



# infuse

GWASANAETHAU ARLOESOL Y DYFODOL  
INNOVATIVE FUTURE SERVICES

## 2021-2023

Innovative Future Services



nesta

CARDIFF  
UNIVERSITY  
PRIFYSGOL  
CAERDYDD



Cronfa Gymdeithasol Ewrop  
European Social Fund

# The five phases of Infuse

- **Inspire** - Relationship building, tackling mini challenges together that explore innovative thinking across the core themes of the programme.
- **Learn & Activate** - Problem framing, collaboration and shared goals. Providing associates with information and tools to ask the right questions and how to see success in a challenge that 'failed'.
- **Learn & Explore** - What is a good data question? Learning how we can use data to make effective decision and become data enabled. Maximising social value from procurement, the role we all need to play in making our communities richer places to live and work.
- **Experiment** - Testing those really ambitious ideas and working collaboratively on key challenges by applying your learning as a team to tackle the challenge.
- **Celebrate** - Time to celebrate. Achievements and learning. Reflecting on learning and looking forward to creating innovative change for our public services.

What if....?



# Themes and challenges

## Accelerating Decarbonisation

**Fuel Poverty** -155,000 (12%) of households currently live under fuel poverty in Wales

**Smart Local Energy Systems**- Using smart tech to join supply, demand (electricity, heat, transport) and storage

**Energy efficiency of buildings**- Wales has some of the oldest and least thermally efficient housing stock in the UK and Europe.

**Renewable energy generation, storage, local energy markets and P2P energy trading** - emergent localised energy markets can offer new choices to consumers, enhance competition.

**Behaviour change around carbon reduction** - Wales's commitments on carbon reduction are mostly on the demand side. Wales also has higher overall per-capita emissions than the UK's overall.

**Land use Landcover Change and Forestry (LULCF)** - Inclusion of peatland emissions in An effective and cohesive approach is required for afforestation, peatland restoration and change in agricultural practice.

**Transport Decarbonisation** - Surface transport is one of the biggest emission sources in the country.



# Themes and challenges



## Supportive Communities

**Public Participation and Democratisation** - including participatory budgeting, citizen assemblies, citizen science, and the co-production of services and forms of public-community collaborations.

**Community Wealth Building and the Foundational Economy** - the infrastructure of everyday life (e.g. food, care (social and health), housing, energy, education, but also material infrastructure such as utility systems), yet it is often under-funded and under-staffed and completely overlooked in orthodox economic thinking. It is the perfect place for experimentation in Community Wealth Building (CWB),

**Community Power and Asset-Based Community Development** - ABCD approach flips this, to explore “what’s strong, not what’s wrong”. In doing so, it aims to build upon the assets of communities the people and the social relations within a place

**Social Justice** - equal rights, opportunities, and treatment within a society. This can be economic, social, cultural, etc.

## Adaption Lab

Information and tools to help us understand how to adopt and adapt innovations successfully to suit our context and needs.

## Data Lab

Tools to help ask 'good data questions'. The importance of data ethics, the different types of data, and how these can help inform decision making. The possibilities when applying data science techniques.

## Procurement Lab

Maximise the impact of public spending to achieve broader strategic goals. Provide tools and techniques that can be used by **anyone** in an organisation to ensure the greatest 'value' is achieved when commissioning or purchasing goods and services.

Framing the problem, ask the right questions. Learn who is doing what? Where? and how it worked? Explore how it could work here.

## Suitable for all!

You don't have to be a data specialist to learn how to use data effectively and become data enabled!

Everyone's business. Sharing responsibility to ensure we get the most social value out of public spend.

# Outcomes of Infuse

The Infuse Programme has been designed to introduce Officers to new processes and concepts and provide a safe and supported environment for them to try them out:

- **new skills,**
- **new tools and methods**
- **different ways of thinking**
- **collaborative approach embedded**
- **Membership of the Infuse alumni to ensure continued innovation**



## WEFO funded £5.6 million 2021-2023

### Monmouthshire County Council *(lead partner)*

- Owen Wilce (Programme Manager)
- Christina Martin (Engagement Manager)
- Mandy Griffiths (Administrator)
- Cath Fallon (Head of Enterprise and Community Animation)
- Hannah Jones (Employment and Skills Strategic Lead)
- Michael Jordan (Finance Officer)

### Cardiff University

- Kelly Buckley Senior RF
- Muhammad Irfan (RF Decarb)
- Owain Hanmer (RF Communities)
- Wendy Hardyman (RF Evaluation)
- Procurement Research Associate
- Mark Philpot (Programme Support)
- Kevin Morgan (co-SL Procurement)
- Jane Lynch (co-SL Procurement)
- James Lewis (SL Data)
- Emily Hubbard (Y Lab Manager)

### Nesta

- Charlotte Waite (SPM)
- Angharad Dalton (PM Adaption)
- Laura James (PM Data)
- Emyr Williams (PM Procurement)
- Liz Gallagher (Data Scientist)
- Carys Lloyd (Coordinator)
- Rob Ashelford (SL Adaption)

10 local authorities (MCC, Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Torfaen, Vale of Glamorgan)

NHS Boards, Natural Resource Wales, third sector

[Challenge Fund, ESF P5, One Planet Cardiff, Public Service Board Initiatives other link ups](#)



# Cohort Alpha

7 Local Authorities, 13 officers completed

The officers are in a position to be able to influence change, innovation, and improvement from group leaders and Heads of service through to operational leads. From a range of areas including Policy, Employment and Skills, Climate Change Response, Economy, Data, Regeneration, Energy, Community Learning and Engagement, Digital Innovation, Green Infrastructure.

## The Challenges Cohort Alpha worked on - case studies [here](#)



### Mapping the CCR Residential Area for Prioritised Decarbonisation

Using data to enable effective decision making for retrofitting homes



### Embedding an ABCD Approach in Local Authorities.

What's strong? Putting communities first is as simple as ABCD



### Carbon Literacy Training

Making a difference; knowing, understanding, and mitigating our carbon impact.





# Cohort One

36 registrations resulted in 29 associates 9 of the 10 local authorities involved.

So far challenges include:

- Town centres are dying, how do we save them? What does a thriving town centre look like in 5 years?
- How to increase the sustainable production and supply of locally grown food, what part does technology play?
- Can a carbon dashboard, broken down by emissions category, help us to better understand and reach our carbon emission goals?
- Care Deserts; how to develop an effective implementation and evaluation plan to resolve our care crisis?
- How do we improve the life outcomes and choices of residents who use day services?





# Cardiff Capital Region Challenge Fund

## What is the CCR Challenge Fund?

£10m Challenge Fund is aimed at building local wealth and creating jobs

Bringing together the region's public and private sectors to develop and deliver novel solutions, and provide a route to market for the solution

## Three priority themes:

- Decarbonisation
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Transforming communities

## CCR Challenge Fund aims:



Solve big societal challenges



Create innovative solutions



Deliver economic impact for the region



Drive commercially scalable opportunities

## Applying for the Challenge Fund:

Download an Expression of Interest from the link below and be the catalyst for change in the Cardiff Capital Region

CCR Challenge Fund website: <https://www.cardiffcapitalregion.wales/project-hub/>

CCR Challenge Fund email: [CCRChallengeFund@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:CCRChallengeFund@cardiff.ac.uk)

Thank you  
@Infuse2023



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**Cardiff  
Capital  
Region**



UNDEB EWROPEAID  
EUROPEAN UNION



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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