



## Media release

# New grant funding to help communities boost their local environment

WCVA is delighted to announce new grant funding for community environmental projects, thanks to the Welsh Government's Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme. The scheme, worth £1.5 million per annum, will be available for four years, from spring 2018.

WCVA will deliver the scheme in partnership with local County Voluntary Councils. It will fund projects that support wildlife, reduce waste and make areas located within five miles of a landfill site or certain waste transfer stations better for people and nature.

Minister for Environment, Hannah Blythyn said: 'The Communities Scheme will provide vital support for projects of local importance, making a real difference through enhancing and improving the communities affected.'

Grants of between £5,000 and £50,000 will be available for projects that meet scheme criteria, with one larger project of national significance also being funded each year.

The Scheme will encourage activities that help native wildlife and restore, maintain and enhance natural habitats, create community green space, and encourage prevention, re-use and recycling of waste, including food waste and composting initiatives. It will also fund the creation of green infrastructure - such as allotments, hedges, green roofs, parks and gardens - improvements to community facilities and activities to bring neglected and run-down areas back into community use.

It is anticipated that a wide range of organisations will apply to the fund for a diverse range of activities aiming to improve opportunities for communities to benefit from the local environment around them.


Catherine Miller, WCVA's Grant Funds Manager, explained: 'The natural environment provides the backdrop for numerous activities across Wales ranging from sport and recreation to community gardens, wildlife tourism, volunteering and local economic development. This scheme will enable more targeted action for the natural environment so that it can continue to support these activities and benefit from increased efforts to minimise waste and reverse the decline in our wildlife.'

The scheme is due to launch at the end of April and will be open to all organisations. More details from [LDTgrants@wcva.org.uk](mailto:LDTgrants@wcva.org.uk) or 0800 2888 329.

**For more information please contact Simon Dowling or Catherine Miller  
on 0800 2888 329. WCVA website [www.wcva.org.uk](http://www.wcva.org.uk)**

**Notes to editors:**

- WCVA is the national membership organisation for the third sector in Wales. Our vision is for the third sector and volunteering to thrive and improve well-being for all. We achieve this by influencing, connecting, and enabling.
- The Landfill Disposals Tax (LDT) Communities Scheme will come into effect when Landfill Disposals Tax will be devolved to Wales on 1 April 2018. Its aim is to help offset the negative impacts for communities that can arise from disposal of waste to landfill, particularly for those living in close proximity to a landfill operation.
- The Scheme will fund projects that support biodiversity, waste minimisation and wider environmental enhancement in areas located within five miles of a landfill site or a waste transfer station that sends a minimum of 2,000 tonnes of waste to landfill per annum.

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WCVA welcomes receiving correspondence in Welsh. We will respond to correspondence received in Welsh, in Welsh. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.



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