

Energy, environment and countryside projects

- a guide for constituents

May 2021



The Welsh Parliament is the democratically elected body that represents the interests of Wales and its people. Commonly known as the Senedd, it makes laws for Wales, agrees Welsh taxes and holds the Welsh Government to account.

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Senedd Research
Welsh Parliament
Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

Tel: **0300 200 6295**

Email: Chloe.Corbyn@Senedd.Wales

Twitter: [@SeneddResearch](https://twitter.com/SeneddResearch)

Website: www.research.senedd.wales

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Authors:

Matthias Noebels and Chloe Corbyn

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Paper Overview:

This guide outlines and signposts information and sources of financial assistance relating to energy, environment, countryside and climate change projects in Wales. The information in this guide makes no claim to completeness, and further sources of funding may be available..



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General advice and support

This section lists organisations that provide information, advice and support for energy, environmental, climate change or countryside projects.

Farming Connect

Farming Connect offers impartial, independent support and advice to people starting, running and growing farm or forestry businesses in Wales. It also provides, amongst other services, a mentoring scheme, webinars, and funded or subsidised training.

Businesses meeting the **[eligibility criteria \(PDF 185 KB\)](#)** can register on its website to access all services.

For further information:

Telephone: 08456 000 813

E-mail: [Enquiry form](#)

Website: businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/

Twitter: [@FarmingConnect](#)

Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens in Wales

The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens (FCFCG) in Wales is the Welsh branch of a registered charity which aims to support, represent and promote community-managed farms, gardens, allotments and other green spaces.

The FCFCG provides information and offers advice on all aspects of community-managed city farming and community gardening.

The website has a **[page dedicated](#)** to support for farming and gardening community groups in Wales.

For further information:

Telephone: 02920 225942

E-mail: wales@farmgarden.org.uk

Website: www.farmgarden.org.uk

National Flood Forum

The National Flood Forum is a registered charity that supports and represents communities and individuals at risk of flooding by:

- Helping people to prepare for flooding in order to prevent it or mitigate its impacts;
- Helping people to recover their lives once they have been flooded; and
- Campaigning on behalf of flood risk communities and working with government and agencies to ensure that they develop a community perspective.

For further information:

Telephone: 01299 403055

Website: www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk

E-mail: info@floodforum.org.uk

Twitter: [@NatFloodForum](https://twitter.com/NatFloodForum)

Natural Resources Wales

The purpose of Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is to ensure that the natural resources of Wales are sustainably maintained, used and enhanced, now and in the future. Its responsibilities include educating, enabling and advising industry, the voluntary sector and the wider public on issues relating to the environment and natural resources.

NRW can offer grants to a diverse range of partners - local authorities, environmental organisations and voluntary bodies. Grants are offered to deliver projects that benefit both people and wildlife. Grants from NRW are also offered on an application basis to organisations and groups with registered charity status.

For further information:

Telephone: 0300 065 3000

E-mail: enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk or NRW.grants@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Website: www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Twitter: [@NatResWales](https://twitter.com/NatResWales)

Planning Aid Wales

Planning Aid Wales is an independent organisation helping individuals and communities across Wales to participate more effectively in the planning system. It offers a range of services, depending on [eligibility \(PDF 248 KB\)](#), such as delivering planning training, developing guidance, and a free planning advice helpline.

For further information:

Telephone: 02920 625 004

E-mail: [Enquiry form](#)

Website: planningaidwales.org.uk

Wales Environment Link

Wales Environment Link (WEL) is the umbrella body for environmental and countryside non-governmental organisations (NGO) in Wales. They are a network, active in a range of policy areas, and are the official link between the Welsh Government and Wales' environmental NGO (eNGO) sector.

Wales Environment Link is:

- A mechanism and framework to help Welsh eNGOs to achieve collective goals;
- A voice for the environment movement in Wales;
- A route of communication and dialogue between eNGOs and government; and
- An information provider.

For further information:

Telephone: 02920 497 509

E-mail: enquiry@waleslink.org

Website: www.waleslink.org

Twitter: [@WalesLink](https://twitter.com/WalesLink)

Wales Rural Network

Wales Rural Network is a forum to support the exchange of expertise in rural development. It provides advice and support, connects businesses, community groups and others, and promotes funding opportunities

For further information:

Telephone: 03000 6 03000

E-mail: ruralnetwork@gov.wales

Website: businesswales.gov.wales/walesruralnetwork/

Twitter: [@WalesRuralNet](https://twitter.com/WalesRuralNet)

Energy

This section lists grants and funding sources for energy-related projects, such as increasing energy efficiency or low carbon technologies.

Ashden Awards

UK based social enterprises and other not-for-profit organisations that are delivering sustainable energy or energy efficiency at a local level can apply for a chance to win a Gold Award of £20,000 or three prize funds of £10,000 each.

For further information:

Telephone: 020 7410 7023

Website: <https://ashden.org/awards/>

E-mail: info@ashden.org

Twitter: [@Ashden_org](https://twitter.com/Ashden_org)

Carbon Trust

The Carbon Trust is an organisation providing advice and financial assistance to help businesses and the public sector boost business returns by cutting carbon emissions, saving energy and commercialising low carbon technologies.

For further information:

Telephone: 02071 707000

E-mail: contactwales@carbontrust.com

Website: www.carbontrust.com

Twitter: [@TheCarbonTrust](https://twitter.com/TheCarbonTrust)

Energy Saving Trust

The Energy Saving Trust is an independent organisation helping people to save energy and reduce carbon emissions. It is funded by the UK Government, devolved administrations and the private sector, and operates in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

For further information:

Email: energy-advice@est.org.uk

Website: www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

Welsh Government Energy Service

Launched in January 2016, the Welsh Government's Energy Service offers support to help the public sector and community energy sector in Wales to develop their own renewable energy schemes. The service provides technical, financial and other specialist support for energy projects to realise cost savings, income generation and maximise the benefits retained in Wales.

Further information can be found at:

Website: www.localenergy.gov.wales

Welsh Government Warm Homes

Warm Homes funds energy efficiency improvements to eligible households, and is made up of two schemes; Nest and Arbed. It supports the Welsh Government's commitments to reduce climate change, help eradicate fuel poverty, and boost economic development and regeneration in Wales.

Nest offers free, impartial advice as well as free home energy efficiency improvements. These can include a new boiler, central heating or insulation for people who are either on a low income, or struggling to meet the cost of their domestic energy needs.

Arbed offers energy efficiency improvements in targeted areas.

For further information:

Telephone: 0808 808 2244

Email: advicewales@est.org.uk

Website: nest.gov.wales

Twitter: [@NestWales](https://twitter.com/NestWales)

Environment and Countryside

Biffa Award

Biffa Award provides support for community projects near landfill sites.

Funding under the main grants scheme (between £10,000 and £75,000) is provided under three themes; community buildings, outdoor recreation and rebuilding biodiversity.

Larger funding (between £250,000 and £750,000) is available under the **Partnership Grants scheme**. Eligible projects should either improve built environment, e.g. cultural, heritage or visitor centres, or the natural environment.

For further information:

Telephone: 01636 670000

E-mail: biffa-award@wildlifetrusts.org

Website: www.biffa-award.org

Twitter: [@BiffaAward](https://twitter.com/BiffaAward)

Ernest Cook Trust

The Ernest Cook Trust gives grants to registered charities, state schools and not-for-profit organisations wishing to encourage young people's interest in the countryside and the environment.

Projects which encourage or ensure the continuation of rural skills and crafts are of particular interest to the Trustees.

The Trust operates two grants schemes throughout the year.

For further information:

Telephone: 01285 712492

E-mail: hello@ernestcooktrust.org.uk

Website: www.ernestcooktrust.org.uk

Garfield Weston Foundation

The Garfield Weston Foundation is a grant-giving charity for UK registered charities. The Foundation will also consider applications from a limited number of exempt organisations including:

- Churches;
- Educational establishments; and
- Hospitals and housing corporations.

The Foundation supports a range of environment projects that relate to raising public awareness of, and finding solutions to, specific issues, and active conservation work.

There are no formal deadlines for submitting applications and organisations should allow approximately four months for a final outcome, though acknowledgement letters are sent within four weeks. Details of how to apply are available on the Foundations' website

For further information:

Guidelines for Applicants

Telephone: 02073 996565

E-mail: admin@garfieldweston.org

Website: www.garfieldweston.org

Twitter: [@WestonFdn](https://twitter.com/WestonFdn)

Jephcott Charitable Trust

The Jephcott Charitable Trust awards grants to registered charities and constituted organisations in the UK.

