
Building Communities Trust: Community Anchor Development Programme

Where does BCT come from?

- Long Term failures to sustain community-based work.
- Failure of Lottery funding to reach marginalised communities in Wales.
- Response to Government programmes becoming more top down and eliminating local voices.
- Creation of Lottery – funded through an expendable endowment of £16.5m paid in 2016.

What is Invest Local?



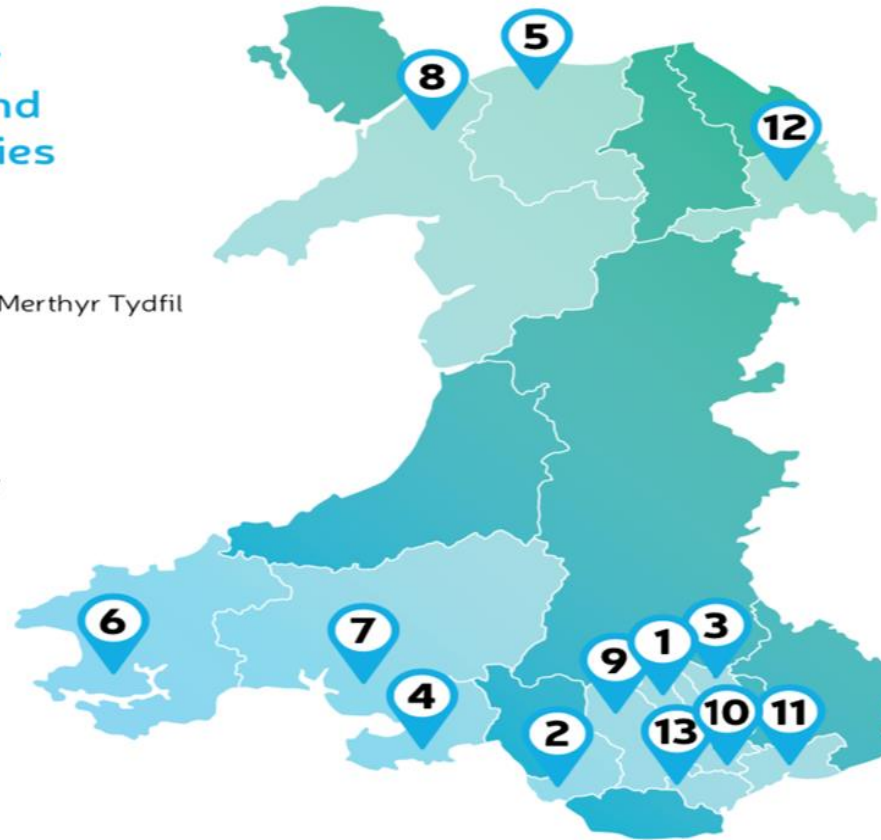
- Funding and support for 13 communities across Wales.
- £1million guaranteed in each community over 10 years to develop each area.
- Local people decide how the money is used.
- Asset focused approach, building on local strengths and skills.
- Encourage partnership working.

What is Invest Local?

Invest Local is a ten-year programme of funding and support for 13 communities across Wales.

The 13 communities are:

- 1 Aberfan, Merthyr Vale and Ynysowen, Merthyr Tydfil
- 2 Caerau, Bridgend
- 3 Cefn Golau, Blaenau Gwent
- 4 Clase, Swansea
- 5 Glyn, Conwy
- 6 Hubberston and Hakin, Pembrokeshire
- 7 Llwynhendy, Llanelli
- 8 Maesgeirchen, Gwynedd
- 9 Penywaun, Rhondda Cynon Taf
- 10 Phillipstown, Caerphilly
- 11 Pillgwenlly, Newport
- 12 Plas Madoc, Wrexham
- 13 Trowbridge and St Mellons, Cardiff



Features of Invest Local

- Communities range from 1,600 to 16,000 in population located in mixture of urban centres and peripheral estates/urban villages.
- Very mixed levels of existing community activity.
- Wide range of priorities emerge – but desire for locally controlled community space is universal.

What is Invest Local telling us?

- Sustained community action flows from sustainable organisations.
- Communities want local assets they can control.
- Local assets are the source of both enjoyable social interaction and critical support – and often both.
- Local assets need to develop income generating capacity.
- Many key local assets are run on very limited resources.

Why is BCT developing a new programme?

- Builds on learning from Invest Local programme.
- Develop an alternative model for supporting community action – focuses on key organisations NOT whole communities.
- We have the opportunity – our endowment has over performed initial estimates by at least £1.5m.

What has shaped the focus of the programme?

- Consultation across sector over 18-month period.
- Long running requests from community anchor organisations for flexible funding.
- Allows for learning about impact of sustained investment in anchor organisations.

What is a 'Community Anchor Organisation'

- **Community-led or controlled** with strong local networks.
- **Multi-purpose**, with a concern for a range of local actions in the community (this might include one or more of local economic work, support for social and leisure activities; advice services, food projects and local environmental work).
- **Committed to your local community** and responsive to issues that arise locally.
- **Committed to equal opportunities** and providing support and activities to all parts of your community.

Questions?

Geographic eligibility(Part 1)

- Eligibility determined using a new index we have developed.
- Includes measures of local **community assets, connectivity** and **community engagement and activism** and is merged with the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD).
- Eligible areas experience **socio-economic deprivation** as well as having **fewer community assets**.

What does the index measure?

