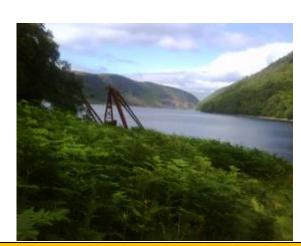


HLF Programme Objectives			
Objective	Outcomes	Main Objective (tick <u>one</u> box only)	Links to other areas
1	The heritage will be better managed		
2	The heritage will be in better condition		
3	The heritage will be identified/recorded		
4	People will have developed skills		\checkmark
5	People will have learnt about heritage		\checkmark
6	People will have volunteered time		
7	Negative environmental impacts will have been reduced		
8	More people and a wider range of people will have engaged with heritage	✓	
9	The local area/community will be a better place to live, work or visit		\checkmark

Objective 7: Develop engaging and innovative ways of narrating Elan's heritage of a wide audience of people

7c: Elan Artists Residencies



Summary

Elan has a long history as a place that inspires, with around 1 in every 8 people now visiting Elan principally to undertake artistic or creative activities. Recent developments in this field have been stimulated by local leadership from CARAD and national leadership through Arts Council Wales. This project will build on our artistic legacy to further develop Elan



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	as a centre for creativity with a particular focus on using the arts to better understand, explore and engage with nature, water, sustainability and the rural / urban dynamic. There is also the opportunity to reach further out into our linked communities by developing linkages with creative institutions such as the IKON gallery in Birmingham.
Project Details	Developing Elan as a centre for creativity and the arts will provide synergistic benefits across the Elan Links programme through engagement and exploration of the range of issues associated with current and future management and use of the 'quasi-public' landscape of Elan. Creativity and the arts also has great potential to be an economic driver in the locality supporting jobs and quality of life. The project will build on the successful Arts Council Wales/DCWW funded partnership APTEIan (Amser Parth Tyst Artists, Place Time) - a pilot Artists in Residence Scheme of 2015/16/17. The project will develop a further programme of residencies which will run throughout the five year delivery period of the Elan Links project. Artists and Creative Wales Fellows will work with creative young people, will lead workshops, walks and talks, will produce exhibitions and will contribute to Elan Links in a range of formats and through a range of media across the delivery phase. The project will complement work in other projects such as the film and media group, the creative events programme, woodland craft days and the augmented reality workshops to help build a truly 'Creative Elan'.
	The project will appoint two artists each year over a five year period to ensure that there is an effective presence on site during much of the year (commencing in autumn 2017 with a call out, and the first residencies in place from January 2018 in a rolling programme through to 2021-22). Each resident artist will spend at least a month on site and all artists have the option to spread their stay in shorter visits over a period of calendar year to experience the landscape at different times of the year. During the first year of the project we will be working with the Arts Council of Wales to tie in additional funding to enable the artists' residencies to develop longer term through the well-established Creative Wales programme. Recently this programme has developed Creative Wales Fellowships attached to particular organisations (British School at Rome, Hay International Festival). The Council is proposing to sustain its involvement in residency work in Elan via attaching Creative Wales Fellowships to the project over the five years of Elan Links, with this being viewed as an on-going relationship given the development of thinking around the Engineer's Bungalow and the developmental work the Arts Council has funded to anchor the idea of arts residencies and retreats on a long term basis here. We anticipate that this partnership will provide a further four longer term residency projects throughout years 2,3,4 and 5 of the Elan Links Project with 4 artists holding Creative Wales Fellowships attached to Elan Links over 2017-18 through to 2021-22. Part of the brief to resident artists in the Elan Links projects and the Creative Wales Fellowships will be to seek interdisciplinary.
	This project focuses on layer 6 – the Dynamic interpretation layer of the Interpretation framework for Elan Links.
1	OADAD is an important in madient in the successful devices of the

