

First Give

On July 12th 2022, the finals of the second year of the First Give Community Project at Penglais School in Aberystwyth were held. WLCow had supported with an Award of £550 to cover two years of School entry costs and winning Team Member Awards.

The Project comprises a class social action project developed during eight structured lessons followed by a presentation. For the preparation part, the judges were asked to assess the commitment of each group to their chosen charity, the creativity used to raise awareness or money and the impact each team had made in both the school and wider community and how the students had evaluated all those aspects.

Four teams from Year 8 made presentations, each lasting around 10 minutes, to the audience of around 170 fellow year 8 students, staff and charity representatives. The presentations were then judged on the level of knowledge and understanding of the work of the charity, how the winning amount of £1,000 (donated by First Give) would be spent as well the standard of creativity and delivery and use of visual aids in their presentation.

The four local charities chosen by them were:

Hafal Hafal is a Member-led Charity supporting people with mental health problems - with a special emphasis on those with a serious mental illness – and their carers and families - and covers all areas of Wales

Tenovus Tenovus is Wales' leading cancer charity, with a long and distinguished history and is widely recognised for the quality of its support, care and research.

LATCH LATCH supports the children and their families who are being treated by the Oncology Unit at the Children's Hospital of Wales, and is most well-known for its on-Site Family Accommodation as well as providing holiday grants and other financial support.

Hywel Dda Health Charities This is the official charity of Hywel Dda University Health Board. The aim of the charity is to make a positive difference to the health, wellbeing and experience of NHS patients, service users and staff across Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire.

The winning Team were supporting **Hywel Dda Health Charities** and were chosen because they presented a clear and well researched case to support the development of a cancer treatment unit in Aberystwyth, a facility not currently available in the area.

Fiona Balchin, Programme Co-coordinator at Penglais School said " Thank you again to all the students, form tutors, our panel of judges including the WLCow, for making it possible to run this event. Also thanks to Caroline Blake for coaching our students. It has been great to see them develop in confidence and understanding over the last few weeks from working with this valuable programme"