resource is available.

3.2 As the work is ongoing, Highway Officers will produce a complete report on the finalised works at the end of the financial year.

### **4.0 Community Covid Recovery Fund**

4.1 The Third sector organisations in Powys are facing challenging and uncertain times during the current Covid-19 pandemic. In recognition of the vital role played by the sector, this time limited fund has been made available by Powys County Council to support local organisations improve, develop, and deliver their services and activities.

4.2 The purpose of the Community Recovery Grant is to help community groups, charities, social enterprises, and voluntary groups supporting people and communities in Powys respond to the challenges and impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The application form is attached at Appendix 1 for information. The criteria for applications had already been reviewed by scrutiny on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

4.3 The Regeneration Service ensured that the grant scheme was promoted through the Authority's Communication Team and our relevant partner organisation networks such as PAVO and the Arts Service.

4.4 The programme aims to assist recovery and help organisations develop flexible and responsive plans and activities to become more resilient and financially sustainable in the future. The overarching grant criteria is attached at Appendix 1 for information.

4.5 Following an open application process, 94 project proposals were received totalling £750k. To date 54 projects have been supported and awarded grants totalling £498,990. These projects are detailed at Appendix 2.

- 4.6 Projects not meeting the criteria are being supported by Regeneration Officers to identify other possible funding streams for support.
- 4.7 Applications are assessed by members of the Regeneration Service, initial checks as fit for purpose against the criteria and due diligence were undertaken. An Officer recommendation was given to the Economic Development Group and the to the Thriving and Sustainable Environment Board, who then made the final decision on the application. Two approved projects and two rejected projects will be provided as a detailed presentation at the meeting.
- 4.8 All projects were approved through the Thriving and Sustainable Environment Board, chaired by the lead for Economy and includes cabinet members representing regeneration, property, and highways. All meetings were recorded, noting any abstentions and decisions made.
- 4.9 Two key decisions to be noted includes the reduction of funding for property projects to 50% due to high demand of support requested in this area and an overall increase of funding awarded, noting that supporting communities as soon as possible to implement recovery investment would be more beneficial than waiting as recovery investment had already been put aside.
- 4.10 The key elements supported by the grant are:
- To support organisations that need to adapt and change to find new ways of operating due to the Covid crisis.
  - To ensure that safe, resilient, and sustainable practises are introduced to allow continued and enhanced community activities and services to take place.
  - To develop and implement new services and activities, or the extension of existing projects that have been adversely affected by Covid, that benefit people in their local community.
  - To encourage healthier living and wellbeing, enhance the provision of local facilities, activities and community services that have been adversely affected by Covid.
  - To encourage communities to have an active role in the design and delivery of the services they need.

## **5.0 Scheme Review**

- 5.1 The Scheme has now closed for first year applications and following discussions, it was felt that a review of the application process would be beneficial.
- 5.2 There was a request for potentially 2 successful and 2 unsuccessful applicants to attend Scrutiny to share their experiences. However, Officers have been unable to encourage any representatives from these Third Sector

groups to enter this process. As Volunteers, they either have work commitments or find the request a daunting task.

5.3 It was then felt that an anonymous online survey of all the Grant Applicants would be beneficial, giving a review of the process to date and to assist with potential future schemes. The results of the online survey are detailed at Appendix 4.

## **6.0 Information/Decision**

6.1 Report to be noted as information.

Contact Officer:	Jenni Thomas, Professional Lead Regeneration
Tel:	01597 827672
Email:	jenni.thomas@powys.gov.uk
Head of Service:	Diane Reynolds, Head of Economy & Digital Services
Corporate Director:	Nigel Brinn, Executive Director of Economy & Environment



# Powys County Council

## Covid Community Recovery Grant Application Form

**Please read through the application criteria and guidance notes before you start to fill in this application.**

This form has been designed so you can provide the standard information we need to assess your proposal. Your answers should show that you have thoroughly considered every aspect of your proposal.

Along with your application please submit the following:

- Your organisation's constitution or memorandum and articles of association
- A copy of your latest audited accounts
- Your organisation's equal opportunities policy
- Your organisation's health and safety policy
- Your organisation's child protection policy (if applicable)

If you are unable to do so, please explain here:

**Before you submit this application form, please check that you have:**

- Completed every question on the application form
- Kept a copy of the application form for your own records
- Included any additional information requested

For further information or support please contact  
[communitydevelopment@powys.gov.uk](mailto:communitydevelopment@powys.gov.uk) or tel. 01597 827659

## 1. Your Organisation

Name of Project	
Organisation	
Contact Name	
Position	
Organisation Address	
Post Code	
Telephone Number	
Email	
Website Address	

## 2. What is your organisation's legal status?

Please tell us the legal status of your organisation eg. registered charity, not for profit / social enterprise etc

Company or Charity Number (if applicable):

## 3. When was your organisation established?

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## 4. How many people are involved in running your organisation?

Board/ committee members/ trustees	
Paid employees: full time	
Paid employees: part time	
Volunteers	

### 5. Organisation aims, objectives and governance

What are the main aims and objectives of the organisation and what is its governance structure?

### 6. Please indicate the level funding you are applying for

Up to £5,000 grant for small project	
Up to £10,000 grant for local projects meeting local needs	
Up to £20,000 grant covering a wider geographical coverage and range of beneficiaries	

### 7. Project summary (max 300 words)

Tell us what you are looking for funding from the Community Recovery Fund to do and how it will have a positive impact for the people and communities you work with.

### **8. Need for the project (max 300 words)**

Explain how the project will respond to the challenges and impacts of Covid and help support recovery. How have members of the community been engaged in the planning and design of the project?

### **9. Partner organisations**

If you are applying as part of a partnership, please tell us who you are working with and how you will work together.

### **10. Implementation**

What arrangements will be put in place to ensure the successful management and delivery of the project?

