

Introduction

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All photos from the Wales Town Booster Pilot Programme March 2026.
Credit: Creative Communities International, DCFW, Vale of Glamorgan Council.



Introduction

As part of Design Commission for Wales's work with Welsh Government relating to placemaking and the Transforming Towns Programme, we have developed this pack of practical guidance, templates and examples to promote and enable active citizen, community and business involvement in the implementation of Placemaking Plans. The resources are available for all local authorities in Wales to use to implement the approach in their town centres.

As many town centres now have Placemaking Plans in place or emerging, it is important that local people can see the plans being put into action quickly, so that enthusiasm and support do not fade away. Local communities and businesses should have been engaged during development of the Placemaking Plan, and they will play an important role in delivering effective and impactful placemaking projects and activities. Small projects and interventions which communities and local businesses can get involved with and help deliver offer opportunities for quick wins which build momentum, develop a sense of ownership and promote empowerment.

This pack of resources has been produced by Design Commission for Wales (DCFW) to support and build confidence within local authority teams to enable community involvement and

overcome the obstacles to delivering quick-win projects which align with the visions and ambitions of town centre Placemaking Plans.

The content of this resource pack is informed by feedback from pilot workshops conducted with two local authority teams in Wales, as well as research into best practice from around the world.

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10	Case Study: Wales Town Boost Pilot Programme
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Using the resources

The exciting thing about placemaking is that every place is different, with its own unique identity and set of opportunities and constraints. Therefore, there cannot be a single formula or step-by-step process which can be followed in every scenario. These resources have been produced to allow for flexibility and adaptation. Some documents in this resource pack provide guidance on best practice processes and ways of working. There are examples and templates which can be copied and adapted to suit each unique place or situation. There is a case study sharing lessons from the Wales One-Week Town Boost Pilot Programme, which saw Creative Communities International trial an agile placemaking approach in three towns across Wales. There are also signposts and links to further research, guidance and reading which may be useful. Not all of the guidance will be relevant to every place or project.