

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY REGENERATION CABINET BOARD

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT – G. NUTT

4TH DECEMBER 2014

SECTION A – MATTER FOR INFORMATION

WARD(S) AFFECTED: Cymmer

TRAINING COURSES AT CROESERW COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE CENTRE

Purpose of Report

To inform members of the success of learning and training courses taking place at Croeserw Community Enterprise Centre.

Background

Croeserw Community Enterprise Centre was built to respond to the ever challenging and demands in the Upper Afan Valley by providing a state of the art fit for purpose centre that not only provides essential and traditional community activities but also equip the community with the skills, training and entrepreneurial/enterprise opportunities to compete and work in the current global economy. Its stated aims in the business plan were:

Project Aim 1

To create a community enterprise centre that will provide skills and training development to address the high level of high economic inactivity.

Project Aim 2

To provide a range of advisory support services that can reduce the high levels of economic inactivity and assist and engender an entrepreneurial culture in the area.

The centre officially opened in September 2013 and immediately started providing further – learning and training courses to improve opportunities for employment.

Working in partnership with organisations such as Communities First, Skills and Training Unit, Adult Community Learning, NSA Afan and Bridgend College, courses provided at the centre include sector specific skills such as hair and beauty, general construction, plastering, carpentry, essential skills and ICT.

There have also been several ‘Springboard into Work’ courses including sectors such as Retail, Gardening, Care and Construction and employability courses in Food Hygiene, Manual Handling, First Aid and Health and Social Care which have been jointly organised by the council’s Regeneration Team and Communities First. All the courses organised have been accredited courses.

To date there have been:

- Over 30 courses held including IT, Carpentry, Plastering, Hairdressing and Cookery
- Over 150 people attending from throughout the Upper Afan Valley and Llynfi Valley with all who completed the course receiving accreditation

All courses have been oversubscribed and are continuing to prove very popular. The centre is on course to meet all its outputs, rented out all available office space and has consistently met its revenue targets since opening thus contributing to its long term sustainability.

Appendices

None

List of Background Papers

None

Officer Contact

For further information on this report, please contact Andrew Collins, Property and Regeneration on 01639 686416 or e-mail a.collins@npt.gov.uk