



# Growing Mid Wales Newsletter

## **September Update 2022**

September for many symbolises new beginnings, the start of term and looking at different opportunities to progress and develop. That's why, this edition we're highlighting upcoming events and signposting current funding and consultations with the help of our very own Mid Wales Regional Engagement Team.

The Mid Wales Regional Engagement Team (RET) is one out of four regional engagement teams across Wales. The teams lead on overall regional strategy to ensure strategic fit and alignment of all European Union (EU) and other funding sources. Read on to meet the team and their role within Growing Mid Wales.

This newsletter is now our regular way to communicate with our stakeholders/members and we will always be looking at ways to improve the way we deliver our news. So, if you have any feedback, comments, or relevant content to feature here, we'd love to hear from you.

## **Helping to grow opportunity in Mid Wales,**

*The Growing Mid Wales Team*

## **Fact of the Month**

Although a house today, this was the Post Office at Penwylt ('Wild Headland') in 1916. Penwylt is a former quarrying village close to Ogor Ffynnon Ddu cave system and first underground National

Nature Reserve in UK. With a depth of 274 m (900 ft) and a length of at least 50 kilometres (31 mi), it is the deepest cave in the UK and the second-longest in Wales.

For more historical images and interesting facts on Powys, follow Powys Archives on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.



*1 - Courtesy of Powys Archives collection. Catalogue no. B/X/136/P/9*

**Read on for:**

- Meet the Mid Wales Regional Engagement Team (RET)
- What role does the Mid Wales Regional Engagement Team play within Growing Mid Wales?
- EU Funds: Investing in Wales
- Events
- Funding Opportunities
- Consultations

## Meet the Mid Wales Regional Engagement Team

### Mid Wales Regional Engagement Team



Claire Miles  
Mid Wales Regional Engagement Manager  
claire.miles@ceredigion.gov.uk

*Engaging with organisations, businesses and the public sector to help and encourage activities in the region reflect our ambitions and objectives.*



Ann Elias  
TraCC Programmes and Project Manager  
ann.elias@ceredigion.gov.uk

*Working part time for the RET on strategic transport and working towards improvement transport connectivity both within Wales and cross border.*



Barbara Green  
Project Support Officer  
barbara.green2@ceredigion.gov.uk

*Providing support to the RET Team and wider Growing Mid Wales colleagues, and to help a joined up approach with regional engagement activities.*

The Mid Wales RET delivers the strategy, planning and engagement functions to deliver the Growing Mid Wales [Vision](#).

In terms of engagement, the Team:

- Facilitates cross-sector engagement across the region to ensure alignment of activity with the region's strategic ambitions
- Manages and co-ordinates the activity of the Growing Mid Wales Partnership and promotes the positives of working together.
- Provides a point of reference and advice to internal and external stakeholders in ensuring the achievement of results across Mid Wales, aligned to the region's strategic ambitions and objectives.

For further information contact Claire Miles, Mid Wales Regional Engagement Team Manager, [Claire.miles@ceredigion.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.miles@ceredigion.gov.uk)

## Regional investment



Read our '[Investing for a Brighter Future for Mid Wales](#)' brochure that reports on successful case studies that show examples of regional investment that the Mid Wales RET and Growing Mid Wales have been involved with to help Mid Wales build a brighter future.

Examples include:

- **Food Centre Wales – Project HELIX**

Mid Wales is home to Food Centre Wales, a dedicated food technology centre offering advice, technical services and training to business start-ups, SME's and existing food manufacturers, based in the village of Horeb, near Llandysul. Food Centre Wales is a key partner in the £21 million RDP-funded Project Helix - a pan-Wales strategic initiative, delivered by Food Innovation Wales.

- **AberInnovation - An environment for business and academic collaboration**

The £40.5m ERDF investment will build on the established scientific community already located in the region; and working in partnership with public and private entities, it aspires to address some of the 21st Century's most pressing grand challenges, including climate change mitigation, food and water security and renewable energy.

- **Development Bank of Wales - Camlas Vets**

Thanks to an £80,000 Wales Business Fund Loan through the Development Bank of Wales Camlas Farm Vets was able to relocate to larger premises which will allow them to grow their business and offer a wider range of services. Their new base allows local farmers to bring livestock into the surgery if needed and some of the funding has also been used to create a new operating theatre, suitable for larger livestock like ewes, cattle and horses.

