

To: Members of the Partnerships
Scrutiny Committee

Date: 14 May 2021

Direct Dial: 01824 712554

e-mail: democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held at **10.00 am** on **THURSDAY, 20 MAY 2021** via **VIDEO CONFERENCE**.

Yours sincerely

G. Williams
Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR (Pages 3 - 4)

To elect the Committee's Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2021/22 (copy of the role description for Scrutiny Member and Chair/Vice-Chair attached).

10.00 – 10.10 a.m.

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Pages 5 - 6)

Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any business identified to be considered at this meeting.

10.10 – 10.15 a.m.

4 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

5 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 7 - 10)

To receive the minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 15 April 2021 (copy attached).

10.15 – 10.25 a.m.

6 NORTH WALES ECONOMIC AMBITION BOARD'S ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21 (Pages 11 - 64)

To consider the Board's Quarter4/ Annual Report on its work and progress during 2020-21. (Report to follow)

10.25 – 11.10 a.m.

7 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 65 - 88)

To consider a report by the Scrutiny Coordinator (copy enclosed) seeking a review of the committee's forward work programme and updating members on relevant issues.

11.10 – 11.25 a.m.

8 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

To receive any updates from Committee representatives on various Council Boards and Groups.

11.25 – 11.30 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Councillor Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones (Chair)

Joan Butterfield
Ann Davies
Gareth Davies
Hugh Irving
Pat Jones

Christine Marston
Melvyn Mile
Rhys Thomas
David Williams
Emrys Wynne

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Press and Libraries
Town and Community Councils

- (vi) **Role:** **Scrutiny Member/Chair**
Salary: Band 3 (Chair only)

Please note: items highlighted are specific to the role of Chair

1. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

- To Full Council

2. PURPOSE OF ROLE

- **Providing leadership and direction**
- To participate fully in the activities of the Scrutiny Committee, the development and delivery of its work programme and any associated task and finish groups.
- To assist in the development and monitor impact of Council policy
- To hold the executive to account, monitoring performance and service delivery and challenge decisions through the call in arrangements where appropriate.
- To develop a forward work programme of the committee.
- To report on progress against the work programme to Council, and others as appropriate
- **To provide confident and effective management of meetings to facilitate inclusivity, participation and clear decision making ensuring that meeting objectives are met, and the code of conduct, standing orders and other constitutional requirements are adhered to.**
- **To act as a focus for liaison between the council, community and external bodies in relation to the scrutiny function.**
- **To encourage effective contributions from all committee members in both committee and task and finish groups**
- **To assess individual and collective performance within the committee and liaise with the relevant Group Leader to progress training and development opportunities.**
- Fulfil the accountabilities of the elected member role.

3. VALUES and EXPECTATIONS

- To be committed to the values of Denbighshire County Council and the following values in public office:
 - Pride
 - Integrity
 - Respect
 - Unity
 - Attend all relevant meetings
 - Carry out business electronically i.e. meetings and communication, wherever possible
 - To attend mandatory training as specified in the code of conduct and the constitution.
 - To participate in an annual development review to continually improve the performance of the member and the Council.

- To explain and account for personal performance as a County Councillor on a regular basis, particularly through the publication of an Annual Report on the Council's web site.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Code of Conduct for Members

DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, (<i>name</i>)	<input type="text"/>
a *member/co-opted member of <i>(*please delete as appropriate)</i>	Denbighshire County Council
CONFIRM that I have declared a *personal / personal and prejudicial interest not previously declared in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members, in respect of the following:- <i>(*please delete as appropriate)</i>	
Date of Disclosure:	<input type="text"/>
Committee (<i>please specify</i>):	<input type="text"/>
Agenda Item No.	<input type="text"/>
Subject Matter:	<input type="text"/>
Nature of Interest: <i>(See the note below)*</i>	<input type="text"/>
Signed	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>

*Note: Please provide sufficient detail e.g. 'I am the owner of land adjacent to the application for planning permission made by Mr Jones', or 'My husband / wife is an employee of the company which has made an application for financial assistance'.

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 5

PARTNERSHIPS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee held in by video conference on Thursday, 15 April 2021 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Jeanette Chamberlain-Jones (Chair), Hugh Irving, Pat Jones, Melvyn Mile, Rhys Thomas and Emrys Wynne (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Wellbeing and Independence was in attendance at the Committee's request.

Observer – Councillors Meirick Lloyd Davies.

ALSO PRESENT

Corporate Director Communities (NS), Head of Community Support Services (PG), Team Manager - Business Support (BC), Scrutiny Coordinator (RE), Committee Administrator (Host-KJ), Committee Administrator (Host Support - SJ) and Committee Administrator (RTJ)

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ann Davies, Christine Marston, Joan Butterfield and Gareth Davies.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest had been raised.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

No urgent items had been raised with the Chair prior to the commencement of the meeting.

4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11 February 2021 were submitted.

No matters were raised in relation to the contents of the minutes.

Resolved: - that the minutes of the Partnerships Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11 February 2021 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

Members queried whether it would be possible to restart the holding of pre-meeting briefing session to prepare for Committee meetings, as was the practice before the

pandemic resulted in Committee meetings being held virtually. The Scrutiny Co-ordinator explained the reasons why at present these pre-meetings were not being held, but offered to seek the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) to discuss potential methods for reinstating the practice.

5 COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES MARKET POSITION STATEMENT 2021-24

Councillor Bobby Feeley - Lead Member for Wellbeing and Independence presented the Community Support Services Market Position Statement (MPS) 2021-24 report (previously circulated). The MPS set out the Service's offer to the market, and summarised current needs and priorities. It would help current and potential providers (including independent sector, third sector, not for profit and social enterprise) to develop and shape their care and support services offer for adults in Denbighshire.

The last MPS was finalised in 2017, there had been many changes in needs and demands since the last statement was agreed. The proposed new statement was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The new MPS for 2021-24 has been fully updated to reflect new evidence of needs and demand, new priorities and directions of travel, and included some summary detail of specific plans for new developments where those were already known. It also included a brief chapter on the impacts of the Covid-19 crisis in terms of how the Service must respond and shape its social care planning and delivery.

The Social Services and Wellbeing Act remained the underpinning strategic driver for commissioning plans and development activity in Community Support Services. Consequently, the MPS placed a clear focus on earlier intervention, increasing preventative services within the community, helping people to maintain their independence, and ensuring that citizens had a voice, choice and control when it came to their own care and support.

The MPS also explained the Service's desire to work with providers who would offer best value through achieving priority outcomes, and creative collaborative working. All commissioned services must avoid duplication, and reduce demand upon statutory services.

The Head of Community Support Services informed the Committee that the Service was required by statute to produce a MPS.

The following points were raised during the discussion –

- The Committee highlighted the challenges which arose with regards to provision of services through the Welsh language and the difficulties encountered in recruiting sufficient numbers of staff to deliver care services through the medium of Welsh. There were concerns that some people were moved from their local communities to receive care and due to where specific types of care provision were located there were at times a lack of sufficient provision through the medium of Welsh. Officers agreed that there were challenges within the sector including provision through the Welsh language, however all efforts were being taken to ensure that Welsh

language standards were being met. The need to meet service-users' Welsh language requirements as part of the provision of care and support services was already integrated into the tendering aspect of the procurement process.

- Going forward the Council hoped it would be able to utilise individuals who had come forward as befriending volunteers during the COVID-19 crisis to assist with the Welsh language needs of residents.
- Difficulties in relation to recruiting care sector staff was a national problem and not unique to Denbighshire.
- Members praised the objectives laid out in the MPS aimed at ensuring that people stayed in their own homes rather than going into care. However, it was queried whether there were financial incentives or support available to encourage more people to stay at home. Officers clarified that direct payments scheme was used to support those who chose to stay at home. These payments enabled the person themselves to choose and buy in care and support services which suited their individual needs.
- The Committee enquired on how families could initially access care and support services in an emergency, officers clarified that they would need to contact the Single Point of Access (SPoA). From there they would be signposted to the relevant services that could provide support.
- Respite care for residents and carers could be provided in a variety of settings, not necessarily in a care home setting.

The Committee:

Resolved: subject to the above observations to confirm that –

- (i) the Community Support Services' Market Position Statement 2021-2024 reflects an understanding of the local market and business of local providers, and that it clearly sets out how the current and future range of care and support will be influenced and tailored to respond to specific local issues, and support the delivery of key corporate and Community Support Services' priorities; and***
- (ii) as part of its consideration it had read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment at Appendix 2 to the report.***

6 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

The Scrutiny Co-ordinator introduced the report (previously circulated) which requested the Committee to review and agree on its programme of future work. Members' attention was drawn to the following matters:

- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) had recently confirmed that representatives would be available to attend a meeting of the Committee to discuss 'Heart Failure Services in Denbighshire and its impact on the Council's Social Care Services' on 8 July 2021. This item had been listed on the 'Future Issues' section of the forward work programme for some time pending confirmation of their availability to attend;
- the request for the 'Community Support Services Mission Position Statement 2021-2024' to be examined had been considered by the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) at its meeting on 11 March 2021. It was the

Group that had referred it to the Committee for scrutiny at the current meeting;

- At the same meeting the SCVCG had considered the North Wales Economic Ambition Board's (NWEAB) reports publication timetable. As Partnerships Scrutiny Committee was the Council's designated committee for scrutinising the Board the SCVCG was, in line with the protocol agreed by all six North Wales local authorities and the NWEAB, recommending to the Committee that it should invite Board representatives to meet with the Committee twice a year to discuss the progress it had made in realising its objectives. The proposal was that Board representatives attend Scrutiny at the end of Quarters 2 and 4 of the financial year to discuss their quarterly and Annual Reports, with the Quarter 1 and Quarter 3 reports circulated to Committee members for information purposes. The Committee agreed to adopt this approach; and
- the 'Information Brief' document circulated to Committee members ahead of the meeting which contained the regular quarterly information report on 'Quality Monitoring of External Care Services' and also information on what was expected of Scrutiny in relation to the new 'Socio-economic Duty for Wales'.

The Committee agreed to extend an invitation to NWEAB representatives to the Committee's next meeting on 20 May 2021 to present the Board Annual Report for 2020/21. It also agreed to confirm arrangements for representatives from BCUHB to attend the same meeting to discuss the Board's plans for the future direction of service delivery in Denbighshire, including progress made in realising major capital projects across the county.

At the conclusion of the discussion it was:

Resolved: - subject to confirming the acceptance of the additions and amendments outlined above to approve the Committee's Forward Work Programme as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

7 FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

None.

Report to	Partnerships Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting	20th May 2021
Lead Member / Officer	Councillor Hugh Evans, Leader/Graham Boase, Corporate Director: Economy and Public Realm
Report author	Graham Boase, Corporate Director: Economy and Public Realm.
Title	North Wales Economic Ambition Board Annual Report 2020/21

1. What is the report about?

1.1. The report is about the work of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, (the Board) during the financial year 2020/21

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1. To consider the Board's Quarter4/Annual Report on its work and progress during 2020-21

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1. That Members consider the contents of the Q4/Annual report and provide comment and feedback

4. Report details

4.1. On 8th December 2020 the Council approved the Final Growth Deal with the UK and Welsh Governments and agreed to enter into a governance agreement (GA2) as the basis upon which the work of the Board in delivering the Growth Vision and Growth Deal would be governed. As part of GA2 it was agreed that the Portfolio Management Office would prepare a quarterly report on the work of

the Board and circulate it to each of the partner organisations in order that it could be submitted to Scrutiny.

4.2. It was further agreed that an officer of the Portfolio Management Office would be able to attend on up to two occasions each year at a relevant scrutiny meeting in order to answer questions. It has been agreed that the Portfolio Management Office will send a representative to Scrutiny to consider the Q2 and Q4 reports and that the reports in respect of Q1 and Q3 will be submitted for information.

4.3. The Q4/Annual Report of the Board will follow this report and will be available for members in advance of the meeting of the Committee on 20th May. An officer of the Portfolio Management Office along with relevant officers of the Council will be available to answer questions at the meeting.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

5.1. The Growth Deal is based on themes which are in line with the Council's corporate priorities.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

6.1. There are no costs arising directly out of the scrutiny of this report.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

7.1. A well-being impact assessment is not required.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

8.1. There have been no consultations with others.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1. As noted in the cover report this is an update report, for members' information, and there are no direct financial implications. Regular reporting on the progress of the North Wales Growth Deal is critical to ensure compliance with the award of funding letter requirements and GA2. As noted under 'Finance' in part 2 of the quarterly

report Gwynedd CC have confirmed that discussions are continuing with Welsh Government with regard to the grant profile and related conditions, after the UK Government accelerating their funding arrangements. Whatever the result of these discussions there is sufficient budget in place to cover DCC contributions to help with the cash flow position as agreed as part of the Budget agreed by Council in January.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

10.1. There are no risks directly associated with the scrutiny of this report.

11. Power to make the decision

11.1. s21 Local Government Act 2000

11.2. Section 7 Council Constitution

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REPORT TO THE NORTH WALES ECONOMIC AMBITION BOARD

14th May, 2021

TITLE: *North Wales Growth Deal – Quarter 4 and Annual Reports*

AUTHOR: *Alwen Williams, Portfolio Director*

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to present the Quarter 4 (Jan-March) Growth Deal report, updated Portfolio Risk Register and the Portfolio Management Office Annual Report for 2020-21.
- 1.2. Quarterly and annual reporting on progress against the North Wales Growth Deal is a requirement of the Final Deal Agreement. Following consideration by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, the reports will be shared with Welsh Government, UK Government and the local authority scrutiny committees.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1. That the Board consider and note the Quarter 4 Performance Report, updated Portfolio Risk Register and the Portfolio Management Office Annual Report for 2020-21.
- 2.2. That the Board consider the format of the quarterly report and identify improvement or where further information would be useful for future iterations.
- 2.3. That the Board approves the submission of the Quarter 4 Performance Report and the Portfolio Management Office Annual Report for 2020-21 to Welsh Government and UK Government as well as the local authority scrutiny committees.

3. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 3.1. As stated in the report.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. In December 2020, the NWEAB and the Welsh and UK Governments agreed the Final Deal Agreement for the North Wales Growth Deal.
- 4.2. Regular reporting on progress against the North Wales Growth Deal is a requirement of the Final Deal Agreement.
- 4.3. This report includes three appendices:
 - North Wales Growth Deal Quarter 4 Performance Report;
 - Portfolio Risk Register – April 2021;
 - Portfolio Management Office Annual Report 2020-21.

North Wales Growth Deal Quarter 4 Performance Report

- 4.4. The Quarter 4 performance report provides an overview of progress on the Growth Deal programmes and projects.
- 4.5. With the Deal signed, the focus this quarter has been on moving to the delivery phase. Work started in January 2021 with a baseline review of all projects to re-confirm timetables for business case development and delivery. Once this exercise was completed, the focus was on moving project business cases forward.
- 4.6. During Quarter 4, a significant number of workshops have taken place, in line with the Better Business Case guidance, to support the development of the project business cases. These workshops involved a number of stakeholders and allowed us and our project sponsors to test, challenge and re-confirm support for the projects.
- 4.7. Gateway Reviews are a key part of our assurance and approvals process, providing an independent checkpoint prior to key decision points. Quarter 4 saw our first two projects undertaking their Gateway Reviews. The Morlais project, led by Menter Môn and the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre project, led by Wrexham Glyndwr University completed their reviews and are now working to address the recommendations made before submitting revised business cases for consideration.
- 4.8. Having signed the Grant Award Letter and submitted the required documentation we have received the first instalment of £16million from Governments in March 2021. This funding will enable project delivery to commence during the next financial year, when we expect to consider and make a decision on our first tranche of project business cases.
- 4.9. The majority of programmes and projects are currently reporting as Amber as a result of revised business case development timetables resulting in delay compared to the timetable outlined in the Portfolio Business Case. Two projects are currently reporting red due to risks that could impact on the scope of the projects.

Portfolio Risk Register – April 2021

- 4.10. The Portfolio Risk Register is updated on a regular basis by the Portfolio Management Office and reviewed by the Portfolio Board (Executive Officers Group) and the North Wales Economic Ambition Board on a quarterly basis.
- 4.11. The risk register has been fully updated with a number of changes recorded in the documents, including revised risk descriptions, revised scoring and mitigating actions and the commentary has been updated for all risks.
- 4.12. The overall risk profile of the Growth Deal is stable with no new significant areas of concern. There remain some significant risks associated with a couple of individual projects and the post Covid-19 appetite and ability of the private sector to invest in the Growth Deal remains unclear at this stage. The longer-term implications of Covid-19 and economic recovery on the Growth Deal also remain unclear and will continue to be kept under review.

Portfolio Management Office Annual Report 2020-21

- 4.13. The annual report looks back on the progress made over the last financial year. It includes both the Growth Deal and other activities supported by the Portfolio Management Office.

- 4.14. 2020-21 was a challenging year, with Covid-19 changing our lives and the way we work. Despite these challenges, the final deal agreement on the North Wales Growth Deal was signed during a virtual ceremony on the 17th December, 2021.
- 4.15. The Final Deal is the contract between the UK Government, Welsh Government and the North Wales Economic Ambition Board for the delivery of the Growth Deal. It was secured on the basis of a Portfolio Business Case and five Programme Business Cases outlining plans for the total investment of £240m (£120m by UK Government and £120m by Welsh Government).
- 4.16. In addition to achieving the Final Deal, a number of other significant milestones were achieved including:
- Securing £2.9million in ESF funding to expand the Portfolio Management Office;
 - Recruitment to the new staffing structure with only 2 posts vacant as of April 2021;
 - Completion of Portfolio Assessment Review and first project Gateway Reviews;
 - Completion of Better Business Case training for team members;
 - Working closely with the six local authorities, UK and Welsh Governments and private sector representatives to co-ordinate the regional response to economic recovery.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.
- 5.2. The quarterly performance report provides an overview of the expected capital expenditure profile of Growth Deal funding. At this stage, no project business cases have been approved and therefore there is no expenditure to report on. Future iterations of the report will include reporting on financial expenditure following project business case approval.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.
- 6.2. Regular reporting on Growth Deal performance is part of the agreed governance framework and a key requirement of the Final Deal agreement.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1	North Wales Growth Deal – Quarter 4 Performance Report
Appendix 2	Portfolio Risk Register – April 2021
Appendix 3	Portfolio Management Office Annual Report 2020-21

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer – Host Authority:

“As noted in the report there is a commitment in GA2 to provide quarterly reports for the Partners scrutiny arrangements. The recommendation addresses this requirement and will give the scrutiny system an opportunity to be updated and to consider the information when forming their work programmes.”

ii. Statutory Finance Officer (the Host Authority's Section 151 Officer):

“This is an update report, for members’ information, and paragraph 5.1 notes that there are no direct financial implications arising. Regular reporting on the progress of the North Wales Growth Deal is critical to ensure compliance with the award of funding letter requirements and GA2. I can confirm that discussions are continuing with Welsh Government with regard to the grant profile and related conditions, after the UK Government accelerating their funding arrangements, as noted under ‘Finance’ in part 2 of the quarterly report.”

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Bwrdd Uchelgais Economaidd Gogledd Cymru
North Wales Economic Ambition Board

North Wales Growth Deal

2020-21 Quarter 4
(January – March 2021)
Performance Report



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



UK Government Wales
Llywodraeth y DU Cymru

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1. Overview from Portfolio Director

The signing of the Final Deal Agreement December 2020 by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, Welsh Government and UK Government was a significant milestone for the North Wales Growth Deal, at the end of a very challenging year for the economy as a result of Covid-19.

With the Deal signed, the focus this quarter has been on moving to the delivery phase. Work started in January 2021 with a baseline review of all projects to re-confirm timetables for business case development and delivery. Once this exercise was completed, the focus was on moving project business cases forward.

Over the past three months, a significant number of workshops have taken place, in line with the Better Business Case guidance, to support the development of the project business cases. These workshops involved a number of stakeholders and allowed us and our project sponsors to test, challenge and re-confirm support for the projects.

Gateway Reviews are a key part of our assurance and approvals process, providing an independent checkpoint prior to key decision points. The Growth Deal portfolio undertook its Gateway Review during August 2020 as part of the process to secure the Final Deal, and this quarter has seen our first two projects undertake their Gateway Reviews.

The Morlais project, led by Menter Môn and the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre project, led by Wrexham Glyndwr University completed their reviews and are now working to address the recommendations made before submitting revised business cases for consideration.

The Portfolio Management Office has **continued to lay the groundwork for the successful delivery of the Deal** by refining and agreeing the commercial strategy, procurement principles and agreeing a position statement on climate and ecological change to enable us to work with project sponsors to deliver on the Board's ambition for the region.

Finally, having signed the Grant Award Letter and submitted the required documentation we have received the first instalment of £16million from Governments in March 2021. This funding will enable project delivery to commence during the next financial year, when we expect to consider and make a decision on our first tranche of project business cases.

Alwen Williams
Alwen Williams, Portfolio Director



2. Overall Portfolio Performance

Theme	RAG	Commentary
Portfolio Business Case	Green	The Portfolio Business Case was approved as part of the Final Deal Agreement in December 2020. The business case is to be updated annually, with the first update scheduled for August 2021.
Governance	Green	The Portfolio, Programme and Project Management Framework is now established with the Portfolio Board and five Programme Boards in operation. Governance Agreement 2 was approved by all partners in December 2020. The Conflicts of Interest process is now being rolled out, starting with the Business Delivery Board.
Assurance	Green	The agreed assurance process between the NWEAB, UK Government and Welsh Government is working well. Morlais the first Growth Deal project has completed its Gateway Review and is working to address the recommendations. The next two projects, the Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub and the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre are on track for their Gateway Reviews in April and May respectively.
Resourcing	Yellow	Recruitment to the Portfolio Management Office continues, with five new starts joining the team between April and May 2021. Two posts remain unfilled: Lead Officer (Strategic Transport) and the Land & Property Project Manager with options for re-advertisement being considered at this time.
Finance	Green	The Grant Offer Letter has been received and signed and the first tranche of funding (£16million) was received in March 2021. The Portfolio Management Office is working with UK Government and Welsh Government to understand the implications of the announcement by UK Government Treasury that they are accelerating funding for the North Wales Growth Deal.
Risk	Yellow	The overall risk profile of the Growth Deal is stable with no new significant areas of concern. There remain some significant risks associated with a couple of individual projects and the post-Covid appetite and ability of the private sector to invest in the Growth Deal remains unclear at this stage.
Monitoring and Evaluation	Yellow	The Portfolio Management Office has worked with UK Government and Welsh Government officials on a revised draft of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and are awaiting feedback. The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan is expected to be refined over the next 12 months as the approach to Benefits Realisation matures.
Communications and Engagement	Yellow	Work has commenced on the new website and branding with a creative digital agency called Tinint, however the timetable is slightly behind schedule. The Portfolio Management Office has entered into a 12-month partnership with Business News Wales to provide additional communications and marketing support. In addition two small sponsorship deals with Wales Week in London and the Wales Start-up Awards 2021 will help to attract investment in and raise the Growth Deal and Economic Ambition Board's profile.

- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

3. Digital Programme

Programme Status	Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The programme board has prioritised three projects for development during 2021 – Digital Signal Processing Centre, Connecting the last few % and Connected Corridor. The Digital Signal Processing project is progressing steadily in developing the OBC. The Last Few % project has established a project board and appointed a Senior Responsible Officer; and has agreed a set of SMART spending objectives. The Connected Corridors project has established a project board and appointed a Senior Responsible Officer. A scoping study is to be commissioned to support the development of the project. Work has started on updating the regional Digital Connectivity Strategy, last reviewed in 2019, with a draft scheduled to be presented for NWEAB approval in the next quarter.

Project	Project Stage	Quarter Achievements	Next Quarter Key Milestones	RAG Status
Digital Signal Processing Centre (Sponsor: Bangor University)	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic, Economic and Commercial case workshops completed First drafts of Strategic and Economic cases completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assurance review scheduled for 12 May Draft OBC to be ready in April 	
Connecting the last few % (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project board established and Senior Responsible Officer appointed Strategic case workshops completed and spending objectives defined Market engagement with project board meeting potential suppliers a series of presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic case workshops to be held and OBC to be drafted Project board membership to be reviewed Assurance review to be scheduled 	

- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

Project	Project Stage	Quarter Achievements	Next Quarter Key Milestones	RAG Status
Connected Corridor (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project board established and Senior Responsible Officer appointed Initial strategic case workshops held Project board identified need for scoping study to improve strategic case Brief for scoping study drafted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoping study to be delivered Remaining workshops to be held and OBC to be drafted Project board membership to be reviewed Assurance review to be scheduled 	
Full Fibre at Key Sites (Sponsor: NWEAB)	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Business Case Scheduled for development later in 2021 	
Connected Campus (Sponsor: NWEAB)	On Hold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Business Case Scheduled for development later in 2021 	

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- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

4. Low Carbon Energy Programme

Programme Status	Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first draft of the Morlais OBC was received by the PMO for review and a gateway review was completed on the project in February 2021. Work is now underway by Menter Môn to address the recommendations and to develop the next draft of the OBC for consideration. Good progress made on the Transport Decarbonisation Project, with work progressing on both the Deeside and Holyhead Hydrogen Hubs. Jacobs successfully procured by Flintshire County Council to deliver both the SOC and OBC for the Deeside hub and the Transport Decarbonisation Project Manager has been recruited to lead on the project and will take up his post in April. There has been similar positive progress on the Smart Local Energy project with two strategic case workshops held, SMART spending objectives developed and Aquaterra procured to deliver Llyn Multi-vector study. A Project Board has been established for the Low Carbon Energy Centre of Excellence with plans in place to develop the Outline Business Case over the next quarter. The NWEAB approved the Draft Regional Energy Strategy at their meeting in March 2021.

Project	Project Stage	Quarter Achievements	Next Quarter Key Milestones	RAG Status
Morlais (Sponsor: Menter Môn) Page 27	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft OBC submitted to Portfolio Management Office following business case workshops Gateway Review held to review readiness for delivery and the draft OBC Public Inquiry held for the main planning application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment of principal contractor Completion of berth allocation process OBC consideration by NWEAB 	
Transport Decarbonisation (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project is developing the Strategic Outline Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding secured from Welsh Government for SOC and OBC development Jacobs procured to support SOC and OBC Development for the Deeside Hydrogen Hub UK Government announced funding for the Holyhead Hydrogen Hub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Manager to start in post SOC and OBC reports to be received 	

- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

4. Low Carbon Energy Programme

Project	Project Stage	Quarter Achievements	Next Quarter Key Milestones	RAG Status
Low Carbon Energy Centre of Excellence (Sponsor: Bangor University)	Project is developing the Strategic Outline Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project board established A series of internal workshops to review the strategic case and develop the proposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Case workshops to be held Continue development of draft OBC 	
Smart Local Energy (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project is developing the Strategic Outline Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Case for Change' workshops held to identify spending objectives, business needs and potential scope of the project YnNi Llyn multi-vector energy system feasibility study has been awarded to Aquaterra -who have carried out similar work in the Orkney Islands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress the business case development workshops Continue development of the draft SOC YnNi Llyn report due to be received 	
Trawsfynydd Power Station (Sponsor: Cwmni Eginio)	Project is developing the Strategic Outline Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of Cwmni Eginio announced by Welsh Government on the 1st October 2020 Welsh Government working with Arup to assess the economic impact of a Small or Advanced Modular Reactor at Trawsfynydd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with Cwmni Eginio, Government and key partners regarding project development plans 	

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- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

5. Land and Property Programme

Programme Status	Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Project Board has been established for the Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh project led by developer Jones Bros who are progressing with the development of the business case. • A potential developer has expressed interest in the Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor site. • Outline planning permission on the Key Strategic Site, Bodelwyddan has lapsed and the project will need to be reviewed once the revised planning policy for the site is determined. • Warren Hall, Broughton remains on track and subject to the Local Development Plan adoption. • There are a number of dependencies and constraints that will impact the timetable for the Wrexham Gateway site. • There remains a funding risk in relation to the Holyhead Port project due to increased costs.

Project	Project Stage	Quarter Achievements	Next Quarter Key Milestones	RAG Status
Western Gateway, Wrexham (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project is developing the Strategic Outline Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Government have issued a planning directive to the Local Planning Authority not to grant consent to any development that will lead to increased traffic flows on A483 Junction 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress business case development 	
Warren Hall, Broughton (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project is developing the Strategic Outline Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of Common Grounds completed between Welsh Government, Flintshire County Council and the NWEAB in support of draft Local Development Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate Collaboration Agreement with Welsh Government 	
Key Strategic Site, Bodelwyddan (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project Review – scope of project being reviewed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline planning permission on site expired on 21 March, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project will need to be reviewed once the revised planning policy for the site is determined 	

- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

Project	Project Stage	Quarter Achievements	Next Quarter Key Milestones	RAG Status
Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project board established Planning application submitted by Jones Bros to Denbighshire County Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision expected on planning application in April/May 2021 Progress business case development 	
Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor (Sponsor: NWEAB)	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential developer with a track record of delivery has expressed an interest in the site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress discussions with potential developer Progress business case development 	
Holyhead Gateway (Sponsor: StenaLine)	Project Review – scope of project being reviewed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welsh Government have established a Steering Group to provide guidance on the delivery of the activities that fall within the Holyhead Gateway Revised project costs indicate costs will be in a range that is substantially in excess of original estimates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consenting process for breakwater works to begin 	

- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

6. Agrifood and Tourism Programme

Programme Status	Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The timetable for business case development remains tight. The Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub projects remains on track with all workshops completed. The timetable for the Llysfasi Net Zero Farm workshops has been revised to align with the start of the new project manager in post, however, the WBRID business innovation competition with Coleg Cambria Llysfasi has provided a solid foundation for the project. Progress is being made on the Hub element of the Tourism Talent Network.

Project	Project Stage	Quarter Achievements	Next Quarter Key Milestones	RAG Status
Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub (Sponsor: Grwp Llandrillo Menai)	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hatch Regeneris appointed to support workshops All five project workshops completed to support OBC development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit draft OBC to Portfolio Management Office for review Undertake Gateway 2 review 	
Llysfasi Net Zero Farm (Sponsor: Coleg Cambria)	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and increased awareness of low carbon and precision farming methods Engagement with local businesses to determine skills needs Project Manager appointed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Manager to start in post Business case workshops to commence Planning for Gateway 2 review 	
Tourism Talent Network (Sponsor: Grwp Llandrillo Menai)	Project is developing the Strategic Outline Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hub element continues to be planned in preparation for 21st Century Schools bid (to align with Growth Deal timetable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop timetable being drafted with 1st workshop scheduled for May 2021 COVID-related review of 'spoke' element with view to expanding partners 	

- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

7. Innovation in High Value Manufacturing Programme

Programme Status	Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Glyndwr University led Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre completed a Project Assessment Review (PAR) in March as part of the business case development process and the team are now working on the recommendations ahead of OBC submission to the Portfolio Management Office and a Gateway 2 review. The Bangor University led Centre for Environmental Biotechnology project is at an earlier stage of development, with resources focused on refining the scope of the project at present.

Project	Project Stage	Quarter Achievements	Next Quarter Key Milestones	RAG Status
Enterprise Engineering Optics Centre (Sponsor: Glyndwr University) Page 32	Project is developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting documentation prepared for Gateway Review Gateway Review undertaken Business Case workshops held 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Business case workshops Address Gateway Review recommendations Submit draft OBC to Portfolio Management Office Undertake Gateway 2 Review 	
Centre for Environmental Biotechnology (Sponsor: Bangor University)	Project is developing the Strategic Outline Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal workshop held to review the strategic narrative of the project and to better understand the scope 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further workshops to help refine the project. Following these, engagement with stakeholders will begin 	

- Delivering to plan with no issues to address. No action required
- Delivery slightly behind schedule and/or minor/moderate issues to address. Management action in place
- Delivery behind scheduled (+3 months) and/ or significant issues to address. Urgent action required

Programme Delivery Plan March 2021 Update



Note: Delivery timescales are provisional pending project business case approval

9. Growth Deal Projects - Capital Funding Profile March 2021

Programme	Project	Project Sponsor	2021/22 (£m)	2022/23 (£m)	2023/24 (£m)	2024/25 (£m)	2025/26 (£m)	Total (£m)
Digital	Digital Signal Processing Centre (DSP)	Bangor University	1.72	0.99	0.25	0.00	0.00	2.96
Digital	Full Fibre at Key Sites	NWEAB	0.00	3.45	3.25	0.00	0.00	6.70
Digital	Connected Corridor	NWEAB	0.99	1.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.17
Digital	Connected Campus	NWEAB	0.00	3.94	5.90	5.91	4.93	20.68
Digital	Connecting the last few %	NWEAB	0.99	2.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.94
Low Carbon Energy	Morlais	Menter Môn	2.46	4.93	1.48	0.00	0.00	8.87
Low Carbon Energy	Low Carbon Energy Centre of Excellence	Bangor University	0.00	4.74	6.71	5.23	4.00	20.68
Low Carbon Energy	Traswfyndd Power Station	Cwmni Eginio	0.00	4.92	9.85	4.93	0.00	19.70
Low Carbon Energy	Transport Decarbonisation	NWEAB	1.97	3.94	3.94	1.38	0.00	11.23
Low Carbon Energy	Smart Local Energy	NWEAB	0.00	3.94	7.88	7.88	4.93	24.63
Land and Property	Holyhead Gateway	Stena Line	0.00	11.33	13.78	9.36	0.00	34.47
Land and Property	Warren Hall, Broughton	NWEAB	0.00	0.49	0.99	5.91	7.38	14.77
Land and Property	Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh	NWEAB	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.98	0.00	3.94
Land and Property	Key Strategic Site, Bodelwyddan	NWEAB	0.49	0.99	5.41	2.96	0.00	9.85
Land and Property	Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor	NWEAB	0.25	2.70	2.96	0.00	0.00	5.91
Land and Property	Western Gateway, Wrexham	NWEAB	0.00	4.03	4.93	0.00	0.00	8.96
Agrifood and Tourism	Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub Project	Grŵp Llandrillo-Menai	0.49	4.68	4.68	0.00	0.00	9.85
Agrifood and Tourism	The Llysfasi Net Zero Farm	Coleg Cambira	0.00	4.92	4.93	0.00	0.00	9.85
Agri-food and Tourism	Tourism Talent Network	Grŵp Llandrillo-Menai	0.00	1.48	1.48	1.47	0.00	4.43
Innovation in High Value Manufacturing	Centre for Environmental Biotechnology	Bangor University	0.00	1.48	1.48	0.00	0.00	2.96
Innovation in High Value Manufacturing	Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre	Glyndwr University	8.28	1.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.85
Portfolio Management Office Costs (1.5%)								3.60
Total								240.0

10. Appendix A – Project Glossary

Programme	Project	Sponsor	Summary
Digital	Full Fibre at key sites	NWEAB	This project will deliver full fibre connectivity (gigabit capable) to 28 key business sites across North Wales.
	Connected Campus	NWEAB	The project will accelerate the development of infrastructure for 19 key regional economic sites.
	Connected Corridors	NWEAB	In total, 156km of road and rail corridor will be connected to 5G/Low Power Wireless Access Networks, along the A55 corridor and adjacent mainline rail route.
	Connecting the last few %	NWEAB	This project targets universal superfast coverage across North Wales, which have yet to be served by other means and cannot obtain speeds of at least 30Mbps (download).
	Digital Signal Processing Centre Project (DSP)	Bangor University	The project will allow the DSP Centre to expand its presence and remit, integrating fully with the National Strategy Project (NSP) and enable the scaling of key assets including a 5G testbed, research capacity and state-of-the-art equipment.
Low Carbon Energy	Morlais	Menter Môn	Investing in the infrastructure that connects the Morlais Zone with the electricity grid system, and preparing the site for private sector developers who will lease parts of the zone for deploying their tidal energy technologies.
	Trawsfynydd Power Station	Cwmni Eginio	The site is uniquely placed for a 'First of A Kind' deployment of a Small Modular Reactor (SMR) or Advanced Modular Reactor (AMR). Alongside the public and private sector the Growth Deal will contribute funding towards enabling infrastructure for this development.
	Low Carbon Energy Centre of Excellence	Bangor University	Investing in the development of facilities at Bangor University and Menai Science Park, enhancing the North Wales and UK capabilities for innovation in low carbon energy and related areas, helping to create the conditions for new inward investment and business growth in the low carbon energy supply chain in North Wales.
	Smart Local Energy	NWEAB	To help achieve renewable energy, decarbonisation and local ownership targets, the project will support innovative enabling projects and demonstrators that overcome market failures and unlock private and community sector investments in smart local energy solutions.
	Transport Decarbonisation	NWEAB	Support delivery of a demonstrator project involving the production of green hydrogen from low carbon energy sources and its use within regional transport networks.
Land and Property	Holyhead Gateway	Stena Line	Future proof the Holyhead Port by providing new deep-water heavy loading and cruise facilities, improved vehicular access, guaranteeing the future of the breakwater and providing for the demands of regional energy projects.
	Wrexham Gateway	NWEAB	Delivery of primary services to enable the site to be brought to the market for sale and development.
	Warren Hall Strategic Site	NWEAB	Delivery of primary services to enable the 65-hectare mixed use site to be bought to the market for sale and then development by the private sector.
	Bodelwyddan Strategic Site	NWEAB	Delivery of primary services to enable the mixed-use commercial and residential development site to be brought to the market for development.
	Former North Wales Hospital Site	NWEAB	The Growth Deal funding will assist in the delivery of a cleared and remediated site with primary services to bring forward a mixed-use commercial and residential development
	Parc Bryn Cegin Strategic Site	NWEAB	Provide industrial floor space to meet known demand for units.

Agrifood and Tourism	Tourism TALENT Network	Grwp Llandrillo Menai	Future-proofing the pipeline of skills provision and increase commercial benefits from one of the most established sectors in the region. The talent network will stimulate public-private collaboration to coordinate action on skills and product development to transform and accelerate the growth of the tourism and hospitality sector in the region.
	Glynlifon Rural Economy Hub	Grwp Llandrillo Menai	The vision is to create a distinctive, world-class Rural Economy Hub at Glynlifon, offering a range of facilities and services to strengthen and enhance the regional economy, specifically through growing the food and drink sector.
	The Lllysfasi Net Zero Farm	Coleg Cambria	Llysfasi Carbon Neutral Centre aims to lead North Wales to a resilient future where carbon neutral land management is at the centre of a developing renewable energy sector supporting a sustainable, thriving and healthy community covering the rural/urban mix of the region.
Innovation in High Value Manufacturing	Centre for Environmental Biotechnology (CEB)	Bangor University	The Centre for Engineering Biotechnology will be a world-leading centre in the discovery and characterisation of novel extremophilic enzymes of industrial relevance. The Centre for Engineering Biotechnology will provide a strong foundation for attracting world-leading researchers, significant public and commercial research funding, and inward investment to Wales.
	Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre	Glyndwr University	The Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre will provide facilities targeted to boost high-level skills development for the region and enable SME's and large businesses to work in partnership with Wrexham Glyndwr University on commercially driven research and development in optics, composites and hydrogen fuel cells.



Bwrdd Uchelgais Economaidd Gogledd Cymru
North Wales Economic Ambition Board

North Wales Economic Ambition Board

Portfolio Management Office

2020–2021 Annual Report



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



UK Government Wales
Llywodraeth y DU Cymru

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Foreword

The current economic position is unprecedented with the UK's exit from the European Union and the Covid-19 pandemic continuing to disrupt and impact the wellbeing of our economy and importantly, our people.

However, delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal is on the horizon and this investment will inject much needed vitality into our economy to deliver sustainable and inclusive growth needed over the next 15 years.

The **Growth Deal** has been developed through close collaboration and commitment from partners across all sectors, including the UK and Welsh Governments, to deliver long-lasting positive investment and change that will enable economic and employment growth for the long-term.

The deal is a unique opportunity to invest in our future and is a key enabler to building a more vibrant, sustainable and inclusive economy for North Wales.

We will be **smart** with our investment - building on our strengths to boost productivity, foster innovation and be competitive in the markets we serve. We already have well-established research and innovation hubs, helping to push the boundaries in high value manufacturing. Further investment will enhance our reputation and enable growth in this important industry.

We aim to make North Wales more investable by tackling known areas where long-term market failure has been a barrier to attracting commercial investment. This unlocks the potential to create highly skilled job opportunities, ensuring that our young people and future generations can thrive and contribute to the local economy. We are also addressing the shortage of suitable land and property

to facilitate business growth, and investing in commercial employment and housing sites to meet the region's needs.

Alwen Williams



Being connected as a region is one of our strengths. Our partnership across the six local authorities, universities, colleges and the private sector is well-established and growing in strength. We are driving a step change in connectivity through addressing those areas most in need of faster and more reliable broadband connections, and exploiting the potential of 5G and new innovation.

We are developing relationships across our borders, because we know that by working together, we can be stronger.

It's important to us that we keep building on our reputation as a cohesive region; fostering and leveraging partnerships to promote scalable, sustainable and inclusive economic growth. Our investment in low-carbon energy enables us to contribute directly to the climate change emergency, not only helping to make North Wales a cleaner, greener environment, but also positioning ourselves as one of the leading UK locations within the low carbon energy sector. Not forgetting our valued economies in agriculture and tourism, where we will focus on enabling and encouraging diversification to improve the long-term future of these key industries, ensuring they have the opportunity to develop sustainably and flourish.

We will invest in a way that promotes social value and builds wealth in our communities. We recognise and value our obligation to deliver the Growth Deal in a way that improves and enhances our social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being.

By investing now, we build our **resilience** for the future.

We are privileged to lead this important investment in North Wales - our home and our region.



