

AMBITIOUS

OPEN

TOGETHER

PROUD



Introduction to....

Community Investment and
Involvement

Community Investment

The Community Investment Team was created in 2015 with the aim of providing our tenants with additional resources to support our goal of building stronger cohesive communities.

During 2018/19 over 2800 residents have engaged in community activities, including fun days, consultations and national safe guarding week.

- Health and Wellbeing
- Employment
- Training
- Volunteering
- Digital services and inclusions
- Green spaces

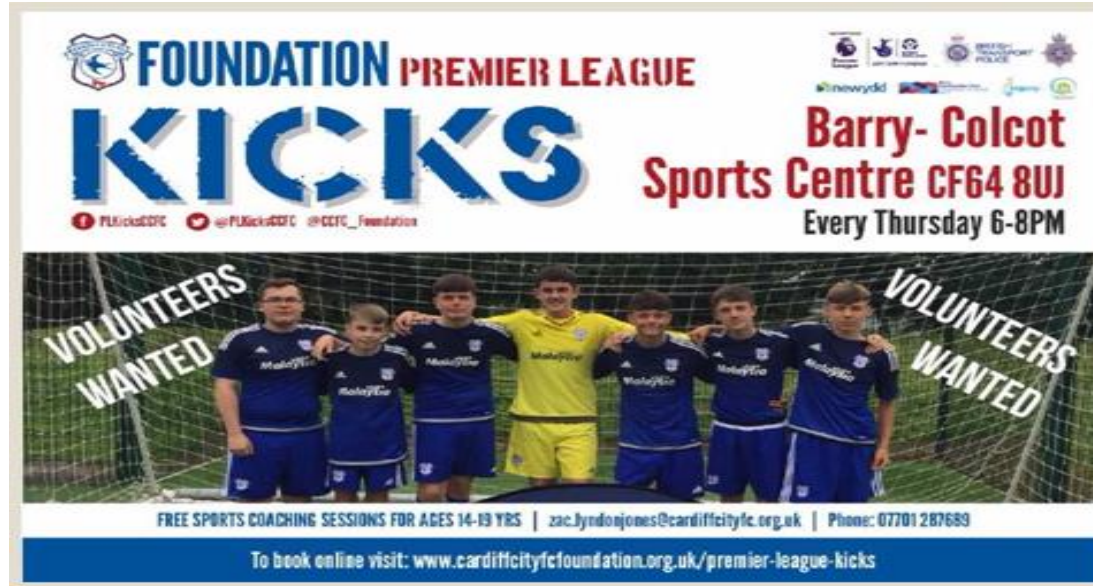


Health and Wellbeing

- Ty Iolo Bike Club was attended by 87 children during 2018 which was run in partnership with Pedal Power, Newydd and Sport Development.
- 27 children learnt to ride a bike safely during the course
- 2 volunteers supported the project by generating 42 volunteering hours
- 100% of those taking part enjoyed the club
- New programme starting in St Athan during 2019/20



- 95 young people aged between 13 and 19 attend our Kick's sessions during 2018/19
- New project started in Llantwit in November 2018 and continues to grow



- 2 Health and wellbeing programmes were delivered in partnership with Forces Fitness at St Athan and Ty Iolo family hostel who welcomed other tenants living in the area
- 92% of those attending health and wellbeing activities reported feeling healthier

Training

Many of our tenants have not achieved any formal qualifications or taken part in any training. Not only can gaining training increase employability but it also gives tenants a huge confidence boost. During 2018/19

- 116 tenants gained a recognised qualification
- 118 tenants attend training sessions arranged through community investment
- 4 tenants have taken part in work experience placements



Employment

Supporting tenants to access employment is key to our work and makes a huge difference not only to the individual but also the wider community.

- Self-employment programme
- Work experience – real life experience
- CV writing
- Mock interviews
- 20 tenants supported into work
- On average 4 of those supported into Employment have maintained it for over 12 months
- Developing further work experience Placements within the local authority



Employment Case Study

- Tenant referred via Communities for work, he had been out of work for a number of months, had no formal qualifications and low self-esteem.
- Looked at setting goals setting and created an action plan as to how these could be achieved.
- He attend regular meetings with the CI Team lead for Employment to review progress.
- Completed –
Health and Safety level 2 training
Manual Handling training
- Attended a number of pre employment workshops, including CV writing, completing application forms, Mindfulness, Interview skills and mock interviews.
 - Became more confident
 - Increased the opportunities available
 - Clear plan for moving forward and improving general wellbeing

Digital Vale

There is an increased need for our tenants to have basic IT skills and access to computers following the roll out of Universal Credit within the Vale

- 763 people have attended digital drop in sessions
- 707 people over the age of 55 have attended sessions, 18% report feeling more confident using digital technology
- Digital inclusion is supported by 86 volunteers
- Generating 1018 hours of volunteering!
- During 2019/20 the team are looking to develop a new programme for digital inclusion to target those most in need of support or access to on-line services.
- Increased use of email and social media to engage with tenants.

Volunteering - Timebanking

Time Banking has proved to be a huge success to date with a significant number of tenants getting involved in volunteering. During 2019/20 the Team plan to focus on St Athan and Llantwit Major to increase volunteering opportunities and spend partners within the rural Vale.

- 237 tenants have signed up as volunteers during 2018/19
- 81% of tenants engaging in volunteer report gaining new skills
- Following volunteering 87% reported increased feelings of self-esteem
- 168 young people have engaged in the project
- 79% of volunteers report feeling valued by the local community



Green Space

One of a largest expenses and areas for complaints is fly tipping which often occurs in areas of housing land which are no being used.

- Oak Fields School – Section 106 funding
- Margaret Avenue development
- Hathaway and Stratford Community space
- 80% of volunteers working within our community garden report increased feelings of wellbeing
- 88% of tenants who live in areas where green projects are running feel they have improved the local environment



The Future.....

- Befriending and household management support through Timebanking
- Development of vulnerable tenant identification to target services
- Increased service offer within the rural Vale, including Bike Club
- Review digital inclusion programme
- Tenant engagement project
- To create a council wide approach to providing tenants with work experience placements.
- Supporting the growth of additional community groups and social enterprises
- Early intervention and prevention services – tenancy ready
- Older peoples projects to tackle loneliness

