



## Future of Innovation

Innovation and adopting new ideas can sometimes seem daunting but often there will be common challenges and problems in different areas. Sometimes people come up with innovative solutions without realising, by simply responding to the needs of a service or population group. It is normally expedient to adopt best practice and to learn from others. The RIC Hub has pulled together resources and regional assets that can help you take forward innovative ideas and have highlighted some inspiring innovations being adopted in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan that have the potential to be spread and scaled to other services or regions.

### Health Technology Centre Report

The RIC Hub commissioned the Healthcare Technology Centre (HTC) at Swansea University to summarise the health and social care research, innovation and improvement (RII) landscape across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. The purpose was to provide an understanding of all Health and Social Care RII assets and an evidence base and common resource to inform future priorities.

The study highlighted stakeholder priorities in Cardiff and the Vale as:

- **Mental Health Services**
- **Social Prescribing**
- **Social Care**
- **Cross-border Collaboration**
- **Healthy Resilient Communities**
- **Digital Systems and the Use of Digital Technology**

Key Research Findings:

- Cardiff and Vale region is relatively well placed to contribute towards the goals of Welsh Government's A Healthier Wales Strategy
- The examples within the report highlight the benefits associated with working together – but more effective collaboration is necessary
- There is a strong and diverse clustering across the region with further opportunities for growth and development
- Increased RII activities and collaborated efforts are needed to provide adequate support to social care and mental health services
- There is a rich and diverse regional health and social care RII landscape in the region
- There is an opportunity to ensure RII potential is maximised through greater communication and improved visibility of regional RII assets and activities

Read [the full report](#) or take a look at the RIC Hub's [summary](#).

### RIC Hub Innovation Guides

The RIC Hub has developed a series of guides to give you a starting point for understanding how to identify and overcome issues. Click the links on the right for more and keep an eye out for our upcoming guides.

[Alliance Contracts](#)

[Understanding Strategic Context](#)

[Successful Pilots](#)



## Local Innovation

The Hub has kickstarted a series showcasing local innovations in health and social care across the Cardiff and Vale region with an article about Food Vale. The articles aim to not only celebrate the good work in the region but also to highlight the spread and scalability of local innovations.

Food Vale is one of a number of food partnerships spreading across Wales. The aim is to create a self-sustaining and community driver food hub that looks at addressing food poverty, supporting local food, zero waste, access to food, and fresh and nutritious food. Core to this is ensuring the healthy choice is the easy choice, whilst celebrating locally grown food, making produce available seasonally and creating a space for residents to develop confidence and skills to cook balanced meals.



Food Vale at CF61 in Llantwit Major

[Read more.](#)

## A Success Story

Earlier in 2022, we developed a film with the Nitrous Oxide Project, whose innovative thinking has led to a huge reduction in nitrous oxide use in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

This has been shown at various conferences, such as Green Health Wales, MediWales and All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre, which led to the pending award of £250k through the Small Business Research Initiative (SBRI) scheme to support looking at minimising the waste of nitrous oxide and thereby reducing the environmental impact of NHS organisations

The manifold systems in University Hospital Llandough and University Hospital of Wales have successfully been decommissioned, marking a huge step in the Health Board's commitment to reducing carbon dioxide emissions in the region and contributes to the environmental aims set out in A Healthier Wales

[Click here to watch it.](#)

## National News

### Bevan Exemplar Programme

This year's Bevan Exemplar Programme call 'Driving Change in Challenging Times' challenges applicants to develop prudent and innovative solutions to overcome issues facing the sustainable delivery of health and care services in Wales. The deadline for submissions is **Thursday 26th January 2023**. To learn more or apply [click here](#).

### Dragon's Heart Institute

The Dragon's Heart Institute's Climb Programme is open for applications for 2023/24. Climb is an exciting and innovative programme which aims to create a self-sustaining generation of future leaders.

For more information and to apply, [visit the website](#) or [watch this film](#). Applications close on **Wednesday February 1st 2023**.

[Visit our website to read more about what the Hub has been doing and check back regularly for new developments](#)

