

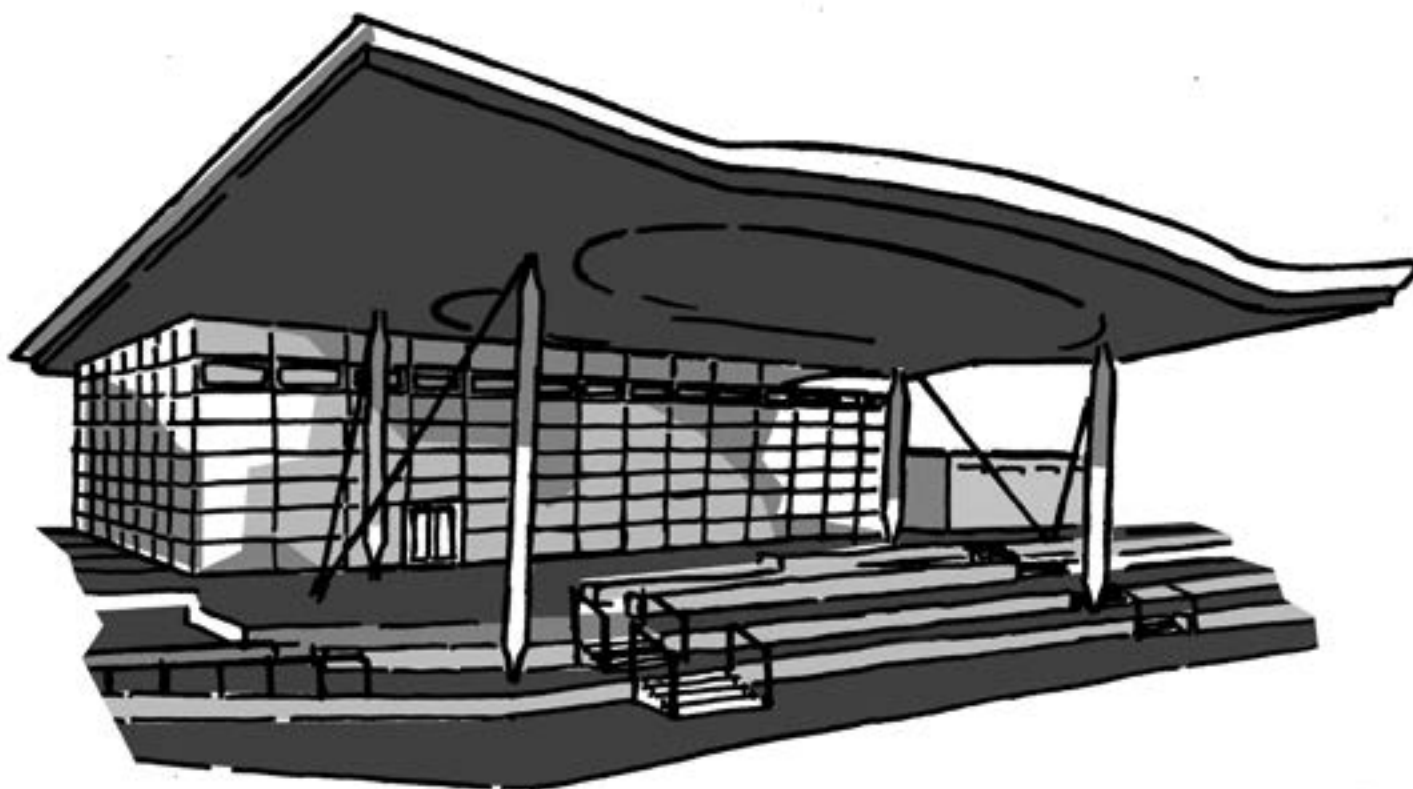
Easy Read



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Innovation Strategy for Wales

We want to know what you think



This document was written by the Welsh Government. It is an easy read version of 'Innovation Strategy for Wales'.

September 2022

How to use this document



This is an easy read document. But you may still need support to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.

Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. You can check what all the words in **blue** mean on page 33.

The pictures in this summary are from Photosymbols:
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This easy read text was written by Easy Read Wales. And designed by Welsh Government. To tell us what you think about this easy read version, [click here](#).

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Introduction



About 10 years ago we made a plan for Wales that was about:

- looking at the products and services Wales is good at making
- and what needed more research.




It was about developing products, services and ideas in Wales to help our **economy** grow.



Economy means how much money a country has. If a country has more money, it is good for the people of that country.

A lot of things have changed in the past 10 years. So, we decided we needed a new plan.



What you
think?

This is a draft version of that plan.
We would like to know what you think
of it.

There is a response form to fill in. Please
read this document and then answer
the questions in the response form.

What we want for Wales

We want Wales to be able to develop lots of new products, services and ideas. This is known as **innovation**.



Innovation is about developing new ideas into products and services. It can mean inventing new things. Or making older things work better.

We want Wales to become stronger, fairer and greener.

This will help improve the well-being of the people of Wales.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act

There is a law in Wales called **The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act**.



