

Circular Economy Capital Fund 2020-21

APPLICATION FORM

Our aim is to move to a circular economy in Wales. Where waste is avoided and the things we use are kept in use as long as possible. This is an important part of the action needed on climate change. It also brings many new job opportunities as part of the move to a low carbon economy.

The public sector is central to Wales' move to a circular economy.

This Circular Economy Fund open to local authorities and other publicly funded bodies* will help accelerate Wales' shift towards a circular economy driving further increases in recycling and decarbonisation. It also directly supports post-covid response and recovery improving resilience in Wales.

Activities eligible for funding are those helping to deliver actions within the Circular Economy Strategy consultation document; Beyond Recycling;-

1. Become the world leader in recycling
2. Phase out single use plastic
3. Invest in clean technology for materials collection
4. Make more efficient use of our food
5. Prioritise the purchasing of wood, remanufactured and recycled content
6. Enable communities to take collective action
7. Create the conditions for business to seize the opportunities
8. Take full responsibility for our waste

Key dates:

- The closing date is 1st December 2020. Late applications will not be accepted.
- We aim to inform applicants of the outcome early January 2021.
- Claims, including evidence of expenditure, are required to be submitted to the Welsh Government by 15 March 2021 at the very latest.
- Please only submit an application if you are able to meet these deadlines.

Please note:

- Applicants must be a publicly funded body in Wales*.
- The project activity must be located in Wales.
- Grants are available up to £500,000.
- Complete one application form per project.

Email here: CircularEconomyFund@gov.wales

Organisation Name	Swansea Council
Project Title	Expanded and improved collections, storage and outlet network for repair and re-use of goods
Location of Activity	City and County of Swansea
Funding requested for 2020-21	£ Total project cost - £ 199,750 £ Amount of capital grant requested - £ 199,750
Circular economy key action area (more than one may be applicable)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Become the world leader in recycling 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Phase out single use plastic 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invest in clean technology for material collection 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Make more efficient use of our food 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prioritise the use of wood and remake and recycle more items 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable communities to take collective action 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create the conditions for business to seize the opportunities 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take full responsibility for our waste
Project Contact Name, telephone and email address	Chris Howell 01792 761759 Chris.howell@swansea.gov.uk
Bid authorised by <i>*In authorising this application you are confirming that the information given is correct to the best of your knowledge. You are also confirming that any match funding identified is in place</i>	Name: BEN SMITH Job Title: CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER/S151 OFFICER Signature: 

1. Project Description and alignment to circular economy actions (Score 10)

Provide a brief description of the project including how it aligns to the circular economy actions and decarbonisation. If your application is for a project that will take longer than a financial year to complete, please provide a description of the whole project and of the specific outputs to be delivered in this financial year.
(Maximum 500 words)

This project is to improve and expand the collection and receipt of goods for repair & re-use. Integral to this increased repair and re-use is the development of an expansive repair and re-use network in collaboration with charities, commercial organisations, social enterprises, and other community groups.

The project will ensure the continued use of products, which would otherwise be discarded as waste, assisting Welsh Government in meeting its circular economy and decarbonisation aims and objectives.

We have liaised with charity organisations running re-use outlets across Swansea and already have 14 organisations wishing to collaborate through this bid. These range for large organisations including Wales Air Ambulance and RSPCA, to smaller local charities such as Swansea Women's Aid, and Local Aid For Children And Community Special Needs.

We have also engaged with repair and re-use businesses who are interested in partnering with us through taking white goods for bringing back into use.

The project aims to increase the re-use of products by improving their collection, and receipt to both maintain their condition, and make them readily available to an outlet network. The initial products to be targeted are:

- Furniture
- White goods
- Bric a brac
- Toys
- Paints
- Carpets

The intention is to have a multi strand approach to ensuring unwanted goods are redirected to where they can be best put to re-use.

- A new hybrid low emissions collection vehicle for bulky waste will initially seek to direct-deliver suitable goods to the most appropriate charity outlet.
- The purchase of a yard adjacent to our transfer station will allow the storage of large goods suitable for re-use, to maintain their condition and allow charities and commercial repair & re-use businesses to collect.
- Bespoke containers in each of our five Recycling Centres will house bric a back, toys, and part used paints, for charities, social enterprises, and other community groups to visit and take products away for re-use locally.

