



Dathlu a Gwerthuso: Saith Mlynedd o Fuddsoddi'n Lleol

Celebration and Evaluation: Seven Years of Invest Local

Tachwedd 2023 November

Beth yw Buddsoddi'n Lleol?

Buddsoddi'n Lleol yw rhaglen datblygu cymunedol mwyaf Cymru sy'n seiliedig ar asedau, sydd wedi'i hariannu gan £16.5 miliwn o waddol gan Gronfa Gymunedol y Loteri Genedlaethol ac wedi'i chefnogi gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth Adeiladu Cymunedau (BCT).

Prif egwyddor y rhaglen, wrth symud yn radical oddi wrth y modelau cyllido traddodiadol, yw rhoi'r broses o wneud penderfyniadau yn nwylo aelodau cymunedau drwy ddarparu £1 filiwn yr un i 13 ardal, dros gyfnod o 10 i 12 mlynedd, i'w gwario ar flaenoriaethau sydd wedi'u pennu yn lleol. Mae hyn yn galluogi'r preswylwyr i benderfynu sut, pryd a lle i ddefnyddio'r arian.

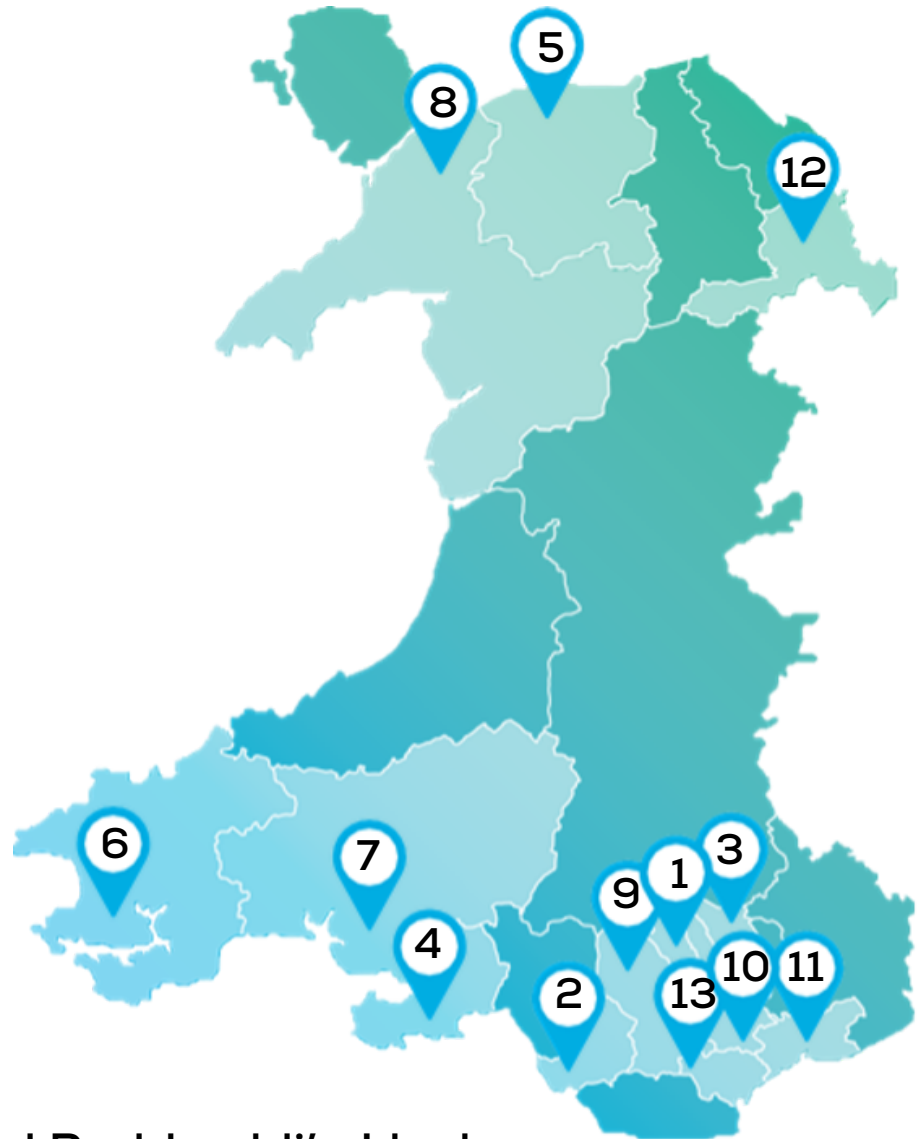


What is Invest Local?

Invest Local is Wales' largest, asset-based community development programme, funded by a £16.5m endowment from the National Lottery Community Fund and supported by Building Communities Trust.

