# INDEX OF REPORT ITEMS


## SECTION A – MATTERS FOR DECISION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report Item</th>
<th>Page Nos.</th>
<th>Wards Affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Evaluation of the Xterra UK Championship Event 2008</td>
<td>2-12</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Summary of the Afan Forest Park Action Plan and Directions and Actions for the Future.</td>
<td>13-50</td>
<td>Glyncorrwg, Cymmer, Gwynfi, Pelenna, Bryn &amp; Cwmavon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Urban 2 Community Key Fund</td>
<td>51-74</td>
<td>Bryn &amp; Cwmafan Cymmer Gwaen Cae Gurwen Ystalyfera Credit Union Project affects all wards in County Borough</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ITEM 1, PART 1, SECTION A

EVALUATION OF THE XTERRA UK CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT 2008

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide the Authority with an update and evaluation of the recent Xterra UK Triathlon Championship event, which was held on June 21st 2008.

Background

The main Xterra Triathlon Championship event was part of the UK leg of the European and Global Xterra Tour.

Xterra is similar to the 'Iron Man' challenge and is regarded as one of the toughest triathlons in the UK comprising 3 tests of endurance: swimming, running and Mountain Biking.

The event organiser has now purchased a two year license to hold the Xterra UK franchise.

1. Details of the Events this Year

Xterra is one of the fastest growing multi sport series, boasting 90 races annually and this is the third year that the UK leg of Xterra has been held in the Vale of Neath and Afan Forest Park.

Following the success of the location in the 2007 Xterra Triathlon, the event was again based at Resolven Rugby Club. The swimming was held at Rheola Lakes, and running and cycling routes were held in the surrounding forestry and extended into Afan Forest Park.

There were competitions for beginners and experienced professionals, competing for €15,000 worth of prize money and for a qualifying slot in the World Championship held in Hawaii.

A number of top triathletes took part in this year’s Xterra UK, including, Julie Dibens (British Olympian), Sam Gardner (Mountain Bike British Champion), Melanie McQuaid (Former World Champion), Conrad Stoltz (Current World Champion from South Africa).
The Xterra route was extended from 26 kilometres to 36 kilometres making the event even more challenging and attractive to competitors.

The event organiser was asked to extend invitations to local councillors and to representatives of NPTCBC, WAG and SWWTP in view of their financial support of the event. Officers from the Economic Development section attended the event along with the Leader of the Council and the Director of South West Wales Tourism Partnership who presented prizes to the competition winners.

2. **Sponsorship/Funding**

The event organiser was seeking £120,000 per annum in sponsorship from the Welsh Public Sector to secure this event for the next three years (including 2008). Following the success of Xterra since 2006, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) made a three year commitment to secure the Vale of Neath as the main venue for Xterra UK for the next 3 years. To secure the event, NPTCBC has agreed sponsorship of £20,000 per year until 2010 to be put towards event operational expenditure and marketing activities. The funding is subject to the following conditions:

- That the Xterra event goes ahead as planned
- That the event organiser secures the necessary match funding for future Xterra events
- The promotion of NPTCBC as a main sponsor in all Xterra UK literature and other materials
- Regular meetings with the Council’s Tourism Team to discuss progress of event
- Proof of expenditure in the form of formal invoices for goods and services procured.

In addition to the sponsorship provided by NPTCBC, the Event Organiser secured sponsorship/support from Visit Wales, FCW, Wiggle, High 5, 220 Triathlon, Tri 247, High 5, Driven To Tri and Salomon.
Visit Wales has pledged £25,000 sponsorship up to 2010. FCW have provided funding in kind, through the free use of FCW land. Wiggle (a major sports clothing manufacturer) provided Xterra with £5,000 sponsorship.

3. **Summary of the 2008 Event**

Overall, there was a good turn out of international competitors (29 professionals in total), which resulted in a number of positive press releases issued by the event organiser and NPTCBC in the lead up of the event.

Wherever possible, the event organiser used local suppliers and community groups to help with the organisation and setting up of the event i.e. Resolven Rugby Club, Air and Army Cadets, Mountain Rescue, local clubs, etc (Please refer to Appendix 1 for a full list of local suppliers used).

The majority of feedback from Visitor Surveys conducted on the day was extremely positive. All the people who completed the survey said they would return and 90% believed that NPT was an excellent place to hold the Xterra UK Championship. 100% of respondents indicated that they wanted to return to the area again.

4. **Methodology**

To enable us to analyse the success of the Xterra event, the following activities were undertaken:

- Monitoring of Visitor Numbers
- Benefits to local accommodation providers
- NPTCBC Visitor Survey
- Evaluation of Marketing Activities

5. **Results & Analysis**

**Monitoring of Visitor Numbers**

This year’s Xterra event involved 250*competitors registering and up to 750* spectators. Last year, the event attracted 400* competitors and an estimated 800* spectators. *Figures supplied by Event Organiser
Although the 2008 attendance figures are lower than previous years, this year has seen athletes travelling from a record 15 countries. International athletes participated from Germany, Spain, Belgium, France, Hungary, South Africa and the USA. All of these competitors would not have travelled to the area had it not been for this event taking place.

Triathlon entrants pre-trained on the Xterra course during April and stayed in local accommodation close to the event’s location. In total 70% of competitors visited NPT to practice prior to the event taking place.

This year a total of 18 professional male athletes and 11 professional females took part in Xterra UK. Each year more professional athletes are registering to take part in this event.

The event organiser believes that the lower attendance figures are a direct result of the short timescales available to carry out marketing after sponsorship had been confirmed and the franchise had been secured. The event organiser plans to begin marketing the 2009 event immediately to maximise the number of entrants at next year’s event. The lower entry numbers may also be attributable to poor weather and/or the Afan Enduro event not being held this year. The new trail run event was held in its place on the Sunday of the event weekend.

**Benefits to local accommodation providers**

The majority of competitors who took part in the Xterra stayed at the campsite provided by Resolven Rugby Club. This resulted in direct financial benefits to the Rugby club through food and drink sales and pitch hire from competitors.

The event organiser contacted accommodation providers located close to the event venue, and arranged for professional athletes to stay at Cwmbach Cottages in Cadoxton and the Dinas Hotel in Pontneddfechan. These accommodation providers were fully booked during the course of the event. The event organiser also provided a list of NPT graded accommodation available on the Xterra UK webpage.
NPTCBC Visitor Survey

A small sample of visitor surveys was conducted over the course of the event by the Tourism Team. This survey was used to encourage spectators to express their views on Xterra.

Visitor Survey Results:
Respondents were asked to state their satisfaction with specific aspects of the Xterra event. A summary of key findings were as follows:

- 60% were visiting with friends or family. The average group contained at least 2 – 4 people.
- 50% were visiting from England. However, a large proportion of those approached could not speak English and were therefore unable to complete the survey.
- 20% spent between £1 – £20 and another 20% spent between £101 – 200+
- **90% of visitors agreed that the Vale of Neath was an ideal place to hold the Xterra Triathlon.**
- 50% of visitors had been to Neath Port Talbot before, indicating that the other **50% were new visitors attracted to the area by Xterra**
- 70% of the visitors rated the scenery and countryside in Neath Port Talbot as excellent.
- **100% said they would return to Neath Port Talbot.**

Marketing Activities

Overall, media coverage was very positive and the Authority’s support for the event was mentioned in various local newspapers, including the Evening Post and Guardian. Marketing activity included:

- A dedicated NPTCBC Xterra webpage was set up - [www.npt.gov.uk/xterra](http://www.npt.gov.uk/xterra)
- Xterra links were placed on to the Councils Internet/Intranet pages.
- A new Xterra UK webpage had been created - [www.xterra.uk.com](http://www.xterra.uk.com)
- Xterra UK Championships was promoted on the Europe and Global Xterra Planet and Xterra Europe.
- Editorial was placed in leading Triathlon magazines and Websites, such as Running Fitness, Runners World, 220 Magazine and Triathlon World.
- Posters advertising the event were produced and sent to all cycle shops in South West Wales, mountain bike events and all graded accommodation in NPT.
Please refer to Appendix 2 for a full list of Marketing activities carried out by the Authority and the event organiser. An information pack can be provided containing examples of the marketing activities undertaken.

The event organiser aims to secure further sponsorship to increase these marketing activities in the lead up to 2009.

6. **Xterra UK 2009 Proposals**

The event organiser has proposed that 2009 could see additional Xterra events being held in Neath Port Talbot. The proposal includes the main Xterra UK Triathlon being held in August/September with an Xterra Trail Run (as held this year) and an ‘Xterra Winter’ event also being held.

The aim of this proposal is to promote increased awareness of Xterra UK throughout the year and create a programme of events to extend the Xterra season.

The event organiser is also in preliminary discussions with FCW to create a permanent Xterra mountain bike trail in the Vale of Neath. This would allow visitors to ride the trail any time of the year outside of the main competition.

**Conclusion**

The 2008 Xterra UK Triathlon successfully attracted athletes from a wide range of countries worldwide. These athletes are all well placed to recommend the Vale of Neath to other competitors in the sport and also friends and relatives. This provides Neath Port Talbot with invaluable word of mouth advertising.

The 2008 event was more successful than in previous years at attracting competitors to take part in pre-event training. This resulted in 70% of competitors visiting the area once or more before the actual event took place, many of whom would have used locally based accommodation to do so.

With more people visiting before the event, the boost in international competitors and the increased use of locally sourced suppliers, the economic impact of Xterra UK on the local economy is increasing. The overall objective of raising awareness of NPT as a venue for major sporting events is being realised.
In order to ensure that competitor numbers increase at the 2009 event, the event organiser will direct a larger proportion of the budget into marketing activities. In 2008, NPTCBC’s £20,000 sponsorship contribution was used to purchase the two year Xterra Franchise. This means that in 2009, this funding is now available to direct towards the marketing budget.

The regular meetings held with the event organiser have been effective in ensuring that the Authority is happy with progress and the way in which funding is being spent. The tourism team is pleased with the way the 2008 Xterra event has been organised and problems overcome. No funding has been released by NPTCBC until evidence of expenditure has been provided and targets have been met. This approach has worked well and ensured that funds are used correctly. The tourism team will continue to meet with the event organiser for the duration of the sponsorship period.

A number of minor issues were faced in this year’s event including:

- The poor weather hindered spectator numbers but did not impact on the event itself
- The event organiser went on holiday immediately after the event. This delayed the issuing of a press release as details could not be confirmed and photographs were not provided
- Competitor numbers were down on the previous year, however measures are to be introduced to ensure a rise in numbers next year.
- Resolven Rugby Club experienced damage to the pitch used as the campsite due to a combination of campsite traffic and poor weather.

All of these issues have been resolved or are in the process of being resolved and did not present any major challenges to the event itself.
Financial Implications

None

Recommendation

In the organisation of the 2009 Xterra UK Triathlon the following measures are recommended;

- A formal service level agreement is drawn up between NPTCBC and the Event Organiser to outline what the Authority expects in return for its sponsorship. This will include expectations in terms of PR and marketing and requirements of the event organiser to provide information for marketing activities within a reasonable time frame.
- The event organiser puts agreements in place with suppliers (i.e. Resolven Rugby Club) detailing his level of liability should damage occur.
- The event organiser examines ways to encourage better community involvement in the event.
- The event organiser secures the necessary additional sponsorship as soon as possible.

Reason for Proposed Decision

The above recommendations are proposed to ensure that Xterra continues to meet NPTCBC’s objectives for sponsoring the event, this includes generating positive publicity and delivering economic benefits to the local economy.

List of Background Papers

Xterra Evaluation Report 2007

Wards Affected

All

Officer Contact

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ITEM 1, PART 1, SECTION A - COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

EVALUATION OF THE XTERRA UK CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT 2008

(a) **Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call-in period.

(b) **Sustainability Appraisal**

*Community Plan Impacts*

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*Other Impacts*

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(c) **Consultation**

There has been no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.
### Appendix 1: List of Local Suppliers Used in Xterra Event

#### Neath Port Talbot
- Cwmbach Cottages Neath
- Craig Y Ddinas Hotel Pontneddfechan
- Speedy Barriers Port Talbot
- Lunch Box Resolven
- Rugby Club Resolven
- Thomas Web Resolven
- Mountain Rescue Maesteg
- Rhos Meadows Pontardawe
- Marshals Local
- Carpet Right Neath
- Bake and Take Neath
- Quest Marine Neath
- Tesco Neath
-JS Jones Printers Neath
-L.H.Evans Neath
- Plumb Centre Neath
-Motor Club Port Talbot
-Cadets Port Talbot
-Radios Port Talbot

#### Swansea
- CJ’s Mumbles
- Cadets Gorseinon
- Printing Partnership Swansea
- Printing.com Swansea
- Brandon Hire Swansea
- Staples Swansea
- PC World Swansea
- Arco Swansea

#### Wales
- Commentator Llantrisant
- TDL Timing Bangor

#### UK
- TShirts Brighton
- Elliott Loo Hire Chester
- Morgans Insurance London
- Runners World London
Appendix 2: Marketing Activities carried out by NPTCBC and the Event Organiser

Exposure of Neath Port Talbot Through XTERRA Advertising

Main Xterra UK website – www.xterrauk.com
Fliers* to;
all bike shops South Wales,
Mountain Bike Centres and,
Leisure centres
1 x full page advert in Triathletes World - 35,000 circ
1 x full page advert 220 Triathlon Magazine - 20,000 circ
3 x full page adverts Athletics weekly
Previews and race reports in 220 Magazine
Special page on Tri247. website (biggest Triathlon site in UK)
Inclusion on Wiggle website and email blast to 200,000 people
3000 direct emails sent out to XTERRA database, this was carried out 3 times.
Xterra Global Website
Numerous other websites
Reports in British, German, French and South African Press.

Information Supplied by Event Organiser Gareth Thomas

Exposure of Neath Port Talbot through work carried out by Officers and other sources.

NPTCBC dedicated Xterra webpage – www.npt.gov.uk/xterra
Article in Community Spirit – April 2008 *
Press Release – May 2008 *
Leaders Briefing – Early June 2008 *
Article published in Neath Guardian 12th June 2008 *
Press release issued by event organiser 6th June 2008 *
Press Release Xterra Success – July 2008 *
3 x Tourism e-newsletters informing tourism trade that event is coming up,
April, May, June.
Online Blogs from various competitors example provided *

*Copies available on request.
ITEM 2, PART 1, SECTION A

SUMMARY OF THE AFAN FOREST PARK ACTION PLAN AND DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Purpose of Report

To seek approval of the finalised draft of the ‘Afan Forest Park Action Plan 2008 – 2011’

Background

In 2002 Afan Forest Park (AFP) was designated as a Strategic Tourism Growth Area (TGA) by Visit Wales (formerly Wales Tourist Board). A great deal has been achieved over this time, and AFP is now a high profile destination renowned for its mountain bike trails, walks and outdoor leisure opportunities.

Since the funding allocated to TGA areas ceased all partners involved with the development of AFP felt it was necessary to continue the good work that has been done. It was this that induced key partners to produce the document ‘Afan Forest Park: Directions and Actions 2008 – 2011’.

1. Afan Forest Park Action Plan Public Consultation

In recent months the draft ‘Afan Forest Park Action Plan 2008 – 2011’ was sent out for public consultation to numerous community organisations in the Afan Forest Park – a full list of those consulted can be found in Appendix 1. The closing date for the consultation period was the 11th of July 2008 and a good number of responses was received from the consultation with many positive and useful comments.

After receiving these comments the AFP Partnership Steering Group which consists of NPTCBC, South West Wales Tourism Partnership, Forestry Commission Wales and Welsh Assembly Government also met and discussed the results of the consultation. Following this the document has been amended and additional actions were included under the five themes in the plan. These additional actions will further develop and improve the tourism experience in the Afan Forest Park.
2. **The Afan Forest Park Partnership Steering Group**

During consultation it was also suggested that the membership of the Afan Forest Park Partnership Steering Group should be widened to include representatives from the community and business sector in AFP. A representative from one of the three Communities Firsts Partnerships in the area will represent the community sector. We will seek the representative for the business sector from the proposed AFP Business Trade Forum which will be set up in the near future by NPTCBC Tourism Team with assistance from NPTCBC Business team. It is intended that members of the trade forum will nominate an individual to represent them on the main AFP steering group.


As well as the Afan Forest Park Partnership Steering Group the Afan Forest Park Working Group will be re-established. This group will meet every two months and members will consist of all organisations and individuals that are responsible for taking forward any actions in the action plan. The working group will meet in various locations within the boundaries of Afan Forest Park.

The Afan Forest Park Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the progress of the Action Plan and ensure that all partners are aware of their responsibilities within the action plan.

