



Community Action Research Facilitator, Cymru Wledig Local Policy Innovation Partnership (LPIP) Rural Wales Together for Change

37 hours per week

Fixed term to 31 December 2026

£40,000 pro rata

Reports to: Community Action Research Coordinator

About Together for Change

Together for Change (TfC) is funded by National Lottery Community Fund, Wales. We are a small organisation that originated from community activism in West Wales. Our work centres on coproduced programmes of wellbeing (living well) in communities of place; bringing together the elements of policy, research and practice; locally, regionally and nationally, to benefit the lives of people. Our work has evolved in the three years that we have been active but certain elements are clear to us:

Our belief and approach to partnership work - We must work together as equal partners if we are to have a stronger voice and maximise our impact in making a difference. An important part of that is ensuring a people centred approach that brings the voice, and knowledge of the circumstances of communities of place to jointly planned programmes of community focused action.

Our commitment to addressing the profound inequalities in our society - We will always strive to contribute to building a better and more equal life for all so that everyone, young and older people alike have a chance of a decent life and hope for the future. This demands a radical and bold approach that can take us out of our comfort zone.

Our belief that we need to make better use of evidence - Generating, using, and sharing evidence of the expressed needs of communities and the innovations that are embedded in local practice. We must strive to do this in 'real time' to increase the relevance and utility of data to influence policy and practice.

For a flavour of our work to date see our [website here](#).

About the Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales

The Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) brings together researchers, policy-makers and communities to tackle the major challenges facing the region. It aims to promote inclusive, sustainable, development towards a 'wellbeing economy' by filling



evidence gaps, exploring innovative solutions and enhancing the use of research to support effective policies.

Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales is a partnership that brings together researchers from a range of disciplines at Aberystwyth University, Bangor University, Cardiff University and the University of Gloucestershire, and experts in partners including Together for Change, the Centre for Alternative Technology, Antur Cymru, Datblygiadau Egni Gwledig, Represent Us Rural, Rural Health and Care Wales, and Sgema.

The Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales is a three year programme structured around seven Workstreams (WS):

WS1: Innovation Labs

WS2: Community Action Research

WS3: Data Integration, Analysis and Mapping

WS4: Surveys

WS5: Responsive Research

WS6: Public Engagement, Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building

WS7: Evaluation and Learning

The programme will engage a range of people in innovation labs to develop and test novel interventions, community-led research projects focused on local concerns, dialogues to discuss 'wicked issues', new data collection through surveys and short studies, and the creation of an Online Integrated Evidence Hub.

Your role – Community Action Research Facilitator

We are seeking to appoint a Community Action Research (CAR) Facilitator in a pivotal role supporting the Community Action Research (CAR) Coordinator to deliver WS2 Community Action Research for Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales. The Community Action Research (CAR) Programme of work is designed across three years with the purpose of building capacity and capability in research and evaluation in rural place based community groups and organisations for the wellbeing of their populations. The CAR Programme will engage local communities in planning and undertaking action research to examine and address locally identified objectives within the scope of the Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales.

The CAR Programme is designed across three stages that foreground community knowledge, needs and insight in the creation of a Framework for Engagement:

Stage 1: Development of a Framework for Engagement (18 months)

Stage 2: Testing the Framework for Engagement (12 months)

Stage 3: Disseminating the Framework for Engagement (3 months)

The CAR Programme will lead to the development of a successful training and support model involving close cooperation between communities and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to generate evidence that meets the multiple needs of stakeholders. It will enhance knowledge, skills, and confidence within participating community groups for planning and conducting research and increasing the utilisation of



primary and secondary quantitative data. An evaluated, collaboratively produced framework for engagement in research and evaluation that supports community-led research will contribute to supporting the creation of a shared understanding across sectors regarding the principles of collaborative research and evaluation.

The CAR Facilitator will work closely with the CAR Coordinator and with colleagues in the Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales across the three years. The line manager for this role will be the CAR Coordinator.

Key responsibilities

CAR Programme development

- Contribute to development of 3 year CAR Programme design

CAR Programme administration

- Support coordination and facilitation of meetings, both online and in person
- Maintain records and minutes of meetings
- Correspond with community organisations in fifteen pilot places (5 in Stage 1, 10 in Stage 2)

Capacity building

- Design and deliver training with community organisations to enhance knowledge skills and confidence in research planning and execution. Provide support to community organisations as required.
- Work closely with academic colleagues and partner organisations within the Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales
- Coproduce with community organisations Project Plans in 15 pilot places (5 in Stage 1, 10 in Stage 2)
- Develop a network of community led organisations during Stage 1 and continue to develop during Stage 2 and 3
- Contribute to the Cymru Wledig LPIP Rural Wales newsletter about the CAR Programme.

Evaluation

- Contribute to evaluation and synthesis of key learning during Stage 1.
- Draft a Framework for Engagement at end of Stage 1.
- Support ongoing evaluation of Framework for Engagement in Stage 2.
- Support dissemination of findings

Events

- Support planning and administration, publicity and delivery of large and small events at local and national level (including venue hire, registration, catering, promotions).

Skills and competencies:

The individual in this role will be expected to demonstrate excellent skills and be competent in the following areas:

Essential

- Proven experience in facilitating community engagement and participatory research initiatives.



- Familiarity with asset-based community development principles and co-production methodologies.
- Strong project management skills, with the ability to coordinate multiple stakeholders and activities effectively.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage diverse stakeholders and build partnerships.
- Experience in capacity building, training, and knowledge transfer activities.
- Knowledge of evaluation methods and techniques.
- Skill in writing and formatting proposals, reports and documentation.
- Ability to synthesis findings, produce reports and present findings.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Full driving license and ability to travel within Wales by car.
- Oral (spoken) and Written Welsh Level C1 or C2*

*More information on Welsh Language Levels can be found at:

<https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/hr/policy-and-procedure/welsh-standards/>

Desirable

Knowledge and awareness of:

- Key wellbeing strategies and policies – national, regional and local
- Support in place for communities of place - national, regional and local
- Principles of a holistic model of wellbeing, asset-based community development and the importance of coproduction
- The Wellbeing Economy and associated models

How to apply

To make an informal enquiry, please contact Jessie Buchanan, TfC Coordinator jessie.buchanan@tfcpebrokeshire.org or 078100712826

Please submit applications for this role to jessie.buchanan@tfcpebrokeshire.org or to: Jessie Buchanan, TfC, Little Valley, Wiston, Haverfordwest, SA62 5PJ. Applications to include a CV, covering letter and an example of your work.

Closing date for applications: Friday 19th April 2024

Interviews: Thursday 9th and Friday 10th May 2024

You are welcome to apply for any vacancy in Welsh or English and any application submitted will be treated equally.

Benefits

- Flexible working policy
- 37 hour week
- 20 days annual leave plus bank holidays



- Workplace pension schemes
- Staff recognition and reward schemes
- Maternity, Paternity, Parental and Adoption Leave

Please keep reading

We welcome applicants from all backgrounds and communities and, those that are currently underrepresented in our workforce. This includes but is not limited to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic candidates, candidates with disabilities, and female candidates.

We are a Bilingual organisation which complies with the Welsh Language Standards and is committed to Equal Opportunities. You are welcome to apply for any vacancy in Welsh or English and any application submitted will be treated equally.