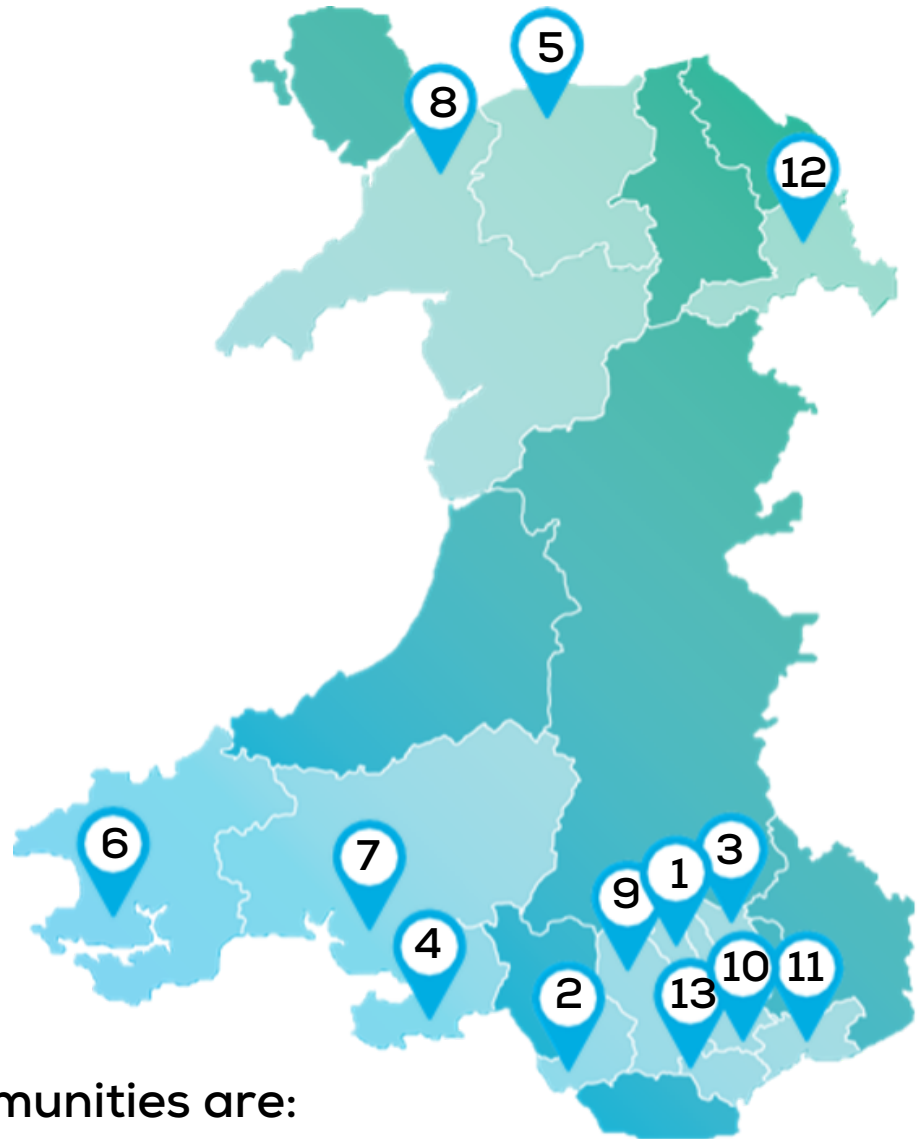
The driving principle of the programme, in a radical shift from traditional funding models, is to put decision-making in the hands of community members by providing 13 areas with £1m each, across a 10-12 year period, to be spent on locally determined priorities. This allows residents to decide how, when, and where to use the funds.





Y 13 Cymuned Buddsoddi'n Lleol yw:

1. Aberfan ac Ynysowen – Buddsoddi'n Lleol Ynysowen
2. Caerau – Buddsoddi'n Lleol Caerau
3. Cefn Golau – Cefn Golau Gyda'n Gilydd
4. Y Clas – Clase4All
5. Glyn – Gyda'n Gilydd dros Fae Colwyn
6. Hubberston a Hakin – Hubberston and Hakin Hands Together
7. Llwynhendy – Our Llwynhendy Ni
8. Maesgeirchen – MaesNi
9. Penywaun – Penywaun Forward Together
10. Phillipstown – Phillipstown Forever
11. Pillgwenlli – Pill Unity
12. Plas Madog – We Are Plas Madoc
13. Trowbridge a Llaneirwg – Together for Trowbridge and St Mellons.



The 13 communities are:

1. Aberfan, Merthyr Vale and Ynysowen – Invest Local Ynysowen
2. Caerau – Invest Local Caerau
3. Cefn Golau – Cefn Golau Together
4. Clase – Clase4All
5. Glyn – Together for Colwyn Bay
6. Hubberston and Hakin – Hubberston and Hakin Hands Together
7. Llwynhendy – Our Llwynhendy Ni
8. Maesgeirchen – MaesNi
9. Penywaun – Penywaun Forward Together
10. Phillipstown – Phillipstown Forever
11. Pillgwennlly – Pill Unity
12. Plas Madoc – We Are Plas Madoc
13. Trowbridge and St Mellons – Together for Trowbridge and St Mellons.

Mae pobl wrth galon y rhaglen Buddsoddi'n Lleol a rôl yr Ymddiriedolaeth Adeiladu Cymunedau yw cynorthwyo preswylwyr i gymryd camau i wneud eu hardaloedd yn lleoedd hyd yn oed gwell i fyw ynddynt.

Bwriedir i'n dull gweithredu wedi'i arwain gan y gymuned:

- galluogi preswylwyr i chwarae rhan weithredol yn canfod nodau ar gyfer yr ardal a datblygu gweithgareddau a fydd yn creu newid cadarnhaol i'w cymunedau
- datblygu ymwybyddiaeth ymhlith cymunedau o gryfderau a thalentau pob ardal
- galluogi cymunedau i benderfynu beth yn eu barn hwy yw'r ffyrdd gorau o gyflawni eu nodau
- rhoi'r sgiliau, yr hyder a'r arbenigedd sydd eu hangen ar bobl leol i arwain y gwaith hwn yn awr ac yn y dyfodol.



People are at the heart of the Invest Local programme and the role of Building Communities Trust is to support residents to take action to make their areas even better places to live.

Our community-led approach is intended to:

- enable residents to play an active part in identifying goals for the area and developing activities that will bring positive change to their communities
- build an awareness among communities of each area's strengths and talents
- allow communities to decide what they think are the best ways to achieve their goals
- equip local people with the skills, confidence and expertise needed to lead this work now and in the future.





Mae dysgu a rennir ac eiriolaeth hefyd yn rhan ganolog o'r hyn a wnawn, gan ddod â sefydliadau o bob rhan o Gymru ynghyd i rannu profiadau a dysgu oddi wrth ei gilydd, ac eirioli dros bolisiau a threfniadau ariannu i alluogi cymunedau Cymru i ffynnu.

Gyda'r bwriad i'r rhaglen ddod i ben erbyn 2028, rydym wedi cyrraedd yr ail bwynt gwerthuso allanol, a fydd yn ein helpu i asesu'r cyflawniadau rydym wedi'u gwneud hyd yma a nodi meysydd i'w gwella.



Shared learning and advocacy are also a central part of what we do, bringing together organisations from across Wales to share experiences and learn from one another, and advocating for policies and funding arrangements to allow Welsh communities to thrive.

With the programme due to end by 2028, we have reached the second external evaluation point, which will help us to assess the achievements made to date and identify areas for improvement.



Beth yw'r gwerthusiad?



Bwriedir i'n gwerthusiad allanol fesur effaith y rhaglen Buddsoddi'n Lleol ar y 13 cymuned leol ac mae'n ceisio:

- helpu cymunedau i fanteisio i'r eithaf ar y rhaglen Buddsoddi'n Lleol
- deall a yw Buddsoddi'n Lleol yn gwneud yr hyn yr oedd yn bwriadu ei wneud
- edrych i weld a yw ffordd o weithio Buddsoddi'n Lleol yn ffordd dda i helpu cymunedau i wella eu hardaloedd hwy
- helpu BCT i weithio mor effeithiol â phosibl.



Bydd yn ein helpu i ymchwilio i weld pa ddulliau gweithredu sydd fwyaf defnyddiol ar gyfer gwella pob ardal a sut y gallem ddefnyddio'r wybodaeth i helpu i gefnogi profiadau dysgu a rennir.

Byddwch hefyd yn canfod astudiaethau achos drwy'r adroddiad cryno hwn sy'n pwysleisio'r mathau o brosiectau a mentrau y mae grwpiau Buddsoddi'n Lleol wedi canolbwyntio arnynt ac wedi'u hariannu hyd yma.



What is the evaluation?



Our external evaluation intends to measure the impact of the Invest Local programme on the 13 local communities and aims to:

- help communities get as much as they can from Invest Local
- understand whether Invest Local is doing what it set out to do
- look at whether Invest Local's way of working is a good way to help communities make their areas better
- help BCT to work as effectively as possible.



It will help us to investigate which approaches are most useful in making each area better and how we might use this information to help support shared learning experiences.

You will also find case studies throughout this summary report which highlight the types of projects and initiatives that Invest Local groups have focused on and funded to date.

Y Cyd-destun Cenedlaethol



Cynhaliwyd y gwerthusiad allanol cyntaf o'r rhaglen Buddsoddi'n Lleol yn 2019, ar ôl bron i ddegawd o gyntaf a chymunedau yn profi llawer o doriadau i wasanaethau lleol. Fodd bynnag, mae cam diweddaraf y rhaglen, sy'n cael ei drafod yn yr ail werthusiad hwn, wedi profi newidiadau dramatig sy'n effeithio ar gymunedau o bob math.

Cyflwynodd y pandemig COVID-19 yn 2020 ystod eang o heriau cymdeithasol ac economaidd, a gafodd effaith negyddol ar lesiant a gwytnwch unigol a chymunedol. Dirywiodd iechyd meddwl a llesiant meddyliol llawer o bobl; gwelwyd gostyngiad mewn incwm a chynyddodd diweithdra.

Yn dilyn cyfnod adferiad y pandemig, er i gyfraddau cyflogaeth gynyddu, cynyddodd chwyddiant yn sydyn, gan greu argyfwng costau byw. Gorfodwyd pobl i dorri yn ôl ar yr hanfodion, a bu'n rhaid i lawer o bobl wneud dewisiadau cynyddol anodd rhwng gwario ar fwyd a biliau ynni.

National context



The first external evaluation of the Invest Local programme took place in 2019, after almost a decade of austerity and with communities seeing many cutbacks in local services. However, the more recent phase of the programme, covered by this second evaluation, saw dramatic changes affecting communities of all types.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 brought with it a wide range of social and economic challenges, which negatively impacted on both individual and community welfare and resilience. Mental health and wellbeing declined for many people; incomes fell, and unemployment increased.

Following the pandemic recovery period, while employment increased, inflation escalated sharply, creating a cost-of-living crisis. People were forced to cut back on essentials, and many had to make increasingly tough choices between spending on food and energy bills.

Ymateb Lleol

Er i'r argyfyngau cyfunol hyn gynyddu'r pwysau ar eu cymunedau lleol, llwyddodd grwpiau llywio Buddsoddi'n Lleol i roi camau gweithredu ar waith yn gyflym iawn i gefnogi pobl lleol. Roeddynt yn gallu gwneud hyn oherwydd hyblygrwydd y model cyllido, eu dealltwriaeth o angen lleol, eu gallu i gysylltu â sefydliadu eraill a'u capasiti i symud asedau, pobl a chysylltiadau yn gyflym.



Darparodd Together for Trowbridge and St Mellons £4,000 o gyllid i C.A.S.T (Coronavirus Action St Mellons and Trowbridge) er mwyn helpu 296 o breswylwyr gyda chasgliadau presgripsiwn a darparu cefnogaeth foesol, cyflenwi 341 o becynnau gweithgareddau ac eitemau i'r cartref i deuluoedd mewn angen.

Mae Hubberston and Hakin Hands Together wedi ariannu'r Gymdeithas Adlerian i ddarparu 400 awr o gwrsela i 61 o gleientiaid sy'n cael anhawster i ymdopi ag effaith COVID-19 a'r argyfwng costau byw, yn ogystal â hyfforddiant i rieni lleol ar hunan hyder, hyder cyhoeddus a deinameg teuluoedd.