**11. Show how your project contributes to Powys County Council's Vision 2025 priorities (your project may not fit in all 4 categories)**

<b>Supporting the Economy</b>	
<b>Supporting Health &amp; Care</b>	
<b>Supporting Residents &amp; Communities</b>	
<b>Strengthen Learning &amp; Skills</b>	



### 16. Match Funding

Please give details of other funding sources for this project/activity

Description	Amount	Name of funding	Confirmed Yes/No

### 18. Funding risks

Which, if any, of the funding is at risk? State the reason and contingencies that are in place if the funding is not available.

### 19. Outputs

Please list estimated outputs which will be delivered through the project eg. number of new users supported, new income generated etc

Output	Quantity

### 20. Monitoring

What procedures are to be put in place to monitor the project and its outputs?

## 21. Value for money

Please describe how this project demonstrates value for money.

(A measure of quality that assesses the monetary cost of the product or service against the quality and/or benefits of that product or service.)

## 22. Forward Strategy

Please state how the project will continue after the grant funding support ceases or how the project will be wound up.

### Data Protection

Information collected in this form will be used confidentially in accordance with the Council's privacy and data protection policies (insert link).

### Declaration

*I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief, all of the information I have given in this application form is accurate in all respects, and I confirm that if there is any change to the information provided above I will write and advise accordingly.*

*I also confirm that the proposal in the application falls within the objects and powers of the constitution or Memorandum and Articles of Association.*

Name:
Position:
Signed:
Date:



## Community Recovery Fund – Projects Supported

## Appendix 3

Town/Community/Area	Project Summary	Project Value
<b><u>Newtown</u></b>	A community flagship venue that supports communities to connect to and benefit from green spaces; for food, for exercise for quiet recreation etc	£20,000.00
<b><u>Montgomery</u></b>	Maldwyn Dragons, as many community clubs, have been directly impacted by COVID-19 to vastly improve numbers of members to pre-covid levels, and further enhance the provision. The project aim is to enhance capabilities with more equipment that can be utilised throughout the community and allow more members of the community to become active and signpost them towards active membership with the club.	£4,000.00
<b><u>Hay On Wye</u></b>	To adapt office accommodation to provide Covid safe booking and enable enhanced re-opening and broaden community participation. Recruit and Support Volunteers. To recruit and support volunteers to provide additional capacity to support member demand and support the service recovery. Since covid several drivers have not returned as volunteers and re-establish the service there are around 8 volunteer driver vacancies.	£9,510.00
<b><u>County Wide</u></b>	To support reboot YFC members, to encourage new membership, through promotional events and media	£12,000.00
<b><u>Brecon</u></b>	To purchase marquee to help stage show and sheep dog trials in a Covid safe way. The intention is to also hire out in order to bring income in to sustain future show and Sheep Dog Trials	£2,222.40
<b><u>Llanfyllin</u></b>	Arts programme moving premises To purchase equipment for a outdoor workshop delivery and are looking to buy foldable tables and benches and an event shelter	£796.00
<b><u>Montgomery</u></b>	Adult Outreach team supports clients who have experienced domestic abuse, on a 1-1 basis, across sparsely populated North Powys. Due to the increasing demand during Covid they wish to recruit an additional support worker to this team and seek funding for the initial 6 months of employment.	£10,000.00
<b><u>Builth Wells</u></b>	To increase the number of British Cycling coaches that to offer more coaching sessions to young riders in our community. oversubscribed and are turning young riders away. To recruit from the pool of parents that currently bringing their children to coaching. To train up our level 1 coaches to level 2 coaches for more experienced riders	£2,756.00

<b><u>Radnorshire</u></b>	Support for a short-term post to come and help increase volunteers following covid. The role will undertake a review current status with staff to identify opportunities for seeking extra help. The post then recruits and induct volunteers before passing them on to existing staff for future involvement and support.	£10,000.00
<b><u>Brecon</u></b>	Brecon Volunteer Bureau would like to expand on the usage of the Vaults to support a community Kitchen, where people can come together in a safe environment. To create one new part-time position of coordinator to oversee the running of the kitchen and associated training for those involved. To enable the development of skills, not just those related to food independence but also communication, interpersonal, numeracy, literacy etc. These would also open further volunteering and employment possibilities clients.	£4,200.00
<b><u>County wide</u></b>	Continue and develop school-based youth work this is particularly important now, with all the stresses covid-19 has placed on young people and their schooling) offering 1:1 support, drop-in space, peer support groups and courses - delivered in 3 schools. •Work with school staff and parents to increase knowledge/understanding of mental health. To increase the offer in terms of geographical area. To increase the staffing to enable them to meet the developmental and client needs for their youth service. Previously supported by PAVO and Moondance Foundation. Funding finishing end of Sept.	£20,000.00
<b><u>Brecon</u></b>	Dedicated Volunteer Coordinator to recruit several volunteers to support them developing and actioning our Fundraising Strategy to supplement our other aspects of funding. to develop and implement a more robust Fundraising Strategy. Covid highlighted the need to develop a new way of working, not only face to face but virtually as well.	£10,000.00
<b><u>Countywide</u></b>	The charity is looking for funding to create a new role for a post-holder who will plan, develop, and fundraise in respect of the following: The re-introduction and extension of existing projects which have been adversely affected by covid across Powys. Consolidation of several innovative projects which have been developed during Covid, e.g., art boxes and for care homes, and online art classes for those with long term covid and taking art activities into public areas.	£14,990.40
<b><u>Llangynog</u></b>	To provide a Covid-friendly, centralised play area and community, outdoor facility. Covid restrictions and beyond. Covid-friendly systems, ie. a one-way system, hand sanitising stations, signage etc • Additional benches to provide socially distanced seating allowing residents to socialise safely.	£9,674.00

