

Dyddiad / Date: 18/04/23

E-bost / E-mail:

Towns@sirgar.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Carmarthenshire County Council Funding Opportunities

Carmarthenshire County Council are writing this letter to inform you of the different funding opportunities that are currently available within the County. There are 5 different types of funding currently open for applications and another one expected to reopen in June 2023. The funding available can be seen listed below:

Vacant Property Fund

The funding will be made available to owners / lease holders and is focused on bringing ground floor vacant properties back into commercial use. The funding is targeting the primary town centres of Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli within designated red line boundaries. The minimum fund awarded £5,000 whilst the maximum will be £30,000 with an intervention rate of 70%. The applicant must be bringing an empty ground floor unit back into commercial use and is encouraged to create and/ or safeguard jobs. All expenditure associated to the grant must be completed and claimed by 30th September 2024.

For more information please contact: towns@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or visit:

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/funding/vacant-property-fund/>

Business Start Up Fund

The aim of the Start Up Fund is to support the creation of new businesses in the county, resulting directly in the creation of jobs, therefore improving the local economy. The grant is only available for prestart businesses (not yet trading). Each grant award will be based on 50% of eligible costs OR a maximum of £5000 per job created whichever is the lesser. The grant will be open for application between March 2023 and August 2024 or until the fund is fully allocated.

For more information please contact: BusinessFund@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or visit:

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/funding/business-start-up-grant/>

Business Growth Fund

The grant will support local businesses and inward investors to grow, prosper and be sustainable. Resulting in the creation or safeguarding of jobs throughout the County, therefore improving the local economy. Grants are available between £1,000 to £10,000. Each grant award will be based on 50% of eligible costs OR a maximum of £5000 per job created whichever is the lesser. The grant will be open for application between March 2023 and August 2024 or until the fund is fully allocated.

For more information please contact: BusinessFund@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or visit:

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/funding/business-growth-grant/>

Jason Jones BSc MRICS MBA

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You are welcome to contact me in Welsh or English

Business Renewable Energy Fund

The Fund will be a business grant scheme, which will provide capital support to businesses towards the purchase of renewable energy systems for their business premises. The amount of funding available is between £1,000 (minimum) and £25,000 (maximum) towards the cost of the renewable energy system. Each grant award will be based on no more than 50% of eligible costs. All expenditure associated to the grant must be completed and claimed by 30th November 2024.

For more information please contact: BREF@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or visit:

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/funding/business-renewable-energy-fund/>

Town Centre Loans Fund

The objective of the Town Centre Loan scheme is to incentivise and enable property refurbishment and new builds in all the town centres in Carmarthenshire, by offering interest free loans to property owners, developers, investors etc., who will in turn encourage sustainable re-use of vacant, underutilised and redundant sites and premises. An Interest free loan between £25,000 and £1,000,000 is on offer. The loan can only support a maximum of 75% of the loan to value of project cost. The maximum term of a loan will be for 5 years.

For more information please contact: TownCentreLoan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or visit:

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/funding/town-centre-loans-fund/>

Transforming Towns

The grant aims to bring empty and derelict buildings in eligible towns back into commercial use by refurbishing and re purposing them. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The Transforming Towns Fund will reopen for applicants in June 2023. Eligible projects would need to be completed by February 2025.

For more information please contact: TransformingTowns@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or visit:

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/funding/transforming-towns/>

Local Development Order (LDO)

We have established a 'Task Force' with a view to overseeing the regeneration of town centres. A key issue that the Task Force has been seeking to address is the number of vacant retail units in the town centres. The potential contribution that a shift in planning policy could make to facilitating investment and helping in incentivising development is noted.

The LDO acknowledges a shifting role for the town centre to that of a destination and living environment as well as a retail centre. It seeks to introduce a permissive planning regime that would allow specified changes of use to take place without the applicant having to apply for planning permission.

We have LDO in the following town centres:

- Ammanford
- Carmarthen

For more information please contact planningregistrations@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or visit:

[Local Development Order \(LDO\) \(gov.wales\)](http://LocalDevelopmentOrder(LDO).gov.wales)

If you are interested in any of the funding available, please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate team for assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Jason Jones BSc MRICS MBA

Pennaeth Adfywio, Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin SA31 1JP

Head of Regeneration, County Hall, Carmarthen SA31 1JP



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