

### At a glance

Cwmbran Community Council's Task Force provides practical, low-cost help to residents through a light decorating service in winter and a light gardening service in summer.

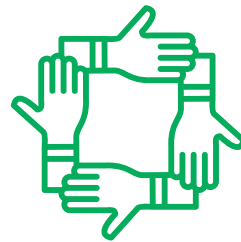
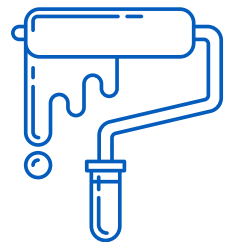
With a focus on supporting older and disabled residents, the service not only improves living conditions but also links vulnerable individuals to wider support.

### The Challenge:



The rising cost of living has left many households—particularly those with fixed or limited incomes—struggling to afford basic services like home maintenance and garden care.

For older people and those living with a disability, this can mean living in deteriorating conditions that negatively impact health, wellbeing, and safety. Accessing private tradespeople is often unaffordable.



The Task Force responds to this challenge by providing affordable, high-quality help that allows residents to maintain their homes and outdoor spaces with dignity.

By offering further discounts to households with any disabled members, Cwmbran Community Council recognises the wider impacts of disability and the extra financial pressures these families face.



### Council Facts IMPACT:



Residents pay £5.00 per hour per staff member



Over 60 decorating jobs and 75 gardening jobs in 2024/25 with only 3 not receiving the available discount



Cost to the council is included in staff salaries  
The project generated £4000 income last year



# Task Force Case Study Video



What can I say about the Task Force?  
All good! Dave & Mike can't fault them.  
They go above and beyond to help. Hope this  
service continues, it's so helpful for people  
like me.

**Task Force Service User**

## Safeguarding



These regular, in-person services offer valuable opportunities for staff to identify signs of neglect, social isolation, or other concerns that may indicate a need for further support. By fostering strong relationships with residents and working in partnership with local health and social care services, the initiative enables timely and appropriate referrals, ensuring residents receive the help they need to maintain their wellbeing and independence.

## Funding & Powers

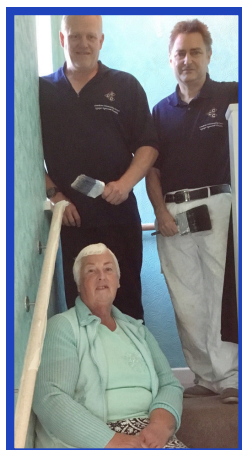


All community and town councils in Wales need specific legal powers that enable them to provide various services and support for their local communities. These powers, granted by legislation, allow councils to undertake a wide range of activities and initiatives to improve the well-being and quality of life for residents.

Eligibility for the general power of competence (GPOC) provides greater freedom for councils to act. Powers and justifications can therefore differ – if eligibility for GPOC has not been confirmed then councils should consider their specific circumstances and always seek advice about the legality of proposals to avoid acting beyond their powers.



For advice and guidance, councils may wish to contact their One Voice Wales Development Officer [admin@onevoicewales.wales](mailto:admin@onevoicewales.wales)



## The Future

**"As Councillors we need to batten the hatches down because it's tough times – but we're putting things away for a rainy day when really and truly it's pouring out there; we need to be out there in the community"**

**Cllr Chris Morgan**

## Want to Find Out More?

For more information on the One Voice Wales Cost-of-Living Crisis project contact the team at:



[CoLC@onevoicewales.wales](mailto:CoLC@onevoicewales.wales)



<https://bit.ly/3KYHftK>



[Cost of Living Website](#)