



Comisiynydd
Cenedlaethau'r
Dyfodol
Cymru

Future
Generations
Commissioner
for Wales

bigmoose

bigmoose

The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales' Staff
Charity of the Year

2019/2020



WHY WE HAVE A CHARITY OF THE YEAR?

by Sophie Howe, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales



"At the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, we have always tried to look at the impact we can have on the rest of the world.

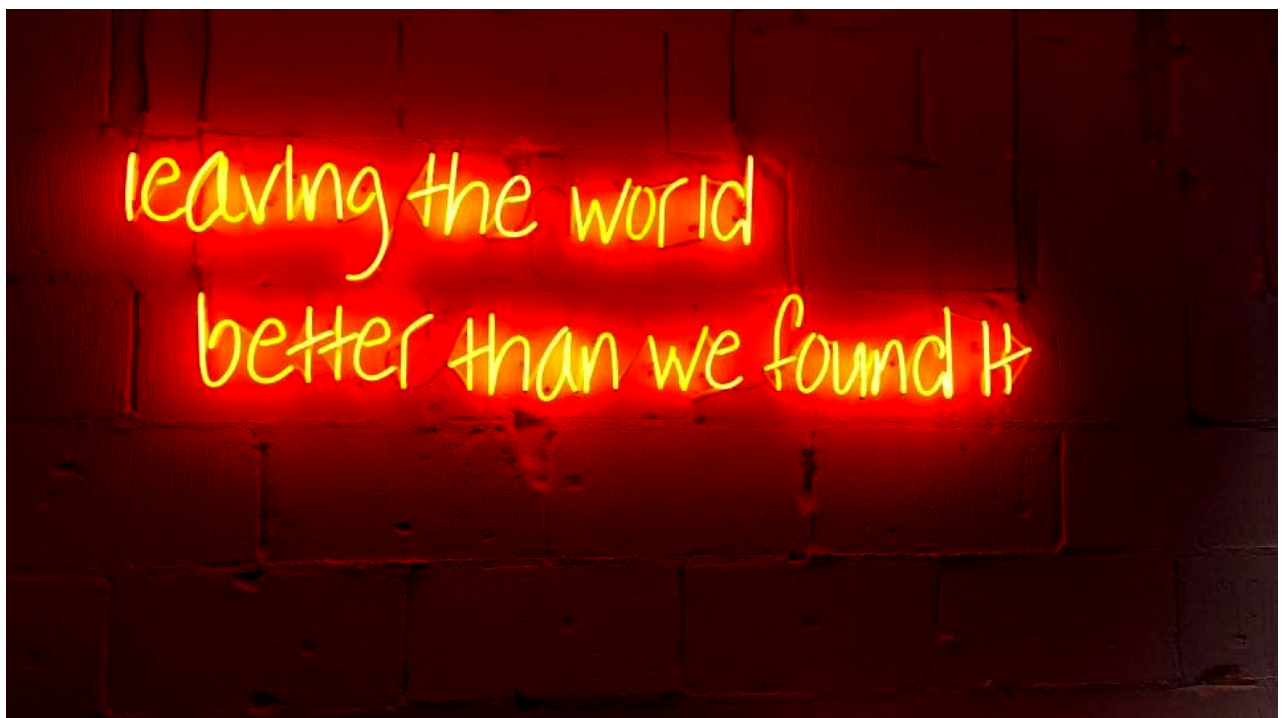
At Christmas, we don't hold a normal office secret Santa but instead donate to a charity. We collect for the local beauty bank (a scheme aimed at providing the homeless or those just starting out with toiletries and beauty products) and even have a Christmas choir that performs and collects annually for the homeless charities in Cardiff, amongst many other things!

So, in 2019 we decided to take this one step further. We have introduced a volunteering policy to encourage our staff to take time out to offer their skills and services to a charity of their choice. This includes a couple of full team days where we will go and spend a day making a real difference to a project that needs plenty of hands!

The team was so enthused about this and we decided that if we were going to do 'whole team volunteering' then it should be with one charity that we can truly make a difference with, so our idea of having our very own 'The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales' Charity of the Year' was born. Then we found Big Moose..."



**WATCH OUR
ANNOUNCEMENT
VIDEO**



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WHO ARE BIGMOOSE?



Jeff and Chloe are a father and daughter duo who have one simple mission – to leave the world better than they found it – and they have created a team to help them deliver just that.

The idea for bigmoose was born when Jeff lost his best friend Gary Cloonan (aka Moose) and was reminded of how short and precious life can be. He vowed then to get the most out of every minute.

It is a non-profit organisation with a clear intention to do fun stuff that inspires people to live better, healthier and kinder lives - focusing on mental health, suicide prevention and homelessness.