Mae'r Caffi Trwsio ym mae Colwyn yn ddigwyddiad misol lle bydd preswylwyr lleol sydd â sgiliau technegol yn cynnig eu cymorth i ymwelwyr sy'n dod ag eitemau sydd wedi torri o'u cartrefi, a gyda chymorth arbenigwyr, maent yn ceisio eu hatgyweirio. Er y gall pobl ddod â phethau i'w hatgyweirio, gallant hefyd fwynhau paned o de neu goffi a helpu gydag atgyweiriad rhywun arall o bosibl. Ers y pandemig, mae wedi bod yn adnodd gwych i helpu pobl i leihau eu hunigrwydd.

Local response

While these combined crises increased the pressure on their local communities, Invest Local steering groups were able to put actions very quickly in place to support local people. This was due to the flexibility of the funding model, their understanding of local need, their ability to link up with other organisations and their capacity to mobilise assets, people and connections swiftly.



Together for Trowbridge and St Mellons provided £4,000 of funding for Coronavirus Action St Mellons and Trowbridge to help 296 residents with prescription collection and moral support, and the delivery of 341 activity packs and household items to families in need.

Hubberston and Hakin Hands Together funded the Adlerian Society to provide 400 hours of counselling for 61 clients struggling to cope with both the impact of COVID-19 and the cost-of-living crisis, as well as training for local parents in self-esteem, public confidence, and family dynamics.



The Repair Café in Colwyn Bay is a monthly event where local residents with technical skills offer their assistance to visitors who bring in broken items from home and, together with the specialists, try to restore them. Although people can bring things to repair, they can also simply enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and potentially help with another person's repair job. Since the pandemic, people have found it an excellent resource to help combat loneliness.

Heriau capasiti a gwrthdaro

Mae galluogi grwpiau Buddsoddi'n Lleol i ddewis pa faterion i ganolbwyntio arnynt a sut y byddant yn mynd i'r afael â'r materion hynny yn hollbwysig. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o grwpiau llywio yn dod â chymysgedd o bobl leol at ei gilydd sydd â gwreiddiau cadarn yn eu cymunedau a rhai sydd â phrofiad proffesiynol perthnasol.

Fodd bynnag, mae llawer o aelodau hefyd yn cynrychioli grwpiau neu sefydliadau lleol, a allai fod yn chwilio am gyllid gan Buddsoddi'n Lleol, sy'n golygu y gallai fod gwrthdaro buddiannau (gwirioneddol neu ganfyddedig) a gall y rhai sy'n cynrychioli sefydliadau deimlo eu bod yn cystadlu â'i gilydd.



Astudiaeth achos dienw

Mae un grŵp Buddsoddi'n Lleol wedi cyflawni llawer iawn ers 2016, gyda chymysgedd o fuddsoddiadau blaenllaw uchelgeisiol a chymorth i grwpiau a gwasanaethau lleol, sy'n cynnig rhaglen gytbwys o weithgareddau.

Mae'r grŵp yn cael ei arwain gan breswylwyr sydd â syniadau da iawn, fodd bynnag, yn absenoldeb gweithiwr datblygu cymunedol cyflogedig, nid oes ganddynt yr amser i wneud yr hyn sydd ei angen, sy'n eu dal yn ôl.

Ers i Buddsoddi'n Lleol ddechrau, mae nifer o grwpiau wedi dewis talu staff cyflogedig i'w helpu i gyflawni eu huchelgeisiau.

Challenges of capacity and conflict

- The ability of Invest Local groups to choose which issues to focus on and how they will address those issues, is critical. Most steering groups bring together a mix of local people with strong roots in their communities and some with relevant professional experience.

However, many members also represent local groups or organisations who may look for funding from Invest Local, which means that there can be conflicts of interest (real or perceived) and those who represent organisations can feel in competition with one another.



Anonymous case study

One Invest Local group has achieved an impressive amount since 2016, with a mix of ambitious flagship investments and support for local groups and services, that offers a well-balanced programme of activities.

The group is led by residents and has really good ideas, however in the absence of a paid community development worker, they do not have the time to do what is needed, which is holding them back.

Since Invest Local began, several groups have chosen to fund paid staff to help action their ambitions.

Yn yr un modd, er y gallai fod gan grwpiau syniadau mawr iawn, maent yn cael anhawster i'w gwireddu, oherwydd nad oes gan eu haelodau yr amser neu'r gallu i symud prosiectau yn eu blaenau. Hefyd, mae'n bosibl nad oes gan yr aelodau yr hyder i ymgysylltu â darpar bartneriaid, er enghraifft cynghorau lleol, er mwyn helpu i ddatblygu cynlluniau mewn partneriaeth; ac weithiau mae toriadau wedi creu sefyllfa lle nad oes gan sefydliadau mawr y staff i weithio'n effeithiol ar lefel gymunedol.



Astudiaeth achos dienw

Mewn un gymuned lle mae'r grŵp llywio yn cynnwys nifer o sefydliadau lleol, roedd gwrthdaro rhwng buddiannau ar y dechrau, wrth i bawb eirioli ar gyfer eu prosiect eu hunain, a hynny o anghenraid oherwydd bod angen arian arnynt yn ddirfawr. Fodd bynnag, diolch i'r dull Buddsoddi'n Lleol, mae'r grwpiau hyn wedi dod yn fwy diogel a chynaliadwy dros amser, sy'n golygu bod yr aelodau wedi gallu cymryd golwg ehangach yn seiliedig ar fudd cymunedol cyfan.

"Roedden nhw [grwpiau a sefydliadau lleol] yn edrych am i mewn ond yn awr maen nhw'n edrych allan.

Nawr gallant weld y gymuned yn hytrach na dim ond eu prosiect nhw, ond hefyd sut mae eu prosiect yn ffitio i mewn i'r gymuned."