The new vehicle would also be used for the free collection of textiles, batteries and small electricals from those having a bulky collection to further divert unwanted products away from waste bins.

The project includes an extensive repair/re-use promotion campaign.

Orders would be placed for all items detailed and a Claim, including evidence of expenditure, submitted to the Welsh Government by 15 March 2021.

The use of a hybrid low emissions collection vehicle supports the transition to a low carbon fleet, contributing to better air quality and reduced carbon emissions.

2. Ways of working (Score 10)

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires public bodies to think more about the long-term, to work better with people, communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach.

The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, places a duty on public bodies to seek to achieve the well-being goals and objectives in everything they do.

Please describe how you have followed the five ways of working in the development and delivery of your proposal.

The Five Ways of Working	
<p>Long Term – please describe how you have considered long term needs. What are the impacts of your proposal on future generations?</p> <p>(Maximum 100 words)</p>	<p>This project would provide long-term benefits to the circular economy in Swansea, help to normalise repairing and sharing instead of buying, and providing people with low-cost access to a variety of items to improve their quality of life. In show casing the potential of repair and reuse and inspiring future initiatives, it also contributes to Wales' long-term aspiration of becoming zero carbon by 2050. The partnership with established organisations will also ensure that the project will be self-sustaining into the future, and provide learning for new organisations.</p>

<p>Prevention – please describe how you considered options to prevent the problem from getting worse or occurring in the first place.</p> <p>(Maximum 100 words)</p>	<p>This project would counteract deprivation and inequality in Swansea by providing low-cost accessibility to a range of life-enhancing items. It would also prevent many items being sent to landfill when they are no longer needed and promote the repair and re-use message to prevent a further increase in carbon emissions.</p>
<p>Integration – please describe how you have considered the well-being objectives of other public bodies.</p> <p>(Maximum 100 words)</p>	<p>This project would support and complement Swansea’s endeavours to reflect the Welsh Government’s zero landfill and targets as well as equality and sustainability goals. The contribution to electrifying our transport fleet would also support the Welsh Government’s declaration of a climate emergency and steps it is taking to reduce the country’s carbon emissions.</p>
<p>Collaboration – please describe who you collaborated with and how, in the development and appraisal your proposal.</p> <p>(Maximum 100 words)</p>	<p>This project is a collaboration with over a dozen charities, and commercial repair & re-use businesses across Swansea. This project would also provide opportunities for community groups around Swansea to collaborate in sharing items and skills as well as volunteering.</p>
<p>Involvement – please describe who you have involved and how, in the development and appraisal of your proposal</p> <p>(Maximum 100 words)</p>	<p>The project would proactively endeavour to include all members of the community, including those who are marginalised, and embed their voices and their needs from the outset.</p>

3. Contribution to Well-being Goals and impact assessment (Score 10)

Projects must seek to maximise their contribution to the well-being goals. Please provide a summary of the impacts of the project to the well-being goals and statutory description of each goal.

Well-being Goal	Impact (select one for each goal)
A prosperous Wales	<p>Positive</p> <p>Summary (Maximum 100 words):</p> <p>This project will enable businesses, charities and social enterprises to financially benefit through the increase in re-use of products through savings and increased income. It will enable residents to acquire items they need at low cost without adding to their carbon footprint. This will help to ease poverty as well as reducing waste.</p>
A resilient Wales	<p>Positive</p> <p>Summary (Maximum 100 words):</p> <p>With a global recession looking inevitable as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this project will provide economic and material resilience for the community, while supporting the circular economy and sustainability. It would promote the “re-use” message and provide an alternative to people having to buy new products, reducing consumption and protecting our precious natural resources, leading to environmental benefits.</p>
A healthier Wales	<p>Positive</p> <p>Summary (Maximum 100 words):</p> <p>This project will improve individuals’ health by providing access to low cost items which support physical and mental health. The support of volunteering opportunities will help tackle isolation, loneliness, anxiety and poor mental health. Building new connections within the community will support individual wellbeing as well as improve community resilience. Diverting unused items from landfill would further benefit community health and the environment.</p>

<p>A more equal Wales</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>Summary (Maximum 100 words):</p> <p>Access to items to all members of the community at low cost would be provided. Many items available would support a better quality of life for local residents, including people not able to buy such items. The project's contribution to keeping products for re-use locally would provide access to items to all members of the community at low cost, including those who are isolated.</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>Summary (Maximum 100 words):</p> <p>The partnerships with local charities and social enterprises, often heavily supported by volunteers, would also support communities wishing to set up their own initiatives. These will be developed continually as the networks grow, allowing constant learnings and best practice to be shared between communities. This will enable a truly sustainable lifestyle within all Welsh communities, making Wales a world leader in making the circular economy a nationwide reality.</p>
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>Summary (Maximum 100 words):</p> <p>Most of the charities which could be supported by this project have strong Welsh identities which is reflected in their ethos and operations. All promotional activities will be bilingual.</p>
<p>A globally responsible Wales</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>Summary (Maximum 100 words):</p> <p>Climate change is now recognised as an urgent crisis that needs addressing globally and is reflected in Wales' declaration of a climate emergency. This project will reduce waste and facilitate community sharing of items and skills. This project will ensure that Swansea is resourced to embrace/embed the circular economy supporting the global effort to reduce landfill waste and carbon emissions caused by over-production and over-consumption.</p>

4. Project management (Score 10)

Please provide information on the project plan identifying timelines for activities appropriate to the scale of the project. Include information on any risks, statutory processes/planning consent, land acquisition, procurement, construction, project opening and completion as applicable. (Maximum 500 words)

Timeline

January 2021 - Funding announced

January 2021

- Project meetings between Council, charities, and local businesses to confirm implementation programme
- Place orders and commit funding for the hybrid low emissions collection vehicle, charging point, containers for Recycling Centres, and systems hardware/software.
- Develop promotion campaign

February 2021

- Finalise arrangements for yard adjacent to Transfer Station
- Confirm details, with partners, of products to be intercepted at Recycling Centres for re-use, eg type and quality required.
- Provide training for Recycling Centre staff on what products are to be set aside for re-use.
- Firm up details of arrangements with charity outlets to receive/collect bulky goods
- Finalise arrangements with repair and re-use organisations for the collection of repairable white goods
- Set up arrangements for charities and other community groups to regularly visit Recycling Centres to collect bric a brac and part used paints

March 2021

- Purchase yard adjacent to Transfer Station
- Promotion campaign as various elements of project come online
- Install new re-use containers at Recycling Centres, start intercepting products, and arrange for partners to collect what they want
- Start direct delivering furniture to charity shops as appropriate
- Create undercover holding bay in new yard for carpets, furniture, and white goods to keep in good condition prior to collection for repair/re-use.

April 2021 onwards

- Continue to develop charity/business/community networks and explore further opportunities for expanding repair and re-use.
- Develop an ongoing promotion strategy, stakeholder strategy, product selection based on demand.
- Monitor performance and seek to engage with other similar projects/organisations/charities/3rd sector organisations to ensure that lessons are learned and best practice is being developed
- Continue links with local educational organisations around work experience opportunities

Key Risks

- Unsuccessful funding bid
- Delay in purchase of adjacent yard – temporary alternative available in the short term
- Further Coronavirus lockdowns affecting repair & re-use outlets

5. Costs (Score 10)

Please explain the costs of the project by providing a full breakdown. If the project will be match funded clearly set out the details (e.g. cash contribution by applicant or other)? (Maximum 250 words)

	Capital £
Hybrid low emissions collection vehicle	55,000
Charging point	3,000
Purchase of adjacent yard	120,000
Paint containers & signs	5,000
Bric a brac containers & signs	5,000
Promotional campaign	6,000
Racking for Wales Air Ambulance to allow for increased volume of bulky furniture diverted from landfill	2,750
IT solution to facilitate donation of furniture collected to local charity re-use outlets	3,000
Totals	199,750

6. Value for Money (Score 10)

Please explain what steps have been taken to ensure costs have been kept as low as possible and to quantify if the funding requested will represent overall value for money. (Maximum 250 words)

The assessment of the set up needs of the project has value engineered the requirements down to the minimum to ensure that the collection/receipt, and storage of products, suitable for repair and re-use, are fit for purpose. The products need to be kept in a good condition, and in a manner to facilitate an effective handover to the various repair/re-use outlets. This is to ensure that we maximise the amount of discarded products that are successfully put back into beneficial use. Once the facilities and outlet network are in place, the project could be expanded in future years dependent upon future demands.

The vehicle and equipment will be purchased through competitive procurement processes, seeking best value.

It is anticipated that, once fully operational, this repair and re-use initiative will put in the region of 100 bulky items and 1,000 small items back into re-use per quarter.

This will not only create a significant diversion from landfill, but also provide low/zero cost items for our communities to support the poverty agenda.

The Council will provide the resources to run the operation with additional management, innovation, and promotion resources provided as required.

7. Scheme outputs (Score 10)

What are the specific outputs that the scheme will deliver (including objectives and outcomes)? (Maximum 250 words):

We would expect the following minimum targets to be reached within the first 3 months of launching the scheme:

- Training and upskilling for 25 staff in the ethos of repair & re-use, and community benefits
- 15 charity/business/community partners forming a repair and re-use outlet network, all benefiting from the project
- 100 items of bulky furniture, white goods, and carpets diverted for repair/re-use
- 1,000 small items, such as small electricals, toys, bric a brac, part used tins of paint, etc. diverted from landfill

8. Monitoring and Evaluation (Score 10)

How and when will you measure if the project has been successful? Please provide details of your post-delivery monitoring plan, data collection, and relevant targets (Maximum 250 words):

The initial setting up of a repair and re-use outlet network with charity, business, and community partners will be the first measure of success for the project.

It will then be essential that we put in place the necessary measures to protect the quality of discarded products during collection and storage, and facilitate an effective inspection and handover procedure to maximise repair and re-use.

We will obtain project evaluation data as follows in conjunction with our charity, business, and community partners who make up the network of repair & Re-use outlets:

- No. of staff trained and upskilled
- No. of charity/business/community partners forming a repair and re-use outlet network
- No. of large items diverted for repair/re-use
- No. of small items diverted for repair/re-use

In addition the project will be monitored to ensure that it evolves and builds on its initial partnerships and experience gained to enable it to flex with demand. The Council will also work with other similar projects to share experiences and good practice and be able to offer advice and practical help to other organisations looking to develop similar schemes in the future.

***Eligible Bodies**

National Bodies

1. Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales
2. Arts Council of Wales
3. Higher Education Funding Council for Wales
4. National Library of Wales Natural Resources Wales
6. Sport Wales
7. Welsh Government

Local Authorities

1. Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
2. Bridgend County Borough Council
3. Caerphilly County Borough Council
4. Cardiff Council
5. Carmarthenshire County Council
6. Ceredigion County Council

7. City and County of Swansea
8. Conwy County Borough Council
9. Denbighshire County Council
10. Flintshire County Council
11. Gwynedd Council
12. Isle of Anglesey County Council
13. Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
14. Monmouthshire County Council
15. Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
16. Newport City Council
17. Pembrokeshire County Council
18. Powys County Council
19. Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
20. Vale of Glamorgan Council
21. Torfaen County Borough Council
22. Wrexham County Borough Council

Health

1. Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board
2. Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
3. Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
4. Cardiff & Vale University Health Board
5. Cwm Taf University Health Board
6. Hywel Dda University Health Board
7. Powys Teaching Health Board
8. Public Health Wales NHS Trust
9. Velindre NHS Trust

Fire & Rescue Authorities

1. Mid and West Wales Fire Rescue Authority
2. North Wales Fire Rescue Authority
3. South Wales Fire Rescue Authority

National Parks Authority

1. Brecon Beacons
2. Pembrokeshire Coast
3. Snowdonia

Education

1. Colleges
2. Grant Maintained Schools
3. Universities

Courts

Police

1. Dyfed Powys Police
2. Gwent Police
3. North Wales Police
4. South Wales Police

Town councils, village councils and community councils.