**Financial Implications**

None

**Consultation Outcome**

This has been subject to public consultation and all comments and suggestions received from the consultation have been included in the document.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the final version of the ‘Afan Forest Park Directions and Actions 2008 – 2011’ document is approved and made available as a public document.
Reason for Proposed Decision

There is still great potential to further develop Afan Forest Park. As a Tourism Growth Area (TGA) Afan Forest Park has seen great success as a tourism destination and the regeneration of the local area has created many opportunities for the residents to gain employment, to enterprise and to enjoy the leisure opportunities on offer.

It is recognised that there is a need to manage the growth of the area so that it remains as a key tourist destination and fosters community involvement to ensure the long term economic prosperity of Afan Forest Park. The proposed action plan provides a framework for management of the areas development over the next 3 years (2008 to 2010).

List of Background Papers

Summary of the current Afan Forest Park Action Plan and directions and actions for the future, June 2007

Wards Affected

Glyncorrwg, Cymmer, Gwynfi, Pelenna, Bryn & Cwmavon

Officer Contact

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ITEM 2, PART 1, SECTION A - COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

SUMMARY OF THE AFAN FOREST PARK ACTION PLAN AND DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

(a) Implementation of Decision

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call-in period.

(b) Sustainability Appraisal

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(c) Consultation

This has been subject to public consultation and all comments and suggestions received from the consultation have been included in the document.
Appendix 1: List of consultees

Gwynfi A.B.C
Upper Afan Valley Swimming Club
Afan Valley Paddlers
Afan Valley Mountaineering Club
Port Talbot Community Cars
Neath Port Talbot Older Persons Council
Cwmafan Residents Action Committee
Glyncorrwg Action Group
Afan Valley Sports Club of Glyncorrwg
The Village Kids
Glyncorrwg Ponds
Afan Valley Angling Club
Blaen/Abergwynfi Boys/Girls Club
Glyncorrwg Women’s Sports and Social Org
Gwynfi Community Coop
Friends & Family – Glyncorrwg
Croeserw Community Association
Cwmavon Welfare association
Afan Credit Union
Cwmafan Community Centre
Tonmawr Tots and Tonmawr PTFA
Afan Valley Bike Hire
Croeserw Community Association
Ponthrydyfen Oakwood Residents Association
Western Logs Ltd
Bianchi Fine Furniture
South Wales Miners Museum
Green Lantern Guest House
L&A Holiday Riding Centre
Bakers DIY Store
Gallu
Hartlands Cottage
Windways Neuadd Afan
Mountain View
Skyline Cycles Ltd
Oakridge Guest House
Oakwood Guest House
Gelli Farmhouse
Gelli Mill Cottage
Afan Cottage
Tŷ Afan Holiday Cottage
Rose Cottage
Bryn Bettws Log Cabins
Pelenna Mountain Bike Centre
Llynfi House
Bryn Teg House
Ivy House
The Queens B&B
Afan Lodge
Mountain View B&B Plus
Brynberyddan and Penllyn Communities First Partnership
Communities First Cwmfon
Communities First Partnership Upper Afan
Communities First Pelenna
Neighbourhood Watch
South Wales Police
Brian Gibbons AM
Abergwynfi Infant School
Dyffryn Comprehensive School
Glyncorrwg Action Plan
Cymer Afan Primary School
Croeserw Primary School
Abergwynfi Junior School
Cefn Saeson Comprehensive School
Cymer Afan Comprehensive School
Duffryn Afan Primary School
Glyncorrwg Primary School
Tonmawr Primary School
Pontrhydyfen Primary School
Glamorgan Landscapes Ltd

AFAN FOREST PARK DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS

2008 to 2011
If you require this information in large print, in Braille, on tape or disk, please ring, email, or write to Lisa Jenkins on 01639 686044, l.jenkins4@npt.gov.uk or Neath Port Talbot CBC, Economic Development and Valleys Programme Unit, The Quays, Brunel Way, Baglan Energy Park, Neath, SA11 2GG. The report is available in Welsh and English.
1.0 BACKGROUND TO DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to plan the way forward for Afan Forest Park (AFP) for the next three years. This document is the result of an exercise carried out by the partners of AFP which identifies and prioritises the key themes and actions which will guide the achievement of the AFP vision over the next three years.

2.0 VISION

“To realise Afan Forest Park’s potential as an outdoor ‘wilderness’ where communities and businesses combine to make the destination one of the most exhilarating and enjoyable visitor experiences in Wales”

(Afan Forest Park TGA Action Plan, April 2002)

3.0 SUMMARY

The prioritisation exercises carried used a comprehensive and straightforward method to identify a list of activities that will act to inform partners of the way forward for AFP for the next three years.

All partners are in agreement that in order for AFP to continue achieving the level of success it has done previously, all of the priorities within this working document should be addressed. A new AFP Co-ordinator post has been created to focus on the achievement of the outcomes as outlined within this document.

4.0 HISTORY OF AFAN FOREST PARK TOURISM GROWTH AREA (TGA)

AFP was awarded Special Interest Tourism Growth Area (TGA) status by the Wales Tourist Board (now Visit Wales) in 2002. Special Interest TGA status is only designated to areas which have the potential to build a critical mass of activity based facilities to create a strong appeal to niche tourism markets e.g. cycling, walking, horse riding, fishing etc.
As a TGA, AFP is seen as having a key role to play in improving Wales' competitive position and in the implementation of ‘Achieving Our Potential’ - the national tourism strategy for Wales.

Over the past few years AFP has surpassed all expectations and now stands as an internationally recognised mountain biking destination. The area is also well known for its various other activities including walking and events and appeals to both mountain bike enthusiasts and families.

In 2006 the funding that was allocated to support a dedicated TGA Officer post was withdrawn for all TGA areas in Wales. Although this funding has ceased, the area still holds it status as a TGA whilst an evaluation of the TGA process is carried out by Visit Wales. The provision of a dedicated TGA officer was undoubtedly one of the main drivers that resulted in the success of AFP.

The current funding climate makes it difficult to obtain funding for projects within AFP. Although much has been achieved, there is still a long way to go to secure the long term prosperity of the destination and to maintain the status of the Forest Park so that it continues to be regarded as a world class mountain biking and outdoor destination.

5.0 ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

A great deal has been achieved in Afan Forest Park since 2002; please refer to Appendix A: Afan Forest Park TGA Review for in depth information on the improvements and developments made within Afan Forest Park.

6.0 RESULTS OF PRIORITISATION EXERCISES AND CONSULTATION

An Afan Forest Park Partnership Away Day was held on 27th April 2007 at the Aberafan Beach Hotel, Port Talbot. The event was attended by representatives of Neath Port Talbot Council, Forestry Commission Wales and South West Wales Tourism Partnership.

The event required key partners to take part in a number of prioritisation exercises which identified the key themes and detailed actions that should form part of a new action plan for 2008 to 2011.
The key priorities and actions that were identified have been formed into the following detailed action plan. There are also three critical success factors that form an integral part to the achievement of the action plan.

Since the creation of the draft action plan and as part of the consultation process the action plan was sent out to numerous community groups and organisations within the Afan Forest Park area, giving them the opportunity to make any comments. Many positive comments were received and these have been added into the Afan Forest Park Action Plan 2008-2011 thereby completing the process.

6.1 CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

In order for the action plan to succeed the following factors should form a central part of all of the key areas for development listed in section 6.2 of this action plan.

**Collaboration**
Building on the success of the partnership, ensuring that AFP links in with wider regional agenda e.g. Swansea Bay Spatial Plan and Convergence funded projects etc.

**Marketing**
Ensuring the marketing of AFP links into all directions and actions, to build upon the strength of the AFP brand.

**Co-ordination**
The AFP Co-ordinator post is vital to continuing the success of AFP, and the achievement of the outcomes identified in this action plan.

6.2 KEY AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT THE FUTURE SUCCESS AND GROWTH OF AFP
1. **Community Buy In**

- Encourage community participation, ownership and pride, in the Forest Park, to ensure sustainability.
- Raise awareness of AFP as a TGA area and take advantage of the opportunities and benefits.

2. **Commerciality**

- Encourage private sector investment and long term business sustainability.
- Create opportunities to increase visitor spend.

3. **Building on current facilities (e.g. quality)**

- Focus development around 4 hubs:
  
  - Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre,
  - Rhyslyn Car Park and surrounding area,
  - Gyfylchi/Pelenna
  - Glyncorrwg Ponds Mountain Bike Centre.