CARAD is an important ingredient in the successful development of this



project, offering an active and experienced partner at the centre of the community life of Rhayader.
 CARAD exits to : Promote participation in Arts and Heritage activity for social and cultural benefit; Encourage individuals to develop and share existing skills and inspire them to learn new ones; Use creative projects to celebrate the area's distinctive voices; Work in partnership with all ages and abilities to foster a sense of place, worth and confidence.
Their experience will enable artists to contribute to the life of the town by participating in a programme of walks, talks, exhibitions and other events throughout the residencies. CARAD can lead the artists' induction process by introducing them to the town and helping them to appreciate the further community context that they will be working in. Artists will have access to CARAD's Community Heritage Archive as a research base and will be offered the opportunity to work with young people from Rhayader and Elan as well as a community of young people from Birmingham, who receives their water from Elan. Elan Links will work with CARAD and the Arts Council of Wales to find an arts partner in Birmingham who can facilitate a long term relationship with the project during its five year programme and beyond. (Discussions during the development phase were opened with IKON Gallery and Eastside Projects in Birmingham about longer term relationships that could be engendered.) The artists will have the chance to develop an aspect of their project in partnership with these young people, the results of which could be exhibited at Rhayader Museum and Gallery or on site at the Visitor Centre or via use of other elements of the building stock at Elan adapted temporarily or in the more longer term permanently, as purposed for exhibition on site.
Creative Locals: Having a succession of resident artists at Elan will create opportunities for other artists based in the region to experience the Elan catchment through the eyes of other experienced creatives and to see first-hand how they put their ideas into practice. CARAD's network of creative people in and around Rhayader provides an opportunity for peer to peer learning with appointed artists, with CARAD helping to build links to locally based artists to enable sharing of portfolio sessions and potential collaborations to take place. Artists will also experience the heritage of Elan through projects where they may be working with the dam architecture, the network of ancient footpaths, archaeological remains, the mining history or the narrative of stories of local to global bearing that exist about the valley. There will also be events at the Engineer's House that will act as a meeting point for resident artists, local people and visitors.
will be a way of broadening young people's horizons and helping economic resilience by highlighting alternative career paths. This element of the project is designed to encourage young creative people in particular to draw on the locality for inspiration and to value their community and





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	life examples of creative careers, resources for teachers and careers advice. Links will be sought to the Arts Council's and DfES' current programme of Creative Learning through the Arts.
	4.2.7.2: Threats to tourism which include poor quality recreational experience and a lack of coherence in interpretation. Alternative Interpretations
	 We are confident that the artists' projects will reveal hidden aspects of the Elan Landscape character that will encourage visitors to explore a wider range of locations in the catchment than the already well known paths and trails. To date individual artist's researches have led them to some original outcomes captured in the publication APTElan that we are keen to share more widely. For example from the selection of research artists who have been exploring the Elan Valley environ meant we could cite: Mike Perry's examination of the farming and ecology of the upland grass areas will encourage a critical view of the fragile economics of this landscape; Morag Colquhoun's interest in the lesser known plants and insects will encourage visitors to think beyond the plentiful birdlife when recording their observations of the site; and, Anthony Shapland's concentration on the surface of the water and its ability to reflect both light and image adds a nuance to the idea of the picturesque that walkers and amateur photographers will enjoy discovering.
	Many of the artists also work internationally and so their observations and discoveries will be based on a wider idea of landscape than the immediate context of mid Wales. This outward looking approach will help to establish the Elan Valley as a destination with wide range of habitats and creative interpretations to experience. Artists will be encouraged to use their time at Elan to adjust and to be reflective. This is captured in the original partnering Vision document between Arts Council of Wales and DCWW (See Appendix PP23)
	Elan Links has developed Objective 7, which is to develop engaging and innovative ways of narrating Elan's heritage to a wide audience of people and projects 7a -7d as a suite of projects to meet this need and opportunity.
Project Management	Elan Links Partnership Manager, reporting to the Interpretation and Events Sub-committee in the first instance. A Curatorial Steering Group will oversee the process of selecting the residencies.
Project Partners	Lead partner: DCWW Other partners: EVT, Arts Council of Wales, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham (to be confirmed), CARAD, Powys County Council and Ceredigion Youth Services, Young Carers, High Schools, Aberystwyth University, University of Wales, Trinity St David.
Project Development	This project was included as part of the first stage submission to HLF. During the development phase we have been able to develop this project in more detail and align it more closely with the APTElan pilot project, enabling a wider partnership and additional funding from Arts Council Wales. The APT Elan pilot project has informed the development of this project and established a solid platform for the partnership between Welsh