Alwen Williams
Portfolio Director



Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
Chair of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board



Councillor Mark Pritchard
Vice-Chair of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board



The Last 12 Months

Alwen Williams
Portfolio Director

The last 12 months have been unlike any other, with Covid-19 changing and challenging our lives and the way we work potentially forever.

The Portfolio Management Office was established in January 2020, with members including two Programme Managers, our Operations Manager and myself. We had a challenging remit to secure the Growth Deal funding for North Wales by December 2020. The pandemic meant we only had two and half months together in the office before everything changed.

In April, we were adjusting to the new normal of running a virtual office, engaging with our partners to map out the process to agreeing the final deal with the UK and Welsh Governments. We also focused on learning all about HM Treasury's Better Business Case methodology which provides the framework for construction of all our investment business cases.

In May, we secured £2.9 million in funding from the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO) to expand the team to support the delivery of the Growth Deal. Growing and developing a new team virtually over the past 12 months has been both challenging and rewarding. We are a close knit, dynamic and collaborative team and I'm immensely proud of what we have achieved together, considering the majority of us have never met in person. Following our latest recruitment campaign in February 2021, at 18 members, we are close to completing the team, with only a couple of remaining vacancies to fill.

From June onwards our focus as a team was split between supporting the regional recovery work led by local authority partners and on preparing the business cases required to secure the Growth Deal. During June and July, we agreed our approach to programme and project management and began to put in place the structures we would need to deliver the deal. Our work to develop the portfolio and programme business cases continued through a series of workshops, with support provided from Joe Flanagan, co-author of the guidance document for HM Treasury's Better Business Case methodology. June also saw the first of many virtual meetings of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board.

In August, we commissioned a Gateway Review on the Growth Deal. This independent review, organised by Welsh Government's Assurance Hub, provided useful challenge and recommendations, in addition to endorsing the progress the team had made during the first half of the year.

By September, we had finalised our business cases and associated governance documents ready for the approval process - internally and with both Welsh and UK Governments. During November, our Economic Ambition Board partners approved the documents required for a final deal agreement and our governance arrangements to deliver the Growth Deal.

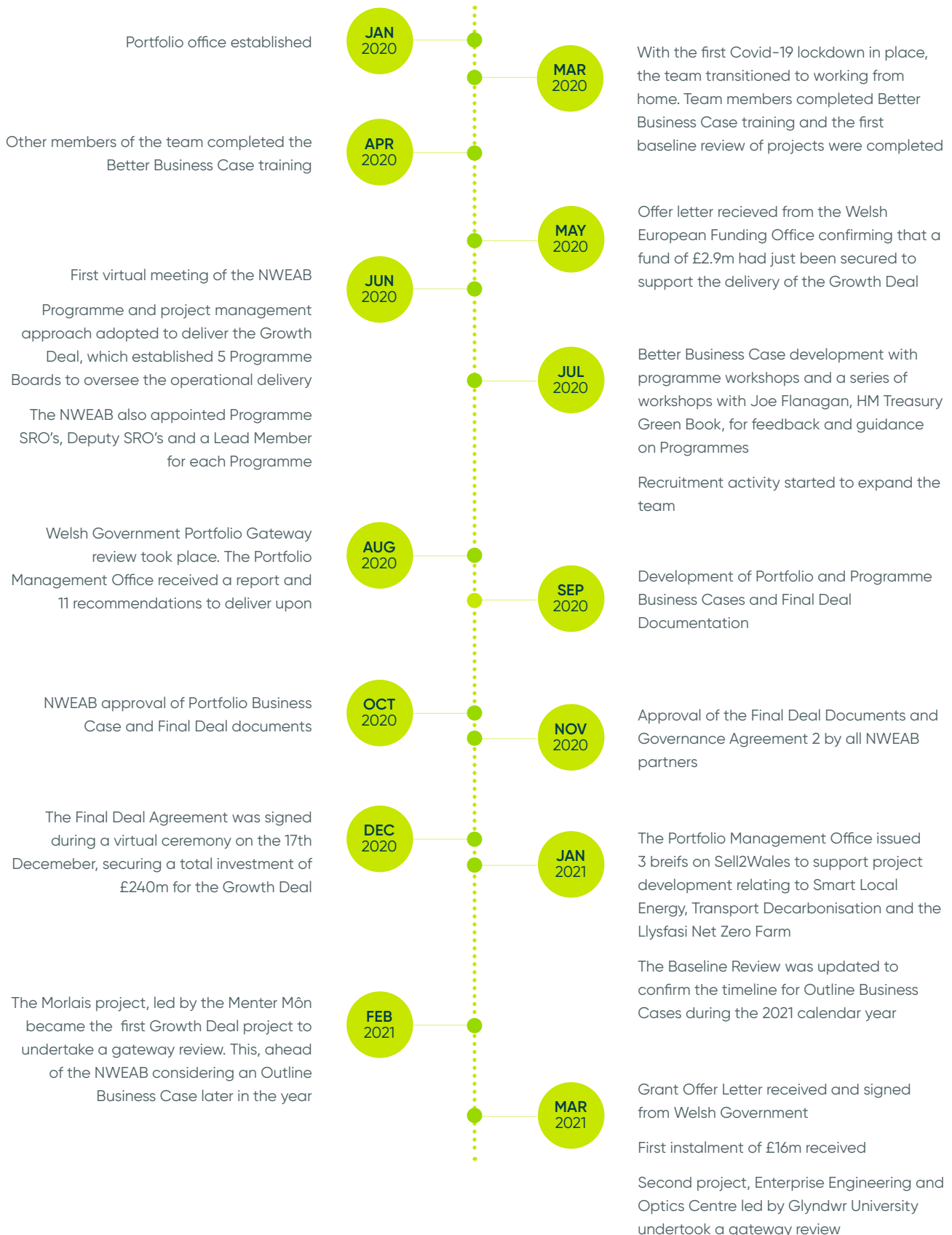
The final deal agreement was signed during a virtual ceremony on the 17th of December 2021. The Final Deal is the contract between the UK Government, Welsh Government and the North Wales Economic Ambition Board for the delivery of the Growth Deal and was secured on the basis of a Portfolio Business Case and five Programme Business Cases securing the total investment of £240m (£120m by UK Government and £120m by Welsh Government).

The first three months of 2020 have been focused on delivery and working with our project sponsors to progress the project business cases. In February, the Morlais project, led by Menter Môn became the first Growth Deal project to undertake a gateway review ahead of the Outline Business Case being considered by the Economic Ambition Board later in the year.

In March 2021, having signed the Grant Award Letter and submitted the required documentation we received the first instalment of £16million from Welsh and UK Governments. This funding will enable project delivery to commence during the next financial year, when we expect to consider and make a decision on our first tranche of project business cases.

Looking back at the last 12 months, I am proud of the team and the significant progress made. Securing the Final Deal within our original timetable despite the challenges posed by Covid-19 was unquestionably down to the grit and determination by everyone involved. I'm now looking forward to delivering the deal, with the team and our partners over the next 12 months.

Snapshot Of The Last 12 Months





The Growth Deal

Aims

To build a more vibrant, sustainable and resilient economy in North Wales.

To build on our strengths, to boost productivity while tackling long-term challenges and economic barriers to deliver inclusive growth.

The approach is to promote growth in a scalable, inclusive and sustainable way, in line with the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Investment

Growth Deal investment:
£240m

Private sector investment:
£722.1m

Public sector investment:
£184.3m

Total investment:
£1.1bn

Spending objectives

To create between 3,400 - 4,200 net additional jobs

Generate £2.0 - £2.5 billion net additional GVA

Programmes



Low Carbon Energy



Digital



Agrifood & Tourism



Innovation in High Value manufacturing



Land & Property

Working with the Private Sector

The North Wales Growth Deal is a partnership between the public and the private sectors and our progress over the past 12 months would not have been possible without the support of key stakeholders from the private sector.

Askar Sheibani, Comtek Network Systems and Chair of the Business Delivery Board, quotes

"North Wales has a unique and powerful coalition of private and public sector leaders who, through the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and the Business Delivery Board have been working as united partners to make sure that the Growth Deal leverages a substantial return on investment.

Board members are predominately entrepreneurs, have an independent voice with well-established track records within their sectors and industries which is recognised internationally. They have influential and extensive business networks in Wales, UK and beyond and, very importantly, they have a real passion for North Wales, which is where the majority call home.

To the East we're fortunate to be situated close to two major cities; Liverpool and Manchester, home to two international airports connecting us to the global market, whilst London is just a couple of hours away by train. To the West, the port of Holyhead facilitates our trade via sea-freight and opens up the path to international tourism and Ireland. Every inch of North Wales has a great history, rich culture, fantastic castles and beaches, unique tourist attractions, amazing wildlife and, irrefutably, the most breath-taking natural landscapes on planet Earth.

The Growth Deal programmes are concentrated on areas of the economy in which we have long-established experience and strong expertise; such as Advanced Manufacturing, Renewable Energy and Tourism. As an example, Morlais, the tidal power project on Anglesey has the potential to make North Wales one of the world leaders in tidal energy. There are very few places in the world that are suitable and the investment could put North Wales in the top three biggest tidal power generators in the world.

The Growth Deal also invests in the regions digital infrastructure. This is essential and underpins economic growth. Accessible and reliable high-speed fibre broadband and 5G capability across the whole of North Wales is essential.

Throughout history, North Wales has demonstrated its resilience to combat all past economic shocks and come out battle-hardened and stronger. This recent pandemic has created a devastating social and economic earthquake.

I firmly believe that, North Wales, with a credible economic plan, investment in skills and education, and with determined, well-resourced local leadership, has a great opportunity and the potential to re-establish itself as a powerful economy in Wales, which will be greatly supported by the Growth Deal investment over the next 15 years and beyond".

Jim Jones, Managing Director of North Wales Tourism and Chair of the North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council and Ashley Rogers, Commercial Director, North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council quotes

"The North Wales Growth Deal is a crucial package of capital investments for our region and will bring a substantial boost to the North Wales economy at a time when major market changes such as Brexit and global events including the Covid-19 pandemic, continue to impact our Communities and Economy. The North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council as the regional umbrella body for the private sector in North Wales has from the inception of the developing Growth Deal in partnership with the Economic Ambition Board, worked exceptionally hard to ensure that the investments proposed in the Deal are distributed across the region and our sectors to provide the maximum benefit to our businesses.

A Growth Deal that delivers on supporting business and productivity growth for both our home grown SME's and the International businesses based in North Wales in our key sectors e.g. Manufacturing, Tourism & Hospitality, Agriculture and Energy, has the potential to make a once in a lifetime positive impact for us all. It is imperative though that the proposed projects and programmes not only provide the catalyst for growth but with the fundamental tenet that they do so whilst contributing to the region's journey towards a Net Zero Carbon and Circular economy. We look forward to continuing meaningful engagement with the Economic Ambition Board on this key investment package."



Askar Sheibani
Chair, Business
Delivery Board



Ashley Rogers
Commercial Director,
North Wales Mersey
Dee Business Council



Jim Jones
Chair, North Wales
Mersey Dee Business
Council



Responding to Covid-19

Covid-19 has had an immense economic impact on North Wales as in other parts of the UK and globally. The Economic Ambition Board is working closely with the six local authorities, UK and Welsh Governments and private sector representatives to co-ordinate the regional response to economic recovery. The long-term effects of Covid-19 on the region's economy is still emerging but it is clear that some of our most significant and established economies have already been severely impacted, for example businesses in tourism, hospitality and leisure and those who rely on the visitor economy for trade.

The Growth Deal is designed to address structural, long-term barriers to economic growth. However, the Economic Ambition Board is fully aware that, in the short-term, a range of actions will be required to facilitate economic recovery and an approach that aligns these short to medium term recovery interventions with the longer term aims and measures to be delivered by the Growth Deal.

The Growth Deal on its own will not address all the challenges facing the North Wales economy, particularly in light of Covid-19. However, such a significant injection of capital investment into the local economy will be a significant boost to the construction and related sectors at a time when there is likely to be spare capacity in the economy.

In March 2020 a regional tactical response group was established in response to Covid-19. Their remit was to assess the emerging impact of the pandemic on businesses and agree the key actions needed to address these. The group met weekly and included representatives from the Local Authorities, WLGA, Welsh Government, UK Government and the North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council. This enabled the coordination and compilation of regular insight briefings which were shared directly with Government Ministers to influence the decisions being made on fiscal recovery packages for the business community. Key themes started to emerge including, support for businesses, the visitor economy, town centres and regeneration, supply chains, people, skills and employment and public procurement.

During early May 2020 a joint press release was issued to highlight the collaboration across North Wales and between the Economic Ambition Board, the Regional Skills Partnership, Welsh Government, and the DWP to help broker the connection between job seekers and available vacancies in the region.

Also during May, in collaboration with UK and Welsh Government, the Economic Ambition Board hosted a webinar for businesses which attracted over a hundred and fifty participants and gave the opportunity for businesses impacted by the pandemic to ask their questions directly to Government Ministers.

Early in summer 2020 a Regional Economy Recovery Group was established to work collaboratively on economic recovery on behalf of the region. The group commissioned a business impact survey, conducted over the summer, to which over 1,800 businesses responded. The data delivered valuable insights about the direct impact of Covid in different industries and sectors and allowed for breakdown view by local authority.

The Economic Ambition Board and Welsh Government also jointly commissioned research on the impact of Covid-19 on the economy in North Wales. This research, conducted by Hatch Regeneris, includes a proposed plan for recovery looking at immediate interventions, considerations for the Growth Deal and long term considerations, all of which are designed to foster the environment for resilience and Growth post Covid-19.

In addition, and cognisant of the impact to the tourism, hospitality and leisure industry, the Economic Ambition Board commissioned an independent piece of work led by Professors Nigel Morgan and Annette Pritchard, looking at the impact of Covid was having on the industry. The paper, presented to the board, sets out the situation and sets out considerations needed to reset, reignite and reimagine a sustainable and resilient visitor economy for North Wales.