<b><u>Llanwrthly</u></b>	Funding to design and build two small sheds. The first, for the purposes of serving refreshments to their community audience and participants at live events, and the other to provide a backstage storage space for costumes and props during performances	4,000.00
<b><u>Machynlleth</u></b>	Canolfan Owain Glyndr contains two a major building, known as the Grade 1 parliament, house the site of the first Welsh parliament (hosted by Owain Glyndr in 1404) and the 'institute'. The Centre at the heart of a lottery application to renew a part vast of the old institute. There is a further need to refurbish the interior a parliament house by creating an innovative exhibition by using the latest technology. Lottery Funding has now been confirmed.	6,660.00
<b><u>Brecon</u></b>	Yearly Bonfire event. Will also involve local school project and recognise work by the Community and Armed Forces through the pandemic	£6,000.00
<b><u>Montgomery</u></b>	The impact of Covid on Girlguiding in Montgomery and area meant that Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units were closed. The project will support the recovery of this important part of the community. They wish to purchase 'starter kits' with Covid to promote and increase membership which has decreased during covid.	£2,000.00
<b><u>Llandrindod Wells</u></b>	Request to support the entertainment and insurance element of the event following the pandemic.	£5,000.00
<b><u>Welshpool</u></b>	To support the core running of the event and marketing. Requesting grant for 2022 event.	£10,000.00
<b><u>Brecon</u></b>	BCA aims through independent advocacy, to empower people with a learning disability to live their lives as valued, responsible and enriched citizens. Since March 2020 our Powys People First self-advocacy project has kept in touch with members via phone and social media, posted newsletters, weekly Zoom meetings, they have delivered parcels within Covid guidelines, they would like to continue the project. Powys wide Project.	9,382.00
<b><u>Rhayader</u></b>	Following W.G. funding they are seeking extra funding for: • a Volunteer Coordinator • an Exhibitions Installation Manager to keep the display build on track and give informed decisions on the correct materials to use in the Museum. • a Marketing Officer with graphic design skills to produce designs for interpretation panels and successfully promote the new attraction • a laptop and graphics software to give them the ability to work on larger scale graphics, marketing, and educational materials.	10,269,69
<b><u>Llanyre</u></b>	To regenerate the play area within Llanyre. To purchase and install a number of pieces of new equipment to enhance the lives of children and families within the community but also for visitors and all essential tourism trade, which has suffered due to Covid.	9,499.00
<b><u>Newtown</u></b>	The project taking in donated cycles which might otherwise have gone for scrap and putting them back into low-cost use, looking for funding to enable Bike to the Future to pay for ancillary costs such as ground matting, stakes, and a cargo bike for carbon free	3,540.00

	transportation. It will donate £5 for each cycle sold into a tree planting fund, then our participants can plant a tree.	
<b>Newtown</b>	To form part of a multi-agency bid to purchase Digital Screening Equipment. Enable Hafren to present "live" and "encore" performances from national and international companies, such as National Theatre Live, Royal Shakespeare Company, British Museum, V&A, NY Met Opera etc	20,000.00
<b>Montgomery</b>	Gwersyll y Bryniau, is available for our Scout Groups to use and also for any youth organisations that wish to visit the area. This request for funding is towards an outdoor shelter, education and hammock space at Gwersyll y Bryniau which will enable Scouts and other young people of all ages to make greater use of the site regardless of the weather	20,000.00
<b>Llanwyddyn</b>	Grant to go towards the cost of replacing the play park equipment. But the ways in which this will benefit the community is far more complex.	10,000.00
<b>Machynlleth</b>	To introduce and develop a day-to-day app to inform parents of their child's development on a regular basis following Covid. It will provide opportunities for parents to catch-up and share their experience. The introduction of the app will give them greater opportunity to share information. Member of staff will be given 1/2 day a week for 6 months to set up, train, and monitor the success of the project. Unfortunately, as they are not based on the school site, they are unable to access schools' system.	£3,900.80
<b>Cwmdu</b>	Looking forward a larger kitchen would benefit organisations especially where catering is required as a fund raiser. Social distancing, stringent sanitisation is part of the project.	10,000.00
<b>South Powys</b>	To deliver first access instrumental sessions for whole classes in 8 Powys schools - 7 primary schools plus Penmaes SEN school. As Powys has no county music service or similar, South Powys Youth Music provides vital opportunities for young people to discover and develop their musical skills. Schools in Brecon, Hay-on-Wye, Builth and Talgarth	5,620.00
<b>Ystradgynlais</b>	Requesting monies towards purchase of lease of the Sports Ground in Ystradgynlais. £40k raised by Association  Deadline for lease monies: £25,000 for 2021 instalment £45,000 for 2022 instalment £35,000 for 2023 instalment	£20,000.00