 Water and the Arts Council of Wales to grow. We are confident that artists will continue to make a significant contribution to the future success of Elan. The programme of appointments following the concluding research phase in 2016 -17 will be open submission so that there is a fair and transparent process for selecting artists to participate in the project. A detailed project brief will be prepared that makes clear the responsibilities of both the host organisations and the resident artists; A steering group will be established to oversee appointments and curatorial decisions about the project; Selection criteria will be written that enable the steering group to select artists against a range of criteria particular to the various dimensions of this environment and community of mid Wales A project manager will be appointed to oversee the selection process and work with the project partners and artists to ensure that the project objectives are met; An annual evaluation meeting will be held to assess the project's progress, successes and failings.
Within the Elan Links programme, the potential exists to integrate the role of artists or other resident creatives. The four main goals within the Elan Links programme will be observed, documented or fulfilled in a creative way by artists in order to generate greater links and dialogue between Elan and the general public. These are entirely consonant with the Vision document established between Arts Council of Wales and DCWW.
 Land - social, cultural and economic networks of the local area and beyond; Water – aesthetics, cultural politics and natural resource management; History - industrial heritage, legacies and new narratives; Society - work, leisure and rural & urban inter-relationships.
 The partners want to achieve a space where artists can reflect on their work, formulate further developments of their work, present past work, and possibly present the process and creation of new work, stimulated by the context of the Elan Valley as: A place of relative rural isolation and seclusion and a precious landscape; A place of a globally precious commodity - water and its stewardship; A place of history within and out of Wales; A place of ingenuity and feats of engineering from the Victorian age into the present;
 A place of vital sustaining work and regenerative leisure; A place which can open up ideas of sustainability, environmental responsibility and new and responsible ways of being and living. This squares with the Elan Links Goals: Revival of Cultural Heritage - Story Telling The revival, preservation and dissemination of Elan's cultural heritage



	forms a key part of the Elan Links	programme Thora is a role for artists in
	responding to this heritage and help	programme. There is a role for artists in bing to share it with the public.
	for both historic reasons and in or Renovating the Engineer's House v Elan and there is also room for loo	ation to preserve the existing infrastructure der to provide accommodation on site. will help to preserve the built heritage of oking to the future and creating spaces d the functional needs of those working
	is potential to respond more creat landscape as Elan Valley. Artists co of the Landscape Character Action	ts capturing dramatic landscapes, there atively to such a unique and inspiring ould have a role in assessing the impact n Plan. The artists in the development sponded to the landscape in a number
	of Biological, Environmental and I University will potentially offer a part As part of their research, the Offic explored artists' involvement in so reasons: from promoting an ecolog	cience bility and the environment. The Institute Rural Sciences (IBER) at Aberystwyth artly funded PhD based at Elan Valley. ce for Rural Architecture in Wales has scientific programmes for a variety of gical aim; to communicating science to ating and initiating creative solutions.
Key Audiences (Please see Audience Development Plan, appendix LCAP3, for more details about Elan Links audiences.)	Audiences that will be primarily targeted through this project: Artists	Secondary audiences who will also benefit as a result of the project: Community groups; Residents of Elan and Rhayader; Visitors from Birmingham (Birmingham residents); Visitors who are within 1 hour's drive away; Visitors coming for a specific activity; All other visitors.
Activities and Timescale	The artists' programme for Elan Links will provide two residencies per year giving a total of ten residencies over the five year lifetime of the project, supplemented by the Creative Wales Fellowships (4) beginning in the autumn of 2017 with a call out and the first artists on site from early 2018 through to 2021-22.	
	testing/development stage; interest in using the resider space and its future potential	at and critical observer as part of a new to reflect on the possibilities of the