- MTB Trail enhancements.
- Development of Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre.
- Emphasise integrated quality management (IQM) in all developments

4. **Promotion**

- Raise awareness of Afan Forest Park as a tourist destination to residents within the Swansea Bay area and visitors from further afield.

5. **Widening the Product Offer**

- Strengthen all products currently on offer e.g. walking trails.
The prioritisation exercises that took place required partners to identify actions that would meet the key areas for development that are identified above. The results of this exercise are detailed in the detailed action plan that follows.

7.0 DETAILED ACTION PLAN

7.1 Priority Theme 1: Community Buy In

Outcomes:

- Residents of AFP will take ownership of the area; they will take the lead on community projects and be more conscious of the social and environmental welfare of the area.

- Residents will be aware of the leisure opportunities available to them in the local area and will understand the profile of AFP as a tourism destination. This in turn will encourage further interest in attracting local enterprise within AFP.
### PRIORITY THEME 1: Community Buy In

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>DETAILED ACTIONS</th>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>TIME SCALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 To encourage community participation in taking forward the forest park in order to ensure sustainability</td>
<td>Stage a range of community events in Theatr Tymaen</td>
<td>Forestry Commission Wales, Tim Harland</td>
<td>£10,000</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>River Festival</td>
<td>Upper Afan Communities First, Joanne Thomas</td>
<td>Communities First Funding</td>
<td>Annually (Aug)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Community Newsletter (linked to theme 4)</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins, Forestry Commission Wales (Community Programme Manager)</td>
<td>£7,000 per year. FCW Budget and NPTCBC Tourism Budget</td>
<td>Once Annually in October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Investigate the possibility of a Village Signage and enhancement scheme.</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 2 to 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Source funding to implement a community litter campaign</td>
<td>Communities First Upper Afan, Joanne Thomas</td>
<td>£10,000 to be sourced</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education in Local Schools</td>
<td>NPTCBC Parks and Countryside, Dick Wagstaff, Forestry Commission (Education Rangers)</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 1 to 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Review of the AFP Event Guide and Distribution Channels</td>
<td>NPTCBC Parks and Countryside</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compile an action plan to boost community involvement in the AFP trails</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 1 to 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Continue to implement the Valley of a Million Daffodils project</td>
<td>Upper Afan Communities First, Joanne Thomas</td>
<td>£1000 per year Communities First Funding</td>
<td>Year 1 to 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop a calendar of local walking/cycle tours</td>
<td>Communities 1st NPTCBC Parks and Countryside</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 1 to 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide local schools the opportunity to sell products made by the pupils in the AFP Visitor Centre</td>
<td>NPTCBC Parks and Countryside, Dick Wagstaff, Local Primary and Secondary schools</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 1 to 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

River festival in AFP (2006)  
Theatr Tymaen
7.2 Priority Theme 2: Commerciality

Outcomes:

- AFP will be attractive to businesses from a variety of sectors. The financial commitment of these enterprises to the locality will create an environment for further economic growth. It will also encourage local entrepreneurs to flourish.

- AFP will have a range of facilities such as café, restaurants, craft shops, gift shops and other facilities to be used by locals and visitors. These facilities will give visitors more opportunities to purchase items during their visit and contribute to the local economy.

- AFP will generate increased income opportunities for its key partners including NPTCBC and FCW as well as private and community sectors.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>DETAILED ACTIONS</th>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>TIME SCALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1 To encourage private sector investment and long term business sustainability.</td>
<td>Undertake a study to identify income generating schemes and opportunities; i.e. events, sponsorship and donations etc</td>
<td>Forestry Commission Wales (Community Programme Manager)</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Creating an environment that encourages investment by;</td>
<td>NPTCBC Tourism, Karleigh Davies</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 1 to 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td> Making available and marketing all sites and premises available for investment.</td>
<td>NPTCBC Business Section, Adil Pirmohamed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td> Implementing projects that enhance appeal to visitors and businesses, and</td>
<td>SWWTP, Gary Davies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td> Focusing marketing to appeal to key markets.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Continuing the existing business support framework available from AFP Partners and encourage businesses to be financially sustainable and invest in ongoing training.</td>
<td>NPTCBC Tourism, Karleigh Davies</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Establish a Trade Forum for all local businesses in the AFP | AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins  
NPTCBC Business Section, Sarah Fowler  
NPTCBC Tourism, Karleigh Davies | Staff Time | Year 1 |
7.3 Priority Theme 3: Building on current facilities (e.g. quality)

Outcomes:

- The success of the development of Afan Forest Park will be harnessed by further improvements and maintenance to existing facilities. The result of this will be improved facilities and services that will create an environment that continues to offer visitors more to do and see.

AFP will be renowned as a tourism destination of excellence in all its aspects – its countryside, recreation facilities, visitor centres, accommodation, catering and welcome.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>DETAILED ACTIONS</th>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>TIME SCALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Focus development of 4 hubs</td>
<td>Maintain mountain bike trails to IMBA standards and create new trails including a blue graded trail.</td>
<td>Forestry Commission Wales, Dave Williams</td>
<td>Forestry Commission Wales Budget</td>
<td>On going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Mountain Bike Trail enhancements</td>
<td>Focus new developments in the hubs at Glyncorrwg, Rhyslyn, AFP Visitor Centre and Pelenna (Gyfylchi).</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>On going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Development of Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre</td>
<td>Seek funding to carry out a feasibility study regarding the redevelopment and enhancement of AFP Visitor Centre and surrounding area.</td>
<td>NPTCBC Parks and Countryside</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Glyncorrwg Units</td>
<td>Enhance Glyncorrwg Units</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>Year 2 to 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NPTCBC Estates, Timothy Johns</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review the management structure of AFP currently in place</td>
<td>Review the management structure of AFP currently in place</td>
<td>Forestry Commission Wales Forest District Manager</td>
<td>Staff Time</td>
<td>Year 1 to 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NPTCBC Parks and Countryside</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing and safeguarding the environment and habitats within AFP</td>
<td>Managing and safeguarding the environment and habitats within AFP</td>
<td>NPTCBC Parks and Countryside</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forestry Commission Wales, Tim Harland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous development of accommodation facilities in AFP, encouraging facilities to provide a quality service for visitors</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins</td>
<td>Officer Time</td>
<td>On going</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support South Wales Miners Museum in developing the new museum building and obtaining funding to develop further projects.</td>
<td>NPTCBC Tourism Co-ordinator, Karleigh Davies</td>
<td>Officer Time</td>
<td>Year 1 to 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take advantage of the tourism opportunities that will arise from the Sustrans Connect2 route from Aberavon Seafront to AFP</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.4 Priority Theme 4: Promotion

Outcomes:

- Visitors from the locality, Swansea Bay and further afield will be more aware of AFP as a destination for day trips, short breaks and holidays.

- AFP’s established events will attract wider audiences.

Promotional materials will be distributed to achieve maximum effectiveness.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS</th>
<th>DETAILED ACTIONS</th>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>TIME SCALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Raise awareness of Afan Forest Park as a tourist destination to residents within the Swansea Bay area and visitors from further afield.</td>
<td>Production and distribution of promotional materials including leaflets such as the events guide, visitor guide and AFP specific leaflets.</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins NPTC CBC Tourism, Emma Thomas Forestry Commission Wales, Tim Harland</td>
<td>Approx £30,000</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Holding events that appeal to both visitors and the local community including the River Festival and a new walking festival.</td>
<td>Forestry Commission Wales, Tim Harland Communities 1st Upper Afan, Joanne Thomas</td>
<td>Approx £10,000 FCW Events River Festival Communities 1st Funding.</td>
<td>Annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Further develop individual business websites for improved promotion of facilities available.</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins NPTC CBC Tourism Co-ordinator, Karleigh Davies Gallu, Lisa Johnston</td>
<td>Officer Time</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Continually look for new and imaginative ways to promote AFP to local residents, visitors from Swansea Bay and visitors from further a field.</td>
<td>Forestry Commission Wales, Tim Harland AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins NPTC CBC Tourism Co-ordinator, Karleigh Davies</td>
<td>£20,000 estimate. NPT Marketing Budget (TBC)</td>
<td>On going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop schools section on Afan Forest Park website with education resources and activities.</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins, Forestry Commission (Education Rangers)</td>
<td>Officer Time</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to maintain the Afan Forest Park Website and ensure the representation of Afan Forest Park in destination web sites promoting Swansea Bay and other areas of South West Wales.</td>
<td>AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins, NPTCBC Tourism Co-ordinator, Karleigh Davies</td>
<td>Officer Time</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.5 Priority Theme 5: Widening Product Offer

Outcomes:

- The walking cycling and outdoor leisure product within AFP will provide further opportunities for attracting locals and visitors. The products on offer will appeal to wide audiences and will offer enough variety to encourage repeat visits throughout the year.

Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre
# PRIORITY THEME 5: Widening the Product Offer

## ACTIONS

**5.1 Strengthen the other products currently on offer e.g. walking trails.**

- **Detailed Actions:**
  - Review our visitor monitoring to ensure we are capturing a wider audience and continue the AFP visitor survey to monitor trends.
  - Promote the new walking packs at AFP Visitor Centre and Glyncorrwg and Gyfylchi.
  - Ensure marketing and promotion activities reflect the full range of products on offer.
  - Promote the history of AFP and make visitors aware of the heritage of the area.

- **Lead Partner:**
  - Forestry Commission Wales, Tim Harland
  - AFP Co-ordinator, Lisa Jenkins
  - AFP Visitor Centre
  - Glyncorrwg Ponds TBC
  - Forestry Commission Wales, Tim Harland
  - AFP Coordinator, Lisa Jenkins
  - NPTCBC Tourism Co-ordinator, Karleigh Davies

- **Cost:**
  - £2,000
  - FCW Budget
  - AFP Survey – Partnership contributions
  - Staff Time, Marketing Budget £20k
  - Staff Time, £5k Tourism Budget

- **Time Scale:**
  - Ongoing
  - Year 1
  - On going
  - Year 2
8.0 TAKING THIS ACTION PLAN FORWARD

8.1 Afan Forest Park Co-ordinator

The success of Afan Forest Park Tourism Growth Area has been significantly enhanced by the provision of a dedicated partnership co-ordinator, who was able to specialise in implementing the previous action plan and was involved in co-ordinating projects.

During the prioritisation exercises all agreed that a dedicated co-ordinator would be able to ensure that Afan Forest Park remained as a focus for both FCW and NPTCBC and a new jointly funded post for an AFP Co-ordinator was proposed.

A dedicated co-ordinator will ensure that Afan Forest Park remains as a high profile destination and that the developments required to do this are carried out fully and within set timescales. The Afan Forest Park Co-ordinator post is jointly funded by NPTCBC and FCW.

The AFP Co-ordinator will not only be responsible for monitoring and implementing this action plan but will play a key role in leading a number of key initiatives and will be responsible for identifying and applying for funding to take forward the projects outlined in this action plan.

8.2 The Partnership

The partnership approach which has been adopted since the inception of Afan Forest Park is one that is critical to the ongoing success of the area. The partnership that exists between NPTCBC, Forestry Commission Wales, South West Wales Tourism Partnership and WAG is an exemplar of where collaborative working resulting in unprecedented success in meeting the objectives of all partners.

A new partnership working group will be established by recruiting representatives from all parties who are involved with implementing the action plan. This working group will meet bimonthly and clear actions will be recorded for all stakeholders at each meeting. It is also necessary for partners to take an active role in the implementation of the
projects in this action plan and partners will be required to give updates on progress at each meeting, these updates will be recorded against the outcomes. It will not be the role of the co-ordinator to provide updates at this meeting (other than those which they lead on) but the co-ordinator will be required to arrange the meeting, remind all partners that updates are due to be given and record minutes at each partnership meeting.

The working group taking this action plan forward will need to include representation of key stakeholders within Afan Forest Park and public sector officers, this will allow for such stakeholders to get involved and buy into the future of the area.

The current Afan Forest Park Partnership Steering Group will continue to exist alongside the working group and will meet twice a year for progress updates. This group will consist of all current members of the partnership (NPTCBC, FCW, SWWTP, WAG) but the partnership steering group will also aim to attract one representative from the three communities first partnerships in the area and a representative from the private sector in the area.
APPENDIX A:

Tourism Growth Area Review 2007

Afan Forest Park
Afan Forest Park TGA Review

Local Level Improvements

Introduction
Afan Forest Park encompasses a total area of 11,000 hectares, which is part of the 30,000 hectare valleys forest and is regarded as the largest urban forest in Europe. 37,000 people live within the Park, which consists of Cymmer, Cwmavon, Gwynfi, Glyncorrwg and Pelenna wards.

In 2002, Afan Forest Park was designated as a ‘Special Interest Tourism Growth Area’ (TGA) and an action plan was drawn up for its future development.

The TGA funding acted as a catalyst for further funding. The Afan Forest Park TGA concept succeeded because there was a dedicated TGA officer in post for 2 years, funding available and a strong partnership.
TGA Review

Significant progress has also been made in terms of the creation of the necessary conditions for development – the implementation structures, signage, infrastructure and branding of Afan Forest Park have created a stand alone destination with wide spread appeal.

Visitor Numbers

Walking Visitors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7,672</td>
<td>12,004</td>
<td>9,010</td>
<td>11,612</td>
<td>12,948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25,273</td>
<td>119,081</td>
<td>112,526</td>
<td>112,452</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mountain Bike Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9,920</td>
<td>24,320</td>
<td>42,872</td>
<td>52,331</td>
<td>60,960</td>
<td>59,857</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accurate information relating to walking and visitor centre visitors prior to 2002 is not available. Those figures which are available are shown above. With reference to the Mountain Biking numbers a significant rise can be seen since 2002 when the area was given TGA status. There is no doubt that the increase in visitors is a direct result of the investment in trail development, visitor amenities and directional signage.

Although the increase in visitor numbers is a good indicator of AFP’s success, achieving this growth is not the focus of the efforts of the AFP partnership. The enhancement of the visitor experience is at the centre of all analysis into our visitors. This is in line with the principles of Integrated Quality Management.

**Research**

**Afan Forest Park Visitor Survey 2007**

- The 2007 visitor research has produced interesting results that provide an in depth understanding of the visitor experience and provide a detailed profile of the type of visitors to Afan Forest Park. One of the most significant findings of the research indicates a very high level of repeat visits coupled with high levels of visitor satisfaction. The main findings are;
  - AFP is continuing to build upon its strength as a destination attraction. 87% of respondents did not consider visiting anywhere else that day.
  - Most visitors are frequent visitors, with over two thirds on a repeat visit on the day of interview. Correspondingly, just under a third are first time visitors.
  - Mountain Biking continues to be the most popular reason for visiting AFP however more and more people are visiting the park for other reasons such as for walking, general day out and general cycling.
  - Visits to AFP are now lasting longer, with 61% staying for over 3 hours, only a quarter of visitors did this in 2002
  - 2007 saw a slightly more even age profile than in previous years, attracting more older visitors.
• Awareness of AFP website in 2007 stands at 51% up from 44% in 2006.

Private Sector Investment
There continues to be a steady flow of interest expressed in developing new tourism facilities in the area, these enquiries are logged and are followed up as necessary.

Visitor Accommodation
- The provision of accommodation in Afan Forest Park has increased in volume and quality since 2002. To date in 2008 Afan Forest Park has approximately 164 Visit Wales graded bed spaces (86 Serviced and 78 Self Catering) in 13 establishments ranging from 3* to 4* guest houses to self catering cottages and camp sites. This is a significant increase since 2002 when bed spaces are thought to have been as few as 12 throughout the whole of the Forest Park. Accommodation is consistently booked up on the weekends with advance bookings going into the summer. Weekdays continue to be the quietest time of the week. There are a number of non graded accommodation providers and accommodation developments that are to be completed in the next six months which are actively encouraged to become VW graded as a priority. In the next 12 months the first hotel in Afan Forest Park will begin operating along with Youth Hostel Association accommodation.

Other providers
- Since 2002 private sector investment has come into Afan Forest Park (AFP) in the form of Bike hire companies including Skyline Cycles, activity centres such as Cimla Equestrian Centre, The Drop Off Café at Glyncorrwg Mountain Bike Centre and various other restaurant and café facilities.
- Afan Valley Bike Hire have developed a mountain bike instructors course (MIAS) in addition to the mountain bike hire service, this course is accredited by Reading University and is being operated in partnership with Bryn Bettws Log Cabins at Gyfylchi utilising their new teaching room.
Homes
- Afan Forest Park has become an attractive place to live and homes in the area are now sought after. Local estate agents use the Afan Forest Park brand in their advertising.