<b>Trewern</b>	Trewern playground has a large unused grass area which is available for more play equipment. The majority of which was installed prior 1999. Since then, new development has taken place with an increase for play equipment. Outdoor play is vital for young people's wellbeing, particularly due to the impact of the pandemic. Free school meals have increased from 12%-15%, which reflect the hardship in the area, especially following the pandemic.	£9,450.00
<b>Ystradfellte</b>	The grant is to achieve the following: 1. Re-engagement of existing clubs by providing them with a subsidy to provide free-services to the local community. 2. Provide PPE and sanitizing stations within the hall. 3. Updated and revamped website to attract new members and a booking system for the general public. 4. The creation of a new club 'the after-hours school club' to provide an opportunity for school aged children to socialize and mix in with other children after lockdown. 5. Community engagement and welfare by YFC providing breakfast clubs and a church led evening meal. 6. To be able to offer online services such as concerts, readings and plays through a web-based camera for those not wanting to visit the hall	£2,412.00
<b>Hay on Wye</b>	This funding would enable to put in a kitchen in the existing breeze block shed and build an open barn structure at the bottom of the garden with outdoor heaters to enable to continue outside safely. This will also enable us to open the new Squirrels section for 4 - 6-year-olds	£4,097.18
<b>Presteigne</b>	To create a Museum Assistant post, to support the Development Manager in the daily operation and growth of The Judge's Lodging, both during its open and closed seasons. This post will assist the Development Manager with marketing work, including social media, maintenance of databases and e-correspondence. To migrate to predominantly digital marketing. This member of staff will support the Volunteers identified that one of these placement is showing a particular desire to learn more about our work and is proving extremely capable. Following the initial 12 months hopefully continue their role with us into paid employment, supporting and training a young person from the community. In addition, we would like to update our website, which launched in 2020, with the inclusion of a donation facility, something that would encourage individual donations, not just on a general basis, but by utilising specific fundraising campaigns and online events.	£9,609.00
<b>Builth Wells</b>	As a registered charity, under the criterion 'to purchase of equipment to enhance facilities and services' for 'Arts & Cultural Organisations' they are seeking funding to support the mental health and general wellbeing of our audience as we emerge from the Covid pandemic. Specifically, for funds to provide new quality audio equipment for live music and other live performances both for and by the community across Mid Wales.	£10,000.00

<b>Llanwrtyd Wells</b>	They are looking for funding to develop a “walking for wellbeing” facility offering a low-level wheelchair friendly walk along a flat terrain, operating on a model of social prescription where health professionals are able to refer patients to support within their community in order to improve their health and wellbeing. In the wake of the pandemic many people are still reluctant to gather in crowded spaces. This project will provide a space where people are socially distanced but can exercise in the knowledge that they are safe. They would provide hand sanitisers along the route and could, if necessary, have a one-way system around the perimeter of the field.	£10,000.00
<b>Newtwn</b>	Funding to improve and adapt our venue so that they can support more people to increase confidence and life skills in a practical, well ventilated and disabled friendly outdoor setting. The project will help respond to the increased anxiety, social isolation, lack of confidence and other mental health challenges that people have suffered because of Covid-19. People remain reluctant to take part in social activities which is exasperating social isolation in rural areas.	8,407.00
<b>Caersws</b>	The Village Club has over several years been slowly undergoing refurbishment. In summer of 2020 they completed the much-needed refurbishment of our toilets, we also have several flat roof areas and most recently we have completed the full replacement of the function room roof. All of this refurbishment has to date been funded by the Village Club revenues and donations from groups and private individuals.	5,000.00
<b>Churchstoke</b>	The project is to extend the clubhouse to provide a kitchen facility, freeing up space in the clubhouse to host members and visitors to the club in a post covid environment. Though the clubhouse is a temporary structure it is of a quality that has stood the test of time and the extension is to be built to the same standards. At present there are makeshift kitchen facilities within the clubhouse taking up valuable space and not really fit for purpose.	5,548.00
<b>Meifod</b>	To improve access for all to our club house we wish to install a lift. The function bar area is on the first floor. They feel that by installing a lift into the club house, this will enable us to host events that will appeal to all ages and members of the community. They are flanked by the bowling green, tennis courts and our playing fields, so we anticipate that they would benefit from the improvements.	7,730.00
<b>Clatter</b>	To replace three large 113-year-old windows in the community centre, formerly the village school, to ensure the continued use for the benefit of the local community.	£3,172.00
<b>Talgarth</b>	The area has been cleaned and repaired by volunteers but needs refreshment to encourage and enthuse both children and their parents/grandparents to engage in active play and to commune.	8,000.00

<b>Aberhafesp</b>	Funding to provide a fit for use PA system and loop, also a wifi connection so that community council can meet new Welsh office guidelines to provide hybrid meetings. Also, YFC and WI and other groups can access remote meetings or take part in learning situations. Hall has very high ceilings and acoustics are poor but with Loop will benefit those with hearing difficulties and those without. Hopefully encourage more groups to use centre and increase revenue and encourage accessibility and inclusivity.	£3,942.00
<b>Dolau</b>	They are looking to create an outdoor space by the village hall. It was recognised during the lockdowns that there is nothing available in Dolau for people to enjoy the outdoors. They would like to have a small play area and picnic benches so families in the area are able to walk to the facility/ meet friends outdoors. The past year has made everyone realise that outdoors is safer by having this space available not only can families continue to meet if there are any restrictions put in place again to avoid meeting indoors.	£5,000.00
<b>Tregynon</b>	Need to adapt the land to facilitate and develop outdoor space. To provide composite and sustainable picnic tables and benches. To encourage residents and families to play and picnic in a safe outdoor environment. To promote wellbeing, exercise in an outdoor space as we recover from Covid.	£2,176.00
<b>Llangynidr</b>	The Community recovery fund will enable the village hall to regenerate the playground facilities providing play opportunities for all ages and abilities. They have had numerous meetings about getting the playground regenerated with safer working equipment. have sent out a survey to find out what the community want in terms of playground equipment. The re design of the playground will include a one-way system, social distancing, and hand sanitising stations.	£10,000.00
<b>Abermule</b>	Bowling Leagues is planning to have open sessions on the green for people in community, and visitors (nearby caravan park) also discussing having schools sessions on Friday afternoons. The project will not only re-establish regular bowling for members/ex members, getting them back to healthy outdoor activity, where risk of Covid is more easily managed.	£1,824.50
<b>Montgomery</b>	Montgomeryshire Community Regeneration Association owns and manages Plas Dolerw which is conference and local community facility in Newtown. The lift in the building was installed in 2000. The lift is serviced every six months but due to the type of the lift, replacement parts are no longer produced and available. The lift stopped working just before Covid19 and unfortunately needs to be replaced. The lift enables disabled users and the elderly access to the first floor where different voluntary organisations occupy offices.	£8,491.00

