

4.1 Overview

These model projects will help realise many of the potential benefits of the strategic projects – particularly in social and environmental areas. They also contribute towards elements of regional and local sustainable development strategies.

They have an impact in the following areas:

- Community Regeneration
- Access for All
- Environmental Improvement
- Cultural Tourism
- Lifelong Learning

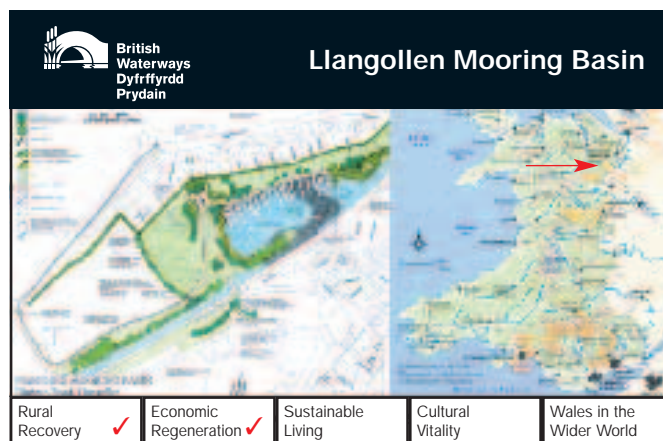
What appear below are projects that have been completed or are in progress for illustration, and others that are planned awaiting funding or are preliminary ideas.

The projects described have been chosen from British Waterways' experience in the field. Additional or alternative project ideas are welcomed as part of the consultation. In particular, ideas for projects from those interested in other waterways and waterspaces would ensure future plans cover all of Wales.

4.2 Detailed project summaries

4.2.1 Community regeneration

Llangollen mooring basin



Project description

The project will create an off-line mooring basin with associated facilities for up to 32 boats. This will double the existing mooring capacity at Llangollen.

Project outputs

An additional:

- 2,900 boat days in Llangollen
- 42,500 day visitors
- 10,000 holiday visits
- £200,000 visitor spend each year
- 27 person years construction employment
permanent jobs

Potential funding partners

Welsh Development Agency
Denbighshire County Council
Wales Tourist Board
ERDF Objective 1
British Waterways

Funding required

£1.6 million

Swansea Port Tawe Innovation Village

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living ✓	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World ✓
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Project description

The Port Tawe Innovation Village is a key element of the next era of the city's development and the establishment of Swansea's identity as a major 'Waterfront City'. A waterspace strategy will present a clear vision for the strategic development of this waterbody, within the framework of the Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Project outputs

- Identifies a balanced mix of complementary uses, based on British Waterways' and partners' commercial and leisure experience at similar locations in the UK and overseas
- Tests options against the physical limitations of the given waterspace (existing or new) and considers the relationship to the canal, river and coastal waters
- A base level solution that will bring life and vitality to the water and surrounding public spaces and which is flexible enough to accommodate changes in the overall master plan
- Promotes the regional and national significance of former docks, basins, the maritime quarters, new National Maritime Museum and other sites of industrial, cultural and historic importance

Potential project partners

- Welsh Development Agency
- British Waterways
- Local Authorities
- Private Sector
- Local Community
- Wales Tourist Board

Funding required

To be assessed

Goytre wharf

Rural Recovery ✓	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living ✓	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World ✓
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Project description

Goytre Wharf is a strategic site that is being developed as a focal point on the canal for leisure, recreation and business development.

Project outputs

- Protected waterways heritage and environment through sensitive design of new and existing functional facilities
- New commercial base for an existing boat hire and service facility
- Improved customer and visitor access especially for those with special needs
- Improved facilities for industrial heritage museum, educational visits and meetings
- New catering and retail outlet for Welsh products facilities
- Promotes activities for visitors of all ages
- Tourist information resource

Partners

- Local Authorities
- Wales Tourist Board
- Welsh Development Agency
- European Funding Agencies
- British Waterways
- Private Investment
- Assistance from the Monmouthshire, Brecon & Abergavenny Canals Trust
- Goytre Boat Owners Association

Funding secured

£800,000

Cwmbran aqueduct

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality	Wales in the Wider World
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Project description

A major constraint in the scheme to complete restoration of the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal by 2009 is the financial funding required to construct a new aqueduct over Green Meadow Way which dissected the route of the canal in 1960 as part of a new highway system for the new town development.

Project outputs

- Maximise the potential of inland waterway routes as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration
- Provide towns along the canal with trans-national and regional links with the canal system of England, Ireland and the continent
- A contemporary functionally designed structure linked with a high quality town centre scheme will help local people improve their quality of life, assist local retail, hotels, and service industries to flourish and be attractive to visitors
- Waterways can contribute to both property led regeneration, tourism, and local benefits accruing from environmental and heritage enhancement

Potential project partners

Local Authority
 Monmouthshire, Brecon & Abergavenny Canals Trust
 British Waterways
 Other funding partners being sought

Funding required

Circa £3 million

Crindau development

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living ✓	Cultural Vitality	Wales in the Wider World ✓
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Project description

Waterways can be used to create new environments from old and tired urban areas. This is a contemporary functionally designed development and high quality environment. It comprises a marina and associated mixed use development. It provides a new waterway link to the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.

Project outputs

- Helps local people improve their quality of life
- Development of a new water green way will ensure that the new environment meets the needs of local communities and creates a wildlife corridor joining urban and rural areas
- Provides local retail, hotel and service industries that are attractive to visitors
- Completes a navigable corridor to Brecon and provides Newport with trans-national, regional links with the canal system of England, Ireland and the continent
- Well designed water resource can alleviate urban flooding in the Crindau flood plain
- Improves water quality and habitat for aquatic life

Potential project partners

Local Authorities
 Wales Tourist Board
 Welsh Development Agency
 European Funding Agencies
 Countryside Council for Wales
 Private Developers
 British Waterways

Funding required

£4 million

South Pontypool community

South Pontypool Community & Visitor Activity Centre

Rural Recovery ✓	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living ✓	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World ✓
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Project description

Developing an attractive, well managed, but quiet section of canal at Pontymoile Basin will have the potential to enhance the visitors perspective of the waterways value, by creating an activity centre, providing canoeing, cycling, walking, hill climbing and accommodation. Realising these benefits will advantage local excluded groups, the wider community and visitors to the area.

Project outputs

- Regional centre for canoeing and other pursuits including the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme
- Better health through opportunities for walking and active recreation, to develop a healthy lifestyle
- Self-contained accommodation including affordable bunkhouse with supporting facilities attractive to all visitors
- Classroom, studio, games and computer room, secure bike/canoe lock up, gear store and kit shop
- Increased confidence and understanding, enabling visitors with special needs to take part in mainstream activities with confidence that facilities will meet their needs
- Increased social awareness of other facilities along the waterway corridor through a European National Parks Gate Way initiative

Partners

- Local Authorities
- Wales Tourist Board
- Sports Council for Wales
- Private Developers
- British Waterways
- Welsh Development Agency

Funding required Total £760k (Objective 1 Area - 75% support funding)

4.2.2 Access for all

Welshpool to Belan Locks

Access Improvements Welshpool to Belan Locks

Rural Recovery ✓	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living ✓	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World ✓
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Project description

Improvement of towpath in this area of approximately 2km in length to provide better access and encourage more use of the towpath. The improvement scheme could be delivered by utilising a number of resources, including local volunteer community groups and probationary service groups, as well as agricultural training colleges. British Waterways would provide planning, training and supervision.

Project outputs

- Access for All, including creation of access for people of all abilities
- 2km of improved towpath
- Increased visitor numbers
- Sustainable transport route

Potential project partners

- Countryside Council for Wales
- British Waterways
- Powys County Council
- Welshpool Partnership
- Enfys – New Opportunities Fund
- Environment Agency Wales

Funding required

£120,000

Montgomery Access for All



The banner for 'Montgomery Access for All' features the British Waterways logo (Dyffirfyrd, Prydain) in the top left. The main title 'Montgomery Access for All' is centered at the top. Below the title, there are two images: on the left, a scenic view of a canal with a towpath and trees; on the right, a map of Wales with a red arrow pointing to the Montgomery area. At the bottom, there is a row of five boxes, each with a category name and a red checkmark: Rural Recovery, Economic Regeneration, Sustainable Living, Cultural Vitality, and Wales in the Wider World.

Project description

Improvement of the towpath and access points to encourage a wider use of the canal for leisure and recreation. The enhancement of the canalside could be delivered by utilising a variety of resources including both voluntary groups and the New Deal environmental task force. British Waterways will provide training and site supervision.