Awards
- Afan Forest Park won two of the Swansea Bay Tourism awards in 2006 - the ‘Extra Mile Award’ and the ‘Sustainability in Tourism Award’. Afan Forest Park was also shortlisted in the National Tourism Awards 2004 as ‘The Best Day Out’ and ‘Community Initiative’.

Training
- 10 Familiarisation trips organised throughout 2004 – included Local Colleges, Journalists, Neath Port Talbot Council Members and Heads of Department.
- 4 businesses in Afan Forest Park undertook a Welcome Host course in March 2004.
- 6 Familiarisation trips organised throughout 2005 – Tourist Information Centre staff, Internal Neath Port Talbot Members, Neath Port Talbot Chief Executive, Heads of Service and Leader.
- Skyline Club Mountain Bike Guides Group was established in 2005.
- Afan Forest Park Trade Day held on April 2005.
- Welcome To Our Heritage Workshop held in January 2007.

Community Involvement
- 5 day community campaign held in August 2004. The purpose of the campaign was to update the local residents on the existing and future TGA developments.
- New Afan Forest Park logo designed by the Artist in Residence and local community groups in Afan Forest Park. The Artist in Residence was a project that arose from the Internal Working Group.
The Artist in Residence (funded by Groundwork & Artwork Wales) have made a positive contribution to the Afan Valley by working and engaging with local people of all ages and abilities to produce creative projects. Some of these projects included a new logo for Afan Forest Park, Interior Mosaic for Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre, and Graffiti Mural at Croeserw. Many of these projects have not just benefited locals in the area, but have helped to attract additional visitors to the Forest Park and Neath Port Talbot.

Forest Park rangers and police schools liaison officers have organised activity days for local schools.

**Partnership**

- The TGA is a partnership consisting of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Welsh Assembly Government and South West Wales Regional Tourism Partnership.
- An Internal Working Group was also established to help with the implementation of the TGA Action Plan, the group consisted of internal officers from Neath Port Talbot Council (Street care, Countryside, Traffic, Planning etc), Groundwork, Forestry Commission Wales and Community First Officers.

**Other Sources of Funding**

- Other sources of funding are indicated in the AFP TGA Action Plan Table, this is available on request.
- Between July 2002 – July 2005 over £300,000 of private sector funding was invested into Afan Forest Park e.g. Cycle Hire, B & B’s, Restaurant expansion.
Projects not in the original TGA Action Plan 2002 - 2005:

Glyncorrwg Ponds (Lead – Glyncorrwg Ponds Co-operative
Improvements around Fishery)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Source</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment Agency</td>
<td>£12,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Affiliated Sports Club (Lead, Paul Hinder - NPTCBC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Glyncorrwg</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sportlot Grant</td>
<td>320,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Inclusion Grant</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Sportlot Grant)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust Fund</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPTCBC</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>425,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cymmer Primary – Artificial Turf Pitch (Lead, Paul Hinder - NPTCBC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Opportunities Fund</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gateways One – Rhyslyn Car Park (Lead, Peter Cloke – FCW)
### Project Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhyslyn Car Park and Gyfylchi entrance</td>
<td>WAG P2P</td>
<td>£9,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>£6,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£15,283</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coed Morgannwg Way and Seating (Lead, Peter Cloke – FCW)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seating areas</td>
<td>Communities First</td>
<td>£1,585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coed Morgannwg Way</td>
<td>Communities First</td>
<td>£25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Japanese Twinning and Garden (Lead, Tim Harland – FCW)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forestry Commission</td>
<td>£5,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwork</td>
<td>£20,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gateways Phase 2 (Lead, Peter Cloke – FCW)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Entrances into the Forest Park (project</td>
<td>Objective 1, Anticipated</td>
<td>£32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>spend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>underway)</strong></td>
<td>Forestry Commission, Anticipated Spend £48,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective 1 Bid – Open Air Amphitheatre and development of footpaths**

Total - £150,000

Objective 1 - £70,500
Forestry Commission - £79,500

**Afan Forest Park Walking Packs**
Forestry Commission Wales - £7500 the new walks cards packs (5000).

**Sponsorship**

- NPower Renewables are the official sponsors of the 4 mountain bike trails. £33k was committed by Npower for the maintenance of the trails for 5 years starting from 2005.
ITEM 3, PART 1, SECTION A

URBAN 2 COMMUNITY KEY FUND

Purpose of Report

To seek approval for recommendations made by the Key Fund Advisory Panel regarding the allocation of the remainder of money under the Urban 2 Key Fund.

Background

Economic and Community Regeneration Board previously agreed to roll over the Urban 2 Key Fund allocation into this financial year. In order to ensure that projects can be completed and money spent by 31st March 2009, a bidding round was opened calling for applications to be received by 28th July 2008. There is £53,341 remaining in the Fund and 11 applications were received totalling £139,442.

The Key Fund Advisory Panel met on 3rd September to assess projects against the selection criteria and to make recommendations on funding in the light of the oversubscription to the remaining unallocated amount.

We have written to all applicants informing them of the Panel’s recommendations. Unsuccessful applicants have been signposted to other sources of funding including the rural development grant fund which will become operational later this year.
1. **TIDDLYWINKS**

**Project Title**

Tiddlywinks Feasibility Development

**Amount Applied For**

Urban 2 Key Fund: £14,834  
Total project cost: £14,834

**Project Description**

Detailed design and costings for the relocation and extension of the Childcare Centre to enable and complement increased economic and social opportunities within the area.

Tiddlywinks is a well established childcare facility that caters for children aged 6 weeks to 13 years in the Upper Swansea Valley. They provide an array of childcare services on 3 sites including the main centre, Ysgol y Wern and the Community Hall.

The organisation is also responsible for the development and facilitation of the Integrated Children’s Centre (ICC) concept within Ystalyfera and Godre’r Graig areas.

Whilst Tiddlywinks has developed and investigated all appropriate avenues to increase and adapt its service to reflect local needs, evidence gathered over the last few years continue to indicate a strong need locally for additional childcare places particularly for the under 2 age group.

They also recognises the need identified by parents for the development of an on site parents room. This would act as a central space allowing awareness raising, participation and consultation opportunities with parents and carers on services, their needs and the needs of the community and the partners involved in the ICC remit.
**Key issue**

Progress has been made on 2 potential avenues of development. In order to establish which of these developments best meets the needs of children and families in the area, Tiddlywinks is seeking grant funding to progress the feasibility studies as follows:

- Proposed purchase of land and new build on the Royal British Legion land next to the current facility. An initial feasibility design study has been undertaken and has indicated that a build of Tiddlywinks’ requirements is possible on the site.
- An independent valuation of the land has been undertaken and discussions are ongoing with potential partners (Gwalia and Community Council) to develop the site. In order to prepare for planning approval and apply for capital funds to build the new facility, Tiddlywinks is seeking grant aid to undertake detailed design plans and costings.
- The local Community Hall and Tiddlywinks have had tentative discussions around working in partnership to look at the possibility of developing a new build on the existing Community Hall site off Ynysydarren Rd whilst they continue to progress the potential development on the Royal British Legion.

In order to revisit this potential and establish whether this land is fit to meet both partners demands work is required to develop preliminary plans and design drawings.

**Demand for Project**

Since opening its doors in 1996, Tiddlywinks has grown from strength to strength and regularly cares for over 150 children on a weekly basis from about 120 families.

For the last few years Tiddlywinks has failed to accommodate the demand for its service, despite opening an overflow facility within the local primary school. There is an ever increasing waiting list for children under 2 and more often they fail to offer a place for this age group.

The funding sought will give Tiddlywinks the required documentation to pursue its vision and to apply to the various capital grant bodies.
**Additional Activities Delivered by Project**

None but this project will enable the project to progress to applying for a full funding package for the development of the new centre.

**Projected Economic Targets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TARGET</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross jobs created</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross jobs safeguarded</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New SME’s supported/advised</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing SME’s supported/advised</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW companies created</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of local facilities improved</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Panel Recommendation**

To approve the project for funding for the full amount requested £14,834.
2. CWMGORS VILLAGE FORUM

Project Title

Cwmgors Community Garden Heritage Park

Amount Applied For

Urban 2 Key Fund: £17,493.25
Total project cost: £45,642.25

Project Description

The project aims to create a pleasant community space in what is currently a run down park area. Within the village there are few outdoor facilities and this area could be put to good use.

Groundwork Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend and Upper Amman Valley Communities First have helped them to develop and deliver a scheme that the whole of Cwmgors would benefit from and enjoy.

