

Rapid Innovation Initiative

Application Process



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Bwrdd Partneriaeth
Rhanbarthol Gwent
Gwent Regional
Partnership Board

DRAFT



Rapid Innovation Initiative: Introduction

The **Gwent Regional Innovation Coordination Hub** (RICH) has developed an ‘**Innovation Initiative**’ for new innovative proposals or wider adoption of existing innovative schemes to achieve improved outcomes for citizens across Gwent.

We are looking for opportunities that will have significant benefits across a local authority area or the whole Gwent region, which can be supported with time-limited resources for development and implementation.

The rapid innovation initiative can fund up to **£150,000 in 2024/25**. Proposals will be considered against the total £150,000 and amounts allocated will depend on meeting identified criteria and number of proposals received, and therefore it is suggested that various costed options are included. Proposals can be used to support the pump priming or roll out of innovative or adoption proposals to improve outcomes and value in Gwent.



Rapid Innovation Initiative: About Us

Supported by the Welsh Government, the seven Regional Coordination Hubs, governed by the Regional Partnership Boards throughout Wales, aim to achieve the following outcomes;

- coordination research, innovation, and improvement across the region
- Adopt/adapt evidence based innovation and improvement activity using a Value-Based approach to measuring quality and outcomes
- Invest in a small number of priority areas which offer opportunities to drive higher-value health and social care through new approaches, emerging technologies and strategic partnership opportunities

The Gwent Regional Innovation Coordination Hub (GRICH) is dedicated to fostering a culture of innovation within the Health and Social Care sectors across Gwent. Our ambition for 2024-25 includes a comprehensive strategy to enhance service delivery, improve community well-being, and drive collaboration through innovative approaches.

Building on the successful foundations laid in previous years, this year's plan emphasises strategic alignment with the Welsh Government's health and social care priorities, as well as the specific needs identified by the Gwent Regional Partnership Board (RPB).

Key Strategic Aims:

- **Foster Innovation:** Promote a culture of innovation in Gwent to encourage the development and adoption of new ideas, processes, and technologies.
- **Enhance Collaboration:** Promote collaboration and networking across different organisations and sectors to share knowledge, resources, and best practices.
- **Improve Service Delivery:** Elevate the efficiency and effectiveness of public services, especially in health and social care, to better address community needs.
- **Support Evidence-Based Adoption:** Advocate for the adoption and adaptation of evidence-based innovation activities across health and social care in Gwent, ensuring ongoing evaluation, learning, and refinement for continual advancement.

Rapid Innovation Initiative: Priority Themes

The Gwent Regional Partnership Board through the RICH have prioritised '**Identification of new ideas and the ability to support small concepts of change across health and social care that have the potential to spread and scale into mainstream adoption**'.

Concepts of change will need to link the priorities identified in the RPB's Population Needs Assessment and Area Plan.

Welsh Government Core Theme	Outcome Priority
Children and Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve outcomes for children and young people with complex needs through earlier intervention, community-based support, and placements closer to home. To ensure good mental health and emotional wellbeing for children and young people through effective partnership working especially mitigating long term impact of Covid-19 pandemic.
Older People including Dementia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve emotional wellbeing for older people by reducing loneliness and social isolation with earlier intervention and community resilience. To improve outcomes for people living with dementia and their carers. To support older people to live, or return following a period of hospitalisation, to their own homes and communities through early intervention, integrated care models and a whole system approach. To mitigate the long-term impact of Covid-19 pandemic through, especially reducing waiting lists and times to access support, appointments, and medical procedures
Health and Physical Disabilities including people with sensory impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support disabled people, including sensory impairment, through an all-age approach to live independently in appropriate accommodation and access community-based services, including transport. Ensure people are supported through access to accurate information, assistance and 'rehabilitation' where required. Improve transition across all age groups and support services. Ensure people are supported through access to accurate accessible information, assistance and 'rehabilitation' where required.
People with a Learning Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support people with learning disabilities to live independently with access to early intervention services in the community; and greater public awareness and understanding of people with learning disabilities needs.
Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase understanding and awareness of mental health amongst the public, to reduce stigma and help people to seek support earlier. We need to improve emotional well-being and mental health for adults and children through timely early intervention and community support.
Carers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support unpaid carers to care through flexible respite, access to accurate information, peer to peer support, effective care planning and through increased public understanding. Improve well-being of young carers and young adult carers and mitigate against long-term impacts
Autism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide more timely diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder and access to support services and information.
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A multi-agency partnership approach to ensure appropriate housing and accommodation for older people and vulnerable citizens. To ensure effective use of Disabled Facilities Grants and appropriate partnership support and available resources. Homelessness requiring a collaborative response from public services and partners, especially the non-use of B&B accommodation for young people, and through prevention and early intervention.

Rapid Innovation Initiative: Wales Innovation Pathway

The Gwent Regional Innovation Coordination Hub has adopted the Wales Innovation Framework for Health and Social Care in Figure 1. The Rapid Innovation Initiative seeks applications from any of the stages listed below.

Figure 1



Rapid Innovation Initiative: Application Process

The initiative proposal & application process is explained below:

Rapid Innovation Initiative Announcement (10th May 2024): Initiative launched. A call for Ideas or solutions is disseminated through all Gwent ISPBs.