Grants are available to help organisations get up and running, or make a significant step forward for projects that will make a difference under one of the Trust's four main priorities:

- Population control;
- **The natural environment;**

- Education; or
- Health.

For further information:

Website: www.jephcottcharitabletrust.org.uk

Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme

The Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme is a Welsh Government funding programme managed by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA). The scheme supports local community and environmental projects in areas affected by the disposal of waste to landfill. Grants of between £5,000 and £49,999 are available for projects that meet scheme criteria.

The WCVA may award a grant to one nationally significant project per year - with a value of between £50,000 and £250,000.

For further information:

Website: www.wcva.org.uk/funding/landfill-disposals-tax-communities-scheme

E-mail: ldtgrants@wcva.cymru

Marsh Christian Trust

The Marsh Christian Trust aims to provide long-term core funding for small organisations. Grants range from £300 to £2,000. The areas funded by the Trust include:

- Arts and heritage;
- Education and training;
- **Environmental causes** and animal welfare;
- Healthcare; and
- Social welfare.

For further information:

Telephone: 020 7233 3112

Website: www.marshchristiantrust.org/grants/

E-mail: mccarthy@bpmarsh.co.uk

Twitter: [@MarshAwards](https://twitter.com/MarshAwards)

Matthew Good Foundation

The Matthew Good Foundation funds projects by local community groups, charities, voluntary groups or social enterprises that have a positive impact on communities, people or the environment. Applications can be made all year round with funding between £1,000 and £3,500 awarded every three months.

For further information:

Website: www.matthewgoodfoundation.org/grantsforgood/

E-mail: info@matthewgoodfoundation.org

Twitter: [@MatthewGoodFoun](https://twitter.com/MatthewGoodFoun)

Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust

The Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust provides grants for voluntary organisations in Wales in support of: sport, art, the community and the **environment**.

The Trust encourages applications relating to a number of themes including:

- Recycling;
- Promotion of green practices;
- Promotion of public transport schemes;
- Improving / protecting the environment; and
- Wales' natural heritage.

For further information:

Telephone: 02920 022143

E-mail: info@millenniumstadiumtrust.org.uk

Website: www.millenniumstadiumtrust.org.uk

National Lottery Community Fund

The Welsh branch of the National Lottery Community Fund (formerly the Big Lottery Fund) delivers funding to a range of different projects which meet the policy priorities set out by the Welsh Government.

Its website has a filterable **list of all funding programmes**, set up to enable individuals and community groups to easily locate funding for a variety of different projects.

For further information:

Telephone: 029 2168 0214

E-mail: wales@tnlcommunityfund.org.uk

Website: www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/wales

Twitter: [@TNLComFund](https://twitter.com/TNLComFund)

National Lottery Heritage Fund

The National Lottery Heritage Fund delivers funding for projects that sustain and transform the UK's heritage including environmental heritage.

Its website lists **open funding programmes**, and also has information on funding for organisations in Wales.

For further information:

Telephone: 029 2034 3413

E-mail: walescontact@heritagefund.org.uk

Website: www.heritagefund.org.uk

Twitter: [@HeritageFundUK](https://twitter.com/HeritageFundUK)

Naturesave Trust

The Naturesave Trust supports environmental and conservation groups in the UK.

Grants are available to fund projects that deal with specific environmental and/or conservation issues, and that encourage the greater commercial adoption of sustainable development.

For further information:

Telephone: 01803 864390

E-mail: mail@naturesave.co.uk

Website: www.naturesave.co.uk/naturesave-trust/

Twitter: [@NatureSaveTrust](https://twitter.com/NatureSaveTrust)

Rufford Small Grants Foundation

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation provides **financial assistance** to small groups and individuals in England and Wales involved in nature conservation projects in developing countries.

For further information:

E-mail: [Online forms](#)

Website: www.rufford.org

Twitter: [@ruffordgrants](https://twitter.com/ruffordgrants)

Rural Development Programme

Rural Development Programme schemes are available to farmers in Wales for the social economic and environmental development of rural communities. The schemes are coming to an end following the UK's exit from the EU, however some schemes are still **open to applications**. **New domestic rural development schemes** are planned for the future.

For further information:

E-mail: [Enquiry form](#)

Telephone: 0300 062 5004

Website: gov.wales/rural-grants-payments

Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts

The Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts provide financial support to a variety of interests including environmental projects.

A list of the **trusts** can be found on their website.