- **Active Inclusion - Welsh Council for Voluntary Action**

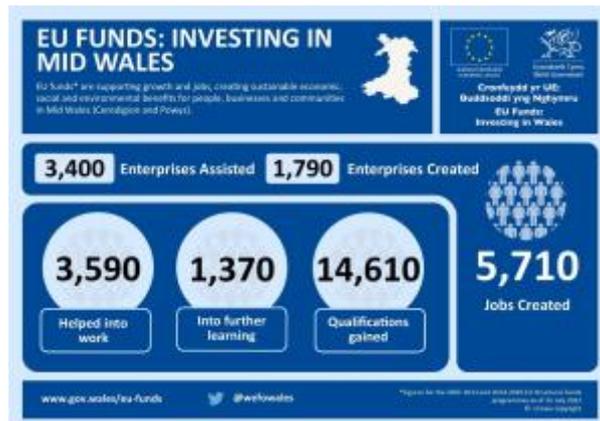
The Active Inclusion Fund is managed by WCVA, supported by £21 million of EU funding. It aims to reduce economic inactivity in Wales and improve the employability of disadvantaged people, and has a dedicated Youth strand to work with people aged under 25 not in education, employment or training (NEET).

- **Cambrian Mountains - Dyfodol Cambrian Futures**

The Dyfodol Cambrian Futures project is an RDP-funded project that supports the development of sustainable rural communities through the provision of new tourism opportunities. The project has created an innovative 'astro-tourism trail', linking nine sites that show off the spectacular night sky in the Cambrian Mountains.

## Mid Wales EU Structural Funds programmes

The RET is part-funded by the European Structural and Investment Funds through the Welsh European Funding Office, along with Ceredigion County Council and Powys County Council.



2 - Figures for the 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 EU Structural Funds programmes as of 31 July 2022 for Mid Wales:

## Events

Here are some upcoming events to consider:

- Big Ideas Wales on Tour - 3 October at Llandrindod Wells. Go to [www.gov.wales/bigideas](http://www.gov.wales/bigideas) to book your place.

**Big Ideas Wales**

**ON TOUR**

Uyddfaeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

SEPTEMBER	
WEDNESDAY 14 9.15-3.15	LLANIDNOU TOURISM RENOVATION FOR LLANIDNOU
TUESDAY 20 9.15-3.15	TY FAWN WEDDRAH
OCTOBER	
MONDAY 3 9.15-3.15	LLANIDNOU WELLS FINE LUTHER, LLANIDNOU WELLS
WEDNESDAY 5 9.15-3.15	HAVERHWY HAYFESTIVALIST
THURSDAY 11 9.15-3.15	SWANSEA GRAND THEATRE
TUESDAY 18 9.15-3.15	CARDOGE WRESTLING WRESTLING
WEDNESDAY 26 9.15-3.15	EVI INSTITUTE EVI WALE
NOVEMBER	
THURSDAY 3 9.15-3.15	CROFT CITY FOOTBALL CLUB STADIUM

**Big Ideas Wales is going on tour!**

Whether you have a business idea already or you are simply curious about the world of self-employment, then this event is for you.

Visiting locations across Wales, you will hear from business owners who have been there and done that, take part in an interactive workshop about being self-employed and have the opportunity to meet other young people with similar interests.

You will leave this event with a greater understanding of what it takes to get your business started and confident in your abilities to do so with the support of Big Ideas Wales. [Click here](#) to book your place.

To view the full schedule and to book your place go here: [\[Link\]](#)

@BigIdeasWales  
BigIdeasWales  
gov.wales/bigideas

Busnes | Business  
Cymru | Wales

Welsh Government  
Department for Economic and  
Infrastructure Development  
European Regional  
Development Fund

3 - [www.gov.wales/bigideas](http://www.gov.wales/bigideas)

## Funding Opportunities

### Horizon Europe funding

[Horizon Europe](https://www.europa.eu/eu-portal/) is the largest ever transnational programme supporting research and innovation. Run by the European Commission until 2027, it has a budget of £100m. The UK is still eligible to take part in Horizon Europe.

Visit <https://gov.wales/horizon-europe-european-research-and-innovation-programme> for more information and how to apply.

### AberInnovation Solutions Catalyst

**SOLUTIONS CATALYST**

**THE VOUCHER CHALLENGE**

**THE PROGRAMME OF SUPPORT:**

- £10,000 voucher for every successful business proposal
- £100k of investment towards business start-up
- Comprehensive research & development

**REVIEWS FOR PROPOSAL SET-UP:**

- Free-of-charge
- Business plan
- Market research
- Pitch deck

**THE CRACKER VOUCHER**

**THE CRACKER VOUCHER:**

- £10,000 voucher for every successful business proposal
- £100k of investment towards business start-up
- Comprehensive research & development

**REVIEWS FOR PROPOSAL SET-UP:**

- Free-of-charge
- Business plan
- Market research
- Pitch deck

Deadline: 14th October 2022

Deadline: 14th October 2022

UK companies have the chance to win a voucher worth up to £30,000 to gain access to AberInnovation's state-of-the-art facilities and Aberystwyth University academic expertise. The

competition is open to businesses of all sizes, developing products and services in food and drink, circular economy and waste reuse, agri-tech and environmental management.

To find out more and how to apply, click [here](#).

The deadline for applications is noon on **14 October 2022**.

A briefing event for organisations interested in learning more about the competition will be held virtually on **21 September at 10am**. Register [here](#).

