



Ein cyf/Our ref OQ57088

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Peter Fox MS
Welsh Parliament
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9 November 2021

Dear Peter,

During Oral Questions in Plenary on 3 November, you asked me what the Welsh Government is doing to promote the green economy in Monmouthshire.

Over the past five years, Monmouthshire County Council has received support from the Welsh Government Energy Service (WGES) to develop renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, which includes a fleet review to support its transition to ultra-low emission vehicles, multiple solar farm projects including Oak Grove solar farm, a Refit programme of works and LED street lighting upgrades. During this five year period, Welsh Government has provided £10.2m in grants and interest free loans to the Council to support a green transition.

Through the WGES, we are supporting public sector bodies and communities to take forward their own projects and also to secure ownership stakes in commercial projects. The WGES is now further developing the strategic thinking to complement the work across Wales on energy planning, with the aim of developing projects which deliver a more locally focused energy system and increased collaboration between public and community sectors. Technical support and advice from the WGES and Welsh Government funding is available to public and community sectors across Wales.

We have also supported 5 projects with over £900k SMART Cymru funding to 4 businesses in Monmouthshire since 2015. Further information about one of those projects, Tarmeto in Chepstow, is on our Business Wales website at [SMART Cymru supports Trameto Ltd to further develop their novel energy management solution for micro energy-harvesting systems that will enable autonomous micro energy sources \(AMES\). | Business Wales - Expertise Wales \(gov.wales\)](#). We have supported Green Edge Applications, Chepstow, to develop a waste recycling app and Tri-Wall in Monmouth with an R&D project to explore environmentally sustainable material manufacture. In 2018, we provided Monmouthshire County Council with innovation support for its project exploring the potential to build on existing green gas developments in the area, moving to a mix of sustainable fuels. The aim of the project was to

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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.

gain clarity on the potential role, opportunities and risks for the Council associated with smart sustainable mobility, specifically the role of green gases in the vehicle mix, especially hydrogen. Monmouthshire led on this aspect of support due to its hosting the Riversimple trial of hydrogen vehicles.

Yours sincerely,

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

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy