

22 September 2025

Dear

ATISN 25085 – Request for information of Welsh Government funding of Community Energy Wales

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 22 of August 2025.
You asked for:

1. All grants, subsidies and funding provided by the Welsh Government to Community Energy Wales (CEW) from the 1st of January 2018 to the present day, including the following details:
 - The amount awarded
 - The date awarded
 - The purpose of the funding
 - Any conditions attached to the funding
2. Copies of grant award letters, business plans and contracts between the Welsh Government and CEW for the same period.
3. Details of any Welsh Government reviews and evaluations of CEW's performance against the conditions of funding arrangements for the same period.
4. Any further funding commitments already approved.

Our response

Please see in annex 1 a summary of funding made to Community Energy Wales by the Welsh Government. This summary table includes the date awarded, award amount and summary of the purpose of the funding. Please also find supporting grant award letters which include the conditions attached to funding. No further funding beyond 2025-26 has been agreed.

Annex 2 details funding made to Community Energy Wales by the Welsh Government Energy Service. Please also find supporting grant offer letter which include terms and contract with the Welsh Government Energy Service. For preparatory grants administered by the Welsh Government Energy Service, the service is responsible for monitoring and requires evidence of expenditure and compliant procurement. Delivery of final project is also used in monitoring these grants.

The grant award letters are the contracts between Welsh Government and Community Energy Wales in relation to the funding.

We have attached business plans for Community Energy Wales.

In annex 3 we have provided a summary of how we have monitored delivery against the plans, at a level proportionate to the amount of funding. We require CEW to provide a claim form for each delivery period, either quarterly or three 4-month periods. The claim form must be accompanied by evidence of delivery, usually reporting progress on workstreams and projects, with additional evidence such as published reports, job adverts where recruiting to new roles, invoices for purchases, and photographs of projects delivered. Whilst we meet CEW regularly, we have extended meetings following receipt of claims to discuss delivery and the supporting evidence.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

Annex 1- Summary table of grant awarded to Community Energy Wales by Welsh Government

Claimant	Financial Period	Amount Awarded	Documents (Copies will be attached to response email)	Purpose
CEW	2018/2019	£76,441.44	Grant Award Letter	The Purpose of the Funding is to support Community Energy Wales in accelerating the growth of the development of community energy projects by bring renewable energy assets into community ownership; develop projects in the absence of a community group or where capacity of the group is limited and facilitate shared ownership opportunities.
CEW	2019/2020	£64,000 – (£12,326 was unclaimed)	Grant Award Letter	The Purpose of the Funding is to support Community Energy Wales in accelerating the growth of the development of community energy projects by bring renewable energy assets into community ownership; develop projects in the absence of a community group or where capacity of the group is limited and facilitate shared ownership opportunities.
Ynni Teg	2019/2020 25/11/2019 – 31/03/2021	£100,000	Grant Award Letter	The purpose of the funding was to pilot and the develop a community owned renewable energy developer in Wales. Ynni Teg is set up specifically to develop Welsh community and locally owned projects and support the Welsh Government's ambition to develop a GW of community and locally owned generation. Ynni Teg partners with CEW to look at how community energy projects can be viable going forward by identifying new markets for community energy such as community/corporate PPAs or sleeving, private wire and new flexibility markets. Ynni Teg works with CEW to promote the

				CyfraNi network, which is a growing network of people in Wales who are interested in investing in community energy.
CEW	2020/2021	£30,000	Grant Award Letter	The Purpose of the Funding is to support Community Energy Wales in accelerating the growth of the development of community energy projects by bring renewable energy assets into community ownership; develop projects in the absence of a community group or where capacity of the group is limited and facilitate shared ownership opportunities.
CEW	2020/2021	£15,000	Claim Form	To support the development and publication of the State of the Sector Report
CEW	2021/2022	£45,000	Grant Award Letter	The Purpose of the Funding is to support Community Energy Wales in accelerating the growth of the development of community energy projects by bring renewable energy assets into community ownership; develop projects in the absence of a community group or where capacity of the group is limited and facilitate shared ownership opportunities.
CEW	2022/2023	£17,000		Cost of Living payment
CEW	2022/2023	£261,150.33	Grant Award Letter	The Purpose of the Funding is to expand the activity of Community Energy Wales and Ynni Teg in supporting the community energy sector. The funding enables delivery of the first year of a 3 year business plan, consistent with the climate emergency and our Programme for Government commitment to develop 100MW of community and publicly owned energy by 2026. Funding supports the community energy sector to continue to grow and thrive, helping to scale up community owned energy capacity in Wales.

CEW	2023/2024	£261,219	Grant Award Letter	<p>The funding will enable delivery of year 2 of the CEW business plan, consistent with the climate emergency and our Programme for Government commitment to develop 100MW of community and publicly owned energy by 2026.</p> <p>Funding will support the community energy sector to continue to grow and thrive in Wales, helping to scale up community owned energy capacity in Wales.</p>
CEW	2023/2024	£5,005	Grant Award Letter	<p>The Purpose of the Funding was to reimburse CEW members for their participation in the Local Area Energy Plans stakeholder engagement workshops.</p>
Ynni Teg	11/10/2023 – 31/12/2024	£730,000	Project Grant Award Letter	<p>The Purpose of the funding was for to contribute towards the construction and commissioning of a 576kW (nominal DC generation capacity) ground mounted solar PV array at Bwlchgwynt Farm, Meidrim, Carmarthenshire. The capital grant gave YnNi Teg the finance (and provide guarantee to other finance) to construct and commission the project. Costs include solar PV panels, ground mounted frames, electrical infrastructure, HV transformer, switchgear, civils infrastructure and related groundworks, associated monitoring and security equipment, and associated contractor & labor costs.</p>
CEW	2024/2025	£230,093	Grant Award Letter	<p>The funding was to enable CEW to deliver year 3 of their business plan, consistent with the climate emergency and our Programme for Government commitment to develop 100MW of community and publicly owned energy by 2026.</p> <p>Funding will support the community energy sector to continue to grow and thrive in Wales, helping to scale up community owned energy capacity in Wales.</p> <p>Note: the final payment of £76,698 from the 2024-2025 grant was claimed in financial year 2025-2026.</p>

CEW	2025/2026 (to date)	£430,000 awarded	Grant Award Letter	<p>The purpose of the funding is to expand the activity of Community Energy Wales and Ynni Teg to support and represent community energy projects in Wales.</p> <p>CEW & YT will use the funding provided to build the capacity and profile of the community energy sector, involve more areas in renewable development, and promote active energy citizenship.</p>
Ynni Teg	2025/2026 (to date)	£743,155.19 £1,525,000 agreed funding available from August 2025-March 2026	Project Grant Award Letter	<p>The Purpose of the Funding is for construction and commissioning of a 900kW (nominal generation capacity) wind turbine at Penrhiw Fach, Henfynwy, Aberaeron, Ceredigion. The capital grant will give YnNi Teg the finance (and provide guarantee to other finance) to construct and commission the project. Costs include wind turbine, grid connection, electrical infrastructure, HV transformer, switchgear, civils infrastructure and related groundworks, associated monitoring and security equipment, and associated contractor & labour costs.</p>
Ynni Teg	2024	£222,000	Provided by Development Bank Wales	Loan provided by Development Bank Wales to support the cost of developing a solar PV array known as Bwlchgwynt G100 Solar.
Ynni Teg	2025-2026	£412,000 Loan funding by Development Bank Wales	(DBW) an external body not by Welsh Government directly– included for completeness. Details can be obtained from DBW directly.	Loan funding by Development Banc Wales to support the purchase of purchase and construction of Penrhiw Fach Wind Turbine. Drawn down in June 2025. This is managed by Development Banc Wales which is external to Welsh Government.

Annex 2 - Summary table of grants awarded to Community Energy Wales by Welsh Government Energy Service (WGES). All corresponding Grant Offer Letters are appended to the response.

GOL Date	Organisation Name	Project Name	Grant fund	Amount of Funding
20/05/2021	YnNI Teg Cyf	Bwlchgynt Solar Farm	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£16,050
29/11/2021	YnNI Teg Cyf	Bwlchgynt Solar Farm	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£11,350
17/05/2022	YnNI Teg Cyf	Bwlchgynt Solar Farm	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£5,480
23/11/2022	YnNI Teg Cyf	Bwlchgynt Solar Farm	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£1,850
16/06/2021	Community Energy Wales	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water PV	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£29,450
16/10/2020	YnNI Teg Cyf	Penrhiw Wind Turbine	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£27,445
29/11/2021	YnNI Teg Cyf	Penrhiw Wind Turbine	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£27,450
17/05/2022	YnNI Teg Cyf	Penrhiw Wind Turbine	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£20,941
05/07/2022	YnNI Teg Cyf	Penrhiw Wind Turbine	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£2,450
17/03/2023	YnNI Teg Cyf	Penrhiw Wind Turbine	Local Energy Preparatory Grant	£6,250
12/07/2023	YnNI Teg Cyf	Ynni Teg Resource Grant	Resource grant	£66,000

Annex 3 - Summary of monitoring

Year	Monitoring arrangement	Outputs evidenced	Evidence collected
2018-19	Claim form with evidence for each quarter 4 quarterly meetings to assess progress against milestones in grant offer letter (GOL)	Bwlchgwynt 900kw turbine in Carmarthenshire built in 2017 was refinanced to increase local value 7 Energy Local projects in active development 3 potential shared ownership scheme negotiations started Partner in EU funded study to make hydro projects more viable.	Spreadsheet of projects supported and other workstreams delivered. Update at AGM in 2018
2019-2020	Claim form with evidence for each quarter claimed. 4 quarterly meetings.	Successful bond offer raised. Local ownership partnerships progressed. Community solar project (potentially largest in UK) progressed. Won funding from Challenge Fund and recruited 21.4 FTE new project developers to increase development capacity. Set up community investor network with 900 members, received payment from community developers for access. Secured funding to build an EV charger to support car club, linking local renewables and transport. Provided £2k to community Covid food bank near Bwlchgwynt turbine.	Confirmed loan repayment to Development Bank of Wales using bond offer funds. Minutes of AGM Project progress spreadsheets
2020-21	Claim forms and supporting evidence. Four quarterly meetings	Continued support to community project bond offers, work on long term future for investment platform. Progressed Shared Ownership projects (Alwens project into formal stages). Progressed the Breton Hall large scale solar project Applied to a range of funding sources. Progressed work with Dŵr Cymru for communities to develop hydro projects on woodland estate. Provided a response to the Welsh Affairs Committee inquiry on WFG Act.	Membership survey results AGM and conference attendee list Agreed work schedule with shared ownership developer List of members Project update spreadsheet

		Developed a manifesto for community energy ready for 2021 election.	List of sites being explored by Ynni Teg Evaluation report for Ynni Teg from Foundational Economy work.
2021-22	Claim forms for work and for the State of the Sector report. Quarterly meetings to consider evidence.	<p>Worked with Ynni Teg to develop a pipeline of over 40MW of community energy projects.</p> <p>Working with community groups on developing the Community Energy Accelerator Network, a peer to peer mentoring service to support new community energy groups.</p> <p>Supported a community housing Cymru event to raise awareness of the opportunities for the social housing sector and community energy sector to work together.</p> <p>Learned from work by the Devon Energy Collective on how to enable the public sector in Wales to procure energy from the community energy sector.</p> <p>Continued to work on the Alwen Forest SO project.</p> <p>Delivered a range of workshops for members.</p> <p>Held a community energy sector hustings with representatives from Labour, The Conservatives, Plaid Cymru, The Liberal Democrats and the Green Party.</p> <p>Supported the sector to feed into the Energy Chapter of WG's Pathway to zero carbon budget document.</p>	<p>State of the Sector report</p> <p>Project pipeline table</p> <p>Meeting with WG Procurement colleagues on public sector buying community energy.</p> <p>Online video of hustings</p>
2022-23	Claim forms with supporting evidence. Three four-monthly meetings to discuss performance.	<p>Continued to work on shared ownership projects: worked with the FCA to set up the community benefit society that will act for the community in one project.</p> <p>Developed a pipeline of renewable projects, including a portfolio of hydro on the woodland estate and "Charge Up Wales" EV charge clubs.</p> <p>Produced the State of the Sector report</p>	<p>Project pipeline reports</p> <p>Project update reports</p> <p>Met new staff members</p> <p>State of the Sector report</p>

