



# Working with Partners

## At a glance

**Community and town councils can make a bigger impact on cost-of-living initiatives by partnering & collaborating with others.**

**Working with community organisations, businesses, and local authorities allows councils to share resources, combine expertise, and develop targeted solutions that meet the specific needs of their communities.**

## Why should councils work with partners?

- **Enhance delivery of services** by accessing skills, funding and facilities.
- **Increase Efficiency** by reducing duplication and maximising available resources.
- **Expand reach** – connect with more residents through other established local networks.
- **Unlock funding opportunities** – many grants favour partnership applications.
- **Strengthen community resilience** – working with others can enhance social cohesion, direct resources where they are most needed and empower communities to be active in shaping their local services.

## How to Find Suitable Partners:

**List Local Organisations** – identify groups with shared interests e.g. Food banks, energy support groups, local businesses.

**Engage Your Community** – consult residents about organisations that they already know and trust.

**Attend Local Events & Meetings** – network with potential partners.

## Who to work with:

**Third Sector Organisations** – charities, food banks, community groups.

**Local Authorities** – in times of financial pressure on services, better relationships between local councils and principal authorities can help to find creative ways of delivering outcomes.

**County Voluntary Councils CVCs** are well-connected to a wide range of local voluntary and community groups. By partnering with them, town and community councils can reach more residents and engage with different groups, including hard-to-reach populations.

**Local Businesses** can contribute through corporate social responsibility initiatives, sponsorships, or donations of goods and services to support community programs.

**Faith Groups** – Churches, mosques, and other religious institutions often have community spaces, dedicated volunteers, and established networks to assist with local initiatives.

**Health Services** – GP practices, mental health charities, and community health organizations can provide health-focused interventions, workshops, and referrals to vulnerable residents.

**Educational Institutions** – Schools and colleges can offer facilities, student-led projects, and joint learning opportunities that benefit the wider community.

## Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Act encourages councils to collaborate with other public bodies and organisations, including local authorities, health boards, and third-sector organisations. This collaborative approach helps to ensure that services and initiatives are aligned with the broader wellbeing goals and that resources are used efficiently.

Hazel Lloyd-Lubran, **CEO of Ceredigion CVC**, shares insights on how your local CVC can help councils access support & resources.





Find your local CVC at  
**3rd Sector Support Wales**

## Examples of Good Partnership Working


The meals were subsidised by their catering partner & funded by the Council. All other services provided free of charge by the Partner organisation. The Council has put on 6 events to date at a cost to them of £1000.



 **Blaenavon Town Council**  In 2024, **Blaenavon Town Council** provided 4 community swimming sessions in Partnership with Torfaen Leisure Trust, the council provides free coach transport. Over 200 residents benefitted. The Council also worked in Partnership to provide:

*Free Community Swimming at Pontypool Active Living Centre*

In partnership with Torfaen Leisure Trust we are pleased to offer a free swimming session and transport for ALL Blaenavon residents.

 Monday, 24th February

- Mother & Daughter Fitness Sessions
- Befriending Film Club
- Cookstars Family Cooking Sessions
- Veterans Support Group
- Ironworks Outdoor Cinema
- St Fagan's Heritage Day

**Blanenavon Town Council**

**Free Community Swimming at  
Pontypool Active Living Centre**

In partnership with Torfaen  
Leisure Trust we are pleased to  
offer a free swimming session  
and transport for ALL Blaenavon  
residents.

**Monday 24th February**  
**11.20am**  
**Swimming session 12pm-1pm**

Learn pool for baby & toddler session also available.  
Children under 16 MUST be accompanied by an adult however  
children over 16 are permitted in the pool without an adult.  
Bookings is essential as spaces are limited.

Contact Sophie.johnson@blanenavontowncouncil.co.uk or 07877  
849143 for more information and to book

 Torfaen  
Leisure Trust  
Ynysdderddeth  
Aberystwyth





 @blanenavonTC

 @blanenavontowncouncil.co.uk

 01495 795664



**Gorseinon Town Council**  
partner with local supermarkets  
and butcher to deliver their  
sharing food table project that  
provides family food packages for  
Christmas

**Cwmaman Town Council**  
partner with Carmarthenshire  
County Council and 3rd sector  
advice agencies to provide  
support for residents at their  
Community Fridays

Join forums or associations that promote knowledge sharing and collective action.

**Create a community partnership** bring together individuals & groups with shared interests under a common action plan to run projects to tackle specific community issues.

**Welsh Government Cost of Living Crisis Support.**  
Official Welsh Government hub for cost-of-living support, including financial aid, energy assistance, and food schemes.

## Useful Information:



Community and town councils can register with **Volunteering Wales** to recruit volunteers for various initiatives and find opportunities to partner with local voluntary organisations.



## Partnership working with the voluntary & community sector

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



## One Voice Wales Website



CoLC@onevoicewales.wales



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