



Gweithio Gyda'n Gilydd am Gymru Well – uchafu effaith gweithredu mewn cymunedau

Working Together for a Better Wales - maximising the impact of action in communities

Yr Egin, Caerfyrddin / Carmarthen
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Swansea
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Social Science
Research Park
Y Parc Ymchwil
Gwyddorau Cymdeithasol



**BETTER TOGETHER
REPORT
Babs Lewis**



Better Together Research: What we did...

- 12 one-to-one in-depth interviews people from:
 - national organisations
 - regional and local organisations
 - experts in local and regional systems
 - experts in policy and future thinking
- TfC team conversations with
 - current partners
 - potential future partners
 - 30 community groups across Wales

How we did it...and why

- User-led approach to understand experiences
- Guided questions exploring:
 - how their organisation supports grassroots groups to maximise their impact
 - what would help increase that impact
 - where were the gaps in current support and
 - how could gaps be strengthened
- Candid responses - reflecting personal experience alongside organisational perspective

What we heard...

Barriers to effective cross-sector collaboration:

- lack of a community development policy
- financial pressures
- no time to reflect on learning or share knowledge that could deliver change
- lack of support to forge more effective relationships around a platform for change
- lack of community-based data collection, research and evaluation

What we learned...

Four clear themes essential to create change:

- strategic leadership across the sector
- space for joined-up thinking
- community-led data, research, evaluation
- equitable, inclusive community-funding to create change

What's next?

- People wanted** a partnership or platform that could:
- articulate and advocate for change
 - support partnership working
 - promote & develop meaningful data and research
 - provide support to grow community skills through
 - dedicated spaces to explore what works
 - facilitation to reflect on their own work and that done by others
 - direct engagement to work on what matters

What's next?...key warnings

People warned of the:

- potential for duplication
- need to work with systemic pressures
- need for time and effort to build strong relationships capable of forging national partnerships
- need for a clear, future-focused vision that all can understand and help develop

THANK YOU

- What resonates? What rings alarm bells?...



Better Together



**Space to explore
and reflect**



**Barriers to better
relationships**



**Enablers to
support change**