### **SCoRE Cymru funding call**

The Welsh Government has made available up to £120k funding to support increased economic co-operation with the regions of Baden Württemberg, Brittany and Flanders. The initiative is open to applications from all Welsh organisations now with a focus on activity this financial year (up to 31 March 2023).

Full details are available [here](#).

For further information or to discuss a proposal, please contact the Welsh Government Horizon Europe Unit via [HorizonEurope@gov.wales](mailto:HorizonEurope@gov.wales).



4 - Stuttgart Photo - Bruno Kelzer, Rennes Photo - Sebastian Brito, Antwerp Photo - Daniels Joffe (Unsplash)

### **Enrolling now: Fully funded MADE Cymru courses starting October**



MADE Cymru (Manufacturing Advanced Design Engineering) is a University of Wales Trinity Saint David initiative that is designed to support and upskill the manufacturing sector in Wales.

MADE Cymru have the following three fully funded courses starting on **7 October**:

- Continuous Improvement with Industry 4.0
- SMART Manufacturing with Industry 4.0
- Business Improvement with Innovation Management

[Find out more by clicking here.](#)

All courses have been accredited by [University of Wales Trinity Saint David](#).

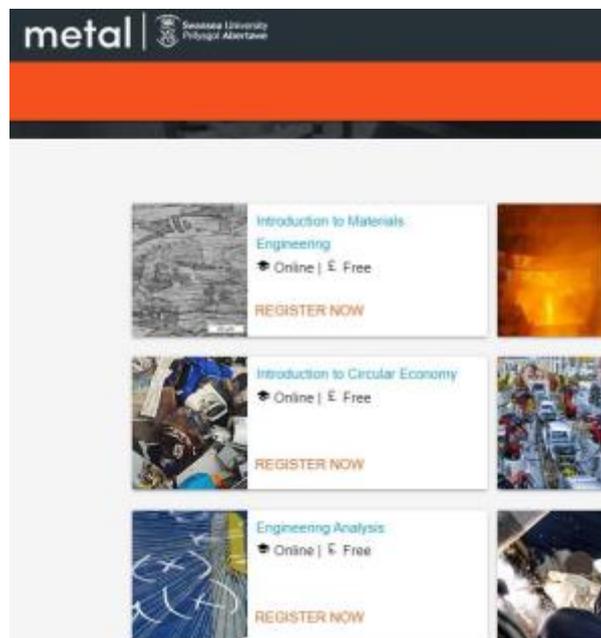
*\*MADE Cymru is a suite of three programmes designed to navigate organisations through Industry 4.0 via collaborative research & development and upskilling. Part/Fully Funded by the European Social Fund/European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government. Delivered by University of Wales Trinity Saint David.*

### Final date for new enrolments for the METaL Project

The METaL Project (Materials and Manufacturing Training) with Swansea University will soon be coming to an end; the final date for new enrolments will be **9 December 2022**.

Funded by the EU's European Social Fund, through the Welsh Government, The METaL Project's aim is to address a skills shortage in the materials and manufacturing workforce which will ultimately help secure sustainability for Welsh industry.

All online modules are free of charge and available for immediate enrolment.



Check out the [course catalogue](#) for more information.

## Consultations

### Innovation Strategy for Wales

Welsh Government are seeking your views on the draft innovation strategy for Wales.

The strategy will set out priorities for innovation in Wales.

It will recognise the important role innovation plays for:

- government
- businesses

- the third sector
- academic and research organisations

Click on the link to read the consultation document: [Innovation strategy for Wales | GOV.WALES](#).

**Comments need to be submitted by 28 September 2022**

### **Next phase of the Sêr Cymru research funding programme**

Welsh Government are asking for views on proposals for the next phase of Sêr Cymru, which seeks to provide funding opportunities that will enhance research capability and collaboration across Wales.

Click on the link to read the consultation document: <https://gov.wales/next-phase-ser-cymru-research-funding-programme>

**Comments need to be submitted by 19 October 2022**

## **Keep up to date**

Keep up to date with Growing Mid Wales news, developments on activity and organisations we support by following our Twitter and Linked In pages:

<https://twitter.com/growingmidwales>

[www.linkedin.com/company/growing-mid-wales](http://www.linkedin.com/company/growing-mid-wales)

We're eager to reach out to as many organisations and businesses across Mid Wales as possible. You can make this possible by following, liking and sharing our pages.

Disclaimer: As a Growing Mid Wales Stakeholder you receive these emails so that we can share news and information with you on a regular basis. You can inform us if you no longer wish to receive these emails by emailing [growingmidwales@ceredigion.gov.uk](mailto:growingmidwales@ceredigion.gov.uk).





UNDEB EWROPEAIDD  
EUROPEAN UNION



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

**Cronfeydd Strwythurol a  
Buddsoddi Ewropeaidd  
European Structural  
and Investment Funds**