

Regenerate NPT: Project Closure Report



Project Organisation: **VIEW (GLYNNEATH) LIMITED**

Project Name: **GROWING FOR THE FUTURE - TYFU AR GYFER Y DYFODOL**

Project Start Date: **22 November 2021**

Project End Date: **28 January 2022**

Date of Report: **14/02/2022**

Attached Documents List: **N/A**

There is a mandatory requirement to complete this document at Project Closure. The purpose of the report is to provide a project level document evidencing how well the project has performed against the original Business Plan delivered by the Local Partnership and Local Action Group during the lifetime of the project, and how it has contributed to the aims and objectives of the Local Partnership's Local Development Strategy. Project performance against the planned/approved costs, delivery timescales and Key Performance indicators will also be detailed. **Please try and keep within the maximum word count.**

1. Background: (briefly detail the background to the Project – 250 max)	
<p>Now, more than ever, children and parents need to learn about 'growing your own' and recycling, and VIEW (Glynneath) Limited, who have close links with Cwmnedd Primary School/Morfa Glas Nursery School, wished to work in partnership with them to create a community allotment in the grounds of the school. The aim was to work with volunteers, parents, teachers and children to prepare the land, construct raised beds and a polytunnel in which to plant fruit and vegetables to support the growth of local produce and provide a sustainable source of healthy food for the school and the community and a potential 'small enterprise' for the school, with a focus on recycling and reusing to reduce waste. In order to encourage participants to become inspired and gain enough confidence in an informal, unpressurised setting, training was delivered around the safe construction of the site as well as the planting, ongoing preparation and harvesting, and general maintenance and development of the area. In addition to this we provided the school with information packs which included lesson plans for ongoing learning delivery within the school with a focus on healthy eating and learning about seasonal foods (how to grow and when to pick). When the first harvest becomes ready for picking we will provide practical support and assistance. VIEW (Glynneath) Limited hope that with practical help and training, the allotment can eventually be handed over to the school to run independently, and that those involved will have also gained the confidence and learned the skills to grow their own in their own back gardens.</p>	
2. Project Outcomes as per application	Was this achieved? What supporting evidence is there of achievement? If not achieved, why not?
Construct allotment within the school grounds	<p>Yes, tool-shed constructed, tools and equipment installed, polycarbonate greenhouse constructed and raised beds filled with compost, six large raised beds constructed and partially filled with compost, broad beans herbs fruit trees and bushes planted.</p> <p>In addition to the allotment area a herb garden and mud kitchen were also constructed</p>

Train participants to maintain and take ownership of the allotment	Workshops with staff at Morfa Glas Site, workshops with the children the early years children planting strawberries and herb and how to look after them. Workshop with Cwmnedd Eco children, preparing, planting and maintaining the allotment.
Produce Information Packs for the school with lesson plans	School information packs were developed and shared with the school including information on how to maintain the resource.
Produce Peer Learning Packs to enable the children to share what they learn during this project with other children	Peer information packs and lesson plans were developed and shared with the school.
Raise local awareness and encourage community engagement and participation through training in growing your own produce	Community Volunteers from Grass Roots Volunteers group, helped with the preparation of the site and donated fruit bushes. Glynneath Training Centre Environment department will coordinate volunteers and groups during school holidays to plant, maintain and develop the allotment area.
3. Strategic Achievements: (outline what the project has achieved in terms of alignment with LEADER Themes and Priorities and any contribution to national strategies - 300 max)	
Theme: 1	Priority: Accessible
In terms of alignment with LEADER Themes and Priorities this project has:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Encouraged local people to play an active approach in improving, maintaining and interpreting their natural environment. ✓ Encouraged volunteering opportunities. ✓ Facilitated opportunities for people of all abilities to access and enjoy the natural environment. ✓ Facilitated opportunities for people to be involved in environmental improvements and maintenance. ✓ Provided opportunities for knowledge transfer of environmental skills. ✓ Increased community knowledge of local environmental resources. ✓ Encourage local communities to take an active approach in improving their local environment ✓ Encourage local communities to access the natural environment. ✓ Increased the economic, environmental and health and well-being potential of open spaces and the natural environment. 	
4. With regards to your comments at application stage, how have you managed this project in terms of sustainability? (What plans have been put in place to maintain the project once it is completed? 400 words max)	
<p>Sustainability is key to this project and the ongoing use, maintenance and development of the school allotment will be imperative for its ongoing usage and success.</p> <p>The school staff, parents and wider community have been provided with training and learning opportunities to ensure the potential of the allotment space is maximised and the school is able to sustain the facility through building in lessons to the curriculum for the continued engagement of the pupils. We developed a peer learning/education packs to be given to the children participating in the project to enable them to deliver peer learning to other children in the future, especially around the time of harvest.</p>	