Equally, while groups may have very big ideas, they can struggle to make these a reality, as their members sometimes do not have the time or the ability to move projects forward. Also, members may lack confidence to engage with potential partners, such as local councils, to help progress plans in partnership; and sometimes cutbacks have left bigger organisations without the staff to work effectively at community level.



Anonymous case study

In one community where the steering group comprises several local organisations, there were initial conflicting priorities as everyone was advocating for their own project, born of necessity as they all desperately needed money.

However, thanks to the Invest Local approach, these groups have become more secure and sustainable over time, meaning that members have been able to take a broader view based on community-wide benefit.

“They [local groups and organisations] were looking in but now they are looking out.

Now they can see the community rather than just their own project, but also how their project fits into the community.”

Heriau ymgysylltu a chynaliadwyedd

Mae rhai grwpiau Buddsoddi'n Lleol wedi cael anhawster i ymgysylltu â chynrychiolwyr o sefydliadau mwy a gyda'r gymuned ehangach a'r gallu i ymestyn allan i bob rhan o'u hardaloedd lleol.

Mae diffyg amser a diffyg hyder hefyd wedi bod yn rhwystrau yn nhermau cael mwy o bobl leol i gymryd rhan yng ngwaith y grŵp. Fodd bynnag, wrth i ardaloedd dyfu ac wrth i breswylwyr weld canlyniadau pendant a chadarnhaol o'r rhaglen a'u bod wedi cael mwy o gyfleoedd i ymgysylltu â mentrau ymarferol, mae hyn wedi helpu i annog pobl newydd i gymryd rhan.

Mae rhai ardaloedd wedi mynd i'r afael â hyn mewn ffordd arall, drwy gyflogi gweithwyr cyflogedig, sydd â'r capasiti i ymgysylltu â'r gymuned ehangach a'r gallu i ymestyn allan i bob rhan o'u hardaloedd lleol.



Challenges of engagement and sustainability

Some Invest Local groups have struggled to engage both with representatives from larger organisations and with a wide range of residents. For example, younger people in particular have not been as involved in the programme as many groups would have liked.

Lack of available time and lack of confidence have also been barriers in terms of getting more local people involved in the work of the group. However, as areas have grown and residents have seen tangible, positive outcomes from the programme and been given more opportunities to engage with practical initiatives, this has helped to encourage new people to get involved.

Another way in which some areas have addressed this is through employing paid workers, who have the capacity to engage with the wider community and the ability to reach out to all parts of their local areas.



Astudiaeth achos partneriaethau: Maesgeirchen

Datblygwyd prosiect hwb cymorth MaesNi o'r prosiect peilot PROTECT, a sefydlwyd yn wreiddiol gan yr awdurdod lleol a'r bwrdd iechyd lleol, ac a ariannwyd gan Lywodraeth Cymru, mewn ymateb i effaith y pandemig COVID-19 ar y gymuned.

Bwriad yr hwb yw parhau i ddarparu a chynnal y cymorth ychwanegol sydd wedi bod ar gael yn ystod y pandemig drwy gynnig cymorth gyda bwyd a thanwydd, cymorth digidol, ariannol ac iechyd meddwl.

Derbyniodd Gardd Caffi 'Hive', prosiect amgylcheddol a garddio, becyn garddio cymunedol yn wreiddiol gan Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus gan gynnwys sied, pridd, compost a hadau. Darparwyd gweithiwr dros dro iddynt hefyd i roi cychwyn ar y prosiect. Gall pob aelod o'r gymuned gymryd rhan, gan gynnwys dysgu sut i feithrin planhigion a thyfu bwyd.



Partnerships case study: Maesgeirchen

- The MaesNi support hub project was developed from the PROTECT pilot project, which was initially established by the local authority and the local health board, and funded by Welsh Government, in response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the community.

The hub aims to continue and sustain the additional support that had been available during the pandemic by offering help with food and fuel, digital, financial and mental health support.

The Hive Caffi Garden is an environmental and gardening project which was initially given a community garden pack by Keep Wales Tidy including a shed, soil, compost, and seeds.

They were also provided with a temporary worker to kick-start the project. All members of the community can take part, including learning how to nurture plants and grow food.



Ymateb cymunedau i'r rhaglen

Arweiniwyd y blaenoriaethau ar gyfer pob grŵp gan ymgynghoriad lleol ar yr heriau a'r cyfleoedd a oedd yn benodol i bob ardal, gyda'r Ymddiriedolaeth Adeiladu Cymunedau yn annog grwpiau i adeiladu ar y pethau cadarnhaol sy'n digwydd yn lleol lle bo modd.

Hyd yma, mae ardaloedd Buddsoddi'n Lleol wedi tueddu i ganolbwyntio ar ddatblygu gofod cymunedol lle mae pobl yn fodlon eu mynychu ar gyfer gweithgareddau cymdeithasol amrywiol pan fydd angen.

Wrth i effaith COVID-19 ac yna'r argyfwng costau byw daro pob ardal, rhoddodd y grwpiau Buddsoddi'n Lleol gynlluniau ar waith i fynd i'r afael â'r materion a oedd yn deillio o'r heriau hyn, a oedd yn amrywiol ac a oedd yn cynnwys:

- rhoi cyhoeddusrwydd, cyllid a/neu gefnogi manau cynnes
- ymestyn neu sefydlu mentrau i roi mynediad at bantris bwyd a banciau bwyd
- darparu mynediad at gronfeydd caledi
- cyhoeddi a chefnogi gwasanaethau mynediad at wybodaeth, cyngor ac arweiniad.

"Mae pecynnau cynnes ar gyfer y gaeaf yn rhywbeth na fyddem byth wedi gorfod eu gwneud dair blynedd yn ôl. Mae'n bosibl y byddai ambell berson angen help yma ac acw ond nid ar y raddfa rydym yn ei phrofi eleni".


Communities' response to the programme

The priorities for each group were guided by local consultation on the challenges and opportunities that were specific to each area, with Building Communities Trust encouraging groups to build upon the positive things happening locally where possible.