This law is based on 7 goals to do with well-being.

We have used these 7 goals to help us make this plan.

And we will talk about how we can use **innovation** in Wales to achieve these 7 goals throughout this document

We also want to achieve these things:



- A stronger **economy**.
- Good healthcare that we can afford for a long time.
- Better services for people most at risk of harm.
- Better education standards.
- Dealing with the climate and nature emergency in everything we do.



This means thinking about our planet and looking after it.

A Prosperous Wales

This is the first well-being goal.



Prosperous means to do well. It means having more money and being successful.

We want Wales to be a more **innovative** place.

We want it to make more products and services.



We want to do this by thinking about the environment and our planet.

We want to make sure children get a good education and learn skills.



We want there to be lots of chances to get good jobs in Wales.



To achieve this, we need to make sure there are good chances for children to learn.

Learners must have every chance to develop and learn the skills they need to be **innovative**.

Some of the subjects which are important to **innovation** are Sciences, Technology and Maths.

So, there must be plenty of chances to learn skills in these areas.



In the past, Wales has had funding from Europe. Since we left the European Union (Brexit) we need to find other funding.

It can be difficult to get funding in the UK. This is because a lot of people are trying to get or win the funding.



So, we must think carefully about how we try and get funding.

Wales is going to have a new education organisation called the **Commission for Tertiary Education and Research**.

16 and over

This is for the education of people over the age of 16 years old.

This will help make sure education and training keeps up with the skills employers are looking for.

We believe this will be really good for the people of Wales because:

- It will give more opportunities.
- It will help make learning fairer.
- Wales will potentially have more jobs.
- People will have more money.



Learning Fairer



Job increase

It will also mean Wales can carry out more **research** into new products and technology.



Research means looking into something, or testing something to understand it more.

When we spend time and money being **innovative**, we end up creating new jobs. So, **innovation** is good for Wales.

But sometimes jobs can also be lost. For example, when new technology comes along, it can mean old jobs are no longer needed.

To manage this, we need to make sure that people have the right skills and education for new jobs.



It is also important to remember that we need to think about what is happening in the rest of the UK.

And we need to work with the UK as a whole to achieve the most.

Wales has not done as well as some other countries in getting funding for **innovation**.

We need to improve this. To do this, organisations in Wales will need to work together more.



The **Development Bank of Wales** will also lend money to new businesses to help them **innovate**.

We need to look at what is happening in other countries and see how they are being innovative.

We need to find the best opportunities for Wales to develop and grow.

To do this we need to work with:



- Industries
- Businesses



- Education
- Local authorities



- Charities
- Hospitals

Dealing with the climate emergency



We know that our planet is getting hotter. And that we need to do a lot of work to stop this getting worse.

To do this, countries all over the world need to lower how much **carbon** they produce.



Carbon is a substance that is let off when we use things like heating, drive our cars and fly aeroplanes.

Businesses often let off a lot of **carbon**.

Net Zero Wales

Wales has a plan to lower how much carbon it makes. It is called **Net Zero Wales**.



Everybody needs to think about climate change and carbon.

We need to move over to cleaner and greener energy. This is energy that is better for our planet.



And we need to develop technology and industries that make cleaner energy.



Using electricity for heating and transport will be one of the main things that needs to be done.

We need to think and plan carefully how we go about doing this.



It must be fair for everyone in Wales.

We need to lower the cost of energy.

We need to develop new sources of cleaner energy.



We need to work together to help find the best solutions to these issues.



We need to keep making changes to our transport system. And making sure it is cleaner.

These are some of the ideas we have for making transport cleaner in the next few years:



- Encourage people to use public transport more

- Power trains with batteries



- Trying out carbon free taxi services

- Using electric bikes



- Improve roads.

Here are some ideas we have for making heating cleaner in the next few years:

- Making it cheaper to build buildings that use less carbon.



- Having new types of heating, like heat pumps that are better for the planet.

- Giving support to people to make their heating better for the planet.



- Giving money to housing organisations to make their housing greener and cleaner.

- Trying out new technology to help lower carbon.



We need to find ways to re-use the things we have. And avoid waste.

And when we do make brand new products, they need to be **sustainable**.

Sustainable means something will last for a long time. And something which is better for the planet.

We also need to think differently about what we use. We all need to think about being more **sustainable**.

The Digital Strategy for Wales

We have a plan called **The Digital Strategy for Wales**.

This is all about how we use **digital technology** to help improve our lives.



Digital Technology means using computers, the internet and software to help us do things.

We can use **digital technology** to help improve things like:

- Public services
- Health and well-being
- The environment

Wales spends a lot of money on **procurement**.

Procurement means the products and services that public services like the NHS buy from **other** organisations.



We need to think carefully about how we spend this money.

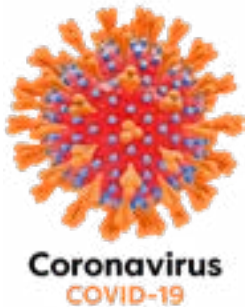
A Healthier Wales

We want to improve our health and social care system in Wales.