The insights collated throughout the year validated the key priority themes emerging. The later part of the year has been focused on using existing regional structures and fora to develop recovery plans in response to each of the key themes emerging. For example, the Regional Skills Partnership has developed a proposed recovery plan focusing on people, skills and employment and the Regional Tourism Forum has aligned with the visitor economy theme. Work is underway to agree a comprehensive regional recovery plan to address each of these themes and with the aim of rebuilding a resilient and sustainable economy for North Wales.



The Portfolio Office Team

The portfolio management office, led by Alwen Williams, Portfolio Director was established in January 2020 and consisted of Hedd Vaughn-Evans, Operations Manager; Henry Aron, Low Carbon Energy Programme Manager and Stuart Whitfield, Digital Programme Manager. During the team's first few months in post, the team set up the Portfolio Office and associated working processes at the Conwy Business Centre, Llandudno Junction. From March 2020 onwards the team have been working virtually from home. In April, David Mathews joined the team, as Land and Property Programme Manager, followed by Nia Medi Williams as Senior Operations Officer in August, having previously supported the team from Gwynedd Council.

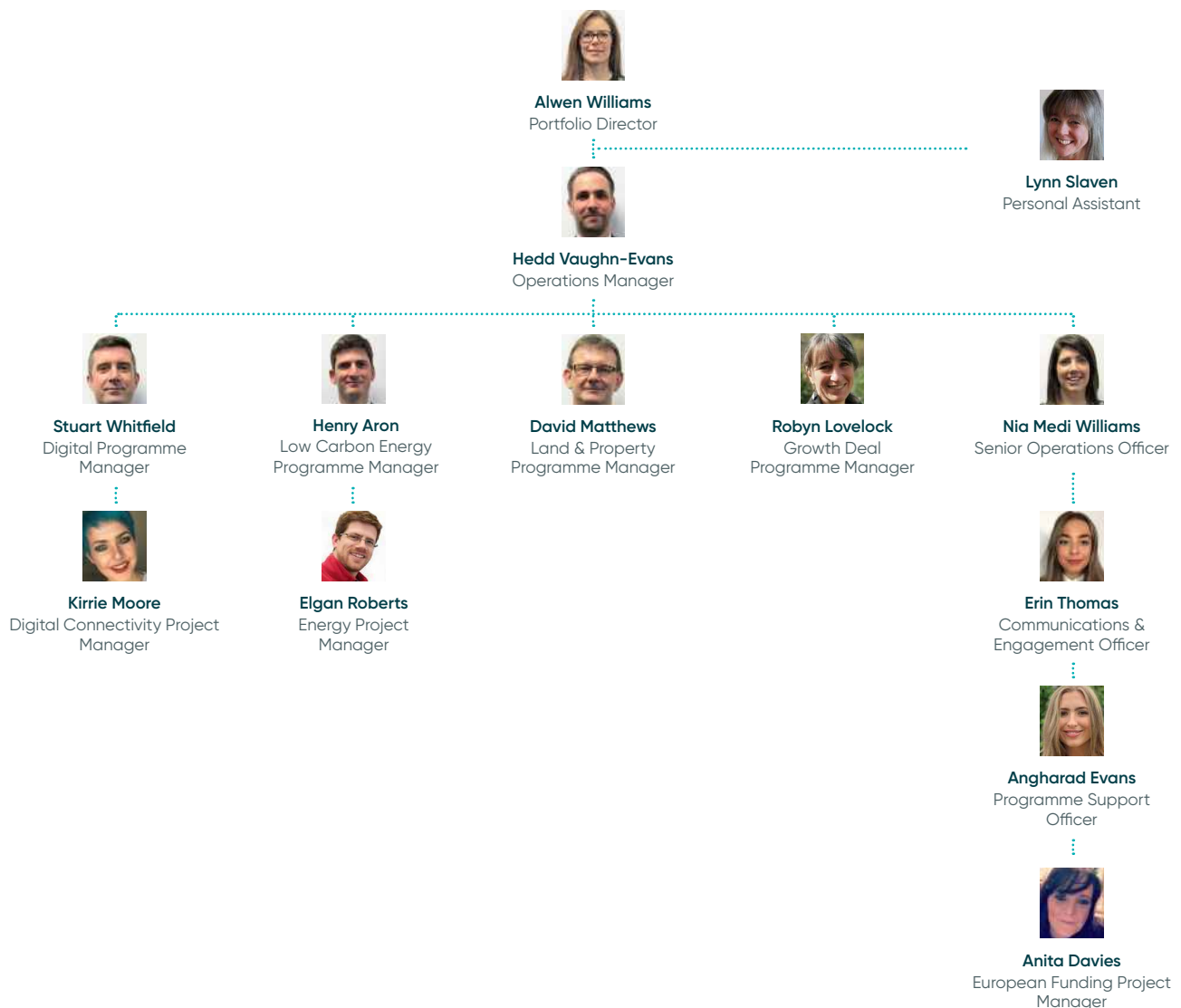
Growth Deal Programme Manager, responsible for leading on the Agri-food and Tourism Programme and the Innovation in High Value Manufacturing Programme. Erin Thomas joined as the Communications and Engagement Officer and Angharad Evans as Programme Support Officer. Shortly after Elgan Roberts, joined as Energy Project Manager.

In January 2021, Kirrie Moore joined the team as our Digital Project Manager, followed in March 2021 by Anita Davies as European Funding Project Manager. During March, Lynn Slaven formally joined the team as Alwen's PA having previously provided this support from Gwynedd Council.

Following a successful recruitment campaign in October, three new members joined the team including Robyn Lovelock as

Six new members are joining the team during April and May 2021, with two further vacancies left to fill.

Portfolio Management Office



Digital

Strategic Aim

To deliver the step change in digital connectivity needed to ensure North Wales is able to satisfy user demand, maintain pace with the rest of the UK, unlock the growth potential of priority sectors and sites and underpin a flourishing innovation ecosystem. Plays an enabling role for other programmes to deliver maximum benefit.

Investment

Growth Deal investment:

£37m

Private sector investment:

£1.6m

Public sector investment:

£3.1m

Total investment:

£41.7m

Spending objectives

Job creation

To create between 315 and 380 jobs.

Robust & competitive connectivity market at key sites

Robust and competitive connectivity market at 28 strategic key sites in step with or in advance of UK Government 2025 target for gigabit capability coverage.

High bandwidth mobile coverage transport networks

High bandwidth mobile coverage on transport networks (A55, A483, A5) with deployment in step with or in advance of UK Government 2027 target for 5G coverage.

Digital infrastructure innovation

Innovate and commercialise new digital infrastructure technology and embed the region in this strategically important industry for the long term.

Investment

Investment of between £37 - £46m.

GVA

Create net additional GVA of £130 - £158m.

Superfast digital connectivity everywhere

Ensure all premises have Superfast broadband connectivity by 2023 with Gigabit upgrade capability where possible.

The projects

Digital Signal Processing Centre (DSP)

The project brings together Bangor University researchers to work alongside high-profile international companies and Welsh SMEs enabling them to work together to explore disruptive solutions for 5G. The project will allow the DSP Centre to expand its presence and remit, integrating fully with the National Strategy Project (NSP) and enable the scaling of key assets including a 5G testbed, research capacity and state-of-the-art equipment. The project is expected to create 160 jobs in total.

Total investment of £7.3m | Growth Deal £3m

Connected Campuses

By campuses we mean key sites of economic activity. The project will accelerate the development of infrastructure for 19 key regional economic sites. It is estimated some 2,600 business premises will have access to high bandwidth 5G and low power Wi-Fi services and therefore better connectivity once complete.

Total investment of £21m | Growth Deal £21m

Connecting the last few %

This project targets universal superfast coverage across North Wales, which have yet to be served by other means and cannot obtain speeds of at least 30Mbps (download). A lack of reliable and in some cases basic broadband (Ofcom defines as 10Mbps download) is an established and growing challenge facing rural businesses and communities. A widely acknowledged 'digital divide' is affecting residents' access to online services and preventing SMEs from developing and sustaining trade. The growing trend of working from home is also restricted by poor connectivity. Up to 10,100 residential and 4,300 business premises will have access to superfast broadband once complete.

Total investment of £4m | Growth Deal £4m

Connected Corridor

This responds to industry demand and technology drivers by supporting the more efficient operation of supply chains, and major transport operations (such as ports). In total, 156km of road and rail corridor will be connected to 5G/Low Power Wireless Access Networks, along the A55 corridor and adjacent mainline rail route. It is estimated that up to 1.57 million rail journeys and 1.3 million road journeys will benefit from enhanced 5G connectivity once complete.

Total investment of £2.2m | Growth Deal £2.2m

Full Fibre at key sites

This project will deliver full fibre connectivity (gigabit capable). That's fibre all the way from the exchange to the premises to 28 key business sites across North Wales.

Total investment of £7.2m | Growth Deal £6.8m





Last 12 Months

Stuart Whitfield
Digital Programme Manager

Significant progress has been made on the Digital Programme over the past 12 months, with the development of the programme business case and the establishment of programme governance structures to support delivery.

The Digital Programme is unique within the Portfolio Management Office as the programme oversees the delivery of a non-Growth Deal project. The programme is currently delivering the UK DCMS funded North Wales Local Full Fibre Network Project and by the end of March 2021 this is expected to have delivered around 100 new full fibre broadband upgrades to a range of public sector sites around the region, bringing gigabit capable connectivity to support service delivery for the first time. A further 250 connections are due to be made before the end of 2021.

Benefits are already starting to be realised, associated with improved productivity and efficiency of service delivery and supporting new ways of working, particularly with GP surgeries affected by Covid-19 restrictions.

In November, the programme board selected the Digital Signal Processing Centre, the Last Few % and the Connected Corridors projects as priorities for business case development during 2021. All three projects now have established project boards and senior responsible owners in place to support delivery.

Much of the past 12 months have focused on developing the necessary partnerships to support the delivery of the programme, with a total of thirteen organisations now involved at either programme or project board level; Wrexham County Borough Council, Isle of Anglesey County Council, Gwynedd Council, Flintshire County Council, Denbighshire County Council, Conwy County Borough Council, Welsh Government, Transport

for Wales, Network Rail, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, NHS Wales Informatics Service, Bangor University and Menter Môn. Market engagement has also taken place with the private sector during 2020-21 with interest from potential delivery partners building as the project business cases take shape.

The programme is pursuing further activities to enhance digital connectivity in the region through improving the conditions for network operators to invest. Areas being investigated include development of common 'access agreements' for adoption by the wider public sector to facilitate the hosting of digital infrastructure at public sector premises. A common register of these assets is also being considered to streamline the process of site identification by network operators, rather than having to consult multiple sources. Both approaches will be informed by examples from across the UK and the UK Government's approach to so called 'barrier busting'.

With a Digital Connectivity Project Manager in post from January 2021 and a new Digital Project Officer starting in post in May 2021, the programme is well positioned to deliver.





Low Carbon Energy

Strategic Aim

To unlock the economic benefits of transformational low carbon energy projects and position North Wales as a leading UK location for low carbon energy generation, innovation and supply chain investment.

Investment

Growth Deal investment:

£86.4m

Private sector investment:

£441.7m

Public sector investment:

£140.4m

Total investment:

£668.5m

Spending objectives

Job Creation

To create between 800 and 980 new jobs.

Low carbon energy generation

Enable the deployment of at least 314MW of new installed low carbon energy generation capacity.

Carbon savings

To enable carbon savings of at least 2723 tonnes of CO₂e.

Investment

Total investment of between £602m - £735m.

GVA

Create net additional GVA of £433m - £530m.

The projects

Morlais

Investing in the infrastructure that connects the Morlais Zone with the electricity grid system, and preparing the site for private sector developers who will lease parts of the zone for deploying their tidal energy technologies. This would position the zone as the first consented, expandable and technology-agnostic site in the world with up to 240 MW of power generating potential.

Total Investment £36m | Growth Deal £9m

Low Carbon Centre of Excellence

Investing in the development of facilities at Bangor University and Menai Science Park, enhancing the North Wales and UK capabilities for innovation in low carbon energy and related areas, helping to create the conditions for new inward investment and business growth in the low carbon energy supply chain in North Wales.

Total Investment £97.7m | Growth Deal £21m

Transport Decarbonisation

Support delivery of a demonstrator project involving the production of green hydrogen from low carbon energy sources and its use within regional transport networks.

Total Investment £28.6m | Growth Deal £11.4m

Smart Local Energy

To help achieve renewable energy, decarbonisation and local ownership targets, the project will support innovative enabling projects and demonstrators that overcome market failures and unlock private and community sector investments in smart local energy solutions.

Total Investment £106.2m | Growth Deal £25m

Trawsfynydd Power Station

The Trawsfynydd site is uniquely placed for a 'First of a kind' deployment of a Small Modular Reactor (SMR) or Advanced Modular Reactor (AMR) due to its status as a publicly owned asset, its highly skilled workforce and the supportive community. In combination with public and private sector investment, the Growth Deal will contribute funding towards enabling infrastructure, helping to secure jobs as well as position North Wales at the cutting edge of innovation and R&D in a technology that has significant potential for deployment across the UK.

Total Investment £400m | Growth Deal £20m





Last 12 Months

Henry Aron
Low Carbon Energy Programme Manager

Over the past 12 months, the Low Carbon Energy Programme has matured into a cohesive programme aimed at unlocking the economic benefits of transformational low carbon energy projects in North Wales.

The first half of the year was focused on the development of the programme business case, establishing programme delivery structures, training and recruitment. With these structures in place, the focus over the last six months has been to progress the project business cases. This included supporting Menter Môn to develop the Outline Business Case for Morlais, a transformational marine energy project in Anglesey. The Morlais project is scheduled to be the first project business case considered by the Economic Ambition Board in 2021.

The Low Carbon Energy Programme represents an opportunity for North Wales to establish itself as a leading UK location for low carbon energy generation, innovation and supply chain investment. Over the last year, we have taken part in a number of engagement events to promote the Growth Deal and the opportunities around the low carbon energy sector in North Wales. This has included presenting at the EGNI 2021 North Wales Energy Event (January 2021) and taking part in the Wales Week in London event in March 2021.

