



Local decision making; regional impact
North Wales project successes

SHARED PROSPERITY FUND
NORTH WALES

| Content

03	Welcome	12	Cyngor Gwynedd
04	Multi-local Authority Projects	14	Isle of Anglesey County Council
06	Conwy County Borough Council	16	Wrexham County Borough Council
08	Denbighshire County Council	18	Multi-local Authority Projects
10	Flintshire County Council	20	Stats and data

sharedprosperitynorth.wales

Wedi ei ariannu gan
Llywodraeth y DU



Funded by
UK Government

Shared Prosperity Fund: North Wales is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.
Cyngor Gwynedd is the lead body of the Shared Prosperity Fund: North Wales on behalf of the region's local authorities.

| Welcome

Since 2022, local authorities in North Wales have worked collectively, and with partners in their areas, to make the most of the opportunity provided by the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF).

A considered, innovative approach was adopted in North Wales, making the most of the flexibility afforded by the SPF.

All six local authorities were empowered to make funding decisions tailored to their individual needs whilst everyone's efforts were also aligned to facilitate collaboration and maximise the positive impact on the region.

A substantial investment of more than £123 million was committed across the SPF's three priorities:

- **Communities and place (£58.98 million):**
to enhance the vibrancy and appeal of local areas.
- **Supporting local businesses (£24.20 million):**
to foster growth, innovation, and sustainability within local enterprises.
- **People and skills (£36.68 million):**
to equip residents with the skills and opportunities for a thriving future.

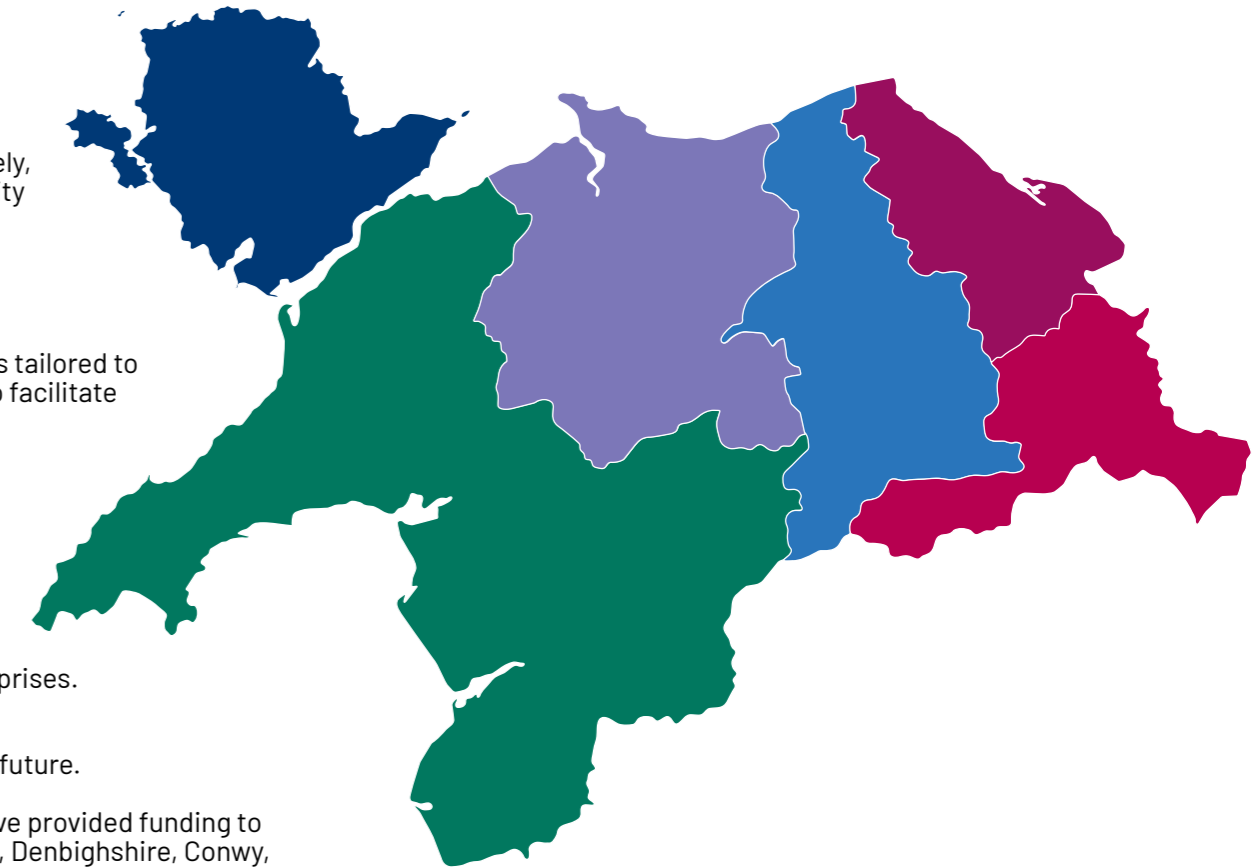
In total, 169 projects were supported directly and these, in turn, have provided funding to more than 1,870 organisations in every part of Wrexham, Flintshire, Denbighshire, Conwy, Anglesey, and Gwynedd.