Project outputs

- Improved access for all along the canalside
- Improved access points onto the waterway
- Increased visitor numbers
- Sustainable transport route

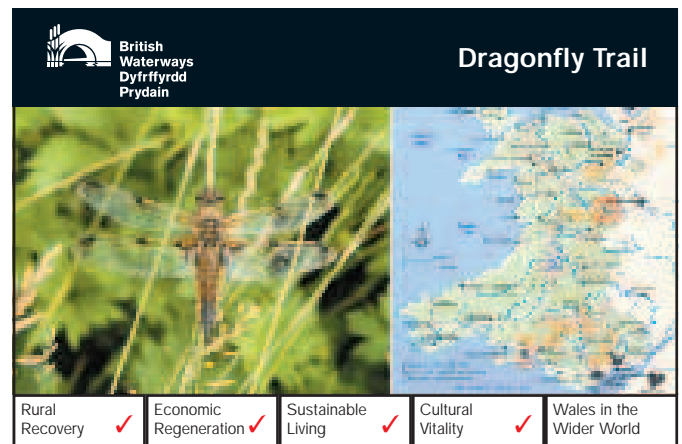
Potential project partners

Countryside Council for Wales
 British Waterways
 Powys County Council
 Enfys – New Opportunities Fund
 Environment Agency Wales

Funding required

£360,000

Dragonfly trail



The banner for 'Dragonfly Trail' features the British Waterways logo (Dyffirfyrd, Prydain) in the top left. The main title 'Dragonfly Trail' is centered at the top. Below the title, there are two images: on the left, a close-up of a dragonfly on a reed; on the right, a map of Wales with a red arrow pointing to the Welshpool area. At the bottom, there is a row of five boxes, each with a category name and a red checkmark: Rural Recovery, Economic Regeneration, Sustainable Living, Cultural Vitality, and Wales in the Wider World.

Project description

This project will develop a trail centred round the town of Welshpool. It will provide an attraction for the town and the canal itself. The scheme has already received a great deal of local support and the required funding is now in place. Implementation of the trail will begin in spring 2003.

The project will include the following improvements:

- The refurbishment of Welshpool town lock
- The refurbishment of the towpath to provide a circular route linking the town centre with the canal
- The provision of public art to promote the trail
- Interpretation and information boards about the heritage of the Town, canal and environmental information boards
- The involvement of the local community and local schools

Project outputs

- Jobs created
- 24,000 increased visitor numbers
- 200m of upgraded towpath
- £53,000 additional visitor spend

Funding partners

British Waterways
 Powys County Council
 Welshpool Partnership
 Welsh Development Agency
 Enfys – New Opportunities Fund
 ERDF Objective 2
 Environment Agency Wales

Funding secured

£130,000

Sculpture trail

British Waterways
Dyfrdwydd
Prydain

Sculpture Trail

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality	Wales in the Wider World
✓	✓	✓	✓	

Project description

To implement a long-term sculpture trail project, which would involve situating public artwork of flora and fauna that are indigenous to the Montgomery canal. Artists will be commissioned to work with members of the local community groups to develop themes and ideas for the creation of a number of sculptures. The local distinctiveness of the locations will be reflected through the chosen themes and the use of local materials.

Project outputs

- Engagement of local communities
- Local employment
- Education and training opportunities for local schools and community groups
- Heightened awareness and understanding of important flora and fauna along the canal corridor
- An attraction for tourism from outside the immediate area

Potential project partners

Arts Council for Wales
Powys County Council
British Waterways
Local community
Countryside Council for Wales
Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust

Funding required

£100,000

South Wales access projects

British Waterways
Dyfrdwydd
Prydain

South Wales Access Projects

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality	Wales in the Wider World
		✓	✓	

Project description

A programme of sensitively designed towpath surfacing projects in partnership with local authorities, communities and access groups through a schedule of schemes. They will provide all weather surfaces and will identify strategically located access points where parking can be made available for special needs groups.

Project outputs

- Access survey
- Identifies strategically located entrance points and parking for special needs groups
- Highlights links with regional network of public rights of way
- Provides safe and sustainable surfacing through new design standards
- Meets local needs by linking safe routes to schools
- Creates a network of paths linking and improving community life
- Communicating the culture of the area through on site interpretation
- A visual link with the communities history which is often a source of great pride
- Connecting routes for cycle ways through a variety of countryside locations with land and water links
- Accessible towpaths are the source of opportunities to developing healthier life styles

Partners

Local Authorities
Wales Tourist Board
European Funding Agencies
British Waterways

Funding required

£700,000

4.2.3 Environment

Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal biodiversity

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living ✓	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World
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Project description

Use ecological appraisal to develop a biodiversity action plan to ensure the canal's continued use as a sustainable recreational amenity. Deliver initiatives to protect special species and promote good ecological practices. The canal includes nationally important sites and many locally important habitats.

