**Award of Funding in relation to the ‘Third Sector Knowledge’ project as part of the Welsh Government’s European Transition Fund.**

The Purpose of the Funding is to provide additional support to enable the knowledge portal to be enhanced and maintained.

In 2019, WCVA and Welsh Government commissioned a report by Resources for Change entitled “Empowering Communities in the context of Brexit”. This report demonstrated strong, ongoing Third Sector concern about Brexit and suggested a number of different routes for providing support to organisations and the sector as a whole.

An application was made under European Transition Fund Tranche 3 to create a knowledge portal. The portal would be a coherent, Wales wide resource bank to add value and compliment the current work of Third Sector Support Wales (TSSW) the investment would enable a greater reach and impact by the TSSW partnership.

This money will enable the portal, funded under the previous round of EU Transition Funding, to be upgraded to support a wider range of third sector organisations. This upgrade is to enable them to access the information, advice and guidance they need to grow, build resilience and enhance their impact in communities.

To achieve this work should include quick course creation for internal training, integrating content and events further into the site, redirections as a result of the closure of old services.

In addition, as part of the process to identify improvements, lessons learnt from the sector’s response to the recent pandemic should be used. Specifically in relation to the inequalities highlighted in some of our most vulnerable communities by making the content user friendly and accessible to all, in particular smaller mutual third sector organisations, who played a key role in responding to Covid-19 at a grassroots level.

Funding can also be used to ensure the system is fully maintained over the period covered by this grant offer letter.