

Citizen Directed Co-operatives Cymru

Working together for independence

Q What is the Citizen Directed Co-operatives Cymru (CDCC) Project?

CDCC is a partnership between Disability Wales and Wales Co-operative Centre and is funded by Big Lottery's BIG Innovation fund.

The project will:

- Develop the UK's first user led Direct Payment co-operative;
- Increase uptake of Direct Payments across Wales (particularly from underrepresented groups);
- Support greater choice, voice and control for citizens.

Welsh Government recognises that Direct Payments are a powerful driver for independence and innovation. However, uptake of Direct Payments in Wales is low. This project aims to address this by offering recipients a real alternative to managing their Direct Payments.

Q What is a Citizen Directed Co-operative?

"Citizen Directed" means allowing people choice, voice and control.

A Citizen Directed Co-operative will be owned and run by disabled people and it will be used to help members manage their Direct Payments. All members will have a say as to how the co-operative is run and what support it offers.

Q What would a Direct Payment Co-operative do differently?

The co-operative will help citizens to manage their Direct Payments. It will

be owned, run and developed by its members. Decisions about how the co-operative will operate will be made by the members. We imagine the citizen directed co-operative will offer opportunities for the following:

Sharing

Members can make effective use of Direct Payments by sharing resources and pooling payments.

Creativity

There are endless possibilities as to how the co-operative can utilise the pooled Direct Payments. The community element of the co-operative will support and inspire members to use their Direct Payments in a creative way.

Peer Support

Through offering training and mentoring to new and existing members, the co-operative will help members manage their personal assistants and engage with the co-operative.

Q What are the benefits of a Citizen Directed Co-operative?

Not only would a Citizen Directed Co-operative enable members to utilise the flexibility, freedom and choice of Direct Payments, but recent research indicates that disabled people's involvement in co-operatives has many positive benefits:

- Integration into the community;
- More opportunities for employment and education;
- Improved health;
- Increased self-confidence;
- Improved quality of daily life;
- Less anxiety and depression.

Q What will the CDCC Project involve?

The CDCC Project will develop at least one functioning Citizen Directed Co-operative which will support members to manage their Direct Payments. The project will do this through:

• Encouraging:

Through a programme of regional workshops, we will meet with disabled people, Disabled People's Organisations, Local Authorities

and other relevant stakeholders to increase their knowledge of the project and encourage them to participate.

• Engaging:

With support from the Wales Co-operative Centre, we will work with interested groups to develop their business plan for their co-operative. At least one group will be selected to take forward their business plan.

• Excelling:

We will offer practical and financial support to the emerging co-operative to ensure its success and sustainability. Other proposed co-operatives will be signposted to sources of support.

• Evaluating:

We will evaluate the project and create a toolkit to support other groups to develop their own Direct Payment co-operatives.

Q How do I find out more?

For more information about the project contact the Citizen Directed Co-operatives Cymru Development Officer:

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Mentrau Cydweithredol dan Arweiniad Dinasyddion

Cydweithio er annibyniaeth

Q Beth yw'r Project?

Partneriaeth rhwng Anabledd Cymru & Canolfan Cydweithredol Cymru, gydag arian gan gronfa arloesi'r Loteri Fawr.

Bydd yn:

- Datblygu menter gydweithredol gyntaf y Deyrnas Unedig i gefnogi taliadau uniongyrchol;
- Cynyddu defnydd o daliadau uniongyrchol ar draws y wlad (yn arbennig gan grwpiau nad ydynt yn debyg o'u hawlio);
- Rhoi gwell dewis, llais a rheolaeth i bobl.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod taliadau uniongyrchol fel dull grymus o gynnal annibyniaeth ac arloesi. Ond mae eu defnydd yng Nghymru yn dal yn isel. Nod y project hwn yw taclo hynny wrth gynnig ffordd amgen o reoli taliadau uniongyrchol i'r rhai sy'n eu hawlio.

Q Beth yw menter cydweithredol dan arweiniad dinasyddion?

Menter sy'n cynnig llais cryf, rheolaeth a dewis gwirioneddol i unigolion.

Pobl anabl sy'n berchen ac yn rhedeg mentrau fel hyn er mwyn helpu aelodau i reoli eu taliadau uniongyrchol. Bydd pob aelod yn lleisio barn ar reolaeth y fenter a pha gymorth bydd yn cynnig.

Q Beth fydd menter o'r fath yn gwneud yn wahanol?

Bydd yn helpu'r aelodau i reoli eu taliadau uniongyrchol, ond yn

wahanol i gynlluniau traddodiadol, bydd yr aelodau'n berchen, rhedeg ac yn datblygu'r fenter. Yr aelodau fydd yn cymryd penderfyniadau o ran sut i'w gweithredu. Rhagwelir creu cyfle i wneud y dilynol:

Rhannu

Aelodau'n gwneud defnydd effeithiol o daliadau uniongyrchol wrth rannu adnoddau a chronni taliadau.

Creu

Mae posibiladau diddiwedd o ran sut i ddefnyddio cronfeydd taliadau uniongyrchol. Bydd elfen gymunedol y fenter yn helpu ac ysbrydoli aelodau i ddefnyddio'u taliadau uniongyrchol mewn ffyrdd creadigol.

Cymorth cyfoedion

Wrth gynnig hyfforddiant a mentora i aelodau hen a newydd, bydd yn helpu aelodau i reoli eu cynorthwywyr personol a chydweithio â'r fenter.

Q Buddion menter o'r fath?

Bydd nid yn unig yn galluogi aelodau i elwa o hyblygrwydd, rhyddid a dewis taliadau uniongyrchol, ond yn ôl ymchwil diweddar bydd bod yn rhan o fenter gydweithredol yn cynnig nifer o fuddion eraill:

- Integreiddio o fewn cymuned
- Mwy o gyfleoedd gwaith ac addysg
- Gwella iechyd
- Cynyddu hunanhyder
- Gwella ansawdd bywyd beunyddiol
- Lleihau pryder ac iselder.

Q Nod y Project?

Bydd yn datblygu o leiaf un fenter gydweithredol o dan arweiniad dinasyddion er helpu aelodau i reoli eu taliadau uniongyrchol. Bydd yn gwneud hynny drwy gyfrwng yr isod:

• Cymell:

Trefnu rhaglen o weithdai rhanbarthol er mwyn cyfarfod pobl anabl, cyrff pobl anabl, awdurdodau lleol a rhanddeiliaid eraill er

gwella ymwybyddiaeth o'r project a'u cymell i gyfranogi.

• Cysylltu:

Gyda chymorth Canolfan Cydweithredol Cymru, byddwn yn cydweithio â grwpiau er datblygu cynllun busnes ar gyfer menter gydweithredol. Fe ddewisir un grŵp i fynd ymlaen â'i gynllun busnes.

• Cyflawni:

Cynnig cymorth ymarferol ac ariannol i'r darpar fenter er mwyn sicrhau llwyddiant a chynnaladwyedd. Byddwn yn cyfeirio darpar fentrau eraill i ffynonellau cymorth.

• Gwerthuso:

Gwerthuso'r project a chreu pecyn adnoddau i helpu grwpiau eraill i ddatblygu mentrau eraill.

Q Manylion pellach?

Cysylltwch â'r swyddog datblygu:

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