



BWRDD
GWASANAETHAU
CYHOEDDUS

CWM TAF

PUBLIC
SERVICES
BOARD

CWM TAF WELL-BEING PLAN STRONG ECONOMY OBJECTIVE 3.1

UPDATE ON PROGRESS –
stimulate and boost the
aspirations of our people

Priorities identified in the Plan

Promote the advantages of the use of Welsh and bilingualism in gaining skilled employment across sectors in Wales;

Provide a Gateway to skills, experience, qualifications and employment for those who are not in work supported by the anti-poverty programmes of Welsh Government, along with further and higher education;

Targeted early support with education and the employability programmes for more vulnerable residents e.g. children looked after;

Linking residents who are out of work with local job opportunities e.g. guaranteed interviews;

Commit to the Living Wage.

Promote the advantages of the use of Welsh and bilingualism in gaining skilled employment across sectors in Wales



5 year Welsh Language Strategy and Action Plan 2016-21:

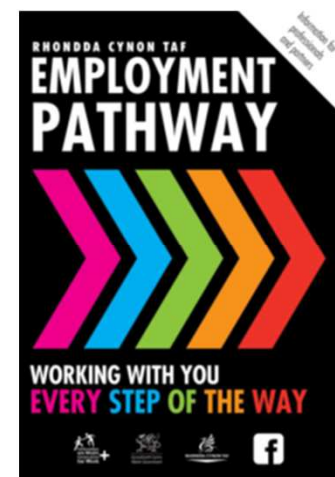
- to increase opportunities for people to use Welsh in the workplace;
- to improve Welsh language services to citizens;
- to strengthen the infrastructure for the language, including digital technology.

Provide a Gateway to skills, experience, qualifications and employment



- Established a Strategic Employment Group in RCT including a wide range of partners;
- Developed an Employment and Skills Strategy 2019/21;
- Implemented an Employment and Skills Action Plan 2019/21;
- Established an internal Business and Employment Group.

RCT Employment Pathway



Provision available



Adult Community Learning Programme

WG funded Employment Programmes – Communities for Work Plus; Employment Routes

ESF programmes:

- Communities for Work
- Inspire2Work (16-24 years)
- Staying Well@Work

DWP Kickstart Scheme

Creative and cultural programmes that raise aspirations and improve employability

Youth programmes to address the needs of young people

Education, Employment and Training programmes – traineeships, apprenticeships, graduate schemes, support for education

CfW, CfW+ and I2W Employment Support Programmes Combined Outcomes

Outcome	Up to end of Dec 2020
Clients engaged	5952
Entering employment	1667
Gaining a qualification	2040

CfW/CfW+ Community Engagement Plan	2019/20
Number of partners referring in	51
Total Number of referrals	3780
Number of Job Fairs (including sector specific e.g. care)	9
Number of start and finish engagement activities	1214
Number of regular activities: work club and Digital Friday	1410
Social media followers	3692

Illustration of Covid Impact on CfW+ and Legacy Delivery

CfW+	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Clients engaged	1144	918	478
Entering employment	393	434	201
Gaining a vocational qualification	406	303	115
Legacy Fund	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
More positive about mental well-being	920	957	0
Increased physical activity	69	82	0
Employment support from Job Club	1385	1491	524
Gaining basic Digital Skills	267	330	0
Know how to access support	428	398	212
Feel part of the community	364	360	185
Gained one or more qualifications		240	25

Targeted early support with education and the employability programmes for more vulnerable residents



Care2Work - The Care2Work programme provides children looked after, young people with care and support needs and care leavers with encouragement and support to identify and access a range of training and employment opportunities.

Step in the right direction - this offers two year paid traineeships for children looked after and care leavers aged 16-25. It develops their skills, knowledge and provides work experience in the Council.

Gateway to Employment – The Education Employment and Training team in partnership with Coleg y Cymoedd is working with learners with additional learning and physical needs and arranging suitable placements within the Council for one year to increase employability skills and sustainable employment.

Breaking the Cycle – multi-partnership between EET, CfW+ and SW Police Integrated Offender Management for prolific and priority offenders.

Linking residents who are out of work with Job opportunities



	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Employment Routes	44	48	30

Employment and Skills delivery during Lockdown



- Online provision for courses – expanded access to employability provision through a partnership with the Digital College.
- Remote telephone provision or through Teams for people to receive mentoring support and jobsearch support.
- Loan of tablets and computers to customers/ learners to enable them to continue to engage with us.
- Well-being champions and sessions to support tutors and learners (led a bid for WG on behalf of RCT, MT and Bridgend ACL Partnerships).
- The Council's Graduate and apprenticeship schemes continued to offer opportunities.
- Mental health support developed with partner organisations.

Challenges

There are 4 major challenges currently:

- The loss of European Social Funds which support a number of significant employability programmes and uncertainty of WG CfW+ and Legacy Fund grants continuing beyond March 2022;
- The ending of the furlough scheme in April;
- The longer term impact of Covid-19 on individuals, businesses, and communities;
- National government programmes potentially affecting local delivery e.g. DWP 'JETS' and 'RESTART' commissioned provision.

Impact of Covid on employment

	Total Claimants for out-of-work benefits	18-24	18-21	25-49	50+
December 2018	2,930	705	450	1,505	715
December 2019	4,750	1,170	730	2,540	1,035
December 2020	9,090	2,180	1,270	4,960	1,935

Opportunities

- Community hub developments;
- The Government's Kickstart Programme;
- Regionalisation of Adult Community Learning Partnerships;
- Development of LA plans for Employability Programme ready for Shared Prosperity Fund;
- Community Renewal Fund;
- Opportunities through CCR and VRP.

IMPACT

The impact of the programmes being delivered and employment support provided is best highlighted through feedback from those who have engaged with us through:

- Learning programmes
- Employment support
- Support provided to businesses

Video -clip

Questions?