



Ein cyf/Our ref WQ87536

Andrew RT Davies MS  
Welsh Parliament  
[AndrewRT.Davies@senedd.wales](mailto:AndrewRT.Davies@senedd.wales)

2 March 2023

Dear Andrew,

I write in response to WQ87536: Will the Minister confirm how much funding the Welsh Government has provided specifically to decarbonising the construction sector?

The Development Bank of Wales is available to help Welsh businesses get the finance they need and provides loans from a range of funds which support decarbonisation activities and has recently launched a new invest to save offer called the Green Business Loans Scheme.

With the ambition to invest £10m over the next 3 years, the pilot scheme will provide green business loans, which will enable businesses in Wales to borrow money at discounted rates and on flexible repayment terms, so they can invest in measures to reduce their carbon footprint and energy bills. Businesses can use the money to improve the energy efficiency of their premises, invest in renewable energy technology or upgrade their machinery and systems to reduce their waste, water and energy use. In addition to the discounted loan offer, businesses utilising the scheme will have access to consultancy via Business Wales, to support them to decide what to invest in.

Business Wales also provides a wide range of advice and support on green policies, practices and resource efficiency as well as workshops. Business Wales can be accessed digitally via <http://businesswales.gov.wales>, social media channels and the 03000 6 03000 helpline.

Business Wales has specialist Resource Efficiency advisers that help Welsh businesses implement new practices and improve policies to take pro-active steps towards improving their sustainability, demonstrating their positive impact on the environment.

Through Business Wales, the Green Growth Pledge reaches out to SMEs to take practical actions, such as reducing vehicle use, increasing water and energy efficiency, and working with responsible suppliers that will help companies become more efficient, decarbonise and win new business.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

A new cost of doing business zone has been developed for the Business Wales website to bring together existing content and tools available to support businesses to reduce their use of resources and costs. This zone acts as the focal point for any future advice and support for businesses.

The Welsh SMART programmes provide specialist advice and funding for businesses to develop new products and processes that result in decarbonisation. The programmes have access to a wide range of funding mechanisms for Research & Development (R&D) and process improvements, and also employ a team of manufacturing and design advisors. Any business seeking support for R&D related to decarbonisation in Wales should start by making contact with their local Innovation Specialist.

Our Net Zero Wales Plan highlights the wider actions we are taking in the business and industry sector to reduce emissions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'V' and 'G'.

**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**  
Gweinidog yr Economi  
Minister for Economy