<p><b>Presteigne</b></p>	<p>Marketing materials to promote Mid Border Arts, request for lift in the Assembly Rooms. And Lift for disabled access . The Assembly Rooms are spread over 2 floors. All main events take place upstairs and access to this room for the elderly, infirm or very young is via the lift. Performers and theatre companies also use it to move their equipment up to the performance space. The loss of the lift is a huge blow for our most vulnerable visitors who are less physically able and struggling with the effects of shielding and isolation. Having a working lift is crucial to our post Covid recovery. Relaunching their programme to the local community and beyond is also key to their recovery.</p>	<p>9,863.00</p>
<p><b>Llanfair Caereinion</b></p>	<p>Works to display building to restore it to full use after Covid and accommodate the move of Cloverland's Model Museum from Montgomery to Llanfair, in order to increase its public access. Cloverland's Model Car Museum, currently housed in Montgomery Institute and open for extremely restricted hours and adapt part of WLR Museum space for their displays. This will substantially increase the footfall to both museums. To visitors, the attraction will appear as a single collection, although Cloverland's will retain ownership of their artifacts.</p>	<p>7,328.00</p>
<p><b>Pontneffechan</b></p>	<p>This project is for a design and feasibility study to identify the best use of the building and the works needed to achieve this. Facilities at the Hall are insufficient for the demand from both the community and visitors - in excess of 50,000 visitors per year to this end of the village and this has increased significantly since COVID. Craig y Ddinas is an outdoor activity hot spot with gorge walking and climbing being very popular activities. There are no public facing facilities in this area, so the communities and environment have been impacted by inappropriate toileting, changing, litter and parking issues. The community benefit very little from these visitors as there is minimum opportunity to spend and they believe that there is a huge opportunity missed here.</p>	<p>5000.00</p>
<p><b>Berriew</b></p>	<p>Depleted funds and membership following Covid. They are requesting materials to make masks, torches a to buy also the girls individual torches, rucksacks and picnic blankets, reflective jackets, so we can start meeting face to face outdoors to eliminate the risk of covid further. Also help towards hall rental</p>	<p>800.00</p>
<p><b>Llangorse</b></p>	<p>Replacement of broken kitchen doors, worktops, and crockery. Maintaining good standards of hygiene and safety will improve the facilities provided, reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission, and ensure people who attend the Community Centre can do so safely.</p>	<p>1708.50</p>



## **Covid-19 Community Recovery Grant – Mid Term Review**

8 questions were selected, and the survey circulated throughout the Regeneration and Partnership networks. There were 37 responses out of the total 94 applicant returned, giving a 39.3% response rate, which is a relatively high return for Local Authority surveys. The survey was a combination of multiple choice and comment boxes, the responses are detailed below:

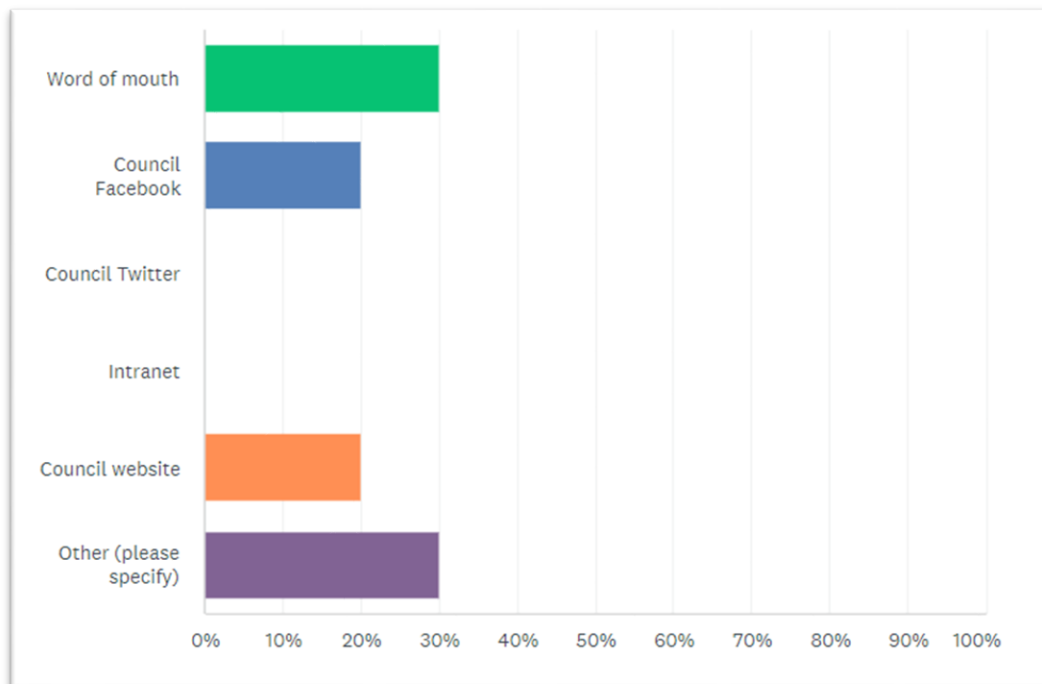
### **Q1. What is your organisation sector?**

Officers have included all the 94 groups in this response as it was stated on the application. The breakdown of groups is as follows: -

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Refused</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing orgs.</b>	9	8	17
<b>Arts</b>	7	6	13
<b>Sports</b>	5	7	12
<b>Community Councils</b>	4	2	6
<b>Play V Hall</b>	7	3	10
<b>Events</b>	3	0	3
<b>Youth</b>	7	8	15
<b>Other Community Organisations</b>	11	7	18

## Q2. Where did you hear about the scheme?

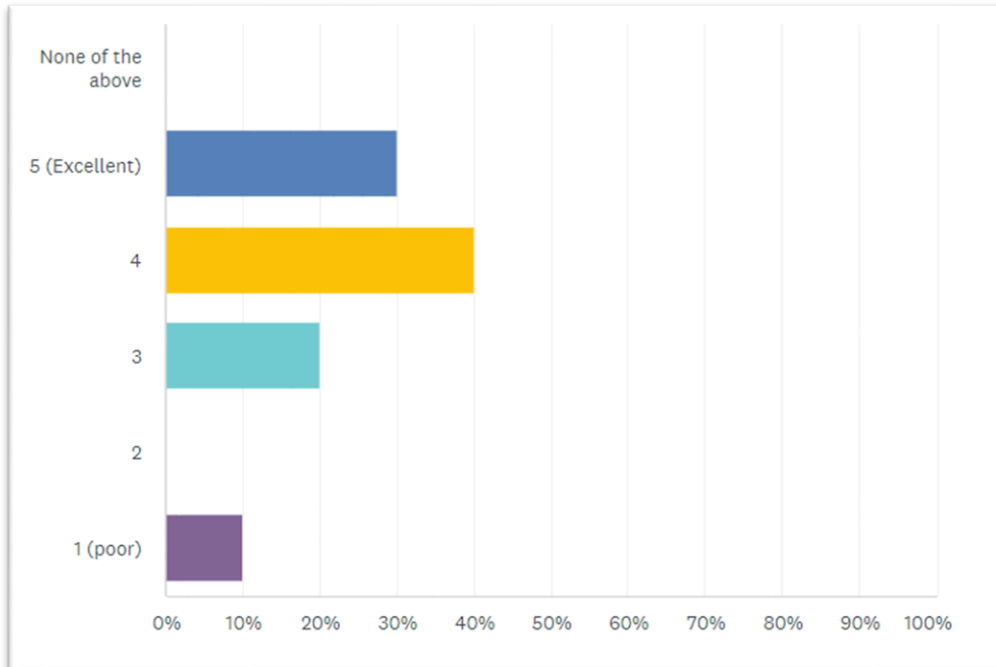
This question was to test how successful the marketing of the Scheme has been to date.



This shows that engagement through Members, Partner Organisations and Regeneration Team networks appears to have been the most successful way of communication, as on further examination the other methods included Community Council, Town Council and County Councillor.

### Q3. What was your experience with the online application? (1= poor, 5=Excellent)

Given this is the first Community Grant scheme that has been undertaken online, it was felt important to be aware of any issues the Third Sector had experienced with the process.



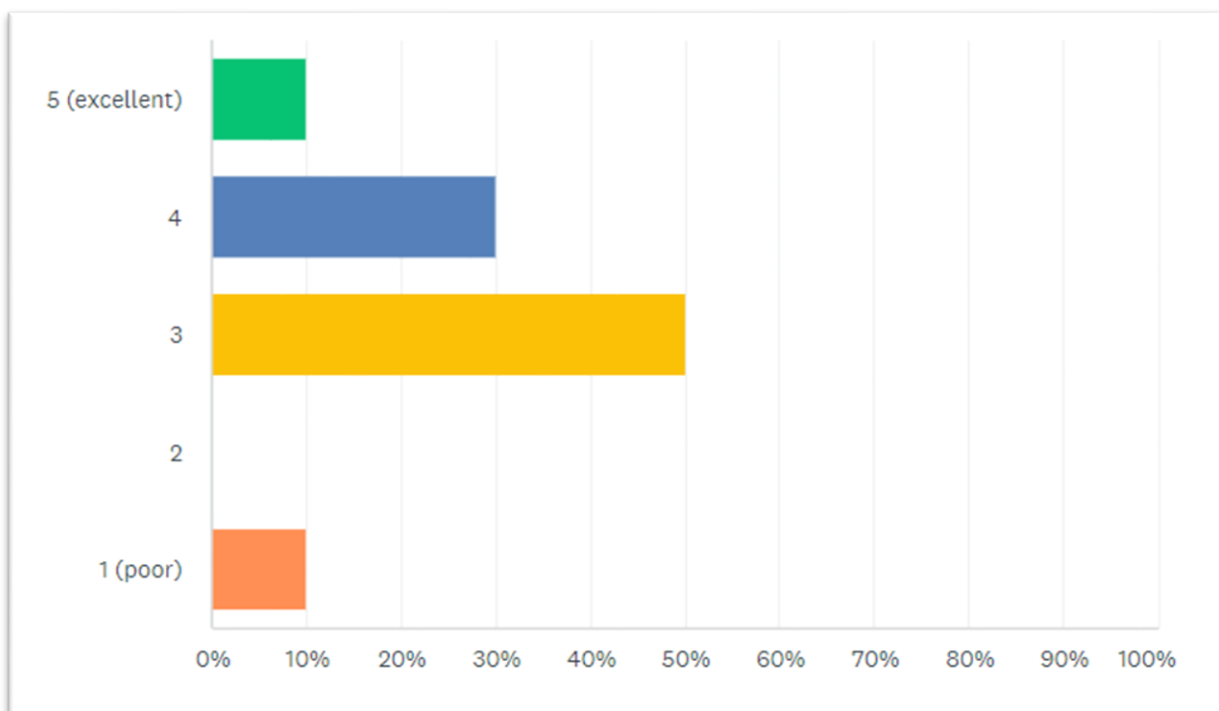
This showed across the full spectrum of Applicants felt that the online process was above average in its style and questions.