Project outputs

- Developing partnerships to produce bio-diversity action plans to conserve and enhance wildlife habitats and species
- Support to the 'Newport, Bettws Community' in their initiative to deliver a sustainable wetland project in partnership with the local authority and Barclays Bank
- Tree survey and management plan for the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal
- Combat the spread of invasive plant species
- Create conservation reserves and safeguard the habitat of waterway crustaceans and mammals
- Complete specific ecological appraisal of Fourteen Locks and the Crindau Pill

Partners

Local Authorities
 European Funding Agency (Interreg IIc and IIId)
 Local Wildlife Trust
 Volunteers
 British Waterways

Funding required

£300,000

Montgomery Canal biodiversity nature reserves

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living ✓	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World
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Project description

A management plan has been developed by our ecology team to promote best practice with regard to the management and maintenance of the nature reserves at Wern, Brithdir and Whitehouse on the Welsh section of the Montgomery Canal. We propose to involve a local community group of either trainees or recognised training organisations, to effectively adopt the management and maintenance of the nature reserves.

Project outputs

- Local involvement with the development of the reserves
- Develop environmental education for small community groups
- Develop training skills on environmental management under expert supervision and guidance
- A sustainable maintenance regime, to ensure that the maximum benefits of the reserve are realised

Project partners

Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust
 British Waterways
 Powys County Council
 Countryside Council for Wales
 Environment Agency Wales
 British Trust for Conservation Volunteers
 The Friends of Montgomery Canal

Funding required

An annual cost of up to £15,000 to implement management regimes at each nature reserve.

Montgomery Canal conservation management strategy

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality	Wales in the Wider World
		✓	✓	

Project description

To develop a Conservation Management Strategy to provide a framework for the sustainable restoration and regeneration of the canal. The CMS will cover both the natural and built environment of the waterway - the canal has a large number of listed structures along its length, which makes it a valuable resource in built heritage terms. A further aspect of the strategy is the active engagement of the communities along the canal in the restoration through community consensus building events led by the project manager. The Montgomery Canal supports nationally and internationally important aquatic species. 42kms of the waterway have been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for the richness and diversity of its aquatic ecology. Last year the part of the canal in Wales was designated a candidate site for Special Area of Conservation under the European Habitats Directive.

Project outputs

- A developed framework for the canal's future restoration and development. The CMS is the first stage of a wider project to restore the canal. This is a model project to develop best practice for future restoration schemes supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Project partners

Montgomery Canal Partnership
 Heritage Lottery Fund
 ERDF Objective 2
 British Waterways

Funding secured

£148,000

4.2.4 Cultural tourism Pontcysyllte Aqueduct

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality	Wales in the Wider World
✓			✓	✓

Project description

Pontcysyllte Aqueduct is a Scheduled Ancient Monument listed Grade I for its important contribution to the development of canal engineering and the structural use of cast iron, and as an internationally renowned monument of the Industrial Revolution. It has 19 spans, which cross the River Dee at a height of 38m (125ft) and it is 307m (987ft) in length.

A British Waterways inspection showed that a refurbishment plan was needed. The trough needs resealing and the towpath needs reinstatement works costing about £1.4 million. The works are due for completion for the bi-centennial celebrations in 2005.

With secured funding from Adfywio and ERDF Objective 2, we are to begin work in spring 2003 to enhance Trevor Basin, a popular destination due to its close proximity to the aqueduct. At a cost of £170,000 the work will include access improvements, environmental enhancement, interpretation and community artwork.

Project outputs

- Secure the future of an internationally important heritage symbol of Wales
- Increase profile of the Llangollen Canal boosting tourism
- Increased visitor numbers and visitor spend
- Better understanding of heritage
- Further links in the local community

Project partners

CADW Welsh Historic Monuments
 Wrexham County Borough Council
 The Waterways Trust
 British Waterways

Funding required

Project value £1.4 million

Theatr Brycheiniog



The banner for Theatr Brycheiniog features the British Waterways logo (Dyffirfyrd Prydain) on the left. The main image shows a canal scene with a building and a map of Wales with a red arrow pointing to the location. Below the image is a table of impact categories:

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World
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Project description

The Theatr Brycheiniog and Mooring Basin at Brecon are a functional and stunning canal-side venue for the Arts and entertainment. It hosts drama, dance, music, language, comedy, children's shows, exhibitions, education and meetings.

