



The Community Legacy Project

Property Case Study:

Heol Parc Glas, Merthyr Tydfil

The Big Lottery Wales funded Community Legacy Project renovates properties that are empty or in disrepair across Wales.

The goal is to reducing the effects of anti-social behaviour, crime and vandalism and the detrimental impact this has on our local communities. In doing so, the project provides skill-development opportunities for individuals from a range of backgrounds.

Through supporting the property renovation activities, individuals develop their employability, construction and enterprise skills, achieve accredited qualifications, experience voluntary work placements and move closer towards accessing sustainable employment or self-employment.



COMMUNITY
IMPACT INITIATIVE

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Property

Heol Parc Glas in Merthyr Tydfil was a three-bed terraced property purchased at auction during July 2018, in need of full renovation. The level of renovation work required, coupled with its central location and proximity to public transport links made it an ideal property for the Community Legacy Project.

Partners

Our referral partners were Merthyr Valleys Homes and Adref, a local homelessness charity in Merthyr Tydfil. Over the course of the renovation these organisations referred individuals to the Community Legacy Project with the intention of developing a range of skills that would support positive life progression.



We also worked in partnership with TSW, one of Wales' leading training providers, who provided the accredited qualification support and expertise required for participants to achieve qualifications aligned with their individual needs and employment aspirations.





PROJECT OVERVIEW

Participants

The project participants were from diverse backgrounds, ranging in age, gender and skill level. Each had personal reasons for engaging with the project, from developing the skills necessary to access employment in the construction industry, developing the skills required to maintain their own homes to improving their self-confidence, motivation and social skills.

Over a three-month period, the property was fully renovated with the participants learning a range of new skills under the guidance of our fully qualified and experienced Project Tutors. Unlike a simulated training environment or classroom, the project provides a real construction setting that allows participants to learn new skills quickly and take ownership of their work.

During the renovation all participants reported improvements in their confidence and self-esteem, a proportion took part in Health & Safety Awareness training and went on to pass their CSCS test and claim their card, whilst some of the participants were successful in securing employment as a direct result of the project.



PROJECT OUTCOMES



Upon renovation completion the property was marketed and sold within a few days, which was testament to the standard of renovation completed by the project staff and participants. Funds raised from the sale of Heol Parc Glas were re-invested into the purchase of the next property, supporting further skill development opportunities.

The Community Legacy Project and this particular property in Merthyr Tydfil was also the subject of an ITV Wales News at 6 feature, broadcast during November 2018.

Further Information

If you would like further information in relation to the Community Legacy Project, including how to become a referral partner or participant, please get in touch via email: info@the-cii.org.