




communities first cymunedau yn gyntaf



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Lead Delivery Body Report for the year ending 31 March 2018

Lead Delivery Body:	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Lead Delivery Body Signature: <i>Please use electronic signature</i>	
Local Authority Area:	Caerphilly County Borough
Cluster(s)	Upper Rhymney Valley, Mid Valleys East & West, Caerphilly Basin (x4 Clusters)
Are you an Early Adopter of the new employability grant?	No
Report to be completed and returned in hard copy and electronically to WG by 15 May 2018. If you would prefer to complete the form earlier we would be pleased to receive it before the end of March.	

Guidance on Completing your Annual Monitoring Report

- An electronic version should be forwarded to the Communities First Transition Team
CommunitiesFirstandCommunityGrantsMailbox@gov.wales
- Staff details – please ensure that you have completed details for all CF-funded staff in the LDB and Cluster(s).

Overview

Please provide an overall summary of highlights and progress made by the LDB and Cluster(s) against your Detailed Transition Plan for the year. This can be in addition to what you told us at the mid-year point.

Phasing out of the Communities First programme in the borough was completed by 31st December 2017, when the Community Regeneration department restructure process was completed. In the main, staff either left for positions in other departments/organisations or were successful in gaining posts within the new Legacy/Communities For Work+ programmes. The remainder of the Communities First grant funding has been used to phase in the new programmes during Q4 (January – March 2018) covering salaries and supporting work in the identified priority communities and employment support, which will migrate to the Legacy & Communities For Work+ programmes in April. During the reporting period the focus was on preparing the team and the community for the introduction of the new programmes. Where necessary staff attended training to equip them with the appropriate skills to deliver the new programmes, this included Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) training to support the new approach to working with communities, endorsed by the PSB. Similarly, community groups were supported to access training/learning opportunities to support their sustainability post Communities First.

Youth and Family

The remaining members of the youth and family team have wound down and have started to transition young people. Those from areas that are not priority will be supported via Caerphilly Youth Service provision whilst the young people from priority areas will transition across to projects being delivered by the Legacy fund. The number of areas being covered has dramatically reduced and so has the number of children and young people being engaged. Provision has been focused on children and young people with the highest levels of need. The team managed to maintain as many sessions as possible as far into the year as was possible. Sessions in schools in priority areas continued, with a focus on a school in the south (Rhymney area) and one in the North (Lansbury Park area). Work has continued in Bedwas Comprehensive, although significantly reduced and sessions drew to a close in Phillipstown due issues with capacity. The Learning Pathway Centres have now been absorbed into Education.

Community Involvement

Please provide information on how you have ensured continuing community involvement in developments and decisions during this transition year.

Please describe your community involvement activity during the last six months (from 1 October to 31 March)

During the reporting period the team supported several groups to continue meet (Bargoed Women’s group, colouring group Ty Sign & others) and assisted with training for volunteers and plans for drawing in funding to become sustainable post Communities First. The GAVO Development Officers visited groups & offered support, particularly those that will fall outside the new priority areas as part of Legacy going forward.

The team have continued to strengthen links with the Caerphilly Parent Network organisation & CCBC Housing department in priority communities by running joint community engagement events. At least 1 event was held between October 2017 & March 2018 (Halloween, Christmas & Feb half term) in all 8 communities to enhance established relationships and support new ones. The Area Co-ordinators (Legacy) have used these events to ‘fact find’ about the community and identify needs that will inform the area plans going forward as well as identify key community members to work in partnership with.

Since January the Legacy team have ensured links with employment support team (C4W/C4W+) are maintained by supporting community hubs/weekly drop in sessions at outreach venues in the communities. Wherever possible, the hubs have been in or near the priority communities for Legacy and the Participant Engagement Officers (C4W+) have been working with Legacy Co-ordinators to establish hubs that offer wrap around support such as help with digital skills, benefits & housing applications and essential skills.

In terms of young people, unfortunately involvement with both Youth Forum and Junior Forum was reduced in Q3 and Q4 due to staff capacity. 2 youth workers have been retained under the Legacy fund and they will consider how to retain the links with the forums in the future, albeit for a smaller cohort of young people from the priority areas.

As a Community Regeneration department we have been establishing & building on hubs from 3 key venues (Hafod Deg, Rhymney; Atlee Court, Lansbury Park and Graig Y Rhacca Resource Centre) as bases for staff from C4W, C4W+ & Legacy programmes but also for community activities. There are plans for the C4W/C4W+ team in the West to have a base at the new Citizens Advice Bureau in Bargoed when it opens later in May/June 2018, which will mean all staff in the department are based in the community for most, if not all of the working week. Partner agencies & council departments will continue to use these hubs to deliver services and opportunities to expand the number of partners engaged in the hubs are ongoing.