Project outputs

- Focal destination point at the head of the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal (Gateway to the Brecon Beacons National Park)
- An example of a partnership scheme where resources were pooled to achieve a successful result
- Multi functional design for community, regional and national functions
- World wide entertainment encompassing various customs and traditions
- Home for local and regional amateur groups active in the performing arts and other interests
- A focal point and facility which brings economic spend to this area of the National Parks
- Access to Wales' national cycle system from Holyhead to Cardiff (Lôn Las Cymru) and the Taff Trail

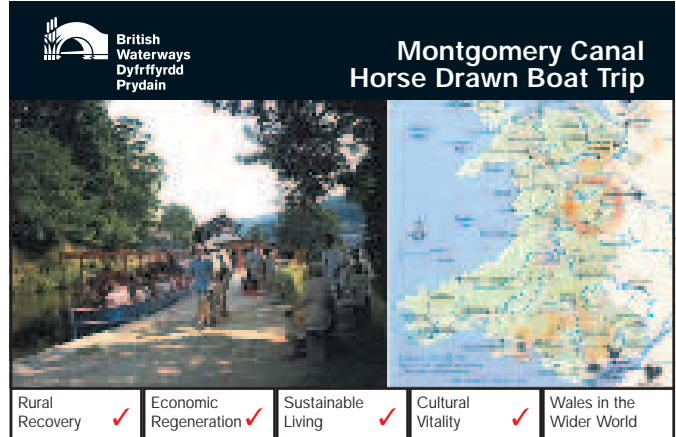
Partners

Powys County Council
 Brecknock Borough Council
 Local communities
 Brecon Beacons National Parks
 Arts Lottery
 British Waterways

Funding secured

£6 million through County Council Strategic Development Initiative. Arts Lottery with support from British Waterways.

Horse drawn trip boat



The banner for the Montgomery Canal Horse Drawn Boat Trip features the British Waterways logo (Dyffirfyrd Prydain) on the left. The main image shows a horse-drawn boat on a canal with a map of Wales on the right. Below the image is a table of impact categories:

Rural Recovery ✓	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living ✓	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World
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Project description

The Montgomery Canal is ecologically important so British Waterways is exploring a number of alternative methods of propelling boats along the waterway. A successful horse-drawn boat operates out of the Llangollen Wharf on the Llangollen Canal, so we would seek to establish a horse-drawn boat from the market town of Welshpool. This will also provide a unique visitor experience for tourists and day trippers visiting the town.

Project outputs

- Increased heritage awareness of the canal and the local area
- An environmentally sustainable trip boat operation
- Active involvement of local groups
- Support of local business

Potential project partners

Canal operators
 British Waterways
 Montgomery Canal Partnership

Funding required

A cost of £150,000 to establish the horse-drawn boat operations with a running cost of £50,000 per annum.

Montgomery tourism links

Montgomery Tourism Links

Rural Recovery ✓	Economic Regeneration ✓	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World ✓
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Project description

The Montgomery Canal, Powis Castle and the Llanfair Steam Railway are all within close proximity to one another but operate separately and independently. If these three local attractions could come together to promote each other there are a number of benefits to be gained.

Project outputs

- Improved physical access between local operators
- Joint marketing schemes
- Boost to local economic regeneration from increased visitor numbers
- Local organisations working together to achieve a goal beneficial to themselves and the local community
- Increased recognition, nationally, of the attractions of the local area
- Increased awareness of the local heritage of the area

Potential project partners

- British Waterways
- Powis Castle
- Llanfair Steam Railway
- Wales Tourist Board
- Welshpool Partnership
- Powys County Council
- Mid Wales Tourism
- Other local tourist attractions and operators

Funding required

£120,000

4.2.5 Lifelong Learning

School links in Welshpool

Welshpool School Links

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality ✓	Wales in the Wider World ✓
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Project description

Powysland Museum has regular visits from local school parties, tourists, and other interested groups. There is an opportunity to produce an education pack to develop links between the museum and local schools and these heritage, environmental and visitor attractions.