They also have a vision of being a conduit to raise a million pounds (or more!) by 2020 for various charities including Mind, Barnardo's, Teenage Cancer Trust, Velindre and the Welsh Childrens Cancer Trust.



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WHO ARE BIGMOOSE...

Here are just some of the projects they've done in the past...

The bigmoose coffee co. in the centre of Cardiff.

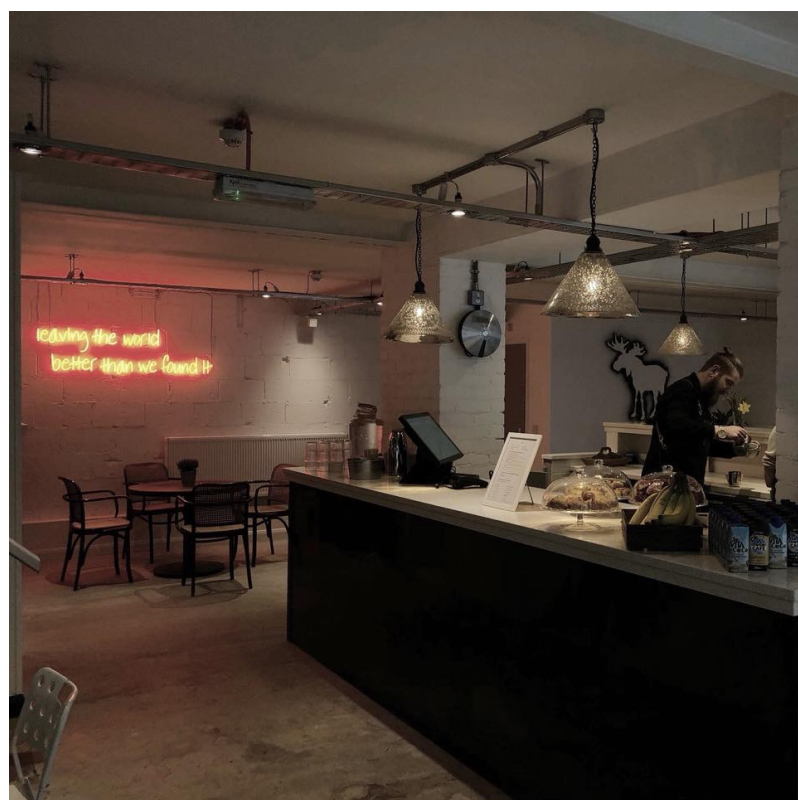
This is a lovely coffee shop on Frederick St. and the profits are used to help the homeless and other disadvantaged people get back into work and society. The plan is to train one homeless person in food and beverage, who will then work in the coffee shop, earning a proper wage and being supported and mentored by the bigmoose gang. The process will then begin again with the next person - providing a hand *up*, not a hand *out*.

"I'M VERY VERY PLEASED THAT YOU'VE CHOSEN A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CHARITY LIKE BIGMOOSE. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE BIGMOOSE'S IN ALL OF OUR CITIES."

*Lord John Bird
Founder of the Big Issue*

"WE'RE ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED TO GET BEHIND THEM BECAUSE WE THINK THIS EMBODIES EVERYTHING THAT THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT IS ASPIRING TO ACHIEVE IN WALES."

*Sophie Howe
Future Generations Commissioner for Wales*



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The Holley family is made up of Marc, Cherie, Gemma and Ben. Ben has epilepsy, development delay and chronic lung disease. The bigmoose team felt that the family had been through so much that they wanted to give them this gift so they can create memories together, relax and have the time of their lives – so they gave them an all-expenses paid trip to Disney World in Florida.



Team bigmoose ran the Cardiff Half Marathon in 2017 for Mind Cymru and in 2016 ran the Cardiff Half in memory of Emily. Emily was 18 when she passed away following complications after a bone marrow transplant during her battle against cancer. Emily had been fundraising for the bone marrow transplant appeal at University Hospital of Wales to improve the facilities. Her family decided to continue fundraising and bigmoose wanted to help. They set up a team of 100 runners for £30,000!



**WATCH THE VIDEO OF
THE PROJECT**

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In March 2015, 50 disabled children - 'superkids' - and 60 volunteers went to Maindy leisure centre and took part in a triathlon. Every child was welcome no matter what their disability, there were no timings and no competition. The aim of the day was for the children to have fun and achieve something they may never have thought possible. The bigmoose SuperTri was born!



**WATCH THE VIDEO OF
THE PROJECT**



It was so successful that the SuperTri 2 followed. The aim was to make it even bigger and better than the original SuperTri. Held in Cardiff Met University, almost 100 superkids and over 100 volunteers attended. They even raised more than £3000 for Noah's Ark Charity.