The programme has been successful in attracting additional funding from Welsh Government to support the development of projects business cases. £25k was secured from the Welsh Government Smart Living Programme to deliver a feasibility study into multi-vector energy systems on the Llyn Peninsula and £140k of grant funding secured to progress the business case for the Transport Decarbonisation Project.

Another significant milestone over the past 12 months has been working with Welsh Government and regional partners to develop the Regional Energy Strategy for North Wales, which received endorsement from the Economic Ambition Board in March 2021. The overall aim of the strategy is to illustrate a potential pathway for decarbonising the energy system whilst ensuring that the region maximises the economic benefits from the transition to a low carbon economy.

Two new project managers have been appointed with Elgan Roberts joining the team in November 2020 to lead on the Smart Local Energy project and Graham Williams will be joining the team in April to lead on the Transport Decarbonisation project. Over the next 12 months, we expect to see considerable progress as the programme moves into the delivery phase.





Agrifood & Tourism

Strategic Aim

To build a more sustainable, vibrant and resilient foundation economy within the region, optimising opportunities for employment and prosperity through our environment and landscape.

Investment



Spending objectives

Job creation

To create between 310 and 380 new jobs.

Innovation & productivity

Provide 4,000 – 6,000m2 of incubator, R&D and training floor space to encourage innovation, promote upskilling and support business growth in the sector.

Decarbonisation and sustainable business models

Educating businesses on the benefits of decarbonisation, diversification and sustainable business models. 300-400 businesses diversifying from traditional core operation to adapting new practices in the first 5 years of programme.

Investment

Total investment of between £37m – £45m.

GVA

Create net additional GVA of £230m – £281m.

The projects

Llysfasi Net Zero Farm

Llysfasi Net Zero Farm aims to lead North Wales to a resilient future where carbon neutral land management is at the centre of a developing renewable energy sector supporting a sustainable, thriving and healthy community covering the rural/urban mix of the region.

Total Investment £15.4m | Growth Deal £10m

Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub

The vision is to create a distinctive, world-class Rural Economy Hub at Glynllifon, offering a range of facilities and services to strengthen and enhance the regional economy, specifically through growing the food and drink sector.

Total Investment £13m | Growth Deal £10m

Tourism TALENT Network

This is all about future-proofing the pipeline of skills provision and increase commercial benefits from one of the most established sectors in the region. The sector is of course under huge pressure currently by Covid-19 so this must be monitored and evaluated as we move forward. The talent network will stimulate public-private collaboration to coordinate action on skills and product development to transform and accelerate the growth of the tourism and hospitality sector in the region.

Total Investment £12.9m | Growth Deal £4.5m





Last 12 Months

Robyn Lovelock
Growth Deal Programme Manager

With no Programme Manager in place at the start of the year, there was a significant collaborative effort across the partnership to develop the Agrifood and Tourism Programme and to build a clear, cohesive narrative for the programme. This collaborative approach enabled the programme business case to be developed with a clear aim to build a more sustainable, vibrant and resilient foundation economy in the region by focusing on agriculture, food and drink and tourism.

In October, Robyn Lovelock joined the team as the Growth Deal Programme Manager with responsibility for this programme, providing much needed capacity to drive the programme forward.

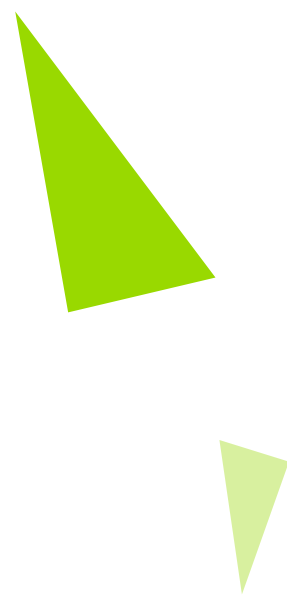
The informal steering group supporting the programme transitioned into a programme board with focus on the development of projects in line with the Better Business Case guidance, benefits realisation and discussions about how the Growth Deal can best support knowledge transfer, innovation and business support to realise the planned benefits.

In December, the programme secured £100k from Welsh Government through the Whole System Business Research Innovation for Decarbonisation Scheme (WBRID). Four businesses have been working with Coleg Cambria as the project sponsors for the Llysfasi Net Zero farm project and the Economic Ambition Board to explore the feasibility of pioneering innovations that could help North Wales farms reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. This work will help shape the development of the business case for the Net Zero farm during 2021.

The Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub project is on track to be the first business case from the programme considered by the Economic Ambition Board. All business case development workshops have now been completed and the project will be undertaking an external assurance review (Gateway Review) in April 2021.

The Tourism Talent Network project was paused in early 2020 as a result of Covid-19 and the specific impact on the tourism sector in North Wales to allow the impacts on the project to be considered. The project was reviewed in early 2021 and now continues with an immediate focus on the initial Hub element to be delivered by Grŵp Llandrillo Menai through other funding sources, with further exploration of the Spoke elements to be picked up again in late 2021, subject to continued progress managing Covid-19.

The programme and its three projects are well placed to deliver and make a significant contribution to the agrifood and tourism sectors in North Wales over the coming years.





Land & Property

Strategic Aim

To address the shortage of suitable land and properties for business growth and to bring forward sites for housing development.

To deliver improvements that stimulate investment in sites and premises in the port of Holyhead and the wider region. To enable other programmes by ensuring the right land and property infrastructure is available.

Investment

Growth Deal investment:

£79.1m

Private sector investment:

£274.4m

Public sector investment:

£1.9m

Total investment:

£355.4m

Spending objectives

Job creation

To create between 1,870 and 2,280 jobs.

Employment sites and premises

Deliver 30ha land and 20,000 square metres of employment premises between 2021 and 2026.

Residential sites

Deliver 1,000 plus residential development plots between 2021 and 2026.

Investment

Investment of between £320m - £390m.

GVA

Create net additional GVA of £1.06bn - £1.29bn.

Holyhead Gateway

Land reclamation, safeguarding and life extension works to the breakwater, access improvements and port capacity enhancements.

The projects

Warren Hall Strategic Site

Growth Deal funding will provide the necessary statutory consents and deliver primary services to enable the 65-hectare mixed use site to be bought to the market for sale and then development by the private sector.

Total Investment £70m | Growth Deal £15m

Key Strategic Site, Bodelwyddan

A mixed use commercial and residential development site of 137 hectares. The Growth Deal funding will provide the primary services to enable the site to be bought to the market for development

Total Investment £82m | Growth Deal £10m

Holyhead Gateway

Future proof the Holyhead Port by providing new deep-water heavy loading and cruise facilities, improved vehicular access, guaranteeing the future of the breakwater and providing for the demands of regional energy projects.

Total Investment £80m | Growth Deal £35m

Wrexham Gateway

Growth Deal funding will provide the necessary statutory consents and deliver primary services to enable the site to be bought to the market for sale and development.

Total Investment £43.4m | Growth Deal £9.1m

Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh

A planning application has been submitted to bring forward a mixed use commercial and residential development. The Growth Deal funding will assist in the delivery of a cleared and remediated site with primary services.

Total Investment £74m | Growth Deal £4m

Parc Bryn Cegin Strategic Site, Bangor

Provide industrial floor space to meet known demand for units.

Total Investment £6m | Growth Deal £6m



Last 12 Months

David Matthews
Land & Property Programme Manager

David Matthews joined as the Land and Property Programme Manager in April 2020 and led the development of the programme business case that was approved by the Economic Ambition Board in October 2020. The programme is a package of strategic investments in key sites across the region to address the shortage of land and properties for business growth in the region and to bring forward sites for housing development.

Over the past 12 month, we have developed a robust governance model including the establishment of a programme board and developed key relationships to support the programme and its ambitions. This includes regular bi-monthly meetings with the Housing Accelerator Group of North Wales Registered Social Landlords.

The five strategic development sites within the programme have been focused primarily on progressing planning matters over the past 12 months, with key achievements including the submission of a statement of common ground with Flintshire County Council and Welsh Government in support of the Warren Hall, Broughton development in the Flintshire Local Development Plan. A planning application has been submitted by Jones Bros to develop the Former North Wales Hospital site in Denbigh, with a decision expected during 2021 to inform the business case development. Progress continues to be made on the Western Gateway, Wrexham and the Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor projects. Outline planning permission on the Key Strategic Site in Bodelwyddan has lapsed and Denbighshire County Council are currently reviewing the planning policy for the site as part of the new Local Development Plan to be adopted in 2023.

The Holyhead Gateway project remains a key strategic project for the region, however the scope of the project is currently being reviewed in light of escalating costs. Notwithstanding this, good progress continues to be made on obtaining statutory

consents for both the land reclamation and breakwater refurbishment with a good working relationship with Stena Line, their consultants and officers from Welsh Government and Anglesey County Council. Alternative drivers for additional port investment including offshore wind, cruise ships and a freeport continue to be explored.

Following a challenging 2020, the programme continues to review the demand for sites and premises and while it remains to be seen what the long-term implications and changing working patterns may have on the nature of development sites required, the programme is well placed to adapt to these changes and deliver for North Wales. With a new project manager starting in May 2021 and one further vacancy to fill, the programme will have the resources required to deliver.



Innovation in High Value Manufacturing

Strategic Aim

To consolidate North Wales' position as a powerful and innovative high value manufacturing cluster, building on existing specialisms and leading expertise to create a higher value, more diverse economic base that supports the transition to a lower carbon economy.

Investment

Growth Deal investment:

£13m

Public sector investment:

£26.5m

Total investment:

£39.5m

Spending objectives

Job Creation

To create between 145 and 180 new jobs.

Research & innovation

Work with 55 UK and International industry partners or SME's to develop new low carbon technologies and waste reduction.

Expand economic integration to facilitate technology adaption

Reinforce collaboration between regional Universities and businesses to facilitate technology adaption. Support three collaborative R&D projects per annum to develop new technologies.

Investment

Total investment of between £36m - £43m.

GVA

Create net additional GVA of £94m - £114m.

Skills development

Provide training and upskilling to 100 people / businesses in the targeted technologies over first 5 years.

The projects

Centre for Environmental Biotechnology (CEB)

The Centre for Engineering Biotechnology will be a world-leading centre in the discovery and characterisation of novel extremophilic enzymes of industrial relevance. The Centre for Engineering Biotechnology will provide a strong foundation for attracting world-leading researchers, significant public and commercial research funding, and inward investment to Wales, building on an initial £5m ERDF investment into research capacity. The project also aims to draw companies in the biocatalysis sector to North Wales to take advantage of clustering and agglomeration benefits the regions offers due to its well-established specialism in bioengineering.

Total Investment £9.6m | Growth Deal £3m

Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre

The Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre will provide facilities (in Wrexham and St. Asaph) targeted to boost high level skills development for the region and enable SME's and large businesses to work in partnership with Wrexham Glyndwr University on commercially driven research and development.

Total Investment £299m | Growth Deal £10m



Last 12 Months

Robyn Lovelock
Growth Deal Programme Manager

The Innovation in High Value Manufacturing programme was initially developed by the founding Portfolio Management Office team with support from project sponsors Wrexham Glyndwr and Bangor Universities. The programme aims to consolidate North Wales position as a powerful and innovative high value manufacturing sector.

To do this we will build on existing specialisms and expertise in the region through targeted investment in research and development supporting long-standing and emerging business needs.

In October, Robyn Lovelock joined the team as the Growth Deal Programme Manager providing much needed capacity to drive the programme forward.

Programme progress and project development in line with the Better Business Case guidance has been overseen by the programme board, which evolved from an initial programme steering group. The board has been proactively exploring how the Growth Deal can best support knowledge transfer, innovation and business support to realise the overall programme aim, spending objectives and planned benefits.

The last quarter of the year has been focused on supporting project development, primarily the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre project with Wrexham Glyndwr University. This project is currently developing the Outline Business Case for consideration by the Economic Ambition Board and has recently completed an external assurance (Gateway) review. The Bangor University led Centre for Environmental Biotechnology project is at an earlier stage of development, with resources focused on refining the scope of the project at present, with further engagement of stakeholders planned later in 2021.

The programme and the two research and development projects are well placed to make a significant contribution to the North Wales economy through research, development and commercialisation in the fields of biotechnology, hydrogen fuel cells, composites and optics.

The Skills and Employment programme and Strategic Transport programmes sit outside the Growth Deal. The programmes are key to delivering the wider vision for North Wales, and the Economic Ambition Board are working with the Regional Skills Partnership and through its Transport Sub-Board to deliver these programmes

Skills & Employment Programme

Over the last 12 months, the North Wales Regional Skills Partnership have made progress in laying the foundations of the skills and employment programme. As we recover from the immediate economic challenges of Covid-19 and look ahead to develop a world-class talent base, we need to develop a more dynamic and agile skills ecosystem in the region, that closes the skills gaps and better matches skills demand with supply through closer collaboration with employers and industry.

We have worked closely with the Department for Work and Pensions, Job Centre Plus and Working Wales to provide a brokerage and rapid response to help employers during this challenging year. Employers have received support with matching individuals to jobs, we have trialled this approach with the Betsi Cadwaladr Heath Board with their recruitment needs around Track and Trace posts and with Ysbyty Enfys. During this next year, our intention is to build on the brokerage project by focusing on 'hard to reach' SMEs that often lack the time, capacity and awareness to engage with skills providers but invariably share common concerns and workforce requirements.

Work has also been ongoing to develop our skills pipeline for our capital investments in the region, including the North Wales Growth Deal. The need for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and digital skills has been highlighted as key challenge for employers, especially as jobs and sectors evolve in our economy. We need to develop a STEM workforce, and to do that we need a sufficient flow of secondary school students who are interested in STEM and digital skills. If we are to respond regionally with a future workforce that is qualified and skills to meet the future STEM based opportunities across the region, we need a great co-ordinated approach and careers advice and guidance to help steer individuals towards these opportunities. Work has been ongoing in the region to develop a STEM statement and explore the series of STEM hubs which would inspire and enthuse individuals about future careers in STEM industries. We have set up a digital skills industry cluster group to help inform our understanding on the challenges that face employers.

