

# WELCOME TO THE RCT TOGETHER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: 07  
OCTOBER 2024 – DECEMBER 2024

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RCT TOGETHER

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES AND RESIDENTS TO THRIVE



[RCT Together - Supporting Communities and Residents to Thrive](#)

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For all things new, watch out for regular updates on the ‘What’s New Page’

[What’s New - RCT Together | Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council \(rctcbc.gov.uk\)](https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/whats-new)



## **RCT Community Toilet Scheme**

We are delighted to announce the launch of the scheme and the development of a new interactive map

## **Community Toilet Scheme**

If you know a community group who would like to be included – get in touch –

[rcttogether@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:rcttogether@rctcbc.gov.uk)



**Toiled Toilet**



## **Winter Welcome Centres**

View the list of 86 community Winter Welcome Centres are within your community



Ariennir gan  
**Lywodraeth Cymru**  
Funded by  
**Welsh Government**



#BalchOrMislif  
[lyw.cymru/balchormislif](https://lyw.cymru/balchormislif)  
#PeriodProudWales  
[gov.wales/periodproud](https://gov.wales/periodproud)



**Dementia Friends**  
An Alzheimer's Society initiative



Funded by  
**UK Government**



Wedi ei ariannu gan  
**Llywodraeth y DU**

# Community Resilience Hubs, Neighbourhood Networks and Resident Support.



## Neighbourhood Networks

**12** Neighbourhood Networks were held during this period attended by **111** voluntary and third sector partners.



## Resident Support

**611** requests for information or support.



**270** new residents accessing the service.



**92** Supermarket Vouchers Issued.



**20** Fuel Vouchers Issued.



## Storm Bert

Following Storm Bert on the weekend of the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, the Community Development Team co-ordinated the humanitarian and recovery response delivered to communities affected, reassuring residents and capturing local information/intelligence.

The team were able to support across all areas affected, and worked with Citizen Advice and British Red Cross, on the Information and Support Buses to offer much needed emotional and financial support.

Also working closely with community organisations, within key community buildings to aide recovery, the partnership between the team and communities continues to strengthen. One such example is Trallwng Community Centre, which has an established team of volunteers, who have excellent relationships with the community. Additional support was co-ordinated, offered by other business and community organisations.

The approach ensured that residents received wrap around support from various agencies and community partners. One resident was supported via Trallwng Community Centre during the clean-up of the property, supported by RCT Community Development Team to access grants, white goods and bespoke support from RCTCBC Heat and Save Team.

I am so grateful and appreciative for everything you have all done – the help and assistance you have all provided throughout

If you find yourself in need of support or need information, please complete the online form - Resident Support

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# Neighbourhood Networks – Pop Up Information Hubs.

Pop Up Hubs have been held across the County Borough in community venues providing access a range of information, opportunities, advice and support.

## Pop Up Hub – South Rhondda

Held at Porth Harlequins Rugby Club, with 28 stall holders engaging with over 116 families and children providing information, advice and activities.

‘Live’ Dragons Den – local organisations pitched their project ideas where all groups were awarded £100 with the winner receiving £500 via Interlink RCT.

Special thanks was also given to a local resident for the ongoing contribution to her local community creating commemorating seasonal post box toppers.



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The team received **38** enquiries for general support.

**I RCTCBC** Asset has transferred to community organisations so far this year:

- Riverside Social Centre to Pontypridd Foodbank (08/11.2024)

**£** Funding secured by Community Groups = **£513,200.00**

### Friends of Capcoch Primary School

A Community Space with access to Food Pantry and a Swap Shop and Hygiene Hub within the ground of Capcoch Primary School. The team provided general information, sign posting and funding support to the Friends of Capcoch to secure additional funding for an adaptable container, where Tee2Sugars formerly opened.

Since opening, IT courses, along with a Christmas event held with over 20 families and 150 pupils visiting and having a visit from Santa himself.

The pantry has over 60 members coming each week to purchase 8 items for £3. The community space offers families a safe place for them to access services they require. The group are also one of the 86 community Winter Welcome Centre.



# FUNDING AND RESOURCES

The Community Development Team manage **9 Community Grants**:

- UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund RCTCBC Community Grant
- UK Government Shared Prosperity Multiply Grant
- WG Period Dignity in Communities Grant
- Unpaid Carers Short Breaks Community Fund
- Community Asset Transfer Fund
- Neighbourhood Network Fund
- RCT Food Support Fund
- Dementia Prevention Fund
- Winter Hardship Fund



Total Funding awarded to community groups **£3,580,027.00**



Total number of community groups receiving grant funding **568**

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# Age Friendly Communities

**RCT Became a member of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Network of Age Friendly Communities and Cities, in March 2024**



To celebrate International Day for Older Persons, our local 50+ Forums held an event at Yma in Pontypridd where they welcomed the new Older People's Commissioner for Wales, Rhian Bowen-Davies



**Llongyfarchiadau**

Congratulations to Pontypridd Men's Shed who were awarded Shed Partnership of the Year at the Men's Shed Awards 2024. Pontypridd Men's Shed established in March 2022, began with just 11 local men and has since flourished within the community, now boasting 49 members. The group was set up to provide a safe space and shelter for men of all ages and backgrounds in local venues.







# Sustainable Food Places



**RCT Food Partnership joined over 100 other local food partnerships at Westminster in November to speak to Members of Parliament. The local food partnerships and Sustainable Food Places showcased achievements in creating a more sustainable and fairer food system across the UK.**

**The network called for more support for the work of local food partnerships and an ask for members to get involved with local action to better understand the challenges faced by their constituents.**

**The RCT Food Partnership Coordinator was proud to represent Rhondda Cynon Taf at the event and speak to other partnerships and change makers on the issues directly affecting food security and the planet in our communities.**



Jonathan Goldberg Photography







And don't forget you can contact any member of the team 😊

**Get in touch with the team**

**Community Asset Transfer**

**Get in touch with the team**

**Community Resilience Hub and Neighbourhood Network Team**

**Get in touch with the team**

**Funding and Resource Support Team**



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