Please outline how communities have been included in developments and decisions during this period

The GAVO Development Officer posts finished at the end of December 2017 and since January 2018 the new Legacy team have been working with existing voluntary groups in the priority communities to support their activities or work in partnership to set up new activities/services, some of these are outlined below:

- Lansbury Matters – drop in & sessions at Atlee Court, community events
- Graig Y Rhacca Resource Centre volunteers – Community events, Rec Rock sessions & plans for joint building management
- TLC volunteers, Ty Sign – community events & engagement activities, link with CAP project
- Community centre, Park Estate (Bargoed) – community events & engagement activities
- Youth Centre, Cefn Hengoed – ‘connection café’ drop in
- Community House, Phillipstown – community events, luncheon club
- Fochriw Spinning Yarns group – community events, trips, engagement activities
- Caerphilly Parent Network groups in focus communities – engagement activities, community events

The young people were very much involved in the consultation period prior to the decision to bring CF to a close, but afterward there has been little opportunity to engage children and young people in developments and decisions during this period as there has been very little for them to be involved with. Due to the loss of funding most of the staff have left and this is not something the young people can be involved in. As things move forward with Legacy Funding there will be further opportunity for them to engage in developments and the Youth officers will also consider how to resume links with the Junior and Youth Forum.

Please set out your proposals for continuing to involve communities in developments and decisions during the next six months

- Continue and maintain the principle of asset based community development & encourage partners to adopt the approach
- Continue to work with active voluntary groups & support individuals to have a voice in the priority areas
- Consider how best to resume links with the Junior and Youth Forum for young people from the priority communities
- Implement the Lansbury and Fochriw Children First pilot project plan in conjunction with Flying Start & the Parent Network building on learning from the visit to Pembury, Hackney organised by WG.

Transition Plan

Please let us know about your involvement with the Public Service Board over the last few months

The Public Service Board (PSB) has been fully briefed to date by both Caerphilly CBC and Welsh Government. A report has been submitted to the Board in relation to Welsh Government timescales as well as Caerphilly’s proposals for phasing out Communities First and implementing the Legacy and Employability structures. The PSB has also received copies of all cabinet reports relating to the phasing out of the programme; and senior CCBC officers including the Community Regeneration Manager and the Corporate Director for Communities have attended Board meetings on several occasions to provide further updates as the process has progressed. In

particular, further discussions have also taken place to identify gaps in provision that will occur, with representation made to the Public Service Board for consideration. The PSB has expressed concern regarding the loss of CF services and projects, although to date no further commitments have been made from them regarding possible measures to address any of these gaps in provision, with the exception of Gwent Police who have funded an additional officer to cover Lansbury Park as part of their work with the “Coalition for Change” board (see below).

Specific focus has been given to Lansbury Park as a key strategic focus area for regeneration. The original Deep Place study was presented to the Board for ratification and they have endorsed this approach as a pilot way of working for the Legacy programme within Caerphilly. The Board have also endorsed the newly established “Coalition for Change” Board, which has been formed as a means of driving forward the approach in Lansbury. Each Public Service Board member has now nominated a senior representative to sit on the Coalition for Change and this will be the decision making body that has the authority to change priorities, allocated resources and command support from their respective agencies. The scale of the challenge in Lansbury requires a commitment over many years, which will require an approach to public service provision that seeks to better coordinate services to achieve maximum impact. We intend to adopt a place based focus, with a radical review of public services to assess how well they meet the outcomes required by residents, and how they could improve impact and value for money. The role of the Public Service Board is key to implementing this approach, and having endorsed the approach to Lansbury Park it provides an opportunity to develop this across a number of key areas across the borough.

The Community Regeneration Manager has been identified as the lead officer for the skills and apprenticeships theme of the wellbeing plan for the PSB. This will ensure strategic and operational links will be made between employment support programmes and the PSB’s developing apprenticeships programme. This also links the to City Deal’s developing apprenticeship & skills programme.