For further information:

Telephone: 020 7410 0330

E-mail: info@sfct.org.uk

Website: www.sfct.org.uk

ScottishPower Foundation

The ScottishPower Foundation provides funding to charities within its strategic aims:

- Education, training and research;
- **Biodiversity and climate change;**
- Arts and culture; and
- Social initiatives.

For further information:

Website: www.scottishpower.com/pages/the_scottishpower_foundation.aspx

E-mail: scottishpowerfoundation@scottishpower.com

Sea-Changers

Sea-Changers gives grants to a range of UK-based, marine conservation charities and not-for-profit organisations. It is particularly interested in grassroots projects which galvanise community action, and projects that increase the number of people taking action for marine conservation.

The projects funded should achieve one or more of the following objectives:

- To address the root causes of marine conservation threats and challenges in the UK;
- To prevent or reduce negative impacts on UK coastal and marine environments and/or species; and
- To add to the body of knowledge about marine conservation threats and challenges in the UK.

For further information:

Telephone: 07909 897867

Website: www.sea-changers.org.uk/grants

E-mail: info@sea-changers.org.uk

Twitter: [@BeASeaChanger](https://twitter.com/BeASeaChanger)

Stanley Smith (UK) Horticultural Trust

The Stanley Smith (UK) Horticultural Trust provides financial assistance for projects in support of horticultural research, the creation, preservation and maintenance of public gardens, publication of books on horticulture, study visits, plant collecting expeditions and training schemes for gardeners.

There are two types of grants available: small grants of up to £1,000 and larger grants from £1,000 to £10,000. The trust also provides support for several horticultural traineeships each year.

For further information:

Telephone: 01312 482954

E-mail: d.rae@rbge.org.uk

Website: www.grantsforhorticulturists.org.uk

Veolia Environment Trust

The Veolia Environment Trust provides support for environmental and community projects in the UK that are within five miles of a qualifying facility operated by Veolia Environmental Services (UK) Plc.

Projects must restore derelict land, prevent pollution, provide public amenities or encourage biodiversity.

For further information:

Telephone: 020 3567 6820

E-mail: UK.Trust@veolia.com

Website: www.veoliatrust.org

Twitter: [@veoliaenvtrust](https://twitter.com/veoliaenvtrust)

Waterloo Foundation

The Waterloo Foundation is an independent grant-making foundation, with an interest in projects that help globally, with particular focus on the disparity of opportunities, wealth and the unsustainable use of the world's natural resources. Through its **Environment Fund**, grant support is available for projects working to halt the decline of fish stocks and support for projects protecting tropical rain forest, principally through avoiding deforestation.

For further information:

Telephone: 02920 838980

E-mail: info@waterloofoundation.org.uk

Website: www.waterloofoundation.org.uk

Twitter: [@Waterloo_TWF](https://twitter.com/Waterloo_TWF)

Welsh Water Environment Fund

Welsh Water funds non-profit organisations to improve biodiversity as well as the natural environment on its sites and the wider community. Projects can include survey work, research, education and community engagement that promote biodiversity or ecosystem resilience.

For further information:

Website: corporate.dwrcymru.com/en/community/environment/our-projects/biodiversity-fund

E-mail: biodiversity@dwrcymru.com

Local Authority Support

Local authorities may provide funding for projects in their locality. Support can vary, so individuals should contact their relevant local authority to find out what funding is available.

- Blaenau Gwent Council
Telephone: 01495 311556
Email: info@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
Website: www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
- Bridgend Council
Telephone: 01656 643643
Email: talktous@bridgend.gov.uk
Website: www.bridgend.gov.uk
- Caerphilly County Borough Council
Telephone: 01443 815588
Email: info@caerphilly.gov.uk
Website: www.caerphilly.gov.uk
- Cardiff Council
Telephone: 02920 872088 (Welsh), 02920 872087 (English)
Email: [Enquiry form](#)
Website: www.cardiff.gov.uk
- Carmarthenshire County Council
Telephone: 01267 234567
Email: direct@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Website: www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales
- Ceredigion County Council
Telephone: 01545 570881
Email: clic@ceredigion.gov.uk
Website: www.ceredigion.gov.uk
- Conwy Borough Council
Telephone: 01492 574000