To date, Invest Local areas have tended to focus on developing community spaces where people are happy to go for a mixture of social activities and support when needed.

As the impact of COVID-19 and then the cost-of-living crisis struck each area, Invest Local groups put plans in place to address issues arising from these dual challenges, which were varied and included:

- publicising, funding and/or supporting warm places
- extending or establishing initiatives to give access to food pantries and food banks
- providing access to hardship funds
- publishing and supporting access to information, advice, and guidance services.



“Winter warmer packs are something that three years ago we would never have needed to do. There might have been the odd person in need of help but not on the scale we are seeing this year”.

Astudiaeth achos asedau cymunedol: Ynysowen

Mae Taff Rocks yn elusen sy'n cefnogi pobl leol gyda therapi a gweithgareddau celf ar draws y gymuned. Drwy Buddsoddi'n Lleol llwyddwyd i sicrhau prydles tair blynedd ar gyfer Capel Smyrna, drwy drosglwyddiad ased cymunedol gan yr awdurdod lleol. Roedd yn gam mawr i elusen fach nad oedd wedi bod yn gyfrifol am ofod ffisegol o'r blaen.



Y capel yw'r lleoliad lle mae Taff Rocks yn cynnal gweithgareddau celfyddydol, ond mae hefyd ar gael i'w logi ar gyfer dosbarthiadau, partïon a chynulliadau. Mae'n darparu cyfle i artistiaid lleol arddangos eu gwaith ac mae ganddo gilfach lyfrau i ddarparu lle tawel i bobl eistedd a myfyrio. Cam nesaf y prosiect yw sicrhau cynaliadwyedd hirdymor ar gyfer yr adeilad trwy arian grant ychwanegol, wedi'i ategu gan logi ystafelloedd, a thrwy gryfhau perthnasoedd cydweithredol gyda grwpiau lleol eraill.

Community assets case study: Ynysowen

Taff Rocks is a charity that supports local people with art therapy and activities across the community. Through Invest Local they were able to secure a three-year lease on Smyrna Chapel, via a community asset transfer from the local authority. It was a big step for a small charity which hadn't ever had a physical space before.



The chapel is the base for Taff Rocks to run arts activities, but it is also available for hire for classes, parties, and gatherings. It is a showcase for local artists and has a book nook to provide a quiet place for people to sit and reflect. The next stage of the project is to ensure long-term sustainability for the building through additional grant funding, supplemented by room hire, and through strengthening cooperative relationships with other local groups.



Astudiaeth achos gweithio efo pobl ifanc: Bae Colwyn

Mae Clwb NEXTGEN wedi bod yn ddatblygiad pwysig ym Mae Colwyn, a sefydlwyd yn sgil diffyg gwasanaethau tebyg yn yr ardal. Mae tua 80 o bobl ifanc 10-17 oed yn defnyddio'r clwb, ac mewn wythnos arferol maent yn gweld rhwng 20-40 aelod.

Darparodd Gyda'n Gilydd dros Fae Colwyn y costau cychwynnol a chymorth ariannol i gynnal gweithgareddau'n wythnosol, a chafodd y preswylwyr lleol gymorth gan Swyddogion Datblygu Cymunedol i roi cychwyn ar y clwb.

Mae'r adborth wedi bod yn anhygoel o gadarnhaol ac mae wedi dangos bod y clwb yn cael effaith fawr o ystyried y nifer y bobl ifanc sy'n mynychu a'r cymorth maent yn ei gynnig i bobl ifanc, sydd â phroblemau iechyd meddwl cymhleth ar adegau, gan gynnwys gorbryder cymdeithasol ac ymdopi â'r profiadau o fod mewn gofal.



Working with young people case study: Colwyn Bay

The NEXTGEN Club has been an important development within Colwyn Bay, which was set up due to the lack of any similar services in the areas. The club is used by around 80 young people aged 10-17, and in an average week they see between 20-40 members.

Together for Colwyn Bay provided the start-up cost and financial support with the weekly running of activities, and Community Development Officers helped local residents to get the club started.

The feedback has been incredibly positive and has shown that the club is having a big impact given the numbers of young people who attend and the support they offer to young people, who sometimes have complex mental health issues, such as social anxiety and coping with experiences of being in care.



Astudiaeth achos datblygu gofod cymunedol: Hubberston a Hakin

Yn y rhan fwyaf o achosion, mae grwpiau wedi dewis buddsoddi mewn prosiectau sy'n darparu gofod cymunedol lleol. Un o'r cyntaf oedd canolfan gymunedol Hubberston a Hakin. Ar ddechrau'r rhaglen, buddsoddodd y gymuned gyllid yn ffabrig yr adeilad er mwyn ei atal rhag cau ar unwaith, ei wneud yn hygyrch a lleihau ei gostau rhedeg.

Chwe blynedd yn ddiweddarach, mae'r rhaglen yn gweithredu i gapasiti llawn erbyn hyn ac mae'n gwasanaethu fel canolfan ar gyfer llawer o weithgareddau er budd y gymuned. Mae'n darparu gweithgareddau i leihau unigedd ymhlith pobl hŷn, helpu plant cyn oed ysgol a'u rhieni, ac i blant hŷn a phobl ifanc. Mae hefyd yn dod â theuluoedd ynghyd o ardaloedd cefnog a llai cefnog y gymuned.

Mewn ymateb i'r argyfwng costau byw, mae'r adeilad – sydd bellach yn cael ei gynnal gan elusen leol a sefydlwyd yn arbennig i'w redeg – yn gwbl hygyrch i'r boblogaeth leol ar gyfer boreau coffi, gwefru ffonau symudol a chymdeithasu yn ystod misoedd y gaeaf.