		<p>Recruited a marketing manager to grow the investment network (CyfranNi)</p> <p>Participated in WG's Deep Dive into renewables to ensure community energy perspective was included</p> <p>Secured £500k for their Car Clubs – 6 in early stages.</p> <p>Collaborated on a hydrogen research project with the Universities of Cardiff, Newcastle and Glasgow, Community Energy Scotland (CES) and National Energy Action to understand the views of communities on hydrogen.</p> <p>Worked with Community Energy England and Community Energy Scotland jointly on U.K. government barriers to community energy</p>	
2023-24	<p>Claim forms and supporting evidence.</p> <p>3 four-monthly meetings to discuss performance.</p>	<p>Held annual conference for members</p> <p>Encouraged and funded members to represent communities in local energy plan development.</p> <p>Increased the CyfranNi network by 90 members.</p> <p>Ran online knowledge sharing events.</p> <p>Recruited policy manager</p> <p>Published 2022 State of the Sector report</p> <p>Set up shared ownership working group to expand involvement.</p> <p>Set up Fforwm Datblygu (development forum) to promote knowledge sharing.</p> <p>Work with Trydan Gwyrdd Cymru and Ynni Cymru to ensure additionality of functions not duplication. Part of Ynni Cymru stakeholder group.</p>	<p>Event agenda and an official attended annual event.</p> <p>State of the Sector report</p> <p>Log of group webinars and attendance</p> <p>Attendance at meetings involving CEW.</p>
2024-25	<p>Three 4-monthly claim forms and progress reports. Performance meetings to discuss delivery.</p>	<p>Annual conference at Centre for Alternative Technology with increased attendance.</p> <p>State of the Sector 2023 report launch.</p> <p>Grew the RhanNi (was CyfranNi) network by 37</p> <p>Successful lottery bid with Community Energy Scotland and Community Energy England (CEE) to establish an Energy</p>	<p>Delivery reports.</p> <p>Project pipeline reports.</p> <p>State of the Sector report</p> <p>Event, meeting and seminar evidence.</p>

		<p>Learning Network: appointed Lydia Godden as Energy Learning Network coordinator.</p> <p>She led a series of online seminars.</p> <p>Collaborated with CES and CEE on viable business models, preparation for local power plans under GB Energy.</p> <p>Ongoing engagement with DESNZ on regulatory changes needed for viable business models, local trading and shared ownership.</p> <p>Led new quarterly forum for all agencies supporting Welsh Community energy to increase coordination.</p> <p>Continued to lead shared ownership working group. Presented summary of last 5 years of work to WG to inform the WG's Sector Deal work with the renewables industry.</p> <p>Annual conference in CAT in June.</p>	<p>Officials attended annual conference, meetings and events.</p>
2025-26	<p>Quarterly claim and evidence,</p> <p>First of four quarterly management meetings to consider claim and justification.</p>	<p>Ynni Teg have appointed a comms and engagement manager to focus on developing projects in Cardiff and Newport.</p> <p>Recruiting a finance & admin manager and a commercial asset development manager.</p> <p>Work started on State of the Sector report.</p> <p>Installation of 800kWp turbine in Ceredigion scheduled for December 2025. Community share offer to be launched October 2025.</p>	<p>Delivery report</p> <p>Project pipeline report</p> <p>Job advert</p> <p>Officials attended annual conference, meetings and events.</p> <p>Community Energy Wales From the Conference</p>