Email: customer.services@conwy.gov.uk

Website: www.conwy.gov.uk

- Denbighshire County Council
Telephone: 01824 706000
Email: [Enquiry form](#)
Website: www.denbighshire.gov.uk
- Flintshire County Council
Telephone: 01352 752121
Email: [Enquiry form](#)
Website: www.flintshire.gov.uk
- Gwynedd Council
Telephone: 01766 771000
Email: [Enquiry form](#)
Website: www.gwynedd.gov.uk
- Isle of Anglesey County Council
Telephone: 01248 750057
Email: contactmon@anglesey.gov.uk
Website: www.anglesey.gov.uk
- Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Telephone: 01685 725000
Email: customer.care@merthyr.gov.uk
Website: www.merthyr.gov.uk
- Monmouthshire County Council
Telephone: 01633 644644
Email: contact@monmouthshire.gov.uk
Website: www.monmouthshire.gov.uk
- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
Telephone: 01639 686868
Email: contactus@npt.gov.uk
Website: www.npt.gov.uk
- Newport City Council
Telephone: 01633 656656
Email: info@newport.gov.uk
Website: www.newport.gov.uk
- Pembrokeshire County Council

Telephone: 01437 764551

Email: enquiries@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Website: www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk

- Powys County Council

Telephone: 01597 827460

Email: customerservices@powys.gov.uk

Website: www.powys.gov.uk

- Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council

Telephone: 01443 425005

Email: [Enquiry form](#)

Website: www.rctcbc.gov.uk

- City and County of Swansea

Telephone: 01792 636000

Email: contact@swansea.gov.uk

Website: www.swansea.gov.uk

- The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Telephone: 01446 700 111

Email: [Enquiry form](#)

Website: www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

- Torfaen County Borough Council

Telephone: 01495 762200

Email: calltorfaen@torfaen.gov.uk

Website: www.torfaen.gov.uk

- Wrexham County Borough Council

Telephone: 01978 292000

Email: [Enquiry form](#)

Website: www.wrexham.gov.uk

County Voluntary Councils

County voluntary councils work on a local level and provide advice and information on a range of issues, including sources of funding.

- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations
Telephone: 01633 241550
Email: info@gavowales.org.uk
Website: www.gavowales.org.uk
- Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations
Telephone: 01656 810400
Email: bavo@bavo.org.uk
Website: www.bavo.org.uk
- Cardiff Third Sector Council
Telephone: 029 2048 5722
Email: enquiries@c3scv.org.uk
Website: www.c3sc.org.uk
- Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services
Telephone: 01267 245555
Email: admin@cavs.org.uk
Website: www.cavs.org.uk
- Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations
Telephone: 01570 423232
Email: gen@cavo.org.uk
Website: www.cavo.org.uk
- Conwy Voluntary Services Council
Telephone: 01492 534091
Email: mail@cvsc.org.uk
Website: www.cvsc.org.uk

- Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council
Telephone: 01824 702441
Email: office@dvsc.co.uk
Website: www.dvsc.co.uk
- Flintshire Local Voluntary Council
Telephone: 01352 744000
Email: info@flvc.org.uk
Website: www.flvc.org.uk
- Mantell Gwynedd
Telephone: 01286 672626
Email: ymholiadau@mantellgwynedd.com
Website: www.mantellgwynedd.com
- Isle of Anglesey - Medrwn Môn
Telephone: 01248 724944
Email: post@medrwnmon.org
Website: www.medrwnmon.org
- Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil
Telephone: 01685 353900
Email: enquiries@vamt.net
Website: www.vamt.net
- Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service
Telephone: 01639 631246
Email: info@nptcvs.org.uk
Website: www.nptcvs.co.uk
- Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services
Telephone: 01437 769422
Email: enquiries@pavs.org.uk
Website: www.pavs.org.uk
- Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations
Telephone: 01597 822191
Email: [Enquiry form](#)
Website: www.pavo.org.uk

- Rhondda Cynon Taff - Interlink
Telephone: 01443 846200
Email: info@interlinkrct.org.uk
Website: www.interlinkrct.org.uk
- Swansea Council for Voluntary Service
Telephone: 01792 544000
Email: scvs@scvs.org.uk
Website: www.scvs.org.uk
- Torfaen Voluntary Alliance
Telephone: 01495 365310
Email: info@tvawales.org.uk
Website: www.tvawales.org.uk
- Glamorgan Voluntary Services
Telephone: 01446 741706
Email: [Enquiry form](#)
Website: www.gvs.org.uk
- Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham
Telephone: 01978 312556
Email: info@avow.org
Website: www.avow.org