Following a consultation event at Cwmgors Primary and discussions with local people a number of ideas were put forward. These ideas were compiled and plans with costings devised.

This application is for the remainder of funding needed to complete the project. The applicant has secured £5,000 from the C1st Trust Fund and £24,999 from WREN. Preliminary drawings and plans have been completed along with the clearance of the site.

There are a number of different elements within this project which will benefit the community:
- It will be accessible to all 24hrs a day
- The artistic elements will allow many local people to become involved and take ownership
- It will promote the local history of the village
- There will be an opportunity to gain new skills working with willow artists
- The garden will be an area for a number of different activities eg a quite place to enjoy, wild area, garden and heritage/information point.
**Demand for Project**

Currently the project site is a grey, tarmac inaccessible run down park area. The park has been neglected for over ten years. Until recently this area was overgrown and completely unusable, the vegetation has now been cleared and is being used by a handful of local young people as a meeting place. There is a recognised need for an outdoor space in this part of the village.

**Additional Activities Delivered by Project**

The project will:
- Change a grey unusable ex playground into a facility for all members of the community
- Cater for varying activities eg garden, heritage, recreation, art and wildlife
- Be used by the local primary school as an outdoor classroom
- Provide a space where community members can enjoy and relax
- Bring the community together to maintain the garden.

**Projected Economic Targets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TARGET</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross jobs created</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross jobs safeguarded</td>
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<tr>
<td>New SME’s supported/advised</td>
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<td>Existing SME’s supported/advised</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW companies created</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of local facilities improved</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Panel Recommendation**

To approve the project for funding for the full amount requested £17,493.25
3. **CYMMER AFAN COMPREHENSIVE PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

**Project Title**

Feasibility Study – health and fitness facility

**Amount Applied For**

Urban 2 Key Fund: £6,800  
Total project cost: £6,800

**Project Description**

The project involves appointing external consultants to undertake an initial research and development study into the feasibility of providing a Health & Fitness Facility in the Upper Afan Valley.

The purpose of the research will be to establish local need and to identify the optimal solution in terms of the type, location and proposed users of the facility.

The key areas to consider within the Study include:-

1. Demand; questionnaires/house to house surveys/interviews etc to ascertain aspects that are thought to be essential to understanding local people’s aspirations, including:
   - The type of facility required i.e. cardio-vascular/fitness, resistance equipment/weights, health & well being etc
   - What activities are people most likely to participate in? (what does the customer want) (given range of activities to choose from). Feasibility Study to feature a “Needs Assessment”.
   - How often are people likely to participate in their preferred activity? (given a range).
   - At what time of day would people prefer to participate? (this to translate into programming the facility’s timetable of activities and also to fashion the opening hours).
   - Does the respondent participate in the preferred activity now, if so where?
   - How far people are prepared to travel to the proposed facility to participate?
• How much would you be prepared to pay for the activities that could be offered (given a range)?

2. A list of recommendations.

**Demand for Project**

The health of the population of the Upper Afan Valley could possibly be described as the worst in Wales based upon the communities of Gwynfi, Cymmer and Glyncorwrg standing at 1, 3 and 6 respectively in the All Wales Health Index.

The Feasibility Study will be a precursor to the development of a new facility which will help to address the health issues in the Upper Afan Valleys and also assist in meeting the needs of organisations using other facilities in the local area.

The provision of a health and fitness facility will also complement other local strategies such as NPT Western Valleys Strategy which points to initiatives to increase levels of physical activity, particularly among the inactive adult population.

**Additional Activities Delivered by Project**

The Study will be a forerunner in identifying the activities that local people are most likely to participate in and what the potential customer wants. Respondents to the study will be given a range of activities to choose from and will be encouraged to offer other options. Other questions will include how often people are likely to participate in their preferred activity and at what time of day they would prefer to participate? This will translate into programming the new facility’s timetable of activities and also to fashion the opening hours.

**Projected Economic Targets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TARGET</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross jobs created</td>
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<td>Gross jobs safeguarded</td>
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<td>New SME’s supported/advised</td>
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<td>Existing SME’s supported/advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW companies created</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of local facilities improved</td>
<td>1 *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The feasibility study will lead to the development of a new facility
** The number of jobs created will be dependant upon the type, size and scope of the new facility.

**Panel Recommendation**

To approve the project for funding for the full amount requested £6,800.
4. **GOYTRE ACTION PLAN**

**Project Title**

Goytre Action Plan Feasibility

**Amount Applied For**

Urban 2 Key Fund: £24,995  
Total project cost: £24,995*

* No quotes obtained, amount is estimated at absolute maximum from previous experience.

**Project Description**

Goytre Action Plan is a community-based group that are seeking funding to:

A. Undertake a feasibility study into the demolition and re-build of the village community hall with a view to:
   - establishing the cost and likely timescale of the proposed capital works
   - determining responsibility for fund-raising for the demolition and re-build given that the site is currently owned by NPTCBC
   - researching and making recommendations on an optimum ownership agreement between the Authority and GAP
   - researching and making recommendations on optimum outline design for a new-build so as to encompass many of the community requirements identified in a recent community survey
   - recommending an optimum outline design so as to maximise income-generating potential from activities held at the new-build
   - researching and informing GAP of likely revenue costs in the operation of a new-build centre
   - recommending reasonable and affordable opening times so as to best provide for both the needs of the community and for income generation.
• Weigh all of the above and other factors and make an overall recommendation on feasibility

B. Purchase basic IT equipment to enable the group to more easily communicate with supporting organisations and potential funders so as to develop the above and other project ideas to meet community need.

Demand for Project
During June 2008, a survey was conducted door to door by volunteers in the 175 households in the community of Goytre. 84% of households stated that they would see benefit in the development and would support it at the current site.

Other than the now derelict village hall, there are no public-use buildings within the village. The nearest alternatives are in Port Talbot and public transport in the evenings is non-existent.

NPTCBC, the site owner has visited the site and deemed that the existing building is fit only for demolition.

Additional Activities Delivered by Project
The project will assess and establish the feasibility of dedicated community provision within Goytre.

Consideration will be given to the launch of a number of services based at the Centre identified by the community in a recent survey. Among these were a youth club, computer classes, a gym, a credit union savings point, a mother and toddler group, drama, art and design, an advice clinic, a sports area, bingo and a coffee/recreation area.
Proposed Economic Targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TARGET</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross jobs created</td>
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<td>Gross jobs safeguarded</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Existing SME’s supported/advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW companies created</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of local facilities improved</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Panel Recommendation

To approve the project.

The Panel felt that £24,995 was over estimating the cost of feasibility study.

It is recommended to grant the applicant £7,000, the remainder of funds left in the scheme.

5. NEATH PORT TALBOT CREDIT UNION

Project Title

Expansion of Data Processing and Storage Capacity

Amount Applied For

Urban 2 Key Fund: £5,103.55
Total project cost: £5,103.55

Project Description

This project seeks to upgrade member transaction capability for Neath Port Talbot Credit Union. The Credit Union has been operating since April 2005 and is shortly due to merge with Afan
Credit Union. The effect of this merger will be to increase pressure on already ageing and limited data processing and storage hardware.

The current staff complement will be increased from 0.5fte to 2fte by the end of September 2008 and the gross membership will almost double. The hardware capability in both the main office and in Afan Credit Union office is extremely limited and budget does not currently exist for the upgrading of hardware and storage furniture.

This equipment will enable NPTCU to more easily cope with the transactional and data implications of the merger and better deliver its services both to up-Valley and schools collection points as well as to better deal with data in both main offices.

**Demand for Project**

Prior to the establishment of Neath Port Talbot Credit Union in 1995 a comprehensive postal survey of residents and employees in Neath Port Talbot was undertaken to gauge the level of support and likely use of the credit union.

This indicated broad support for the credit union and geographically an indication that services would be in demand throughout the County Borough.

Because of resource constraints in the first three years of trading, it was not possible to comprehensively meet continuing demand, particularly from communities’ hard-hit by indebtedness, to extend services into all those communities.

Requests from these communities for those services have continued throughout the three-year interim and these have grown in the context of the current “credit crunch”. This anecdotal evidence has been reinforced recently by the dramatic increase in the numbers seeking loans for accommodation bonds.

**Additional Activities Delivered by Project**

The following services can be developed and delivered more effectively as a result of this project:

Additional community savings points launched and serviced (08-09): 6

Additional schools savings points launched and
supported (08-09): 6
Paypoint launched with target new membership (08-09): 100

**Projected Economic Targets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TARGET</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross jobs created</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross jobs safeguarded</td>
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<tr>
<td>New SME’s supported/advised</td>
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<td>Existing SME’s supported/advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW companies created</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of local facilities improved</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Panel Recommendation

To approve the project for the full amount £5,130.55.
Financial Implications of these Approvals

The approval of 5 of the 11 projects will ensure that £51,257.80 of funds will be allocated and fully spent by the end of the current financial year.

Goytre Action Plan Feasibility Study £ 7,000.00  
Neath Port Talbot Credit Union £ 5,130.55  
Cymmer Afan Comprehensive PTA £ 6,800.00  
Cwmgors Village Forum £17,493.25  
Tiddlywinks Feasibility Study £14,834.00  
**Total** £51,257.80  

There are no other cost implications for the Authority.

Consultation Outcome

All projects were brought to the attention of interested parties both internally and externally and any comments received were provided to the Advisory Panel for consideration when scoring the projects.

Recommendation

To endorse the Panel’s recommendations for funding.

Reason for Proposed Decision

To ensure spend of the Urban 2 Key Fund by 31st March 2009.

List of Background Papers

None

Wards Affected

Bryn & Cwmafan  
Cymmer  
Gwaen Cae Gurwen  
Ystalyfera  
Credit Union Project affects all wards in County Borough
Officer Contact

Julia Wilkins, Valleys Programme Coordinator, Economic Development and Valleys Programme
Tel.No. 01639 686087
E.Mail: j.wilkins@npt.gov.uk.
ITEM 3, PART 1, SECTION A - COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

URBAN 2 COMMUNITY KEY FUND

a) Implementation of Decision

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three-day-call in period.

b) Sustainability Appraisal

Community Plan Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Prosperity</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Lifelong Learning</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better Health &amp; Well Being</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment &amp; Transport</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime &amp; Disorder</td>
<td>No Impact</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Impact</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welsh Language</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Development</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equalities</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Inclusion</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c) Consultation

There has been no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.
## APPENDIX 1 – Key Fund Spend to Date.

### RURAL KEY FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glynneath Training Centre – New Resource Room</td>
<td>£ 24,748</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIEW- DOVE Community Garden – Phase I</td>
<td>£ 45,725</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neath &amp; Tennant Canal PS</td>
<td>£ 49,950</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cwmllynfell Community Council – Rhwfawr Rushlands</td>
<td>£ 48,974</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awel Amman Tawe – Car/Bike Park, Cwmllynfell</td>
<td>£ 39,500</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lliw Valley Womens’ Aid</td>
<td>£ 16,370</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s Community Hall, Blaengwrach</td>
<td>£ 50,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amman &amp; Loughor Heritage Walks Association – interpretive panels</td>
<td>£ 7,669</td>
<td>COMPLETE (part Rural/Urban 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glynneath Training Centre – Creche Development</td>
<td>£ 35,031 + £ 8,975</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neath Citizens’ Advice Bureau – kiosks</td>
<td>£ 11,210</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pontardawe Arena – Tourism Centre</td>
<td>£ 50,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neath PT Community Transport – new minibus</td>
<td>£ 14,243</td>
<td>COMPLETE (part Rural/Urban 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enfys Foundation – building conversion</td>
<td>£ 42,840</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neath PT Care &amp; Repair – New Headquarters</td>
<td>£ 50,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glynneath Town Council</td>
<td>10,958</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE COSTS</strong></td>
<td>32,848</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CAPITAL ALLOCATED</strong></td>
<td>507,152</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL RURAL</strong></td>
<td>540,000</td>
<td>RURAL FUND NOW FULLY COMMITTED</td>
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</table>
## URBAN 1 KEY FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glyncorrwg Ponds – Environmental Works</td>
<td>£ 16,154</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASC Glyncorrwg – Mechanical &amp; Electrical work to complete community facility</td>
<td>£ 12,970</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonmawr 2000 – new foyer/reception area</td>
<td>£ 49,938</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ynysdawley Playing Fields Association – Woodland Access</td>
<td>£ 48,150</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amman Valley Trotting Club – Harness Race Track Phase I</td>
<td>£ 45,866</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASC Glyncorrwg – car parking</td>
<td>£ 23,457</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>WG Rainbow Boat Trust – stair-lift at Ty Banc Cottage</td>
<td>£ 1,895</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amman &amp; Loughor Heritage Walks Association – interpretive panels</td>
<td>£ 11,503</td>
<td>COMPLETE (part Rural/Urban 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neath &amp; Tennant Canal PS – Resolven Lock Gates</td>
<td>£ 50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neath PT Community Transport – new minibus</td>
<td>£ 24,753</td>
<td>COMPLETE (part Rural/Urban 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Wales Miners’ Museum – contribution to new building</td>
<td>£ 50,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE (bar non-key fund element)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dulais Valley Transport – new minibus</td>
<td>£ 50,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amman Valley Enterprise – HQ Improvements</td>
<td>£ 50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project</td>
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<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amman Valley Trotting Club – Harness Race Track Phase II (drainage)</td>
<td>£ 47,824</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crynant Community Council – IT Room</td>
<td>£ 2,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCG Community Council – fees for Hall Improvements</td>
<td>£ 1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neath Citizens’ Advice Bureau – kiosks</td>
<td>£ 28,024</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIEW- DOVE Community Garden – Phase II</td>
<td>£ 34,521</td>
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<tr>
<td>STRIDES – educational workshops &amp; equipment</td>
<td>£ 45,207</td>
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<tr>
<td>BNPT Groundwork – exhibition equipment</td>
<td>£ 18,502</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aberavon Surf Life-Saving Club – new storeroom</td>
<td>£ 29,503</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glyncorrwg Ponds – Caravan &amp; Camp Site</td>
<td>£ 23,484</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSA – catering training equipment</td>
<td>£ 49,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afan FM – radio studio and reception</td>
<td>£ 48,714</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melincrythan Community Conference – cyber-cafe</td>
<td>£ 50,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crynant Community Council – Woodland Access</td>
<td>£ 48,957</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ystalyfera Health &amp; Well-Being Centre</td>
<td>£ 49,842</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Positive Direction – motor training unit</td>
<td>£ 30,100</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ystalyfera Development Trust – basement conversion</td>
<td>£ 43,905</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Wales Miners’</td>
<td>£ 10,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Description</td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum - fees</td>
<td>£ 12,925</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dulais Valley Partnership – environmental improvements</td>
<td>£ 12,925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amman Valley Trotting Club - completion of track lighting</td>
<td>£ 6,273</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE COSTS</strong></td>
<td>£ 65,698</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CAPITAL ALLOCATED</strong></td>
<td>£1,008,029</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL URBAN 1</strong></td>
<td>£1,080,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROJECT</td>
<td>COST</td>
<td>PROGRESS</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Port Talbot YMCA – CCTV installation</td>
<td>£ 10,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neath YMCA – contribution towards new music-room</td>
<td>£ 10,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neath Youth Partnership – town youth centre Area</td>
<td>£ 5,316</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Theodore’s Youth Project – new building</td>
<td>£ 10,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Glamorgan CADA – new IT suite</td>
<td>£ 7,550</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tan Dance Ltd – new office equipment</td>
<td>£ 1,927</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age Concern Neath PT – telephone exchange</td>
<td>£ 4,182</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gwyn Hall, Alltwen – new community hall</td>
<td>£ 20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neath YMCA – windows installation</td>
<td>£ 9,998</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neath PT Care &amp; Repair new Painting &amp; Decorating vehicle</td>
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<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<td>Primestart Neath Ltd.</td>
<td>£ 10,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEWIS – HQ improvements</td>
<td>£ 10,000</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAN Dance Ltd. – office furniture and equipment</td>
<td>£ 2,639</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neath Youth Partnership – fire escape</td>
<td>£ 9,274</td>
<td>Completion Oct 08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dyffryn Clydach Environmental Group – Coed Bach Wood</td>
<td>£ 7,773</td>
<td>COMPLETE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friends of Aberdulais Falls – tea room and car park</td>
<td>£16,000</td>
<td>ECR Board 21st Aug 08</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GRANTS ALLOCATED</strong></td>
<td>£144,659</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL URBAN 2</strong></td>
<td>£196,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BALANCE REMAINING</strong></td>
<td>£51,341</td>
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