The school is confident that the allotment will continue to be a resource for learning and now have members of staff who assumed responsibility for the facility and will lead on its development and ongoing success.

Maintenance of the facility will also be built into our upcoming funding application to Pen Y Cymoedd Community Benefit Fund for continuation of our O Dan yr Awyr environmental initiative, Grass Roots Outdoors Community Volunteers will also help with maintenance and further development of the allotment.

5. Project Beneficiaries:

School: by taking part in the planning and development of the allotment and herb garden/mud kitchen they were able to give their brief and curriculum requirements.

Volunteers: working outdoors, meeting like minded people, learning new skills, sharing skills.

Parents: working on the allotment and developing a space that will benefit their children.

Children: working outdoors, learning new skills, problem solving, working together, planning future activities and growing own produce.

Teachers: Learning new skills, working with community members, having a say in what they want from the allotment and herb garden, opportunity to create a stimulating learning environment.

6. Cross Cutting Themes: If relevant, briefly describe how your project contributed to the following themes:

Equal Opportunities: Throughout there was equal opportunity for everyone to participate in all aspects of the project, including building and maintaining the space, engaging with training, learning and volunteer opportunities, engaging with the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the space and we worked to reduce and remove any barriers to project engagement that people might have experienced.

Sustainable Development including Economic, Environmental and Social:

The project supported sustainable development through educating participants about the benefits of locally grown, healthy food. It provided a community asset that can be used and developed for years to come. The learning delivered and information and lesson plans provided to the school will be embedded into the curriculum and have ongoing benefit to the school. The school was provided with peer learning packs to enable a sustainable approach to peer education opportunities. There was also family learning sessions and workshops provided to enable the parents to make use of the learning and experience and to be able to adopt healthier eating and confidence in growing and preparing foods. The project addressed skills and training and created volunteer opportunities.

Tackling Poverty and Social Exclusion

Our project addressed the impacts of poverty, especially food poverty and provided a community facility whereby people can access low-cost healthy food. It is planned that surplus food will be donated to the local Foodbank, thereby widening the impact of the project and wider community benefit.

7. Conclusion Summary: Please provide a summary on the project's performance, identifying any key issues that need to be addressed:

a) Summary

We are pleased to have achieved all of our performance indicators on this project and have developed an excellent resource for the school and community to use for many years to come.

b) Key Issues

There was a slight delay in sourcing the materials and delivery which delayed construction initially but our team of volunteers worked hard over the Christmas period to ensure the work was completed on time. There was also increased costs for materials, which we secured additional funding for from Leader.

c) What went well?

Co ordination of workers and volunteers, things came together nicely considering the time frame of the project and time of year.

Working with the teachers – allowing them to have an input into the development of the allotment- the herb garden/mud kitchen was an additional requirement requested by the early years staff, being on site the same time as the staff gave them the opportunity to monitor the project and make adjustments that are better suited for them.

d) What didn't go well?

Time scale, added to the pressure of getting things done, no time to organise additional workshops for staff and children during the project timescale, however this will be addressed by Glynneath Training Centre and further workshops will be taking place shortly.

e) What could have been done differently?

During the timescale we feel we achieved our goals and work progressed well.

8. TO BE COMPLETED BY LEAD BODY:

Project Performance – Financial & Indicator Achievements: (detailed performance against approved timescales and budget expectation, including reasons for all variances)

a) Performance indicator achievement against targets approved: Final position:

PI Reference	Approved Target	Total Achieved	Justification for underachievement	How has achievement been evidenced
LD.CL.006	Number of Information dissemination actions/promotional and/or marketing activities to raise awareness of the LDS			
	4	5		Social media posts, newsletter, School & Peer Learner Packs
LD.CL.007	Number of stakeholders engaged			
	5	14		Attendance sheets & volunteers registration forms
LD.C.L008	Number of Participants supported			
	20	34		Email from Head confirming numbers
NPT01	Number of Communities engaged			
	1	1		Pictures of site – Morfa Glas Nursery, Glynneath – timelines & work
NPT02	Number of Groups engaged			
	2	2		Attendance sheets
NPT03	Number of young people participating in the project			
	15	34		Email from Head confirming numbers
NPT04	Number of women participating in the project			
	10	10		Attendance sheets
NPT05	Number of Welsh speakers participating in the project			
	0	2		Attendance sheets

NPT06	Number of older people participating in the project		
	0	5	Attendance sheets
NPT08	Projects aimed at environmental enhancement/sustainability		
	1	1	Statement: Aim to increasing biodiversity within the school grounds through the introduction of 6 raised beds for an allotment garden where herbs, vegetables and flowers will be planted. Through the construction of a small herb garden next to Ty Morfa playhouse. Nesting boxes and habitats to be installed in the allotment area. Sustainability will be achieved through the engagement of school staff, children, parent, and volunteers. Glynneath Training Centre will provide workshops and staff guidance also liaise with community groups to organise planting/food events.
NPT09	Under employed individuals participating		
	3	2	Attendance sheets, volunteer registration forms
b) Pilot Activities/Projects: Outlining all of the stages and activities, including the timelines. To promote externally and link to the Wales Rural Network Website. Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable for this project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
c) Feasibility Studies: To promote externally and link to the Wales Rural Network Website. Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable for this project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

d) Project Closure Financial Position against original approved: (following final claim)				
Timescales	Original Approved		Adjusted Approved	Final Closure Date
	From	To	-	28.1.22
	22.11.21	28.1.22		
e) Summary of Financial Performance				
		Original Approved	Adjusted Approved	Final Claim
Total Project Costs		£9,975.41	£11,201.86	£11,201,86
RDP Funding		£7,980.61	£8,956.61	£8,956.61
Levered Funding		£1,994.80	£2,245.25	£2,245.25
Intervention Rates	% RDP	80%	80%	80%
	% Match	20%	20%	20%
		Cost Heading	Justification for under/overspend	
Under/overspend				

9. Handover contact details: For post project monitoring and evaluation activities, Welsh Government will require contact details of staff who may be able to provide assistance.			
Name:	Sandra Lane	Designation:	Project Co-ordinator
Email:	Sandra@glynneathtc.org.uk	Telephone:	

Website address:

Facebook page:

Document Retention Procedures: Documents (which includes all evidence relating to your project) must be retained in a suitable format for a period of 10 years following the end of the current LEADER programme – this means at least until 2031.

Signed: **Natalie Davies** **Date: 14/02/2022**
(Project Lead)

Signed: **P.P Bethan Blackmore** **Date: 14/02/2022**
(RDP Manager – Lead Body)

Post Project Activities by the Local Partnerships and Local Action Group:

Define what activities need to be undertaken by the Lead Body after the project has been closed
include any post project follow up actions which may need to be undertaken following project closure:

Completed PCR to be forwarded to LAG & WRN