	 a sensitivity to the people that are facilitating the occupancy; interest in issues of ecology, sustainability, in relationship to art practice/wider cultural institutions; potential cross-over with other areas: energy consumption, economy, eco-design, architecture, history engineering etc.; a practice defined by/informed by a dialogue with 'Wales'; awareness of historical/political/geographical context in relation to residency and residency location; interest in engaging the potential community based in/around the residency location; interest in facilitation of wider dialogue/conversation, and potential invitation of other practitioners, as well as local contribution and interdisciplinarity; responsive to the potential involvement/engagement of the visitor centre; artists who are asking questions from a range of positions; artists who have a strong basis in another discipline, or may straddle a number of fields/disciplines.
	 October/November/December 2017 Appointment of freelance project management; Convening of Curatorial Steering Group for the project and agreement on the membership; Initial Residencies advertised to artists via Arts Council Wales, Welsh Water and project partners; Steering Group meets to shortlist artists for interview. Steering Group meets to interview artists
	January 2018 Appointment of Creative Wales Fellowships attached to Elan Links
	Feb –May2018 First residency phase
	 April 2018 Meetings of Curatorial Steering Group evaluate and determine next phase of activity; May further advertisement of opportunities; Ancillary programmes attached to residencies and Creative Wales Fellow-ships begin to operate; Evolving pattern of residencies established with future events and activities programme to be agreed with artists before announcement.
	Autumn 2019 Initial planning for Water Summit undertaken (for event in 2020-21)
	Years 2019-22 complete roll out of residency programme and linked events programme in the above pattern overseen by Steering/Curatorial Committee.
Outputs	10 resident artists living and working on site over five years;



	 4 Creative Wales Fellowships; 80 creative young people working with established artists;
Output indicators and targets	 14 artists' talks; 14 artist led walks; 14 creative workshops; 5 exhibitions; 5 peer to peer portfolio sessions with resident artists; 25 young people involved in the above exhibitions and events; 5,000 members of public interacting with all of the above; Further reach of the project achieved via web based resources; 1 Water Summit – International Symposium (40 delegates engaged); Publication. Pictures & film clips; Evidence of public engagement;
	Social media records; Desumentation relating to all events workshape and exhibitions;
	Bocumentation relating to all events, workshops and exhibitions; Any media coverage.
	Any media coverage.
Outcomes	 Heritage Outcomes: Opportunities to interact with the natural, built and social heritage of Elan; Use of the buildings, collections make people more aware of the need to manage/maintain the condition of and value their heritage and build environmental awareness; Creative research will inform better heritage management and develop understandings of this environment.
	 People Outcomes: More and a wider range of people have learnt about Elan's landscape, heritage and environment People will have experienced, shared and learnt new skills; Developed partnerships and support networks for on-going activities; Use of creative talent in a local environment; Raised their profile as creative people; Volunteered their time or participated in activities that link them to Elan; Visitors will be more aware of the creative talent in the area; Engagement with appreciation and understanding of this environment in a regional, national and international context; People will have been able to engage with creative issues, ideas and artists and other disciplines. Community Outcomes: More and a wider range of people have learnt about Elan's landscape, heritage and environment; People will have experienced, shared and learnt new skills' Developed partnerships and support networks for on-going activities; Use of creative talent in a local environment; Raised their profile as creative people; Volunteered their time or participated in activities that link them to



Monitoring and Evaluation	 Visitors will be more aware of the creative talent in the area; Engagement with appreciation and understanding of this environment in a regional, national and international context; People will have been able to engage with creative issues, ideas and artists and other disciplines. Numbers of participants in Scheme activities, overall and by target audiences; Data collection; People reporting skills development through the number of people taken part in the activity, activity feedback, recording participant comments, interviews and testimonials.
Evidence	APT Elan pilot
Wider Context	 The Elan Interpretation Plan identified following aims: Develop a scheme of best practice and creative interpretation tools that present the Elan Links Project key messages to Elan's public and target audiences; Create a programme of stimulating and educational activities that actively engage audiences in Elan's rich heritage and biodiversity; Provide opportunities for the public to engage in debate and discussion around Elan, its heritage and its future; Create interpretation that is sensitive to Elan's landscape and provide guidance of how visitors can do this too; Use creative interpretation to remove access barriers, and welcome people from all backgrounds; Use digital interpretation to connect with a local, national and international audience.
	 Elan is about people: built heritage, people's history and future, learning, community, phenomenology, the human condition Nature delivers: fitness, wellbeing, health, inspiration, education, science, arts, economy, society Water is a valuable and powerful natural resource: health, sanitation, industry, economy, wealth, global warming, ecosystems Elan is a special place for everyone: enjoyment, landscape, community, ecosystems, geology and geomorphology, leisure Along with these a number of sub themes and narratives will be used. Please see the Elan Interpretation Strategy Appendix LCAP4 and the Elan Audience Development Plan Appendix LCAP3. The project links with: Clwyd/Powys Archaeological Trust's technical report on the Historic Landscape Characterisation for the Elan Valley Powys County Council's 'Growing Mid Wales' initiative Arts Council Wales' 'Inspire' strategy for creativity and the arts in