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At the beginning of bigmoose, before the coffee co, the bigmoose team would go down once to help the homeless. What started as just going down and giving out sandwiches and hot drinks has now grown into restaurants and bakeries donating food, hairdressers offering to their time to give trims and a chat and of course the 'grab your coat' campaign.



The 'grab your coat' campaign asked the people of Cardiff to donate any warm clothes, sleeping bags and shoes that they no longer wanted. Every month there is a day when items are collected in black bags for people to take free of charge.



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HOW DO THEY ALIGN TO THE ACT?

It is clear from some of the projects bigmoose has undertaken, that although they are not under the legislation, they embody everything the Well-being of Future Generations Act is about.



How are they contributing to a Prosperous Wales? By providing the opportunity for homeless people to get training in the hospitality industry, they are helping to provide a more skilled workforce.

We often talk about how in the future, the skills that will be the most valuable are those around empathy and being human.

This is exactly what bigmoose is trying to do; find the human skills and harness them for the future. The bigmoose Coffee Shop is also a good example of how local, independent businesses can help build the local economy in Wales.

A Resilient Wales? By creating a system that allows restaurants and other food outlets to donate food that would otherwise go to waste, bigmoose take it and spend time delivering it to the homeless. They also collect clothes, sleeping bags and shoes that would otherwise be disposed of and give them to the homeless as well; brilliant for reducing waste and creating a cohesive community.



A Healthier Wales? From half marathons to cycling around the world (on static bikes), health and fitness are at the heart of bigmoose. Their projects not only encouraging people to get fit across Wales but also using health to create a better Wales for all while fundraising thousands of pounds for charity.

A More Equal Wales? bigmoose is all about giving opportunities to those who need them. Their work to create the Super-Tri and Super-Tri2 is a great way to highlight how health and fitness, or sometimes just being with likeminded people, can improve someone's life. The non-competitiveness allows them to enjoy the experience regardless of age, ability, gender etc.



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A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language? Culture is at the heart of bigmoose. They hold cultural events at their coffee shop, opening up to Welsh music, poetry and book clubs – if it's important to the people of Wales, it's important to big moose. Wider than that, they are able to bring a new perspective to the traditional cultural locations across Wales – their cycling around the world challenge is being held at Cardiff Castle!

A Wales of Cohesive Communities? The bigmoose crew are all about making a better community. They are looking into getting a coffee bean roastery placed into Cardiff Prison to help prisoners gain new skills. Once they are close to probation, bigmoose will support them to use the skills they've learnt to integrate back into their community.



bigmoose offer their space for other community projects to thrive. Good Gym are a group of runners who combine regular exercise with helping the community. They might run to help clean windows at a community centre or paint the fence of an elderly resident, and bigmoose allows them to have a base to leave personal items and even have a hot cup of tea ready on their return.



A Globally Responsible Wales? bigmoose have been big supporters of 'Ripple', Cardiff's first zero-waste shop, hosting their launch party and encouraging others to shop locally. They are also going to cater the Homeless World Cup when it is hosted in Wales this summer so keep your eyes peeled for that.

WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?

The opportunities for the team at the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to help bigmoose are endless...

We are looking at how best to support them with our skills to help achieve the dream of leaving the world better than they found it.

Until then, we've made some simple small changes to support bigmoose...

We held our Team FG Christmas Party at Big Moose and were served a gourmet three course meal.



We are now buying bigmoose coffee for all our coffee needs – and we drink a lot of coffee!



We have set up a team of willing OFGC volunteers to take part in the cycle around the world challenge.



We have been working closely with founder of the Big Issue, Lord John Bird, and have been able to facilitate a relationship between the Big Issue and bigmoose, amongst others.



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The opportunities for the team at the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to help bigmoose are endless...

One of our 'simple changes' (small actions we have recommended that all public bodies in Wales do) is around using local, independent coffee shops for external meetings and we are now using bigmoose as our coffee shop of choice. We're encouraging others to do the same!



We have many more things in the pipeline and we can't wait to show you how our relationship progresses over the year.

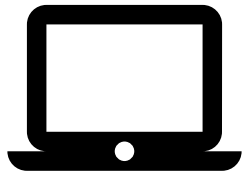


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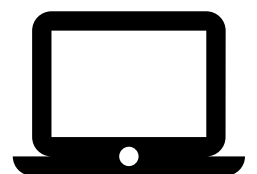


If you'd like to know more about bigmoose or would like to volunteer, please contact Chloe at

chloe@bigmoose.co

Or if you'd like to be considered for our next charity of the year contact the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner on

contactus@futuregenerations.wales



bigmoose