A sample of both positive and negative responses include (These have been taken direct from the Survey and unedited):

- *The questions don't always relate exactly to the project and the questions were a bit repetitive*
- *I found it quite straightforward*
- *Easy to understand though (rightly) demanding*
- *It wasn't very user friendly*
- *copy and paste form with same awkward question. did not say religion cannot apply. but was rejected on that basis.*
- *Fairly easy to complete, self-explanatory*

#### Q4. What was your overall experience of this process? (1= poor, 5=Excellent)

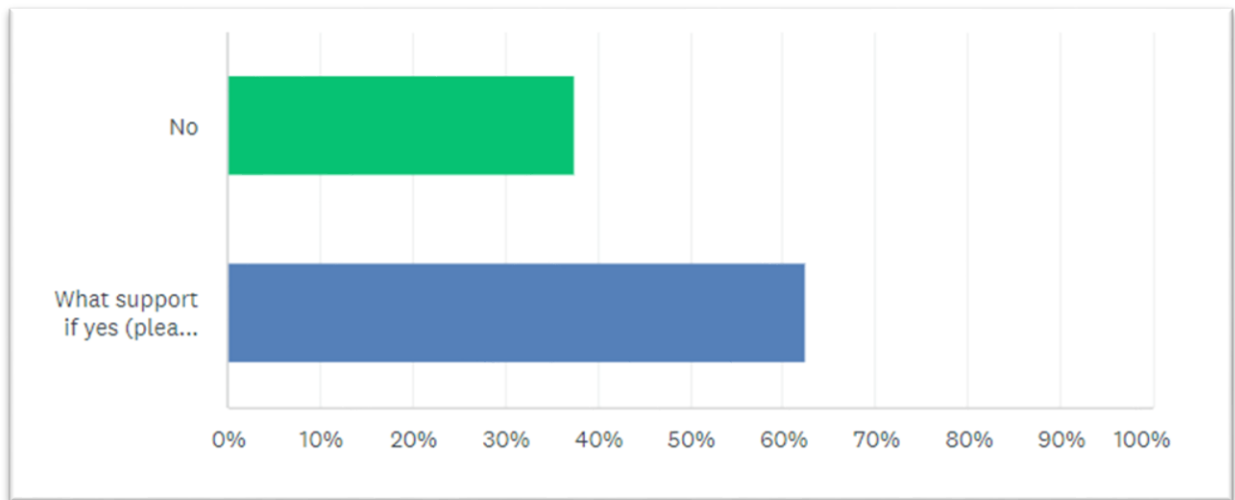
The Applicants were asked to score and give comment (if desired). on the application process.



50% of the applicants who responded thought the process was average and many had no specific comments to make. Below is a selection of the written responses made:

- *I was very grateful to receive the grant, but the application stated that the grant would be 80% but was actually 50%.*
- *Good*
- *Poor communication and mixed messages as I was trying to apply for our local toilets, in much need of repair having been neglected by Powys*
- *Very time consuming with such a short time in which to complete the application*
- *Excellent telephone support*
- *Need shorter time from application deadline to confirmation of amount awarded.*

**Q5. If you were unsuccessful, were you offered support in alternative avenues?**



This question raised some concerns as one third of the unsuccessful applicants stated that they had received no support on looking for other external funding.

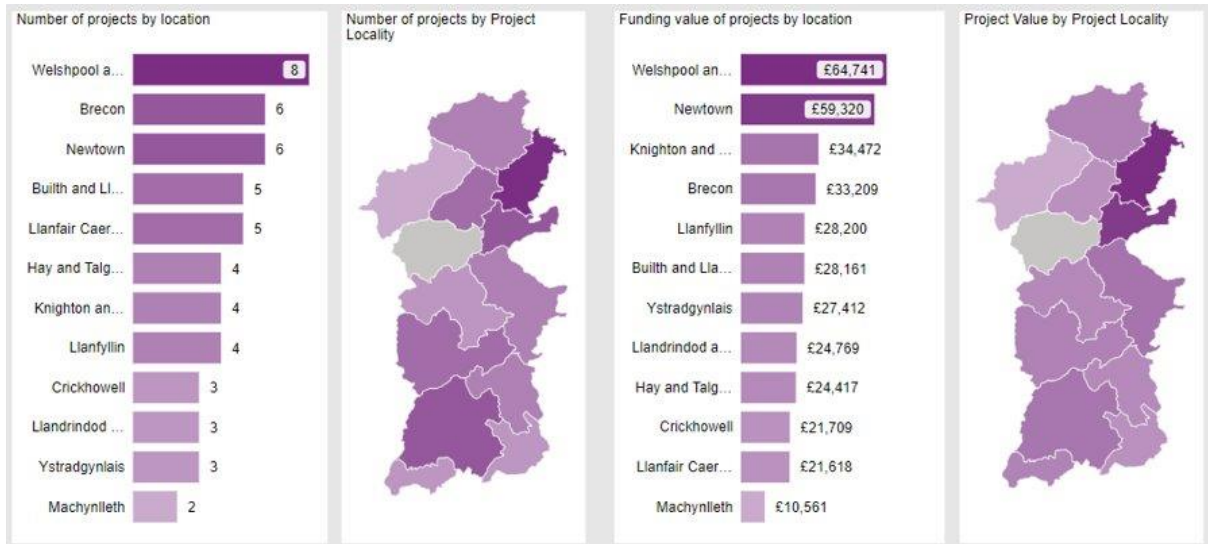
Each applicant was given suggested alternative external funding streams. However, it is noted that the letters sent to applicants need to be clearer. A funding leaflet of the major funding options is being pulled together and will be included with each unsuccessful applicants' responses going forward.