Community space case study: Hubberston and Hakin

In most cases, groups have chosen to invest in projects which provide a local community space. One of the first of these was the Hubberston and Hakin community centre. At the start of the programme the community invested funds in the fabric of the building to prevent its imminent closure, make it accessible and to reduce its running costs.

Six years on the centre is now operating at full capacity and serves as a base for many activities to benefit the community. It provides activities to reduce isolation for older people, to help pre-school children and their parents, and for older children and young people. It also brings together families from the affluent and less well-off areas of the community.

In response to the cost-of-living crisis, the building – now run by a local charity set up especially to run it – has been made freely accessible to the local population for coffee mornings, mobile phone charging and social interaction over the winter months.



Cynaliadwyedd

Mae Buddsoddi'n Lleol wedi darparu ffynhonnell gyllid hyblyg, hirdymor i gymunedau, sydd wedi rhoi'r adnoddau iddynt fod yn greadigol gyda'u syniadau. Fodd bynnag, bydd y cyllid yn dod i ben yn y pen draw ac mae'n amlwg bod angen i ardaloedd ystyried sut y gallent gynnal eu hunain ar ôl 2026/7.

Os byddant yn dewis parhau, bydd angen i grwpiau Buddsoddi'n Lleol gystadlu am gyllid gydag eraill ac ystyried ffyrdd newydd o weithio, er enghraifft ffurfio partneriaethau gyda sefydliadau lleol eraill neu sefydlu mentrau cymdeithasol pan fydd yr arian Buddsoddi'n Lleol wedi dod i ben. Mae rhai grwpiau wedi cyflogi gweithwyr cyflogedig a bydd angen iddynt ystyried a all y rolau hyn barhau, esblygu neu ddod i ben.

Yn yr un modd, bydd angen i grwpiau a sefydliadau lleol (sydd wedi'u cefnogi gan Buddsoddi'n Lleol) ganfod ffynonellau cyllid newydd er mwyn cynnal eu gweithgareddau. Efallai y bydd gan fuddsoddiadau mewn adeiladau a chyfleusterau etifeddiaeth hirach ond bydd angen eu cynnal a'u cadw. Mae rhai penderfyniadau allweddol o'n blaenau o ran cynaliadwyedd ar gyfer holl ardaloedd Buddsoddi'n Lleol.



Sustainability

Invest Local has provided a flexible, long-term source of funding for communities, which has allowed them the resources to be creative with their ideas. However, funding will run out eventually and there is a clear need for areas to consider how they can sustain themselves beyond 2026/7.

If they choose to continue, Invest Local groups will need to compete for funding with others and consider new ways of working, such as forming partnerships with other local organisations or setting up social enterprises when Invest Local funds are exhausted. Some groups have employed paid workers and will need to consider whether these roles can continue, evolve, or end.

Similarly, local groups and organisations (which Invest Local has supported), will need to find new sources of funding to sustain their activities.

Investments in building and facilities may have a longer legacy but require maintenance. There are some key decisions ahead in terms of sustainability for all Invest Local areas.





Astudiaeth achos gweithiwr cyflogedig a gwirfoddolwr: Cefn Golau

Yng Nghefn Golau, roedd gwirfoddolwyr yn gyfrifol am adfer a gwella'r tirlunio o amgylch y tŷ cymunedol. Amharwyd ar y prosiect gan y pandemig, ac ym mis Chwefror 2023, cafodd Cydlynnydd Tyfu, sy'n cael ei ariannu'n rhannol gan y Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throseddau, ei recriwtio i weithio gyda gwirfoddolwyr, plant a phobl ifanc i ofalu am a thyfu planhigion yng ngardd y tŷ cymunedol.

Mae recriwtio'r cydlynnydd wedi darparu posibiliadau cyffrous i'r grŵp llywio, yn ogystal â helpu i gydlynu ymdrechion nifer o blant ac oedolion sy'n garddio, ac sydd wedi mwynhau cymryd rhan yn yr elfen hon o'r prosiect hyd yma. Mae'r prosiect yn esblygu yn awr i fod yn ofod tyfu cymunedol ac mae cynlluniau i gysylltu â phrosiectau cysylltiedig yn yr ardal, er enghraifft dosbarthu parseli bwyd.



**CEFN GOLAU
TOGETHER**



Paid worker and volunteer case study: Cefn Golau

In Cefn Golau, volunteers were responsible for restoring and improving the landscaping around the community house. The project was disrupted by the pandemic, and in February 2023, a Growing Coordinator, part-funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner, was recruited to work with volunteers, children, and young people to tend and grow plants in the community house garden.

The recruitment of the coordinator has provided the steering group with exciting possibilities, as well as helping to coordinate the efforts of several children and adult gardeners who have enjoyed being involved in this part of the project to date. The project is now evolving into a community growing space and there are plans to link up with related projects in the area, such as food parcel delivery.