	Wales and sponsored work from the Office of Rural Architecture
Legacy and maintenance of benefits	Elan Links will focus public attention on the Elan valley catchment through the activities of artists and their projects. The value of this longer term will be to generate sufficient value in the project to ensure that it can secure long term partnership funding to maintain a creative presence on the site. As the project matures, buy in from academic institutions, arts organisations and international programmes with similar objectives will enhance its reputation and increase its effectiveness. Funding for future publications will be sought to ensure that there is high quality documentary material that enables people to contextualise the artists' work at Elan and place it in context. A high profile arts initiative of this kind in the heart of Wales will encourage a wider arts audience in the UK and at a local level, inspire young people to see the potential for career development in the creative industries, not just as artists, but also in arts project management, media and inter disciplinary working.
Risks and risk mitigation	Risk 1: Local Participation will be inconsistent and hard to organise <u>Mitigation</u> : Close working with the EVT, Arts Council of Wales and CARAD.
	Risk 2: Full ambitions for the sustainability of the project cannot be assured long term. <u>Mitigation</u> : The partnership will work with the Arts Council of Wales, building good governance around the residency programme, and the netting in of other partners and collaborators and further Trust and Foundation support.
Links with other Elan Links projects	Objective 1a, 1b, 1c, 2a, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e, 4 & 5a: Artists will take inspiration from some of the themes in these objectives. As well as inspiration, it is possible that some of the artists may wish to interpret the different themes in their own way.
	Objective 5b: The Engineer's House which will be renovated as part of project 5b will be used by the artists in this project as accommodation and a studio when they are on a retreat in Elan.
	Objective 5c: Cwm Clyd Farmstead will be renovated into group accommodation. It is possible that some artists may use Cwm Clyd as part of their residency.
	Objective 6: Parts of the monitoring work for this objective will happen through objective 6. This material will then be used for exhibitions and as evidence of the project and the work carried out during each of the residencies.
	Objective 7a: The work carried out by the Artists in Residencies will be used as exhibition material. The photographs and film recorded of the artist residency programme will also be used as exhibition material.
	Objective 7b: The material produced by the artists will be shown on the app. The app will also show updated information about which artist is currently on residency at Elan and promotional material for any upcoming events, workshops or talks will be published through the app, online and through the social media platforms.



	Objective 7d: Events that happen through objective 7c will be arranged and organised through objective 7d.
	Objective 8: The volunteers that are required for this project can be selected from the database of volunteers that is collected through objective 8. Volunteers who participate in activities that aren't already part of Friends of Elan can be referred over and from there they will be offered a wider range of volunteering opportunities.
Background information	Elan is located in the Cambrian Mountains, Mid Wales, 5 miles to the east of the Market town or Rhyader. Elan's 20,000 hectares comprises 1% of Wales and is a unique landscape combining remote hill land, isolated farmsteads, steep-sided wooded valleys and the extraordinary feat of Victorian engineering that brought clean water to Birmingham.
	The community of farmers, tenants, the town of Rhayader and the village of Elan are the backbone of this vast area, with farming and tourism activities being the most significant economic activity in the area.
	Elan Links: People, Nature & Water Landscape Partnership has an ambitious vision: to generate a step-change increase in beneficial outcomes for people, communities and heritage.
	Elan Links is a £3.5 million project with a significant £1.8 million secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund Landscape Partnership Scheme
	The Elan Links: People, Nature & Water Landscape Partnership is currently made up of 17 different organisations who aim to deliver 26 projects under 12 strategic objectives over 5 years
	Elan Valley Trust was established by Welsh Water in 1989 as a charitable trust to safeguard the 72 square miles of the catchment. The Trust's objects are to promote conservation, appropriate public access and disseminate information about the estate.
	Welsh Water is a single purpose company with no shareholders and is run for the benefit of its customers.
	Community Arts Rhayader And District (CARAD) is a charity involved in community arts in the Rhayader an Elan area. They also manage Rhayader Museum and Gallery which opened in 2009 and is situated in the town of Rhayader.
	The Arts Council of Wales is Arts Council of Wales is an independent charity, established by Royal Charter in 1994. It is the national voice for the arts in Wales and has a track record of developing high quality arts projects throughout Wales, working with strategic partners to increase access to the arts in Wales.