To do this we need to work together to find the best ways to work.

And we need to think about **innovation** in health and social care to help improve and develop services.



The COVID-19 pandemic has had a big effect on health and social care services.

It has put a lot of pressure on it.

But it has also helped us think differently about how we do things.

Innovation can be used to help health and social care work in the best ways.

Here are some of the main things we think we need to do in health and social care:



- Health and social care organisations need to work together. And with other organisations. This is to develop **innovative** services.
- There must be more thought and management given to **innovation**.
- We must find better ways to apply for funding to do with **innovation**.

We believe **innovation** must be used to develop areas of health like:

- Dealing with health issues early on
- Diagnosing health issues
- Reducing waiting lists
- Supporting mental health





There are several projects in place in Wales to do with developing services in health and social care.

We will look for more chances to do more of this **innovative** work. And for ways to fund them.

We also believe **digital technology** is important in helping to improve health and social care services.

The Digital Health and Social Care Strategy

A new plan called **A Digital Health and Social Care Strategy** for Wales is being put together.

Research into health and social care is another important area for Wales.



We want to continue to develop and fund this area. Because **research** can help us learn more about health. And improve it.

A Resilient Wales

Resilient means something is strong. And able to recover from hard times quickly.

This could include things like having a **resilient** environment and **economy**.



By using **innovation** to help lower carbon we can help protect our planet. And reduce climate change.

Here are some of our other goals to do with using **innovation** to make Wales more **resilient**:

- Support businesses to find ways to re-use waste.
- Use low carbon products when we build things like homes.





- Find ways to recycle things that we can't at the moment.
- Support businesses to make things that are better for the environment.



We also know that humans have caused damage to our planet that cannot be changed.

We need to find ways to manage the damage already done.



For example, the temperature of the planet is going to go up.

There are going to be more storms and floods.



There is a risk to wildlife and nature.

There is a risk to how much food we will have in the future.

We must find **innovative** ways to deal with these problems.



For example, we can support farms to let off less carbon.

We can help them use better equipment. And less chemicals.



We can fund **research** into finding better ways to farm.

We also have plans to improve the food and drinks industry in Wales. This is to help make it more **sustainable**.



And to make it grow so that more people outside of Wales buy our products.

Welsh language and culture



We want there to be 1 million Welsh speakers in Wales by the year 2050.

Digital technology is 1 way of helping people to learn Welsh.

We also have a free toolkit to help businesses use the Welsh language in their products and services.



We want people to be able to use **digital technology** in English or Welsh easily.

This should help increase the number of sales products have.

A More Equal Wales

We want to support **innovation** equally and fairly across Wales.



This means there should be fair access to things like funding across all of Wales.

It is important to know about the different types of people that live in Wales. And their different backgrounds.



People involved in **research** and **innovation** should come from different backgrounds.

It is also really important that people and organisations all work together well.

We want to use **innovation** to make sure the people of Wales are all treated fairly.

We want everyone to have the chance to be involved in **innovation**. This includes enjoying the benefits of **innovation**.

Communities working together



We want communities across Wales to feel safe and well-connected.

Digital technology can be used to help connect communities.



But a lot of people in Wales do not know how to use **digital technology**.



For example, older adults. Or some disabled people.

We need to change this so that more people can use **digital technology**.



There are lots of good reasons why **digital technology** is good for people. For example:

- It can save time and money.



- It can help stop people being lonely.
- It can help people manage some health issues.

A Globally Responsible Wales



Being **globally responsible** means that when we make plans, we think of the effects they might have on the whole planet.

We want Wales to be a welcoming and fair place.



We want to make choices and decisions that don't just think of Wales. But think about other countries too.

Lowering carbon is a big example of this.



We need to give businesses in Wales the support they need to lower their carbon.

International
Strategy

We also made a new plan in 2021 called **International Strategy**.

This is about making Wales better known throughout the world.

It is about growing our **economy** through doing business with other countries



And making sure other countries see us as being **globally responsible**.

We work with other countries to help make **innovation** in Wales better and stronger.



And we can encourage businesses from other countries to spend money in Wales.

Wales is also part of an idea called **Smart Specialisation**. This is about showing what Wales does well and helping us to get better.

Smart
Specialisation

This idea can help Wales to find the best opportunities to make products that are needed.

Hard words

Competitive

Competitive means lots of people are trying to get or win something.

Digital Technology

Digital Technology means using computers, the internet and software to help us do things.

Economy

Economy means how much money a country has. If a country has more money, it is good for the people of that country.

Innovation

Innovation is about developing new ideas into products and services. It can mean inventing new things. Or making older things work better.

Procurement

Procurement means the products and services that public services like the NHS buy from other organisations.

Prosperous

Prosperous means to do well. It means having more money and being successful.

Research

Research means looking into something, or testing something to understand it more.

Resilient

Resilient means something is strong. And able to recover from hard times quickly.

Sustainable

Sustainable means something will last for a long time. And something which is better for the planet.