

PWNC:

Cymunedau Mentrus/Enterprising Communities

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| Question | <i>Can organisations submit more than one application to this fund?</i> |
| Answer | <i>Yes, it is possible to submit more than one application.</i> |
| Question | <i>Who are Cwmpas?</i> |
| Answer | <i>Cwmpas is the organisation who Support Social Enterprises'/Co-operatives in Wales – www.cwmpas.coop</i> |
| Question | <i>Are there timescales for the other work packages?</i> |
| Answer | Llwyddo'n Lleol is on ETender Wales and closing 11/4/23 Challenge Fund is on ETender Wales and closing 01/05/23 Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning out next week Hunaniaeth – out May |
| Question | <i>It was mentioned earlier about 'supporting' Services/activities but then mentioned that existing Services/activities cannot be eligible. What about activities/services that are on the verge of disappearing because of cuts to funding?</i> |
| Answer | This is a really good question. We would need to look at sustainability for the Programme - it would be difficult for us to fund an activity for 2 years for it then to come to an end. It would be beneficial to speak to the Local Authority for your area to see exactly what the project is and its impact on the Community. |
| Question | <i>It is possible to make an application to all Local Authority areas. Or is it only one application to Enterprising Community that is possible?</i> |
| Answer | You can make an application to all Local Authority areas. It may be worthwhile to have a chat with the Local Authority areas involved can then we discuss it on a Regional basis. |
| Question | <i>Is there a closing date for applications?</i> |
| Answer | No closing date. Funding is available until it is allocated. |



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| Question | Is the £5k - £70k per region or per organisation bidding? |
| Answer | It is per application. |
| Question | What is the deadline for application or can people apply any time from now to 2025? |
| Answer | You can apply at any time. All projects need to be completed by December 2024. |
| Question | Do you need a Business plan written before putting in an application? |
| Answer | Yes |
| Question | Caernarfon Town Council run a Shop O Law i Law. Would it be possible to make an application for rent for the shop? |
| Answer | As this is seen as a running cost it would be difficult to Support this. If it was a development of the shop e.g., new premises; development of the Service this may be considered. |
| Question | Welsh is the first language of our business i.e., everything we do is through the medium of Welsh which includes signs, communication and documents filling out all forms in Welsh (which includes VAT forms although there is a problem with VAT having gone digital) so there is a real need to do we do a Welsh Development Plan? In a way the only English we speak is with the customer. |
| Answer | <i>We are asking every business Welsh or English to complete the Welsh Language Assessment – this will give us a greater picture of the situation of the Welsh Language level within businesses in the ARFOR Region. Also, an opportunity to gain the Cynnig Cymraeg/Welsh Offer accreditation.</i> |
| Question | What is the maximum sum for capex, either in the form of percentage of project cost or as a definite figure? |
| Answer | The Support available is 70% of intervention rate and funding between £5k - £75k. |
| Question | Regarding the revenue/capital requirements, is there a guideline of the percentage split between the two? |

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| Answer | No case-by-case basis and depends on the needs of the project. |
| Question | What is the expected timeline from application to grant approval/offer? |
| Answer | In the presentation I mentioned 6-8 weeks but this will vary depending on the scoring Process in each County. |
| Question | Does all spending have to be completed before claiming repayment, or can this be structured as phased repayments? |
| Answer | We expect spending to be completed before claiming repayment. Depending on the level of funding we are able to look at phased repayments. |
| Question | Are multiple applications allowed, even if one (or more) application is successful? |
| Answer | Yes |
| Question | Is 6 months the most salary that we can pay the grant with? We are a group of local businesses looking for a Collaborator to create and develop events in the community that will benefit everyone. A salary of around 18 months is required to give the individual time to find other streams of carrying the employment forward together with developing events |
| Answer | We have specified 6 months as an indication – obviously if the job created is going to make a difference to the project and allow it to meet the needs of the ARFOR Programme and meet the outputs then there could be flexibility. This would have to be looked on a case-by-case basis. |
| Question | Green Business e.g., if we re-roof a Building would Support be available to have a new roof that would create electricity/solar |
| Answer | If the work to make the business greener is part of making the business livelier with looking to create, develop Welsh spaces within the Region this offers a proposal. It is worth getting sponsorship with your Local Authorities Cynllun Benthyciadau Busnes Gwyrdd - Dev Bank (developmentbank.wales) |
| Question | Could you provide links to the Regional Challenges please? |
| Answer | The Regional Challenges are in the Guidance Notes |

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| Question | I'm working with a client who wants to develop a website locally, her course booking service she thinks online, and pay on the website. Will creating a new website qualify for the grant? |
| Answer | If it is part of a wider plan to develop the business, I don't see why not you need to ensure that it fits with the guidance notes. |
| Question | Is providing a Service eligible? |
| Answer | Yes |
| Question | Outputs mention about supporting existing enterprises but earlier saying that existing projects are not eligible. It is not possible for Enterprises that already exists to apply for the development of new ideas. |
| Answers | Existing Enterprises are able to apply if they are developing new Products and Services. |
| Question | Is job creation essential? |
| Answer | The guidelines give more details on this. We are looking for job creation or job safeguarded. |
| Question | As an organization we already have the Welsh Offer, what is the process of reviewing our Offer? Do we need to contact you and your team to review our Welsh Language Development Plan or is it an internal review that we as an organization are completing? |
| Answer | When your Welsh Offer was approved, you probably set a review date for your Welsh Offer. If you haven't reached the review date yet then you don't need to do anything. If you have reached your review date, contact the officer you worked with to arrange a conversation. |
| Question | Is there any likelihood of supporting smaller projects? As it is, £7142.86 is the minimum project, excluding a significant number of new businesses/micro businesses. |
| Answers | No, we had to make a decision on the minimum amount of grant and this has been set at £5,000. It is felt that anything less than that would make it difficult for outputs to be met. |
| Question | What are Welsh Spaces? |
| Answer | This is stated in the presentation and in the guidelines. But in general, we are looking to create, develop and acknowledge Welsh spaces where people can work and socialise using the Welsh language. |
| Question | Are Childcare businesses that already exist and want to extend their space - or new ones about to open - eligible? |

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| Answer | Yes |
| Question | Would bilingual signs / translation work / new websites for small businesses qualify for support? |
| Answers | It would have to be to develop the business/new products/services. It is worth looking at the guidance notes to ensure that your project fits in with the requirements of the scheme. |
| Question | Can we contract Business Wales, Enterprise Hub etc for help with the application? |
| Answer | Yes |
| Question | When will Shared Prosperity Fund be launched? |
| Answer | Each Local Authority is running SPF slightly different. Here is a link to each Local Authority SPF page for you to keep an eye on. Cronfa Ffyniant Gyffredin y Deyrnas Unedig (llyw.cymru) Cynllun Buddsoddi Rhanbarthol Canolbarth Cymru - Cyngor Sir Ceredigion Cronfa Ffyniant Gyffredin: Gwynedd (llyw.cymru) UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF): Isle of Anglesey (gov.wales) |
| Question | Are there any sectors that are not eligible for support e.g. agriculture, food and drink |
| Answers | No |
| Question | When is the closing date? |
| Answer | There is no closing date – funding available until it is allocated. |
| Question | Does the Business need to Support a project in the area they are established or can it be for any of the 4 Counties. |
| Answer | The application can be for any one of the 4 Local Authority Areas. |
| Question | After approval – is there a closing date for expenditure? |
| Answers | All projects and expenditure have to be completed by December 2024. However, we would encourage people to complete as within a reasonable time scale. |
| Question | Claiming the grant – if this a Process of the Business buys/spends get an invoice, and claim back from the Council? Is it possible to claim in stage payments as the work progresses? |
| Answer | Yes, would need to provide us with an invoice and bank statements to show payment of item/Service and then claim back. Yes, we can look at stage payments depending on the nature of the project and amount of funding involved. |



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| Question | If the application is unsuccessful, can you appeal and re-submit the application? |
| Answer | Yes – you would discuss this with the team in your area. |
| Question | Do we get in touch with the Welsh Language Commissioner or do they approach us? |
| Answer | You have to complete the online questionnaire to get a score. They will contact you with the score. You submit this with your application. You will then work with the Team to work towards getting the 'Cynnig Cymraeg' 'Welsh Offer' |
| Question | Can you use 'in kind' as match funding? |
| Answer | No |
| Question | Do you need a cashflow Forecast for 3 years? |
| Answer | Yes. |
| Question | Are the forms available in Word? |
| Answer | Yes, on each Local Authority Website. |
| Question | Will you Support Regional projects? |
| Answer | Yes, you would have to make an application to each Local Authority. |
| Question | Is it possible to have information on procurement rules? |
| Answer | The Local Authorities will be referring to their own Procurement Rules. Information will be available on a local level. |