Transport Programme

Having effective and reliable transport networks that link North Wales with key markets and destinations, is essential to support a thriving economy. The NWEAB established a Transport Sub-Board to support and prioritise investment in our transport networks and to work across the region to deliver improvements. The growing focus on safeguarding our environment has increased the need to provide genuine alternatives to road-based transport, including better passenger transport networks that properly integrate.

The NWEAB has supported Welsh Government and Transport for Wales with developing an integrated transport package branded as the North Wales Metro. There are some exciting projects currently under development that will see transformational improvement to the regions rail and bus networks over the years ahead. These include new rail stations and more capacity on our rail network, proposals to integrate bus and rail along with active travel are under development, along with quality programmes to achieve better branding, information, and ticketing arrangements. The aim is to ensure that viable alternatives to car-based travel are available for all residents and visitors.

Alongside improvements to transport networks, the decarbonisation of transport networks is an increasing priority. Preparing the region for accelerated roll-out of zero emission electric vehicles, with adequate charging infrastructure is a priority. The NWEAB has also led on the development of a hydrogen hub at Deeside, to complement another being developed at Holyhead, that aims to put the region at the forefront of the roll out of hydrogen fuelling and fuel cell vehicle technologies. Business cases for implementation will be completed over the next year.

The publication of Llwybr Newydd – the updated Wales Transport Strategy, sets an ambitious programme of improvements to transport networks, decarbonisation proposals and a challenging agenda for change. Over the next year, work will commence on updating the North Wales Regional Transport Plan, in response to the agenda set by Llwybr Newydd.

Added value

Regional Response to Covid-19

The Portfolio Management Office played a key role in co-ordinating and supporting the region during the Covid-19 pandemic leading the development of regional structures to share information and learning.

Supporting transition to a low carbon, ecologically resilient economy

The Economic Ambition Board declared its commitment to sustainable development, net zero emissions and biodiversity in March 2021.

Jobs

During 2020-21, the Economic Ambition Board have made 15 appointments while growing the portfolio management office, providing new employment and career development opportunities in the region.

Funding

The team have secured an additional £265k from Welsh Government to support the development of projects within the region.

Collaboration

The team have developed formal and informal collaboration structures across the partnership including regular participation in governance boards, project development workshops and regular engagement events with business, strengthening networks and collaboration opportunities across the region.

Promotion

The team have promoted North Wales and the North Wales Growth Deal at a number of events during the year, including at Wales Week in London.

Expertise

We are developing a regional centre of excellence for project delivery. Having developed expertise in Better Business Case development, the team have recently been acting as a critical friend to the Theatre Clwyd re-development project.

Governance

Governance Agreement 2

The Economic Ambition Board was established by local authority partners as a joint committee in 2019 and is the decision making body for the North Wales Growth Deal, as well as leading on regional economic collaboration. Having secured the Final Deal, the partners agreed to enter into a second Governance Agreement ("GA2") which will support the partnership into the next phase of implementation of the Growth Deal and further develop of the Growth Vision.

The agreement, which is a legally binding document, defines the role and function of the Economic Ambition Board and its use of delegated powers. It also outlines the decision-making structures and democratic accountability. Provision is also made for the commitments of partners to the projects and how these are managed and apportioned.

Growth Deal Governance

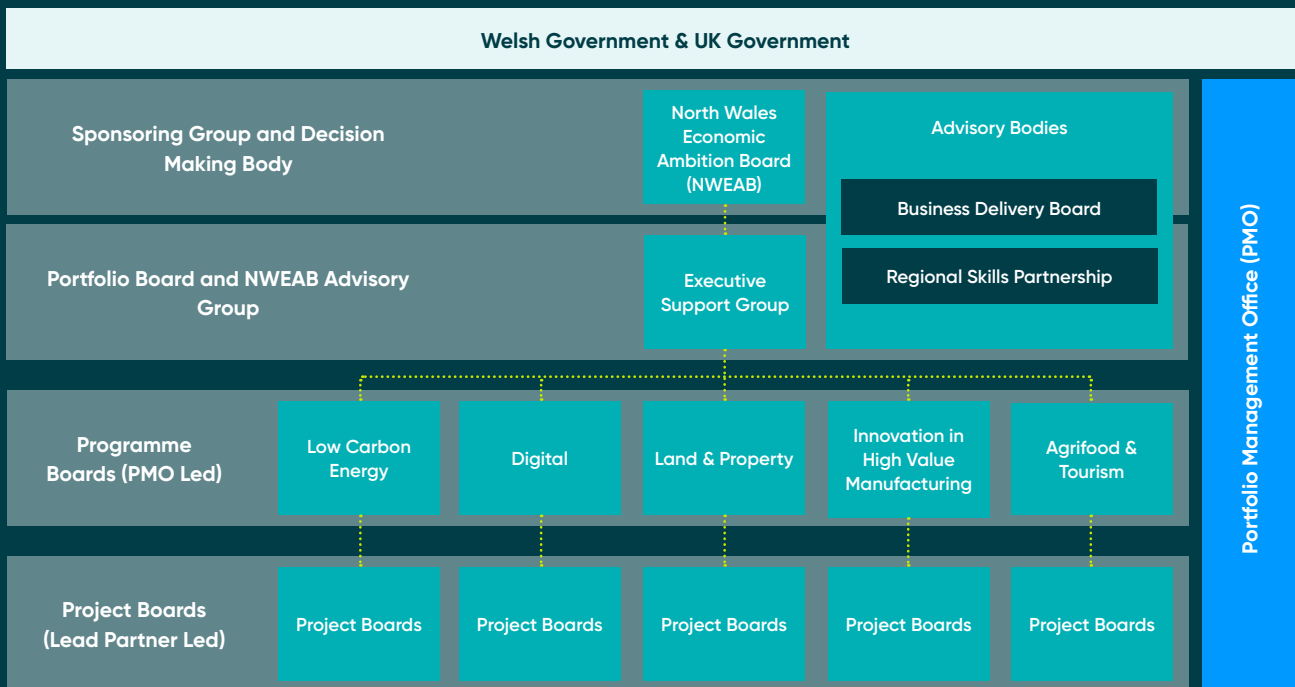
The Growth Deal's governance arrangements enable decisions to be made in an open and transparent way for the benefit of the whole of the region. While the Economic Ambition Board acts as the decision making body for the Growth Deal, there are strong links both formal and informal to the Welsh and UK Governments as funders of the Deal. The Welsh Government, UK Government and the Economic Ambition Board have agreed to adopt the City & Growth Deal Governance & Assurance Framework. The approach is based on the appropriate and proportionate application of best practice Governance, Assurance and Programme & Project Management, underpinned by an Integrated Assurance and Approval Plan in order to balance both Government oversight and regional delivery partner requirements.

Portfolio, Programme and Project Management Arrangements

The Economic Ambition Board has adopted a delivery model based on a best practice approach to portfolio, programme and project management as set out in 'Government Functional Standard GovS 002: Project Delivery'. Portfolio, programme and project management is an integrated way of meeting an organisation's ambition, driving better decisions and increasing the likelihood of successful outcomes.

The diagram below sets the Economic Ambition Board's project delivery structure for the Growth Deal:

Growth Deal Project Delivery Structure



Reporting

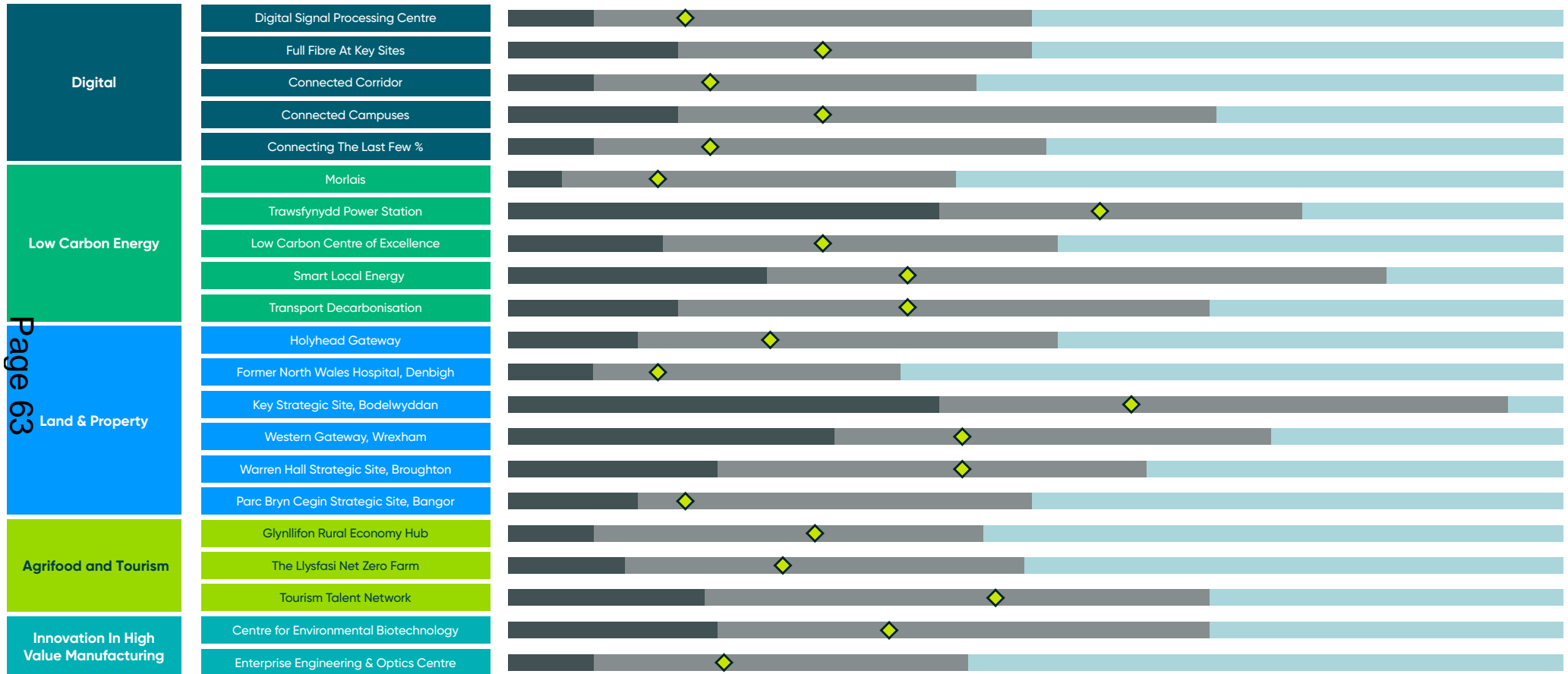
The Portfolio Management Office will produce quarterly progress reports and an annual report on the Growth Deal which will be shared with Welsh Government, UK Government, the Economic Ambition Board and its partners. These reports will be publicly available on our website.

Scrutiny Arrangements

Scrutiny of the North Wales Growth Deal is provided by the six local authorities through their existing Scrutiny Committee arrangements. The Scrutiny Committees will consider the quarterly and annual reports produced by the Portfolio Management Office.

Growth Deal Project Delivery Pipeline – March 2021

2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026



Business Case Development & Approval Phase *

* Approval of OBC pre procurement

Procurement and Project Delivery Phase **

** Includes approval of FBC post procurement

Operational & Benefits Realisation Phase

Anticipated start on site date



The Next 12 Months

Alwen Williams
Portfolio Director

While the last 12 months has seen significant progress made and a historic milestone achieved with the signing of the North Wales Growth Deal, the next year ahead promises to be even more exciting.

All of the careful planning and preparation with partners will lead to investments being made, new tangible assets for the region being created and new and exciting opportunities become real over the next year.

As a team that has developed virtually during 2020, we look forward to enhancing the team further and completing the recruitment. With only two further vacancies to fill during 2021, it will be good to have the whole team together and we look forward to a time when we can all work safely together in the office.

The next 12 month will see us embark on an ambitious programme of business case development with a number of Outline Business Cases scheduled to be considered by the Economic Ambition Board. We are also anticipating making our first final investment decisions on projects before the end of the year, which would see project delivery commence and investment flowing into the region.

As we progress with the delivery of the Growth Deal, our image and the information we share with the public becomes ever more important. We have already embarked on the development of a new brand and a new website and look forward to launching these over the coming months.

I hope you have found this annual report useful and informative and that you will continue to follow our progress during the next year.

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Report to	Partnerships Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting	20 May 2021
Lead Officer	Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator
Report author	Rhian Evans, Scrutiny Co-ordinator
Title	Scrutiny Work Programme

1. What is the report about?

The report seeks Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to review its draft forward work programme. In doing so the Committee is asked to reflect on the implications of the focus on business critical operations during the emergency phase of the COVID -19 pandemic and the programmes of work underway or being planned under the recovery phase, whilst also having regard to items of business already on its forward work programme prior to the pandemic.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To seek the Committee to review and agree on its programme of future work, and to update members on relevant issues.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That the Committee

- 3.1 considers the information provided and approves, revises or amends its forward work programme as it deems appropriate; and
- 3.2 identifies key messages and themes from the current meeting which it wishes to publicise via the press and/or social media.