Submission (10th June 2024): A rapid submission period is initiated to evaluate proposals based on local needs and priorities. ISPBs & RICH offer support to potential applicants in preparing their proposals.

Evaluation (Early July 2024): Proposals will be reviewed by the Gwent RICH based on criteria including:

- New/Uniqueness of innovation
- Fit with Regional partnership Board priorities and Wellbeing Goals
- Feasibility of delivery
- Scale of possible adoption
- Readiness for deployment
- Clarity of measurements and baselines
- Potential benefit impact
- Affordability

Notification (Middle of July 2024): Applicants are notified about the status of their proposals.

Resource Allocation (End of July 2024): Successful proposals will be advised of the funding which they can claim, funding will be subject to receipt of regular update delivery reports with signed funding agreements.

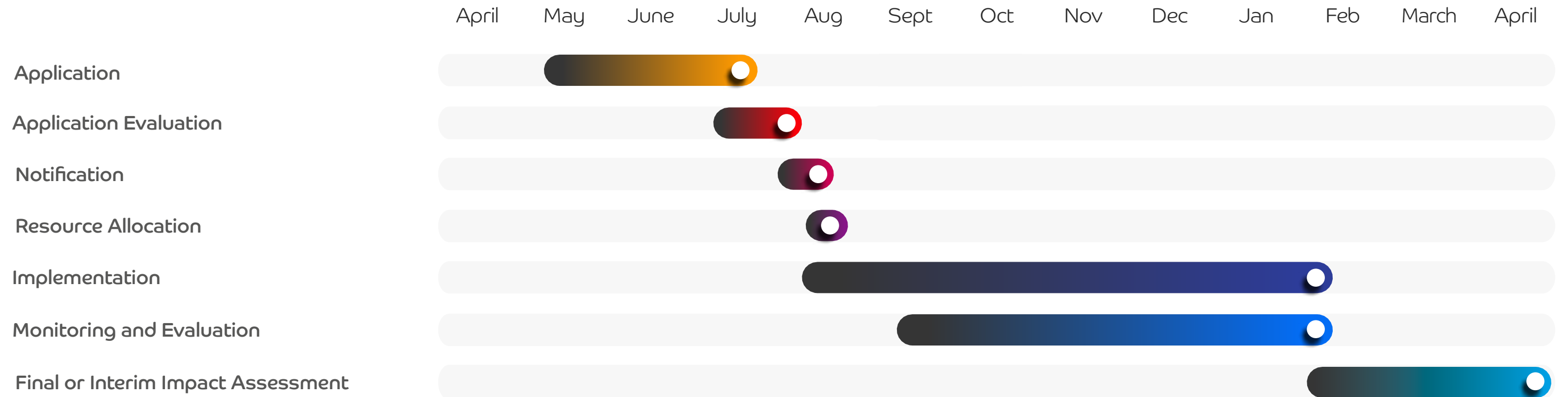
Project Implementation (August-January 2025): Funded projects are deployed and implemented, with regular check-ins by Gwent RICH for monitoring and support.

Monitoring and Evaluation (September 2024 to January 2025): Continuous evaluation is carried out to assess project progress, outcomes, and impact, through an interim report to the RICH.

Final or Interim Impact Assessment and Documentation (Feb 2025): An assessment is performed to document the initiative's impact, value and shared learning through a formal project impact report.

Dissemination and Recognition (April 2025): Project outcomes are disseminated, and the impact report is shared broadly to showcase the initiative's value.

Rapid Innovation Initiative: Application Process 2024-25



Rapid Innovation Initiative: Applicant Guidance

Eligibility Criteria: Applicants must represent a public sector organisation, third sector, or community group within the Gwent region. The proposed project should align to the principles of: Long-term benefit, Prevention, Collaboration, and Integration as set out in Social Services and (Wales) Wellbeing Act 2014.

Submission Process:

- Proposals should be submitted via an application form through the Gwent Regional Innovation Coordination Hub Webpage by the specified deadline.
- Ensure that all required sections of the application form are completed accurately.

Components:

- **Project Title and Summary:** Clearly describe the proposal and its improvement objectives.
- Lead organisation for responsibility of delivery, receiving funding and accountability for reporting.
- **Budget Requested:** Detail for what & how the funding will be utilised.
- **Timeline:** Provide a project timeline indicating key milestones and the expected completion date before March 2024.
- **Expected Impact:** Explain the anticipated positive impact of the project on the focus area(s) and how this will be measured.
- **Sustainability and Scalability:** Discuss the potential for further development and scaling post-funding period.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Innovation and uniqueness of the project.
- Feasibility and readiness for rapid deployment.
- Alignment with the Gwent Regional Partnership Board priorities and potential for positive impact.

Rapid Innovation Initiative: Informal conversations

Applicants are welcome to contact us for an informal conversation prior to submission, including any questions about the application process or criteria. Please contact [insert] to arrange.

Let's Chat Before You Apply!

Considering a submission? We're here to help. Get in touch for an informal conversation or to clarify any questions about the application process or criteria.

[Reach Out to Us Now](#)

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