Of these projects, 17 operated across more than one local authority area, reflecting shared needs and opportunities. In addition, projects working in the same geography or in related fields collaborated to make the most of the funding.

Over the coming pages, you'll read about some of the projects supported and the tangible difference they've made to individuals, communities, and businesses across North Wales. These are just a few among the 15,008 people, 4,135 businesses, and 1,838 local groups supported.

The information to hand already paints a promising picture of meaningful success and change across North Wales. We are already witnessing the positive effects of improved local community assets and infrastructure, growth and efficiency among businesses, and progress in supporting people into employment.

The Shared Prosperity Fund in North Wales - thanks to the flexible approach at the heart of the SPF - shows how, by empowering local areas, regional and national priorities can be efficiently and effectively addressed.



SHARED PROSPERITY FUND
NORTH WALES

Multi-local Authority

17 projects supported

Vicky lands her dream job thanks to Working Sense

The Centre of Sign-Sight-Sound's (COS) Working Sense programme has improved job prospects for people across Conwy, Denbighshire, and Flintshire with disabilities, health issues, or a sensory loss.

The UKSPF support has built confidence, developed vocational skills, and improved skills in areas such as job applications, communication, and emotional resilience.

In Conwy, one participant, Quinn, was suffering with depression, had experienced many negative situations during her upbringing, and was used to masking her autism.

Since joining the programme, she has developed her interpersonal skills significantly and improved her confidence and is now volunteering at COS' Community Group.

In Denbighshire, one beneficiary has greatly boosted his confidence and mental wellbeing thanks to volunteering, meeting others, and attending courses.

In Flintshire, Vicky Roberts landed a dream job and improved her mental wellbeing after successfully breaking down the barriers around disabilities thanks to crucial support from Working Sense.

She said: "Before joining the scheme, I was unsure where or how to begin searching for jobs, however, with the support of Working Sense, I have been able to realise my full potential in a role I love."



Companies can vouch for scheme's impact

An Anglesey company's desire to develop a new type of soap bar for the industrial market is a prime example of the Skills and Innovation Voucher (SIV) scheme's impact on North Wales.

IONA Minerals is just one of more than 40 businesses across Anglesey, Flintshire, and Gwynedd to take advantage of the SIV, which provided an opportunity to collaborate with Bangor University.

IONA Minerals was supported as it investigated developing a soap bar that contained the right ingredients to remove oil, grease, and grit, whilst being made from natural materials.

Funded by the three local authorities through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the programme awarded midi (£5,000) and maxi (£10,000) to access academic expertise and/or university facilities, or talent vouchers (£5,000) to assist a graduate placement within an organisation.

Selwyn Owen, managing director of IONA Minerals, said: "Working with the university's Biocomposites Centre has certainly fast-tracked what we've been able to do."



Moving in the right direction

Crucial steps have been taken to demonstrate how a place-based approach could be an effective way to tackle inactivity and inequalities in physical activity across North Wales.

Actif North Wales (Actif) led on the programme, with the pilot delivered in nine locations across Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, and Anglesey with the support of UKSPF Funding.

A national survey for Wales discovered that in parts of North Wales, up to 40 per cent of adults do less than 30 minutes of activity per week.

Actif was keen to address this and utilised a place-based approach, working with local people and organisations in a specific geographic area to understand all the layers affecting people's activity levels.

Following asset mapping, relationship building in the communities, and mobilising local action groups, Actif believes the foundations are in place to build on the optimism that things could change for the better by committing to this way of working.

Some of the achievements of the project has resulted in 50 community lead programmes being run, created more than 140 volunteering opportunities, and have seen a significant improvement in people's engagement with activities.

Actif North Wales regional director Manon Rees-O'Brien said: "We look forward with excitement to continuing our place-based journey as we roll out our new place-based commissioning model across the whole of North Wales."



Watch: Couch to counting

Seren Ffestiniog has been delivering counting-based courses for staff and learners in collaboration with the Grwp Llandrillo Menai, Multiply project.

Collaborations including Numbers Behind Fitness: Yoga have allowed individuals to develop essential numeracy skills through hands-on learning without it involving doing mathematics.



To watch the video, scan the QR code or visit: tinyurl.com/3dvx6k3u

Conwy County Borough Council

35 projects supported with £23,654,838 of funding committed

Net gains for Delyth and Phoenix

Friendships, fitness, and fun are the name of the game for a dozen ladies who have returned to the netball court thanks to vital support.

A chance encounter between Delyth Roberts and Conwy Community Wellbeing Project team officer Donna Goodrich led to the formation of Phoenix Netball Club in Penmaenmawr.

At a crochet class, 64-year-old Delyth and Donna spoke about the former's desire to see a netball team restarted in the village, with the Community Wellbeing Team subsequently sourcing equipment and a venue.

Funded by Conwy County Borough Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, it was just a matter of time before 12 ladies were back playing the game they love.

Delyth said: "Having been away from the netball circuit for over five years, I have come to realise how much I have missed it."

"I can honestly say I am loving being back involved once more and look forward to my Monday night sessions."

Phoenix Netball Club is just one of 14 new fully self-sustainable groups or activities to have been supported via the Conwy Community Wellbeing Hub.



Siobhan's key stepping stone

"It is my stepping stone into a career in childcare, one I wouldn't have been able to secure myself."

Those are the words of Siobhan Brighton as she reflects on her 16-week Childcare Works programme, which was funded by Conwy County Borough Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Led by National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) Cymru, the scheme supported seven trainee nursery assistants, each completing four weeks of training and a subsequent 12-week placement.

Siobhan undertook hers at Springfields Day Nursery, Ashbourne in Colwyn Bay, where she was offered a full-time position.

The 20-year-old declared: "I would recommend this project to everyone."

A spokesperson for the nursey, which has taken on two employees through the scheme, said: "This NDNA project has been absolutely fantastic, and we are so glad we were a part of it."

"We are looking forward to seeing the next line up that we welcome into the nursery."



Business Key Fund makes a Sblash in Penmaenmawr

The future looks bright for a long-standing Penmaenmawr-based tourism company after they recorded eye-catching visitor numbers.

Graiglwyd Spring is exploring new market opportunities and increasing recruitment after help from the Business Key Fund proved the catalyst for Sblash Aqua Park.

This was all made possible as Conwy County Borough Council delivered a business development grant that was utilised by 82 SMEs through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Established in 1996 as Graiglwyd Springs, offering holiday cottages and trout fishery, the business has added an inflatable aqua park to generate long-term sustainability.

Visitor numbers for 2024 topped 5,000, up from 700 in the previous 12 months, an increase that has led to the creation of eight seasonal jobs and one full-time position.

Business Key Fund investment also supported staff training from Royal Life Saving Society and first aid certification, as well as securing accreditation for Learning Outside the Classroom to facilitate school visits.



Watch: Hitting the right notes

Conwy County Borough Council support via the UK Shared Prosperity Fund has facilitated Sing and Smile in the seaside resort of Rhos-on-Sea, allowing individuals to enjoy the company of others and make lifelong connections whilst engaging in a sing-song with likeminded people.



To watch the video, scan the QR code or visit: tinyurl.com/mwexa2j6

conwy.gov.uk



Denbighshire County Council

48 projects supported with £24,741,017 of funding committed

A brighter future thanks to crucial programme

Working Denbighshire's impact on the county cannot be underestimated with supported individuals on a path to stability, employment, and a brighter future.

Courtesy of Denbighshire County Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the scheme was able to provide training courses, volunteering placements, and employability mentoring.

Working with the Homeless Team, The Wallich, and Cyfle Cymru, Working Denbighshire provided multi-disciplinary support that focused on wider wellbeing and personal development.

Mark, who had experienced a difficult divorce, job loss, and homelessness, was one of 2,889 beneficiaries of the Denbighshire County Council programme.

Volunteering with the Homeless Team, Mark has also completed an Intuitive Thinking course to support his mental resilience and a first aid at work qualification to enhance employability.

Utilising an employment mentor, he is also exploring funding for a renewable energy course with the goal of building a long-term career in the sector.



Funding is key to Llanbenwch growth

An enhanced offering, the ability to serve a greater number of customers at a quicker rate, and increased employment opportunities are on the menu for a growing Denbighshire business.

Llanbenwch, which re-opened in 2019 and is based just outside of Ruthin, is a family-run caravan park that received crucial assistance from the Supporting Local Businesses Denbighshire Key Fund as part of funding from the Denbighshire County Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

One of 117 companies across Denbighshire to secure a slice of £1,316,927 in grants, Llanbenwch owner Sara Evans utilised £19,408 to create a new and improved kitchen at the park's café, which will also provide space for seasonal events and workshops.

Sara, who saw the business win the Best Rural Enterprise category at the Countryside Alliance Awards in 2024, said: "The grant has meant that we have been able to move into the new café much quicker than anticipated and allowed us to purchase new equipment for the kitchen."

"We will be able to offer a wider menu selection, evening functions, and fresh produce."



Charity is riding high

A charity geared at transforming lives and fostering independence for children and adults with physical disabilities, additional learning needs, and mental health conditions has upgraded its facilities to boost its offering.

Calon RDA (Riding for the Disabled Association) has provided riding and equestrian vaulting opportunities since it was created by a group of like-minded volunteers in February 2018.

Enhancing the wellbeing of service users, the organisation received Community Capacity Key Fund support courtesy of Denbighshire County Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which allowed them to purchase a shed for storing new vaulting equipment.

A quadbike has also been bought to pull the updated harrow, which is used to smooth and level horse riding surfaces.

The improved facilities are crucial to helping service users, which include Claire Jolley, who is severely sight impaired, and her two sons William and Jacob, enhance their lives.

Claire said: "It's really important to our family as it is somewhere that you can be yourself."



Watch: A breath of fresh air

The Denbighshire Community Outreach project has been working in Llandrillo and Corwen to maximise the area's appeal. Utilising the Llandrillo Walking Goup and Corwen scouts, the programme has supported guided walks, path improvement, and navigation training for residents young and old.



To watch the video, scan the QR code or visit: tinyurl.com/4n6m6y22

denbighshire.gov.uk



Flintshire County Council

26 projects supported with £12,448,147 of funding committed

Youngster swaps crime for construction

A youngster from Flintshire who was criminally exploited is getting his life back on track thanks to a key programme being run in the county.

The 17-year-old was manipulated and coerced into breaking the law throughout his formative years, leading to multiple arrests.

However, following a referral to Action for Children's criminal exploitation intervention service, he has secured employment, enrolled at college, and is enjoying a healthier relationship with himself and his family.

That's just one success story for Action for Children, one of the strands within Project 11, which has received support from Flintshire County Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to benefit young people aged 11+ at risk of exploitation and crime.

The Flintshire youngster, who cannot be named for safety reason, hailed Project 11 and Action for Children, saying: "Overall, I've got my life back on track. If it wasn't for this, I would continue going down the wrong path."



Flintshire business launches world-first product

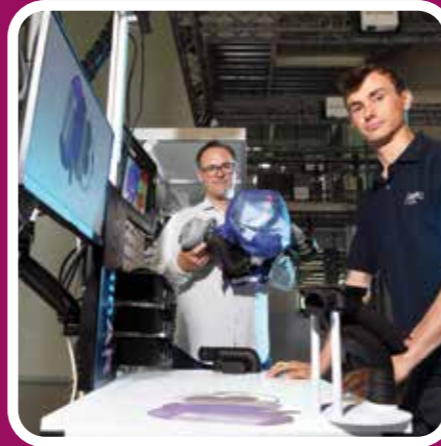
One of Wales' top research and development facilities has helped a Flintshire-based start-up accelerate production of equipment that will help save the lives of military dogs.

The Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) Cymru, part of the University of Sheffield, has worked closely with design consultancy Dylunio Solutions, which was seeking to develop a respiratory system to protect canines from toxic fumes while on active duty.

The product is now undergoing testing in the United States, a key milestone that has been reached quicker thanks to the work of AMRC Cymru's Accelerating Decarbonisation and Productivity Technology and Skills (ADAPTS) scheme.

Design director Graham Wilson at Dylunio Solutions, which specialises in product design, electronic engineering, and design for manufacture, said: "As a small business, AMRC Cymru has been fantastic in tailoring its support to our challenges."

The ADAPTS scheme has supported 32 Flintshire-based organisations across a range of industries thanks to the UKSPF, administered by Flintshire County Council.



Desire to design out crime at Dock Road is hailed

The North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner has led the plaudits following an eye-catching rejuvenation aimed at 'designing out crime' at a Flintshire hotspot.

Andy Dunbobbin, who is also a town councillor for Connah's Quay's Goflynn ward, saluted the ongoing transformation of Dock Road.

Boosted by £290,000 from Flintshire County Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the council's planning, environment, and economy teams are working to increase the space's appeal.

The enhancements have come via the Town Centre Investment Programme, which has received £1.5 million overall to develop town centres across the county.

Installation of CCTV, street lights, 100 bollards, and four designated safety ladders has increased security for people from fishermen and cyclists to dog walkers.

Andy said: "The docks are a historic and vital part of Connah's Quay's heritage; they are where the town began and where it gets its name."



flintshire.gov.uk

flintshire.gov.uk

Watch: Connecting coast to countryside

From continuing works to preserve a once extinct natterjack toad in Wales to preserving the old winding house, which is a Grade II listed building, Flintshire County Council's project is transforming the region's coastline.



To watch the video, scan the QR code or visit: tinyurl.com/n6kanss4



Cyngor Gwynedd

40 projects supported with £23,954,641 of funding committed

Training provides spark for family-run business

A family-run business based near Blaenau Ffestiniog has been empowered to support the transition to net zero thanks to government-funded training.

Robinson Electrical's small team were upskilled after taking advantage of Net Zero Training Gwynedd, a scheme supported by Cyngor Gwynedd through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. A total of 84 businesses were assisted and 183 individuals gained a qualification in renewable energy and retrofit technologies.

Delivered by Busnes@LlandrilloMenai's Centre for Infrastructure, Skills & Technology (CIST) in a new decarbonisation hub at Tŷ Gwyrddfai, Penygroes, the specialised training was available to individuals and SMEs in the construction sector.

Robinson Electrical's team now has the capability to install EV charging points – something they plan to roll out to customers – and have gained skills and the necessary qualifications in solar panel and storage battery installation and maintenance.

Owner Kate Robinson said: "We were eager to improve our skills to develop the business, and when this opportunity came up and we learnt it was fully funded, we were thrilled. The fact that it was also close to home made it even better, as it



Support saves community hub from closing

A community centre offering activities and a safe space for hundreds of people in one of the most disadvantaged wards in Gwynedd has been saved from closing.

Canolfan Gymunedol Noddfa in Caernarfon, which serves the Ysgubor Goch estate, faced an uncertain future with energy costs spiralling out of control.

But thanks to the Regeneration Support Fund by Cyngor Gwynedd funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the centre is more economically and environmentally sustainable.

Solar panels have been installed, along with energy storage batteries, whilst the heating system has been upgraded and lighting improved to respond to the goal of reducing carbon emissions.

Dewi Jones, Caernarfon councillor for Peblig ward, said: "The centre was in crisis and receiving this grant has dramatically reduced our energy costs and saved the centre from having to close.

"It's a vital community resource and we can now plan towards a better future for the community."



Future is bright for social enterprise

An enterprise park has a bright future after an investment by a long-standing social enterprise to its latest site of business units.

Antur Nantlle Cyf, established in 1991 to work for the benefit of Dyffryn Nantlle, provides a home for more than 50 independent businesses, which in turn supports in excess of 130 local jobs.

The not-for-profit organisation received support for its latest site of business units on Penygroes Industrial Estate – Parc Menter Dyffryn Nantlle.

Supported by Cyngor Gwynedd with funding through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Antur Nantlle Cyf re-roofed and insulated 16 business units which benefited 12 individual companies.

Solar panels were subsequently added to generate more cost-effective clean energy, reducing overheads at a challenging time for small businesses.

Antur Nantlle Cyf's Robat Jones said: "A combination of insulation measures and solar panels will result in a saving of tonnes of CO2 emissions every year, whilst the users of the units will benefit from direct financial savings via lower energy bills."



Watch: Celebrating success

Cyngor Gwynedd, alongside its partners, has worked with communities, businesses, and organisations across the county to maximise an investment of £24.4 million from the UKSPF.

These include Academi Adra, MST Cars, Beics Antur, Caru Eryri, Aberdyfi Post Office and Garage, and Pwllheli Football Club.



To watch the video, scan the QR code or visit: tinyurl.com/5ffhybb5

gwynedd.llyw.cymru



Isle of Anglesey County Council

30 projects supported with £16,081,936 of funding committed

Net zero gains for Outdoor Alternative

A pioneer for sustainable tourism has had its transition to net zero accelerated thanks to support from Green Digital Academy.

Funded by Isle of Anglesey County Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and run by Busnes@LlandrilloMenai, the scheme provided mentoring and assistance to SMEs to develop carbon reduction strategies and policies.

Outdoor Alternative, which has been providing accommodation and camping for active individuals since 1985 in Rhoscolyn, Anglesey, utilised the support available.

Through Green Digital Academy, the family-run venture moved a step closer to net zero by installing smart hot water tanks and photovoltaic (PV) solar panels to generate electricity and further hot water.

Plans are also in place to replace carbon intensive liquid petroleum gas (LPG) boilers with more-efficient air source heat pumps.

Chris Wright, one of the business owners, said: "The support from Green Digital Academy has provided us with a clear roadmap for decarbonisation and allowed us to prioritise our investment in the latest technology to help the transition to net zero."



The odds are in Môn Multiply's favour

The numbers are adding up for adults across Anglesey after the launch of a programme to improve numeracy skills.

Working in conjunction with Isle of Anglesey County Council, Môn CF, which provides employment support, and Anglesey Citizens Advice Bureau, delivered Môn Multiply, a tailored project supporting individuals aged 19 or over.

Funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the scheme used a two-pronged approach through community courses with numeracy skills embedded and sessions helping people manage money.

A tour of Holyhead Marine subsequently led to a partnership with Môn CF that provided paid work placement opportunities. Promotion of such openings led to Cai applying.

Impressing with his attitude and enthusiasm, he secured a temporary labouring vacancy, with one day a week spent improving numeracy skills under the Essential Skills Wales programme.

Cai, who achieved a level one numeracy qualification, has hopes of a permanent job at Holyhead Marine.

The scheme has supported more than 25 people secure paid employment as a result of completing a maths qualification.



Employment barriers broken by Small Woods

Improving the skills and wellbeing of those facing barriers to employment through nature-based activities has been made possible thanks to Small Woods.

Funded by Isle of Anglesey County Council through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the programme promoted green careers options whilst improving individual knowledge of woodlands and the environment on Anglesey.

Offering training and volunteering prospects, the scheme also supported a shift towards preventative health care to encourage behavioural change via physical activity, group work, and connecting with nature.

John Llewelyn Pritchard of Small Woods said: "Thanks to Isle of Anglesey County Council and UKSPF, we have been able to continue with the important work we do at Small Woods."

"We provide activity for those who are usually socially excluded and with learning needs. It brings people together to keep fit, learn new skills, and to socialise. It's a lifeline for many."

"The funding has been important and has helped us continue this good work."



Watch: Eye-catching Island impact

From supporting local business growth and offering internships to graduates to developing a new boardwalk and planting 5,000 trees, as well as assisting adults with learning difficulties and helping more than 1,000 individuals gain qualifications, the Shared Prosperity Fund, via Isle of Anglesey County Council, has made a real impact on Anglesey.



To watch the video, scan the QR code or visit: tinyurl.com/4x2h7phh



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MON
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

anglesey.gov.uk

Wrexham County Borough Council

25 projects supported with £22,684,206 of funding committed

Wrexham youngsters on the path to education and employment

Hundreds of young people in Wrexham worried about their future and facing education and employment challenges are more positive about the months and years ahead thanks to a key programme.

WeMindTheGap, a social mobility charity, utilised UKSPF support via Wrexham County Borough Council to engage with 582 18 to 21-year-olds, with 62 per cent progressing to their next steps including education or volunteering.

The WeGrow paid employability programme supported 10 of the hardest to reach young people with complex lives for six months.

They gained 46 qualifications, benefitted from 136 life coaching sessions, and 27 work placement experiences. Six have moved into fulltime employment and a further two remain supported as they prepare for employment.

WeMindTheGap also launched a pilot programme, WeBridge, which supported seven young people into work, three into accredited training, and three into volunteering

In addition, the charity introduced innovative systems and portals designed for long-term impact beyond the UKSPF grant, with potential benefits extending across North Wales and the UK.



More than 80 jobs projected thanks to key fund

The Enhanced Business Support Key Fund has been hailed a success, with the contribution to the local economy expected to be more than £1.2m, which is an estimated return of investment of £1.56 for every £1 spent in grant funding.

Led by Wrexham County Borough Council, the programme, which engaged with 40 businesses and included funding of up to £50,000 as well as provisions such as workshops and site visits, projects to create more than 80 jobs (FTE) safeguard many more.

Tÿ Eco, which designs, manufactures, and supplies bespoke, pre-designed panelised timber frame housing kits, was awarded a grant that helped accelerate its growth, with four new employees and a further three planned in the next 12 months.

A spokesperson for the business said: "It's also made the business instantly more sustainable from an environmental point of view because we've purchased a piece of electric-powered equipment instead of something that would otherwise be diesel powered."

"Because of its functionality, it's made us more efficient and so more productive."



Ace new facilities for Wrexham Tennis Club

Wrexham Tennis Club has got its eye on a smashing future off the back of a £2.5m redevelopment funded primarily by the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund via Wrexham County Borough Council.

Key upgrades included nine outdoor courts, three covered padel courts (the first in the region), new lighting, and improved off-court facilities including new fitness, teaching, and community spaces.

A new business plan projects a growth in turnover of £1.25m and an operating profit of £800k by 2028, up from just over £300k and a small operating loss at present.

In addition, the project has had environmental sustainability at the heart of it, with refurbishment and reinstatement of solar panels, a plan to introduce EV chargers, the introduction of LED lights as replacements are made, and the encouragement of active travel for its members and visitors.



Watch: Game-changing expansion boost

Key environmental moves by Xplore! Science Discovery Centre, including reducing CO2 emissions by 22 tonnes and renewable energy investment, have paved the way for potential new features, including a planetarium, mesmerising mind exhibition, and conference facilities.



To watch the video, scan the QR code or visit: tinyurl.com/ym53uknx

wreccsam.gov.uk



Multi-local Authority

17 projects supported

Learners across Conwy, Gwynedd, and Anglesey receive critical support

The Camau Cefnogol / Supportive Steps programme has been hailed a success after minimising the risk of learners becoming NEET (not in employment, education, or training) across Conwy, Gwynedd, and Anglesey.

The UKSPF scheme, run by Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, assisted students aged 16 to 25 to access a bespoke package of mentoring support to assist with their learning journey.

Staff at the college have indicated that without the provision, there would be an increase in welfare issues amongst students that could not be supported.

Director of learner services and marketing at Grŵp Llandrillo Menai Phil Jones said:

“Every student who accessed the programme was then just as likely to succeed as those who didn’t require the support.”

“Mentors have played an invaluable role in addressing the increasing demands on learners’ mental health, all while supporting improvements in attendance, attainment, and qualifications.”

Key quotes from learners include:

“I never believed in myself, you made me look forward to a future again.”

“I lost all hope, I existed before, I looked forward to nothing, now I have a future, now I am making healthy plans, now I smile again, thank you.”



“Inclusive growth across our region” – university vice-chancellor

Businesses across Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham have upskilled their workforce and gained access to key support to deliver innovative projects thanks to Wrexham University’s UKSPF initiatives.

The university provided skills vouchers for workshops and short courses, knowledge transfer vouchers to tap into academic expertise and insight, and mini knowledge transfer partnerships to recruit graduates for up to six months as well as access academic expertise.

The Rainbow Foundation was one of the 116 companies that benefitted.

The organisation, which works to improve the health and wellbeing of communities, helped participants make lasting changes to their habits, improving both physical and mental health outcomes.

Speaking about the overall impact of the UKSPF initiatives, Professor Joe Yates, Vice-Chancellor of Wrexham University, said: *“[The UKSPF projects] are a superb example of how powerful partnerships can be in delivering inclusive growth across our region.”*



Action on litter leads to sustainability and community benefits across North Wales

Keep Wales Tidy’s UKSPF activity has led to a transformative impact across North Wales, fostering stronger, cleaner, and more cohesive communities.

Run in Conwy, Flintshire, Anglesey, and Wrexham, the programme aimed to address environmental and social challenges through initiatives including litter hubs, litter champions, litter free zones, marine cleans, and community clean-ups.

These activities have empowered local communities to take ownership of their environments, improve infrastructure, and foster behavioural change toward sustainability.

During an evaluation exercise, it was discovered that litter hubs led to 90 per cent of people surveyed saying there has been a very positive or somewhat positive impact on their local community, while 89 per cent of litter free zones feel they have a positive impact of the littering in and around their school or business grounds.

Looking ahead, legacy outcomes, such as the establishment of new community groups and partnerships, demonstrate the programme’s potential for long-term sustainability across North Wales.



Watch: Opening doors

Cymro Vintage utilised the support of the Enterprise Hub in Gwynedd and Anglesey to great effect. Run by Menter Môn with support provided by Gwynedd and Anglesey through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Dylan Jones made use of Miwtini, a dedicated programme created to help individuals start a business, including assistance with grant funding opportunities.



To watch the video, scan the QR code or visit: tinyurl.com/y4yf443b

Stats & data

Project successes and regional benefits in numbers



38,765 – Volunteering opportunities



**456 – Tonnes of equivalent
CO2 reduction**



10,263 – Events and activities



**7,634 – Individuals gained or
supported to gain a qualification**



543 – Facilities built or improved



**5,248 – Employability support
for individuals**



686 – Jobs created



975 – Jobs safeguarded