Project outputs

- Further links with the local community
- Support for school national curriculum projects based on environmental or heritage issues
- Production of an education pack to meet Key Stage 1 & 2 National Curriculum
- Increased profile of the Montgomery Canal over a wider area

Potential project partners

- Powys County Council
- British Waterways
- Powysland Museum
- Local schools
- The Friends of Montgomery Canal

Funding required

£30,000

Heritage skills



The banner for the Heritage Skills project features the British Waterways logo (Dyffirfyrd Prydain) in the top left. The main image shows a large stone structure, possibly a lock or bridge, with a map of Wales overlaid on the right side. Below the image is a table of five categories, each with a red checkmark:

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality	Wales in the Wider World
✓	✓	✓	✓	

Project description

Implement a training scheme involving BW staff and volunteers from the local community, in partnership with local authorities and training colleges or schemes, to provide a programme of refurbishment works related to developing woodworking and other heritage skills.

Project outputs

- Provision of a safe workshop area
- Development of heritage skills
- 'Hands on' experience to trainees under expert supervision
- Local community contribution to the ongoing restoration of the Montgomery canal

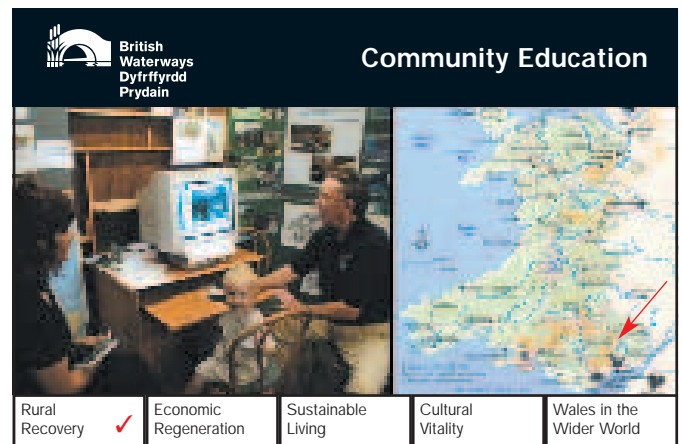
Potential partners

British Waterways
 Montgomery Waterway Restoration Trust
 Shropshire Union Canal Society
 Powys County Council
 New Deal
 The Waterways Trust

Funding required

£50,000 per annum

Community education



The banner for the Community Education project features the British Waterways logo (Dyffirfyrd Prydain) in the top left. The main image shows two people sitting at a desk with a computer, with a map of Wales overlaid on the right side. A red arrow points to a specific location on the map. Below the image is a table of five categories, each with a red checkmark:

Rural Recovery	Economic Regeneration	Sustainable Living	Cultural Vitality	Wales in the Wider World
✓	✓	✓	✓	

Project description

British Waterways is developing joint funded education initiatives with the local authorities to implement schemes focused around waterways, with a local and trans-national theme. The perception and understanding of the natural and cultural world that students of all ages gain through this project will influence a new generation of decision makers.

Project outputs

- Students will be encouraged to visit the countryside to understand how natural processes and human activities can affect and threaten the environment and our future quality of life
- The waterway environment at Goytre Wharf provides outdoor and indoor classrooms for education, recreation and research studies linked to the Valley's industrial past
- We are encouraging the use of waterway themes within schools and National Curriculum through partnership with officers from education services and other agencies to illustrate subjects through a new CD ROM program and to learn new skills linked to training and personal development
- The waterway experience enables those with learning difficulties to enjoy and develop through access to a cultural environment

Partners

Local Authorities
 Wales Tourist Board
 European Funding Agencies
 Volunteers
 Monmouthshire, Brecon & Abergavenny Canals Trust
 British Waterways
 Forest Enterprise

Funding required

£300,000

Community training



Project description

A joint funded training initiative at Goytre Wharf, in support of the Government's New Deal Training Scheme. Provides hands-on experience in wood, metal, brick and stone work which are required in the engineering and building industries, whilst renovating derelict locks between Newport and Cwmbran.

Project outputs

- We are providing people of all ages through the New Deal Training Scheme with positive skills and knowledge to enhance their employment prospects whilst regenerating the waterway heritage
- We provide the opportunity for socially excluded members of the community to experience rural activities and encourage respect for our environment as an alternative to offending or anti-social behaviour
- The waterway experience enables those with learning difficulties to enjoy themselves and develop through access to new experiences within the waterway environment and regeneration schemes
- We are promoting learning activities within the waterway corridor to bring community residents, including those of minority, ethnic and all age groups to meet and share enjoyable experiences so making local waterways a focus of community pride

Partners

Local Authorities
 European Funding Agencies
 Government New Deal Training Board
 British Waterways

Funding required

£500,000