Only three written responses were received:

- *Alternative options*
- *I have not heard yet if we have been successful (This applicant did give contact details, so after discussion this, the information had gone into the email spam filter)*
- *N/A*

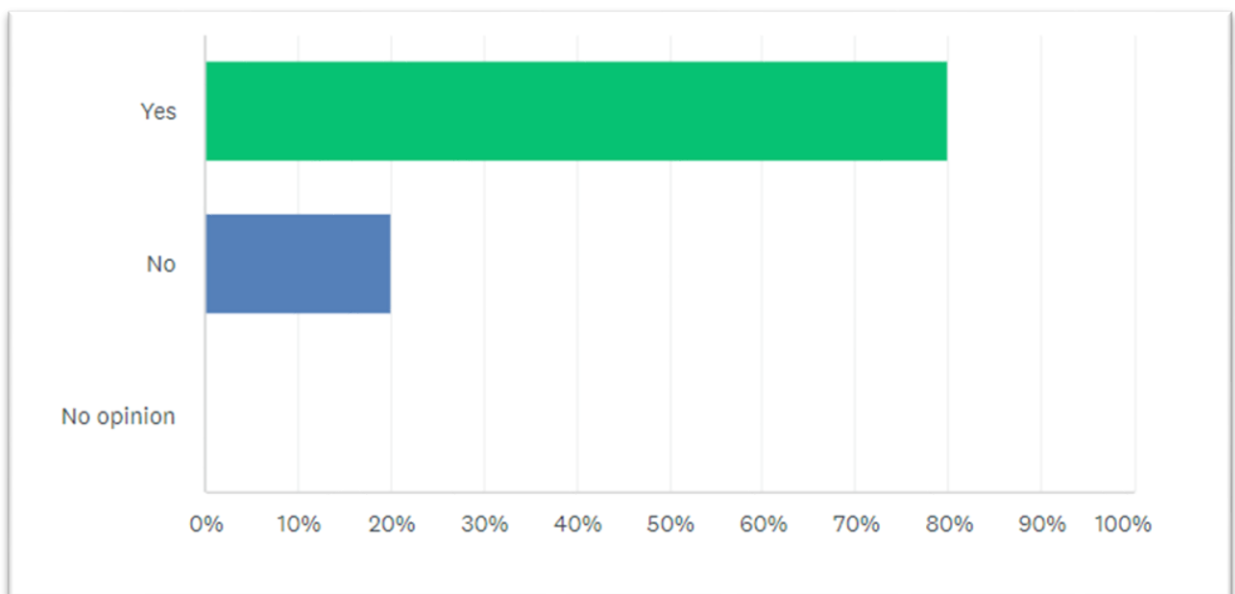
**Q6. What is your Geographical area?**

This shows that the grant has been distributed evenly across the County. This has been drawn from all 94 applicants' postcodes.



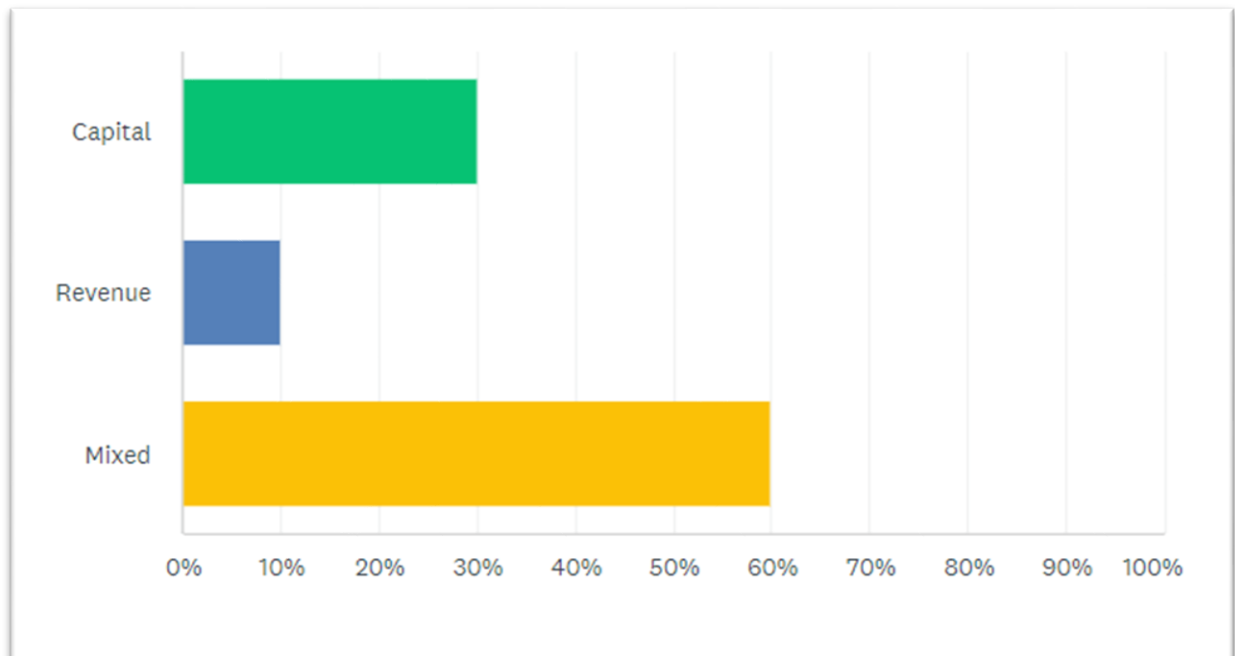
In future surveys, there needs to be constituency in the wording to ensure a clear response. Giving the option of a text box resulted in 19% of the applicant responses stated Powys rather than a specific area, with 18% stating South Powys. So, although a useful question it was not specific enough for the information required.

**Q7. If there was further funding in future would this experience, make you want to apply.**



Although there has been criticism of the application process and the decisions made, 80% of those who responded would apply for funding again.

**Q8. Also, if there would be future grants, is there a preference on capital or revenue funding?**



Those who responded were asked if their Organisation would prefer Capital, Revenue or Mixed funding, clearly with 60% responding that they would prefer mixed funding gives an indication that the Community Recovery Fund is the correct financial balance.

**Next Steps**

The final year of the Covid Recovery Grant scheme is due to open in the new financial year, Officers will take forward the points raised through the Survey to ensure a high standard of customer service is achieved.

Jenni Thomas

Professional Lead – Town Centre and Community

Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwriadol