

Community Well-Being Benefits

8th edition

NEWSLETTER JAN - MARCH 2026



BUYING
RESPONSIBLY

Welcome to the Community Wellbeing Benefits Newsletter for Quarter 4 of the Financial Year 2025/2026

We are pleased to provide you with our latest edition of the Community Wellbeing Benefits newsletter for Ardal.

In this edition, we focus on CWB delivery statistics for this financial year across the four Local Authorities, Ardal's work around our Carbon journey and updates from some of our projects delivering CWB within our communities.

We are so pleased with our delivery figures to date and want to thank everyone involved in pushing the CWB agenda across the four Local Authorities.

Exciting things are on the horizon with the shape of Community Wellbeing Benefits as a whole across Wales, and we look forward to providing you with more information on that over the coming newsletters.

If you are on an Ardal project at the moment and would like to include your good news stories the please email cwb@cardiff.gov.uk

David Portman - Senior Strategy & Development Officer



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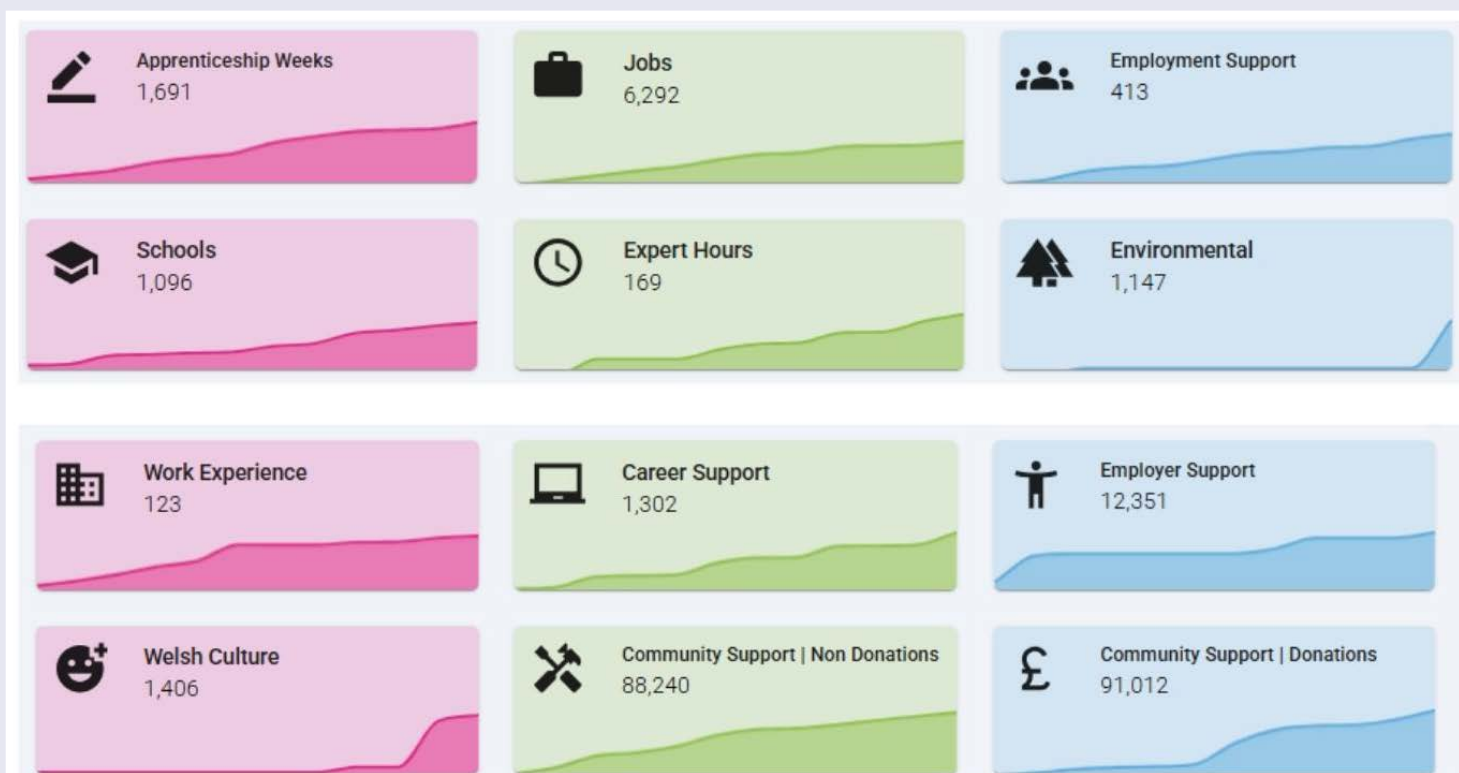
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Thrive review 2025 - 26

Total Number of Projects	110
Total Number of Live Projects	81

Below is a breakdown of delivery from all projects across the 4 Local Authorities



On a carbon journey together

Local Authorities in Wales are working towards becoming net zero. Alongside reducing our energy use and decarbonising transport, we also need to reduce emissions associated with the goods, services and works we buy. To better understand these supply chain emissions, we need our suppliers' help.

We want our suppliers to do their bit towards a Net Zero Wales by 2050, starting with calculating their carbon emissions and producing a Carbon Reduction Plan for their business.



- **SCOPE 1**
Direct Emissions from sources onsite
- **SCOPE 2**
Indirect Emissions from purchased energy
- **SCOPE 3**
Indirect Emissions from supply chain



NET ZERO
2050

Working together with our suppliers, partners and other public sector organisations, we can collectively drive decarbonisation within the supply chain.

Your Carbon Footprint

To understand our supply chain emissions we need our suppliers to begin reporting their annual carbon footprints.

Here are **5 things you can do** to start your carbon journey:

- ✓ **Collect Data.** You'll need to gather annual data on your Scope 1,2 & 3 categories.
- ✓ **Calculate your emissions.** Use the data gathered to calculate your Carbon Footprint.
- ✓ **Create a strategy.** Use your carbon footprint to produce a Carbon Reduction Plan.
- ✓ **Set goals.** Implement ways to reduce emissions and start your journey to Net Zero by 2050.
- ✓ **Keep it updated.** Continue reporting your emissions annually to demonstrate your decarbonisation progress.



Reduce, Re-use and Re-source

Alongside, calculating carbon emissions, we need our suppliers to demonstrate their commitment to the circular economy. Think about how you can reduce, re-use, repurpose and recycle materials throughout your operations.

Did you know...

- There's free support available online to businesses to calculate their emissions including webinars and guidance documents?
- There are often grants/loans available to help you decarbonise your organisation and become a greener business?
- Decarbonising your operations can reduce costs, increase your competitiveness and reputation, and even attract investment?

For further advice and resources visit

www.ardal-procurement.gov.wales

ardal-procurement ArdalProcure

Busnes | Business
Cymru | Wales

business-wales-
busnes-cymru

www.businesswales.gov.wales



For further advice on how to begin your carbon journey, please scan the QR code

We've launched a new decarbonisation support section on our updated Ardal website to help suppliers on their carbon journey.

The new pages bring together free, practical tools and guidance to help you:

- Understand what carbon emissions are and what data you may need to collect
- Measure and calculate your emissions by providing calculators and relevant standards
- Think about reducing emissions through practical actions, training and support

Whether you're an SME just starting out, or already working on a Carbon Reduction Plan, the resources are designed to be supportive and easy to use, with links to organisations such as Business Wales, the Carbon Trust and the Supply Chain Sustainability School.

Explore the new Ardal carbon resources here:

[Decarbonising the Supply Chain](#)

ardal-procurement.gov.wales

A More Sustainable Future

At Ardal, we are committed to building a more sustainable future—and we know we can't do it alone. That's why we're working closely with our partners and suppliers to reduce carbon emissions and embrace circular economy principles across our supply chain.

Ardal Councils have all committed to be Carbon Neutral by 2030. Every year, each Council must report its organisational emissions to the Welsh Government, and currently the emissions arising from the goods, services and works each Council purchases can contribute towards as much as 80% of a Council's carbon footprint.

To help suppliers get started, we've created a short video that explains our Carbon Journey and how you can join us.



CARDIFF ARENA: BUILDING A VENUE AND A BETTER COMMUNITY

McLaren Cardiff Arena & Hotel



Over the last quarter, we have continued to undertake a range of social value activities including:

3 people undertaking work placements with McLaren; 1 with the health & safety team, 1 with the design team and the other with the commercial team.

2 people undertaking work experience with Varma, 1 of which has progressed into employment.

We have attended a number of job fairs and supported people with into work support via Charles St Job Centre, Parc Prison & Into Work Cardiff.

Before Easter Churngold donated Easter Eggs that were delivered to a Cardiff distribution centre by the Easter bunny, Claire from Into Work Cardiff & McLaren staff so that they can be given to children in care.

We hope that they had a fun Easter and enjoyed their eggs.



NEW WILLOWS BUILD GOOD NEWS STORIES

MORGAN SINDALL

Constructing a New Path

After serving time in prison, Dylan was determined to rebuild his life. He gained key construction qualifications, including his CSCS card, to prepare for employment.

Through a partnership with Bluewater Recruitment, he secured a labouring role with Morgan Sindall Construction on the day of his release.

Despite challenges such as unstable accommodation and long commutes, Dylan remained committed. With ongoing support, he quickly built confidence and settled into his role.

Now a valued team member, he continues to gain new qualifications - demonstrating how employment can support rehabilitation and a fresh start.



Bee the STAR Project

In collaboration with One Planet Cardiff and Cardiff Parks Teams, we recently delivered this tailored project, which helps to raise awareness of pollinators, particularly bees, while supporting local biodiversity.

Five primary schools from the Willows High School cluster adopted areas of their nearby parks, helping to improve their local environment.

In the first workshop, eco club pupils learned about the vital role bees play and created bee bombs to plant in a follow up workshop.

To coincide with World Book Day 2026, the schools also received a donation of Phoebe the Bee Books by Tales from Mother Earth, to continue their learning.

Cluster Site Visits

Each month, we welcome Year 6 pupils from the Willows cluster primary schools to visit our site and tour the development of their future school.

These visits are designed to build excitement around the new build and aid the transition process, while giving pupils a real insight into the construction industry and the opportunities it offers.

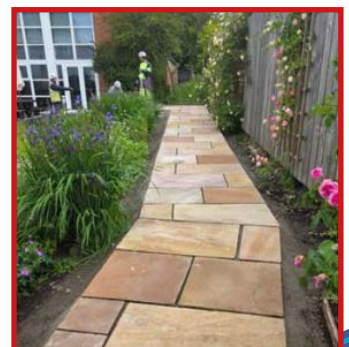
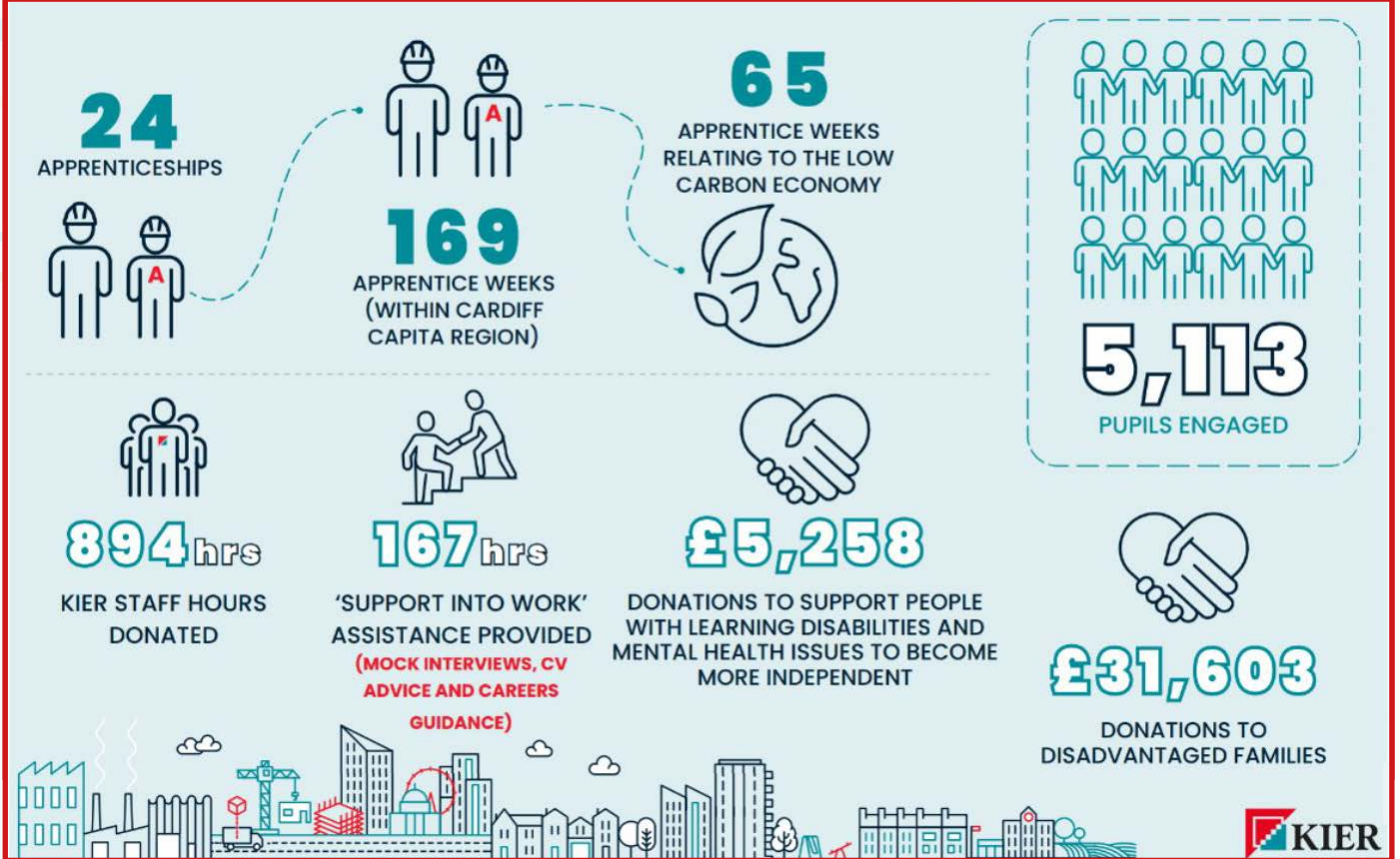
By experiencing a live site environment, pupils can begin to understand the range of roles involved and consider construction as a potential future career.

We've been delighted to host Adamsdown, Baden Powell and Moorland Primary so far, and look forward to welcoming the remaining schools in the coming months.



KIER - YSGOL CYNEFIN

Kier Construction - Fast Facts



KIER - YSGOL IOLO

As part of Kiers early engagement for our newest Welsh project, Ysgol Iolo, in the Vale of Glamorgan, the Kier team funded and co-hosted Gwyl Gymreig, a Welsh festival celebrating vibrant Welsh culture in Cowbridge.

As part of the celebration day local businesses sold Welsh produce, community groups held Welsh story telling and ti a fi baby music sessions, children's art and crafts, local schools performed traditional Welsh songs, there was a Q&A about the benefits of Welsh Medium Education and the day ended with a school Twmpath for Ysgol Iolo parents and pupils.

To celebrate the growing interest in Welsh Medium education, the Kier team showcased plans for the new Ysgol Iolo Welsh-medium school throughout the day. The new school will expand its educational offering from 210 spaces to 420 places, with a brand new 96 space nursery class. The event aimed to drum up interest within the community, particularly parents of young children who will enter the education system 2027, advertising the fantastic facilities within new school. The client team and community were extremely impressed with the day and its success making it the official pilot that has plans to be replicated in other towns across the Vale of Glamorgan and to co-host the event again next year in Cowbridge.

The event saw a staggering number of parents enquire about putting their children's name down for the school already, including a family considering a move from Bristol to attend the school.

Diolch yn fawr all who attended and we look forward to doing it all again in 2027!



WATES - DENVALCO - A COMMITTED SOCIAL VALUE PARTNER

Denvalco were appointed to manufacture and install the windows for Block B of the Channel View Regeneration Scheme in 2024. From the outset, they have been an invaluable partner, actively supporting our social value commitments for the residents and wider community of Grangetown.

Over the past year, Kate Rees, Social Value Advisor at Denvalco, has dedicated significant time and energy to taking part in - and often driving forward - the initiatives we have delivered. Their contribution has consistently gone above and beyond contractual requirements.

Below is a snapshot of their impact:

Community Engagement & Environmental Champion

- Participated in multiple community litter picks around the project area and on the Marl.
- Supported our Community and Conservation Month by replacing windows at the Grangetown Boys and Girls Club.
- Took part in our annual tree-planting event, contributing to the planting of 2,550 trees.

Supporting Local People & Services

- Volunteered with Cardiff Foodbank at Asda, helping to generate 49 crates of donated items.
- Sponsored and facilitated the Honeywood Bees enterprise programme at Grangetown Primary School to inspire young learners.
- Recruited new local employees into their factory and invested in upskilling their existing workforce.
- Attended the Cardiff and Vale College Apprenticeship Fair to promote roles and career pathways within Denvalco.
- Volunteered weekly at a local community hub's breakfast club, supporting residents facing food insecurity.

Embedding Social Value Practices

Completed training on capturing, recording, and reporting social value outcomes in line with the Thrive/TOMs framework, ensuring transparency and consistency in measurement.

Their support has helped towards generating £64,256 Social Value on initiatives they have been involved in. We are grateful for Denvalco's ongoing commitment and enthusiasm and look forward to continuing this strong partnership across our future schemes in Cardiff.



DENValco

"At Denvalco we strongly believe that investment in social responsibility shapes how we, as a company and as individuals, treat our environment, build personable relationships, and create a sustainable impact on our community. We have a dedicated Social Value Advisor to ensure the engagement we have with the community is intentional, measurable and woven into all aspects of our business.

This aligns with the social value commitment that we see demonstrated by the team at Wates who we have thoroughly enjoyed our partnership with over the past year. Our shared values and collaborative working have brought to life creativity and functionality on a range of meaningful projects that benefit the communities we serve.

Over the next year as we work together with Wates on various construction projects across South Wales we will continue to support the people we interact with and environment we inhabit."

Jemma Morris
Managing Director, Denvalco

Reimagining places
for people to thrive

Wates
Residential

CMB ENGINEERING FAIRWATER COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Fairwater Community Campus' Cantonian High School Successful Handover



We are delighted to announce that Borley Engineering Services Limited (BESL) have successfully handed over the next phase of the Fairwater Community Campus development, with Cantonian High School now complete. This marks the second major milestone in this landmark project, following the successful handover of the Health & Wellbeing Block (COPA) in August of last year.

This milestone highlights a unique and transformative project for the City of Cardiff, setting a new benchmark in educational design. On completion, the campus will form part of the largest educational facility in Wales.

The approximately 12,000 m² campus has been designed to accommodate up to 1,450 pupils and 200 staff, delivering a modern, inclusive, and future-ready learning environment. Facilities include a dedicated Additional Learning Needs (ALN) department, specialist teaching spaces, performance and arts facilities, sixth form areas, and high-quality shared and community-use spaces.

Keep up to date with what we're doing here:

<https://www.fairwaterbesl.co.uk>



We were proud to support St Albans Catholic School as part of our ongoing commitment to delivering social value across the Cardiff community.

Working alongside ICS UK, we carried out a full external clean during half term, including high-level cladding, windows, brickwork treatment, organic growth prevention, bike shelters and pergolas, ensuring pupils returned to a bright, clean and welcoming environment.

A huge thank you to Cory and Gary at ICS UK for helping make the school grounds more inviting for everyone.

This is what meaningful community investment looks like.



LOVELL - ST MELLONS PROJECT

Cardiff Commitment, What's Next Employers Fair, Cantonian High School

On 20th January 2026, Lovell attended the What's Next Employers Fair at Cantonian High School as part of the Cardiff Commitment programme. The event provided an opportunity for employers to engage with pupils and discuss future career pathways.

Lovell hosted a careers table where students were able to learn more about career opportunities within the construction industry and pathways into the sector with Lovell.

Lovell Training Manager, Stephen Lane, attended the event from 3:00pm to 5:00pm and engaged with 30 students who expressed an interest in learning more about careers in construction.

Stationery items were provided to support engagement with students, including 25 bamboo pens.

In total, 4.5 hours were contributed to the activity, including 2 hours attending the event and 2.5 hours of preparation.



LOVELL

ONSITE CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY (OCA)



ACADEMI ADEILADU AR Y SAFLE DE-DDWYRAIN CYMRU ONSITE CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY SOUTH EAST WALES

The Onsite Construction Academy South East Wales (OCA) is a training, experience and employment programme for careers in the construction industry. Funded by CITB and delivered by the Into Work Advice Service, the OCA supports contractors and job seekers (new entrants, returners and career changers) of all ages across the Cardiff Capital Region, preparing job seekers for work in the sector through onsite experiences and funded training.

Our candidates represent some of the most disadvantaged and unrepresented demographics including the unemployed, economically inactive, long term unemployed, young people not in education/employment/training, care experienced young people, over 50s, ex-offenders, BME ethnicities and females.

We are experienced in working with tier 1 companies, contractors, supply chains and recruitment agencies, supplying reliable and committed candidates to support the achievement of Community Wellbeing Benefits targets around employment and skills and we are always seeking work experience and employment opportunities for our candidates.

OCA Stats for 2025/26

(Supported in part by CWB commitments)

113 Onsite experience weeks

66 Job outcomes

140 Candidates have had site visits

32 Sustained job outcomes (12 weeks and over)

If you would like to be included on our CSCS candidate mailing list and/or would like to get involved with our training programme, contact us at ConstructionAcademy@cardiff.gov.uk.

CARDIFF COMMITMENT



CALL TO ACTION



PLEDGE NOW!

We are excited to invite all partners to pledge their support for our Core Programme for the 2025/26 academic year. The pledge window is still open, and your commitment plays a vital role in creating meaningful, consistent opportunities for young people across Cardiff.

Your pledge directly supports a powerful range of programmes, including:

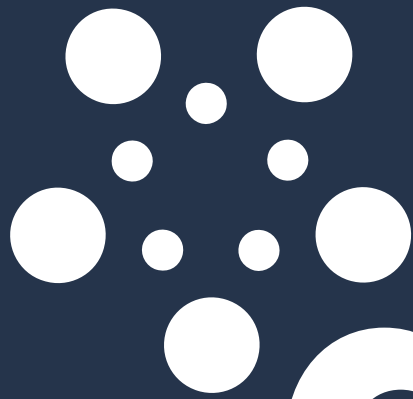
- **Open Your Eyes Week** - virtual workshops introducing primary school pupils to the world of work
- **What's Next Award Work Experience** - tailored placements for Year 12 and alternative provision learners
- **Supported Internships** - bespoke work experience for ALN and care-experienced pupils
- **Shape My Street / Shape My School** - turning pupil ideas into real-world design and construction projects
- **Industry Connects & Business Forums** - employer-led engagement with secondary schools
- **One Million Mentors & Debate Mate** - mentoring and communication programmes that raise aspirations and build the soft skills employers look for
- **What's Next Cardiff Platform** - promoting post-16 EET opportunities - free advertising for businesses
- **Youth Support Service Events & Talent Pipeline Projects** - targeted outreach to meet sector needs

Your support ensures these opportunities continue to grow, evolve, and reach the young people who need them most.

Make your pledge today using our online form - click [HERE](#)



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