3 domains

+

Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD)



Civic and community assets

- Density of community, educational, sport/leisure and cultural assets.
- Numbers of green, retail and community-owned assets



Connectedness

- Loneliness, broadband upload /download speeds
- Travel times to key public services, public park or garden, jobs density.
- Rates of car ownership



Active and engaged communities

- Voter turnout, self reported measures of civic participation.
- Presence of third sector organisations as well as amounts of grant funding and numbers of charity trustees

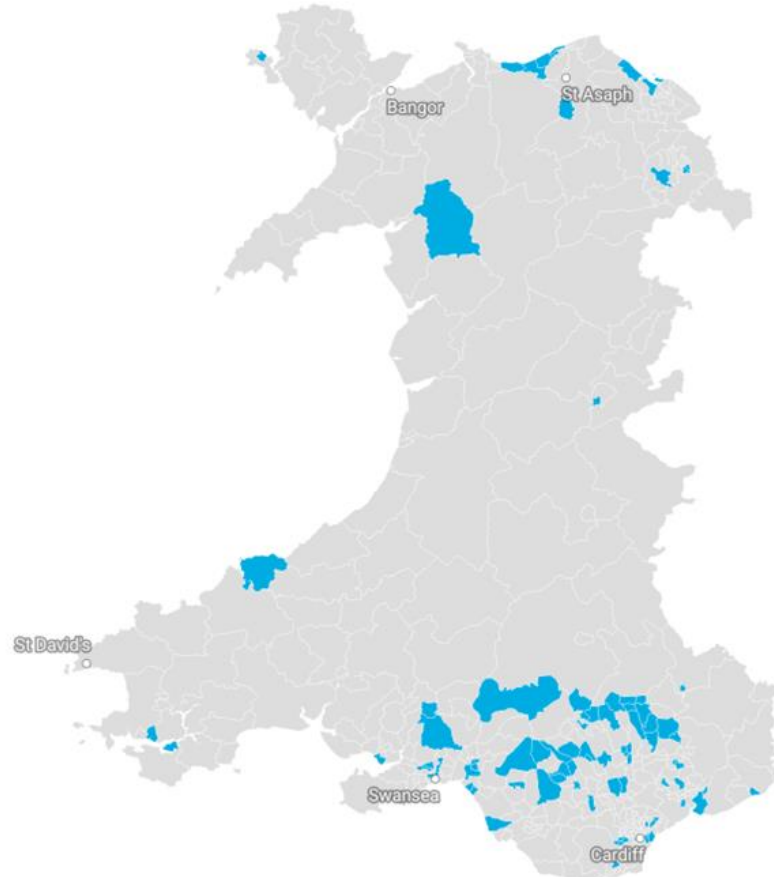
Geographic eligibility (Part 2)

- Eligible areas are mid-layer super output areas (MSOAs).
- MSOA? A geographical unit of a particular size, used in reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales. Typically, between 2000-6000 households with populations of between 5000- 7800 people.
- We have used MSOAs due to the availability of data sources measuring community assets.

Geographic eligibility (Part 3)

Areas eligible to apply for the Community Anchor Development Programme

MSOAs coloured in blue are eligible to apply for the Community Anchor Development Programme.



- There are 86 eligible areas with at least one in each local authority. Community organisations must be based in or working in one of these areas to be eligible*.
- [Zoomable map and full list of areas](#) available on: www.bct.wales/cadp
- Invest Local areas are not eligible.

Questions?

Aims of the programme

1. Build the longer-term capacity of a small number of community anchors.
2. Show their wider impacts on their local community.
3. Learn more about the key challenges facing such organisations and how they might be addressed.
4. Provide a focus for advocacy by BCT and others on the value and needs of community anchor organisations.

The programme (Part 1)

The core of the programme is to strengthen the Anchor Organisations, this could be through: -

- Supporting organisational development.
- Community outreach and engagement.
- Social enterprise development.
- Anything else they think is important.

The programme (Part 2)

- Local organisations define what they need to strengthen themselves.
- Anchor organisations can also be supported to review governance, business planning, community connections and engagement.
- £150,000 per organisation from 2024-28.
- Funding can be used to match other grants or as a precursor to drawing down loans.

The programme (Part 3)

- Network of organisations funded will be created – sharing experience and learning.
- BCT will offer ongoing support with specialist consultants available if required.
- Shared learning programme will be set up.
- An external evaluation of the programme.

Eligibility questions

1. Are you based in one of the eligible areas?
2. Are you, or do you aspire to become a 'community anchor organisation'?
3. Are you a registered charity or other not for profit organisation (including constituted community group)?
4. Can you identify a key challenge you need to address that would enable you to become more effective in supporting your local community?

Key questions in application process

- How do you currently benefit your community?
- What level of community involvement is already in place in your organisation?
- What are your long-term aspirations?
- What is the challenge you are trying to address?
- How would you seek to address it?

Key dates

- July – 6 October – Make initial contact with BCT.
- July – December – Work with BCT to develop ideas and prepare application.
- 20 December – Deadline for applications.
- February 2024 – Grants awarded.
- Summer 2028 – Programme ends.

Why such a long lead in time

- To allow time for BCT staff to work with organisations to develop ideas and provide support in completing the application form.
- Opportunity to provide additional support around governance, business planning, and sustainability.
- Enable BCT to offer this support to a wide range of organisations.
- Ensure a well-considered plan with buy in from organisations board/trustees

What is the programme budget?

- BCT received £16.5m from the Lottery.
- We needed £19.3m to fund Invest Local.
- Endowment currently worth £20.8m.
- Will be revalued before programme starts.
- We estimate we will be able to fund 6 - 10 organisations.
- Budget will also include support, networking and evaluation costs.

Next steps

- Look at the eligibility criteria, if you think you are eligible contact BCT via info@bct.wales
- A member of the team will get in touch to support you through the process.

Questions?