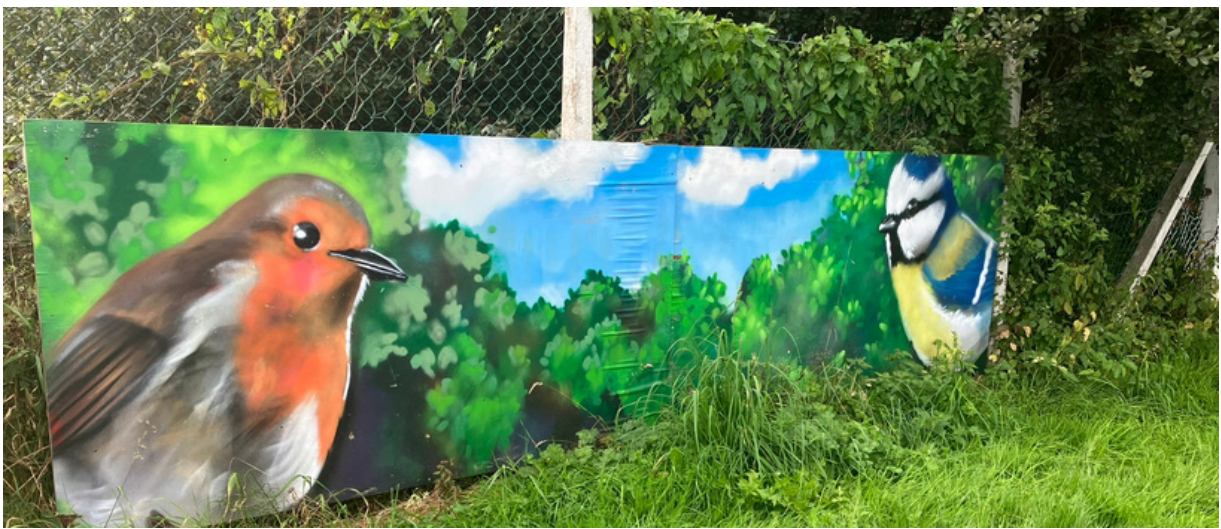
**CEFN GOLAU
TOGETHER**

Casgliadau

Mae Buddsoddi'n Lleol wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth ac mae'n parhau i wneud gwahaniaeth i bobl a chymunedau. Mae gwaith caled pob grŵp Buddsoddi'n Lleol i sefydlu eu rhan hwy o'r rhaglen ac annog pobl i ddyfalbarhau, er gwaethaf heriau lluosog, wedi creu ystod drawiadol o fuddsoddiadau, gwasanaethau, gweithgareddau a digwyddiadau.

Drwy fuddsoddi mewn adeiladau, gofod cymunedol – er enghraifft parciau a gerddi cymunedol – a grwpiau a sefydliadau lleol, mae'r rhaglen wedi helpu pobl i greu hwyl, cwmnïaeth a llawenydd yn eu cymunedau Mae hefyd wedi helpu pobl i oroesi effeithiau argyfyngau allanol ac argyfyngau personol, ac wedi helpu nifer o bobl i ffynnu trwy eu helpu i ddod o hyd i rolau a phwrpas newydd yn eu cymuned.

Mae natur hyblyg y cyllid wedi golygu bod symiau cymharol fach o arian wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth gwirioneddol, ac y gellir defnyddio cyllid yn gyflym ac ar fyr rybudd i ymateb i sefyllfaoedd critigol y mae pobl yn eu profi, neu heriau y mae'r gymuned yn ehangach yn eu hwynebu, er enghraifft bygwth cau grŵp neu adeilad lleol annwyl.



Conclusions

Invest Local has made, and continues to make, a difference to people and communities. The hard work of each Invest Local group in setting up their part of the programme and encouraging people to persevere, despite many challenges, has resulted in an impressive range of investments, services, activities, and events.

By investing in community buildings, spaces –such as parks and community gardens – and local groups and organisations, the programme has helped people create fun, companionship, and joy in their communities. It has helped people weather the impacts of external crises and personal crises, and supported several people flourish by helping them find new roles and purpose in their community.

The flexible nature of the funding has meant even relatively small amounts of money have made a real difference, and that funds can be to be mobilised swiftly and at short notice to respond to the critical situations that people experience, or challenges which the broader community faces, such as threatened closure of a cherished local group or building.



Casgliadau

Mae'r gwerthusiad hwn wedi dangos bod Buddsoddi'n Lleol yn gweithio a bod pŵer a photensial yn bodoli mewn cymunedau iddynt ddod at ei gilydd yn y modd hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae hefyd yn pwysleisio'r heriau y gallai fod yn anodd delio â hwy drwy gamau gweithredu wedi'u harwain gan y gymuned ac mae lefelau cyffredinol cyfranogiad cymunedau yn amrywio ac mae heriau gwirioneddol ynglŷn â sut y gellir cynnal y gwaith ar ôl i'r cyllid ddod i ben.

O ystyried yr heriau mae'r cymunedau wedi'u hwynebu, mae'n amlwg bod y cyllid hyblyg, hirdymor a alluogwyd gan waddod y Loteri Genedlaethol wedi bod yn hollbwysig. Mae'r saith mlynedd ddiwethaf wedi bod yn daith hir ac anodd yn aml i bob grŵp Buddsoddi'n Lleol, ond mae yna lawer o enghreifftiau gwych o gydweithredu, cydweithio a chreadigrwydd na fyddai'n bodoli heb Buddsoddi'n Lleol.

Y cam nesaf fydd i bob ardal nodi nodau allweddol ar gyfer gweddill y rhaglen a sut y byddant yn parhau i weithio yn eu hardaloedd ar ôl i'r rhaglen ddod i ben a bydd eu cefnogi i wneud hynny yn flaenoriaeth amlwg i BCT.



Conclusions

This evaluation has shown that Invest Local is working and that there is power and potential within communities that come together in this way. However, it also highlights the challenges that can be difficult to tackle through community led action and overall levels of community involvement are mixed and there are big challenges around how the work can be sustained after the funding ends.

Given the challenges communities have faced, the long-term flexible funding enabled by the National Lottery endowment has clearly been essential. The past seven years have been a long and often difficult journey for each Invest Local group, but there are many shining examples of cooperation, collaboration and creativity which simply would not exist without Invest Local.

The next step will be for each area to identify key aims for the rest of the programme and how they will continue work in their areas after the programme ends and supporting them to do that will be a big priority for BCT.





I gael gwybodaeth bellach ar Buddsoddi'n Lleol, anfonwch e-bost i info@bct.wales neu fynd i www.bct.wales lle gallwch ddarllen y fersiwn lawn o'n hadroddiad gwerthuso.

For more information on Invest Local, email info@bct.wales or visit www.bct.wales where you can read the full version of our evaluation report.