

Woodlands For Communities Conference 20th /21st November 2009

Workshop 1 Funding opportunities

The relevance of asset transfer to community woodlands

Challenges:

- ask yourself - are community assets viable or are they a liability?
- the group will need a wide range of skills/knowledge/governance
- decide whether you want to **buy**, **develop** or **manage**
- **complex**- be aware of potential risks, could well involve financial, legal, design, planning issues
- Get professional advice and support
- Timescales- can take years from inspiration to implementation
- Needs a long term planning approach and vision

- Welsh examples: Galeri Caernarfon-Cwni Tref Caernarfon
- Planed- Pembrokeshire

Community Land Trusts (CLT's)

Land removed from open market & put in trust for the community (Land for People)
Can be used for affordable housing, workspace, food production, conservation, community investment

Development Trusts Association (DTA) Wales

Funding

Awards for All £500-5,000

6 week turnaround

Supports community activity/access/participation/skills/quality of life

People & Places £5,000 – 1 million Capital and/or revenue

To improve/revitalise/enhance

Available for the voluntary & public sector

Support available from Tribal

Big Lottery/ WAG Community Asset Transfer fund (CAT)

Round 1 – deadline Dec 4th 2009 for well advanced schemes only

Round 2 & 3 Spring 2010 onwards for projects still under development/ looking for 'inspirational' proposals.

To build community capacity/regeneration

3rd Sector to lead

Will fund forestry and land purchase

But – difficult for small/newly formed groups?

Questions over ownership or lease, market value and State Aid, liabilities

Should BIG/WAG be working with established Asset Transfer developers ? eg. DTA, CLT's?

Queries over ways of monitoring, evidence and outcomes, proving viability/success of partnerships long term.

100% funding possible for exceptional cases.

Guidance will be updated for Rounds 2 & 3

Feed in comments to influence guidance for second round- send to Llais y

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Any specific questions phone/e.mail Big Lottery www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

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