2017-18 Transition Plan Projects				
Priority	Activity/Project	Date project ended or will end	Is the project continuing after 31 March? Yes/No	If yes, please tell us who will be delivering the project and how it will be funded, e.g. Legacy Fund, Communities for Work Plus, local health board, voluntary sector or other. If no, please briefly outline the implications for your cluster area(s).
Prosperous Communities	Employment Support	N/A	Yes	This work will be carried out as part of the Communities For Work Plus programme.
	Digital Inclusion/Digital Skills	N/A	Yes	Most elements of this project will continue funded as part of the Communities For Work Plus programme, carried out by the Participant Engagement & Support Officers.
	Digital Fridays	N/A	Yes	As part of Communities For Work Plus , the Participant Engagement & Support Officers will support the network of volunteers to continue to run the project from Libraries across the borough.
	Prevention Project (Young Risk Takers)	31.03.18	No	This project has now drawn to a close and any young people who require further intervention will be referred through to Legacy projects, Families First or Youth Service
Learning Communities	(Young Peoples) Personal and Social Development (PSD)	31.03.18	No	This project has now drawn to a close and any young people who require further intervention will be referred through to Legacy projects, Families First or Youth Service
	School Support Project	N/A	Yes	Youth Workers will continue to work with a reduced amount of Schools via the Legacy programme .
	Learning Pathway Centres (LPCs)	31.12.17	No	Since the end of December 2017, the staff at the LPCs have been funded by the Education Department of the Council. This will continue going forward as the project has been absorbed by CCBC Education.
	Family Support (St Martins Comprehensive School, St James Primary, Caerphilly Basin)	N/A	Yes	Family Support Workers will be funded by the Legacy programme to continue this work.

Healthier Communities	Mental Health Support (Classes & 1:2:1 support)	31.12.17	No	Most elements of this project will continue funded as part of the Communities For Work Plus programme, carried out by the Participant Wellbeing & Support Officers. However this will only be available to eligible participants i.e. those actively seeking employment.
	Mental Health Support (Groups & activities)	31.12.17	No	Elements of this project will continue funded as part of the Legacy Programme (Gardening Project & Mens In Sheds in Ryhmney & Caerphilly Basin).
	StreetGames	31.12.17	Yes	Several sites will continue in the borough run by volunteers. Links will be made via the Legacy programme as appropriate.
	Healthy Lives	30.06.17	No	The team has continued to receive enquiries for Foodwise & X-POD classes since completion of the project, which have had to be passed on to partners where appropriate. However we have found that suitable classes are not readily available with little or no provision in the community. This issue may be taken forward as part of the Legacy programme in the future.
	Physical Activity Project	31.12.17	No	All community based classes ceased by the end of September 2017. With support & training provided by the CF team, 2 classes are continuing to run led by volunteers, which is a real success. All other classes were signposted to other appropriate provision if available.

Please detail the total number of participants that have taken part in CF Transition Plan activity during the year ending 31 March 2018, this should include the number reported at the end of September. If you are completing the form before the year end an estimate is acceptable.

Please note that there has been a change within the recording of a number of projects due to the phasing out of CF. Because of this we will not be reporting the total number of participants due to the uncertainty of double counting.

However, we are able to report the following numbers of Young People engaged in projects run by the Youth Workers;

- 255 in generic projects (Prevention, Personal and Social Development and School Support)
- 84 in LPC's
- Total = 339 young people

Please give details of posts which have ended since the mid-year monitoring report, or will end on 31 March, and the destination of staff concerned (if known), e.g. re-deployed within organisation, new post elsewhere, voluntary exit, redundancy

Post/Name	Date post ended	Destination
Gemma Walker	31 st December 2017	Re-deployed within organisation
Angela Adams	31 st December 2017	Voluntary exit
Jenni Walton	31 st December 2017	New post elsewhere
Gill Powell	31 st December 2017	Returned to substantive post within organisation
Sophie Moore	31 st December 2017	End of fixed term contract
Natalie Falcus	31 st December 2017	End of fixed term contract
Lisa Davies (Post 20% funded by CF)	31 st March 2018	Post will now be 100% funded by other grants including Families First

Rhiannon Hazlewood	29 th October 2017	New post elsewhere
Kelsey Pitt	15 th October 2017	New post elsewhere
Steven Coombes	31 st December 2017	New post elsewhere
Martin Kelly (part time)	31 st December 2017	New post elsewhere
Clare Sutton (maternity leave)	31 st December 2017	New post elsewhere
Zoe Williams (GAVO)	31 st December 2017	New post elsewhere
Ceri Smith (GAVO)	7 th November 2017	New post elsewhere
Steve Keenan (GAVO)	31 st December 2017	Redundancy
Neil Jones (GAVO)	31 st December 2017	Redundancy
Carol Smith (GAVO)	31 st December 2017	Redundancy

Please provide details of any support/training you have received through the Welsh Government funded WCVA Training and Support Contract during this period. Please indicate how useful this support/training has been during this transition period.

White Rose Information & Resource Centre

As part of the phasing out of the programme, the Directors of the White Rose Information & Resource Centre received support from the WCVA regarding HR (Human Resources) and payroll management. The aim was to safeguard the sustainability of the Centre post CF and was successful, as the Directors incorporated the advice & guidance into their policies and procedures.

Graig y Rhacca Resource Centre

The Centre Directors were approached regarding the support that could be provided by the WCVA Support contract. However unfortunately this was not taken up.

