

One Voice Wales has secured funding via Welsh Government to look at the challenges being posed to Welsh communities in light of the cost-of-living crisis. The programme runs until March 2026.

Known as the **One Voice Wales Cost-of-Living Team**, we have been tasked with learning about all the positive initiatives and activities being led by our community and town councils.

We hope to share examples of the best practices throughout Wales and enable community and town councils to complement and enhance their current cost of living support initiatives.

In the first instance we will be inviting you to share details of your current activities based around community engagement and cost of living initiatives, such as coffee mornings, warm hubs, free meal provisions, foodbanks, and food bank collections and all or any of the other innovative ways in which you are all working hard to support your local communities.

A survey will shortly be circulated to all the community and town councils throughout Wales, from which we will be able to see what is being offered and where, and we are really excited to see what has been going on and working alongside you to assist guide and support other actions and plans you may wish to put in place.

Meet the Team:



Julie Jones: Cost of Living Crisis Project Manager Julie was born and raised in Swansea and lives with her partner and grown-up children in the Bishopston area. Julie enjoyed a lengthy career as a qualified Social Worker within the local authority, working in various roles across the full range of service user groups. Since 2007 she has been working in the family business but has maintained a keen interest in community work within her local and wider area. Julie has been involved in numerous initiatives over many years, including a raft of activities undertaken to support her local community during the pandemic. She brings a wealth of experience of the private sector as a former businessperson and a volume of knowledge about statutory services and the third sector. Julie is a serving community councillor elected to the Bishopston and Murton Wards. She is also a long-standing parent and community governor at the local comprehensive school.



Emma Goode: Cost Of Living Crisis Project Officer Emma was born and brought up in Abergavenny and after living away she returned there to raise her family 18 years ago. Emma worked in project delivery and marketing in the private sector for 15 years and ran her own retail business in Abergavenny where she worked closely with the town council and other groups to deliver business, community, and charitable initiatives. For the past 9 years Emma has been a Business Adviser on the Welsh Government Business Wales service supporting over 1500 SMEs to start, grow and develop their businesses.

Llais Cyngorau Cymuned a Thref yng Nghymru - The Voice of Community and Town Councils in Wales

Ebost/Email: gweinydd@unllaiscymru.cymru / admin@onevoicewales.wales

Gwefan/Website: www.unllaiscymru.org.uk / www.onevoicewales.org.uk



Angela Oakes: Cost Of Living Crisis Project Support Officer Angela has made North Wales her home for the past 25 years where she lives with her husband and two teenage children, originally born and raised in Dudley in the West Midlands. As a qualified broadcast journalist, she worked in media before taking up the position of Tenant Participation Officer at Salisbury District Council where she thrived on the challenge of empowering tenants to tackle housing related issues. For the past 20 years working alongside her husband, she has gained a wealth of knowledge in corporate sales and the private sector as the owners of a successful family portrait business. She has always been keen to support local groups and charities and served as a

school governor at her children's primary school for many years. In recent years she has been involved with Rhyd-y-Foel and Llanddulas Community Council where she has supported issues affecting residents in the community.

We really look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.