Co-Production Network Wales

We approached the Support contract regarding training for the Coalition for Change Board (Lansbury Park) which includes members of the PSB. However after discussion WG deemed the request ineligible for support, so Russell Todd facilitated the link between the Council and the Network. The Co-Production Network successfully ran an introductory workshop session with the Board in January and will deliver further workshops for delivery Managers in the coming financial year (2018/19).

Please give details of any buildings which have closed, or are at risk of closing, on 31st March 2018 as a result of Communities First finishing.

As far as we are aware there are no buildings in the borough at risk of closing as a result of Communities First finishing.

Please tell us about the impact of Communities First ending on third sector organisations in your Cluster(s) area.

- **GAVO** – lost development workers, down to one core funded worker to support community groups in the borough
- **Groundwork** – loss of staff funded by the programme. MVE team moved from their office building means loss of income for the organisation
- **Caerphilly Parent Network** – able to continue using Legacy funds in partnership with other programmes

Please detail any additional information, not recorded above, of which you feel we should be aware.

An overview of the outcomes achieved for Youth projects during Q3 & 4 are below:

Prevention Project (Young Risk Takers)

- 43 young people engaged
- 39 reached 10 hours of engagement = 90%
- 4 young people completed NICAs level 1 in climbing
- 29 rated the project good or excellent (it was difficult to get evaluations completed as the project was drawing to a close and many disengaged)

- 85 sessions were delivered this year

(Young Peoples)Personal and Social Development (PSD)

- 58 young people engaged
- 43 reached 10 hours of engagement = 74%
- 48 rated the project good or excellent (it was difficult to get evaluations completed as the project was drawing to a close and many disengaged)
- 176 sessions were delivered this year

Schools Support Project

Since the last reporting period the number of schools being supported has reduced to 3.

MVE 2 schools were supported:

- 15 young people engaged
- 12 reported knowing where to go if they had a problem

MVW 2 schools were supported :

- 24 young people engaged
- 24 rated the project as good or excellent and 24 reported to know where to go to if they had a problem.

This is all we could gather from the MVW and MVE schools getting feedback from the schools was more difficult this year, which is understandable as we have had to end our interventions with them.

- 41 sessions were delivered in these areas before the sessions came to an end

CB 1 school was supported:

- 36 children engaged
- 36 rated the sessions as good or excellent
- 35 know where to go if they have a problem in school
- 21 improved in academic performance with an additional 7 showing improvements in other areas.
- 46 sessions have been delivered this year

URV 2 schools were supported:

- 55 children engaged
- 52 rated the sessions as good or excellent
- 35 know where to go if they have a problem in school (the team were only able to ask 35 of the children this question)
- 23 improved in academic performance. (Academic performance was not reported by one of the school's)
- 96 sessions have been delivered this year

Total Sessions: 183

Total Engaged:130

Total with a beneficial outcome:106 = 81%

Sessions were tailor made for the groups and focused on enabling them to become more engaged in the learning environment. The project was a great success with all school reporting improved results over the years we worked with them and all schools requesting that the supported remained, obviously this was not possible and therefore schools in key areas were offered the option to continue with the service until December 2017, with others being informed that the sessions could not continue due to reduced levels of staffing. Currently only 3 schools remain, 2 primaries (1 Rhymney 1 Lansbury Park) and 1 Comprehensive (Bedwas)

Bedwas Comprehensive

- 34 young people have received 1:1 support for personal and social issues
- 74 sessions have been delivered

Learning Pathway Centres

Work at the centres is going really well and since December the LPC staff have been funded via education, although they have still provided some evening session support in order to transition our groups. During the year young people have been involved in various accreditations along with work around personal and social development and wellbeing e.g Princes Trust, Careers Sessions, BTec Sweet, Managing Feelings, Money Management, Digital Competence, NICAS Award, Fitness sessions, Agored sessions, Relationships work, along with many others. The LPC staff have also engaged with various different partners to enhance the experiences of the young people. For example, Military Preparation College, South Wales Ambulance Service, School Governors, Coleg Y Cymoedd. They have also ensured that multi agency working has taken place in order to ensure young people are referred on to any specialist support that they require.

- 84 individual young people have accessed support from the LPC's this year.
- 1998 sessions have been delivered this year (which includes 1:1's, whole day activities and 45 minute lesson sessions)
- 76/84 rated the sessions as good or excellent = 90%
- 50/59 have improved in academic performance = 84% (some information was not provided by Bedwas as their LPC came to end early)
- 80/84 stated that they know where to go if they have a problem in their educational placement = 95%

OPTIONAL If you would like to share a recent participant case study please do so here.