4. Report details

- 4.1 Section 7 of Denbighshire County Council's Constitution sets out each Scrutiny Committee's terms of reference, functions and membership, as well as the rules of procedure and debate.
- 4.2 The Constitution stipulates that the Council's scrutiny committees must set, and regularly review, a programme for their future work. By reviewing and prioritising issues, members are able to ensure that the work programme delivers a member-led agenda.
- 4.3 For a number of years it has been an adopted practice in Denbighshire for scrutiny committees to limit the number of reports considered at any one meeting to a maximum of four plus the Committee's own work programme report. The aim of this approach is to facilitate detailed and effective debate on each topic.
- 4.4 In recent years the Welsh Government (WG) and Audit Wales (AW) have highlighted the need to strengthen scrutiny's role across local government and public services in Wales, including utilising scrutiny as a means of engaging with residents and service-users. From now on scrutiny will be expected to engage better and more frequently with the public with a view to securing better decisions which ultimately lead to better outcomes for citizens. AW will measure scrutiny's effectiveness in fulfilling these expectations.
- 4.5 Having regard to the national vision for scrutiny whilst at the same time focussing on local priorities, the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) recommended that the Council's scrutiny committees should, when deciding on their work programmes, focus on the following key areas:
- budget savings;
 - achievement of the Corporate Plan objectives (with particular emphasis on their deliverability during a period of financial austerity);
 - any other items agreed by the Scrutiny Committee (or the SCVCG) as high priority (based on the PAPER test criteria – see reverse side of the 'Member Proposal Form' at Appendix 2);

- Urgent, unforeseen or high priority issues; and
- Supporting the Council's recovery work in relation to the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on Council services, the local economy and the county's communities

4.6 Scrutiny Proposal Forms

As mentioned in paragraph 4.2 above the Council's Constitution requires scrutiny committees to prepare and keep under review a programme for their future work. To assist the process of prioritising reports, if officers are of the view that a subject merits time for discussion on the Committee's business agenda they have to formally request the Committee to consider receiving a report on that topic. This is done via the submission of a 'proposal form' which clarifies the purpose, importance and potential outcomes of suggested subjects. No officer proposal forms have been received for consideration at the current meeting.

- 4.7 With a view to making better use of scrutiny's time by focussing committees' resources on detailed examination of subjects, adding value through the decision-making process and securing better outcomes for residents, the SCVCG decided that members, as well as officers, should complete 'scrutiny proposal forms' outlining the reasons why they think a particular subject would benefit from scrutiny's input. A copy of the 'member's proposal form' can be seen at Appendix 2. The reverse side of this form contains a flowchart listing questions which members should consider when proposing an item for scrutiny, and which committees should ask when determining a topic's suitability for inclusion on a scrutiny forward work programme. If, having followed this process, a topic is not deemed suitable for formal examination by a scrutiny committee, alternative channels for sharing the information or examining the matter can be considered e.g. the provision of an 'information report', or if the matter is of a very local nature examination by the relevant Member Area Group (MAG). No items should be included on a forward work programme without a 'scrutiny proposal form' being completed and accepted for inclusion by the Committee or the SCVCG. Assistance with their completion is available from the Scrutiny Co-ordinator.

Health Board plans for services in Denbighshire

- 4.8 Representatives from Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) had been expected to attend the current meeting to discuss progress made with respect of major capital investment projects in Denbighshire. However, as the Board is awaiting the Welsh Government's response to the business case submitted for the North Denbighshire Community Hospital project, it requested the deferment of this item until the Government's response has been received. The Chair agreed the request to defer.

Cabinet Forward Work Programme

- 4.9 When determining their programme of future work it is useful for scrutiny committees to have regard to Cabinet's scheduled programme of work. For this purpose, a copy of the Cabinet's forward work programme is attached at Appendix 3.

Progress on Committee Resolutions

- 4.10 A table summarising recent Committee resolutions and advising members on progress with their implementation is attached at Appendix 4 to this report.

Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group

- 5.1 Under the Council's scrutiny arrangements the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group (SCVCG) performs the role of a coordinating committee. The Group met on 29 April 2021. No items were referred by the Group at that meeting to this Committee for examination.
- 5.2 With Scrutiny Committee meetings now being held remotely the Group discussed the benefits as well as the practicalities of holding pre-meeting briefings immediately prior to formal Committee meetings. It was decided that the Chair and Vice-Chair of each Committee should determine on a meeting by meeting basis whether the business for their next meeting merited the holding of a pre-meeting briefing session for all committee members. These meetings would need to start at 9am and finish by 9.30am on the morning of the meeting in order to ensure sufficient time for all attendees to log in to the formal meeting ahead of the 10am start. They would also need to be hosted from elsewhere in County Hall on the

morning of the meeting as Committee Services staff would be in the Council Chamber setting up and testing the webcasting equipment ready for the formal 10am meeting. If individual Committee members feel that the business of a forthcoming meeting would benefit from a pre-meeting briefing session, they should in the first instance approach the Chair or Vice-Chair with a request for a pre-meeting briefing.

The Group's scheduled to hold its next meeting on the 1 July 2021.

- 5.3 With a view to raising Scrutiny's profile and encouraging public engagement the Group recently decided that all three scrutiny committees should, for a trial period, identify key themes or messages arising from their meetings for publication via the Authority's social media pages and the local press. The Committee is therefore asked to identify which themes or messages it wishes to highlight from the current meeting.

6. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

Effective scrutiny will assist the Council to deliver its corporate priorities in line with community needs and residents' wishes. Continual development and review of a coordinated work programme will assist the Council to deliver its corporate priorities, improve outcomes for residents whilst also managing austere budget and resource pressures.

7. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

Services may need to allocate officer time to assist the Committee with the activities identified in the forward work programme, and with any actions that may result following consideration of those items.

8. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

A Well-being Impact Assessment has not been undertaken in relation to the purpose or contents of this report. However, Scrutiny through its work in examining

service delivery, policies, procedures and proposals will consider their impact or potential impact on the sustainable development principle and the well-being goals stipulated in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

9. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

None required for this report. However, the report itself and the consideration of the forward work programme represent a consultation process with the Committee with respect to its programme of future work.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

No risks have been identified with respect to the consideration of the Committee's forward work programme. However, by regularly reviewing its forward work programme the Committee can ensure that areas of risk are considered and examined as and when they are identified, and recommendations are made with a view to addressing those risks.

11. Power to make the decision

11.1 Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000.

11.2 Section 7.11 of the Council's Constitution stipulates that scrutiny committees and/or the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs Group will be responsible for setting their own work programmes, taking into account the wishes of Members of the Committee who are not members of the largest political group on the Council.

Contact Officer:

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Note: Items entered in italics have not been approved for submission by the Committee. Such reports are listed here for information, pending formal approval.

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
<i>Date tbc</i>	Councillor Bobby Feeley	1. <i>Health Board plans for services in Denbighshire</i>	<i>To detail to the Committee the future direction for the delivery of Health Board services in Denbighshire (including major capital projects such as the North Denbighshire Community Hospital, future provision at Denbigh Infirmary and Ruthin Hospital)</i>	<i>To secure the future delivery of health care services and effective partnership working with respect of delivering health, social care and well-being services in order to realise the resilient communities corporate priority</i>	<i>BCUHB</i>	<i>February 2020 (rescheduled February 2021 & May 2021)</i>
8 July	Cllr. Bobby Feeley	1. Annual Report on Adult Safeguarding 2020/21	To consider the annual report on adult safeguarding, and information in place to meet the statutory requirements of the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 and an evaluation of the financial and resource impact of the Supreme Court's 2014 Judgement on deprivation	An evaluation of whether the Authority is meeting its statutory duty with respect to adult safeguarding and has sufficient resources to undertake this work along with the additional work in the wake of the	Phil Gilroy/Alaw Pierce/Nerys Tompsett	November 2020

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			of liberty on the Service and its work (data to include actual numbers in each category as well as % figures)	Supreme Court's judgement		
	Cllr. Brian Jones	2. COVID-19 Active Travel Plan Schemes in Denbighshire	To provide an overview of the findings in regard to the schemes' effectiveness in those town centres where they were implemented, the benefits realised from their implementation and any unintended negative consequences caused by their introduction	To evaluate the schemes' effectiveness in boosting town centre footfall during COVID-19 restrictions and identify lessons learnt for similar schemes in future and in readiness for further expansion of Active Travel schemes across the county	Emlyn Jones/Mike Jones/Ben Wilcox-Jones	December 2020
	Cllr. Bobby Feeley	3. Heart Failure Services in Denbighshire and its impact on the Council's Social Care Services	To discuss the long-term future of the Health Board's Heart Failure Service and the potential impact of the loss of this service on the Council's Social Care Services	An assurance to residents with respect of the long-term future of the Service, that will also assist the Council's Social Services to effectively plan for	BCUHB (Dr Gary Francis – Secondary Care Medical Director (Interim))/Helen Wilkinson (Cardiology) Phil Gilroy/Ann Lloyd/David Soley(?)	By SCVCG January 2020 Confirmation received from BCUHB in March 2021

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
				any future demand on its services. A healthier more resilient Denbighshire		
16 September	Cllr. Mark Young	1. Community Safety Partnership [Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee]	To detail the Partnership's achievement in delivering its 2020/21 action plan and its progress to date in delivering its action plan for 2021/22. The report to include financial sources and the progress made in spending the allocated funding. (report to include actual numbers as well as percentages to enable the Committee to effectively evaluate the impact of measures put in place)	Effective monitoring of the CSP's delivery of its action plan for 2020/21 and its progress to date in delivering its plan for 2021/22 will ensure that the CSP delivers the services which the Council and local residents require	Alan Smith/Nicola Kneale/Sian Taylor	December 2020
<i>When new Chief Executive is in post (tbc)</i>	Cllr. Richard Mainon	2. <i>Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council (DVSC)</i>	<i>To: (i) outline the working relationship between Denbighshire County Council and DVSC, how both organisations worked together during the COVID-19 pandemic and</i>	<i>Identification of good working practices for further development and areas that require improvement with a view to supporting</i>	<i>Alan Smith/Liz Grieve</i>	<i>By SCVCG January 2021</i>

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			<i>proposals for future working arrangements; and (ii) explore DVSC's working relationship with voluntary organisations across the county, how it prioritises the allocation of funding to voluntary groups and evaluates the effectiveness of the use of the funding allocated</i>	<i>the delivery of resilient communities</i>		
4 November	Cllr. Bobby Feeley	1. Homelessness and Housing Related Support Services	(i) To examine the effectiveness of the multi-disciplinary service in delivering homelessness services in line with the Welsh Government's vision for homelessness and housing related support services; and (ii) to review the actions arising from the Internal Audit of 'Provision of Homeless Accommodation' as per the referral by the	(i) To secure the timely delivery of outcome focussed co-ordinated support to individuals and families who need it and avert them reaching crisis point; and (ii) To ensure that governance, risk and control weaknesses relating to the	Phil Gilroy/Ann Lloyd/Abbe Harvey	By SCVCG January 2021

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
			Governance & Audit Committee in January 2021.	area are suitably addressed		
	Leader	2. North Wales Economic Ambition Board Performance Quarter 2 2021/22	To consider the Board's Quarter 2 report on its performance, work and progress in delivering its projects during 2021-22	To ensure that the Board delivers its priorities and projects in line with the stipulations and conditions laid out between the Board and the UK & Welsh Governments	NWEAB	By SCVCG March 2021
16 December						
February 2022	Cllr. Tony Thomas	1. Highways Grass Verge, Hedge Maintenance and Pesticide Application Policies (annual report)	To review the Council's highways grass verge, hedge maintenance and pesticide application policies, in particular the timing of cuts on the county's rural road network	To ensure that County's policies conform with bio-diversity standards that support the delivery of the Council's environment priority whilst ensuring the safety of road users and pedestrians	Tony Ward/Andy Clark/Mark Evans	February 2021
May/June	Leader	1. North Wales Economic Ambition	To consider the Board's Quarter4/Annual Report	To ensure that the Board delivers its	NWEAB	By SCVCG March 2021

Meeting	Lead Member(s)	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
		Board Annual Report 2021/22	on its work and progress during 2021-22	priorities and projects in line with the stipulations and conditions laid out between the Board and the UK & Welsh Governments		
November	Leader	2. North Wales Economic Ambition Board Performance Quarter 2 2022/23	To consider the Board's Quarter 2 report on its performance, work and progress in delivering its projects during 2022-23	To ensure that the Board delivers its priorities and projects in line with the stipulations and conditions laid out between the Board and the UK & Welsh Governments	NWEAB	By SCVCG March 2021

Future Issues

Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Expected Outcomes	Author	Date Entered
Nature for Health Pilot Project	To examine the pilot project and consider whether a similar project should become part of the Corporate Priority Programme of projects	An assessments of the benefits of the pilot project and any measurable achievements received through Services working in partnership and within existing budgets to determine whether a similar project should be rolled-out across the county and included in the Corporate Priority programme of projects to deliver the Corporate Plan	Howard Sutcliffe	BY SCVCG July 2019 (deferred with the Chair's permission October 2019, subject to further work being carried out on the proposal)
Update following conclusion of inquiry undertaken by the National Crime Agency in to historic abuse in North Wales Children's' Care Homes <i>(potentially Spring 2021?)</i>	To update the Committee of the outcome of the National Crime Agency (NCA) investigation in to the abuse of children in the care of the former Clwyd County Council, and to determine whether any procedures require revision.	Determination of whether any of the Council's safeguarding policies and procedures need to be revised in light of the NCA's findings	Nicola Stubbins	November 2012

For future years

<i>Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019 Note: information on the Act is still awaited (further delayed due to COVID – 19 and WG decision in relation to Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS))</i>	<i>To review the content of the Act and associated statutory regulations and code of practice (expected to be published in April 2020).</i>	<i>To review the implications for the Council and residents.</i>	<i>Phil Gilroy/David Soley</i>	<i>December 2019 (rescheduled April 2020 due to COVID-19) – check with lead officer in the</i>
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				<i>autumn of 2021 whether available</i>

Information/Consultation Reports

Information / Consultation	Item (description / title)	Purpose of report	Author	Date Entered
Information Report (for circulation July 2021)	Quarterly Monitoring of External Care Providers	To provide details of the regular monitoring of external care service providers commissioned by the council for social care services, identifying any escalating concerns or other areas of concern	Katie Newe/Ben Chandler	By SCVCG 2018
INFORMATION REPORT (June 2021)	Collaborative Procurement Service's Annual Report	To receive information on the collaborative Service's activity and performance against targets set out in the Procurement Strategy 2019/20	Gary Williams/Sue Rees	By SCVCG March 2020
INFORMATION REPORT (for circulation in Sept (Q1) & February (Q3) each year) Sept 2021 & Feb 2022	North Wales Economic Ambition Board	To provide information on the Board's performance and progress in delivering its priorities and projects in line with the stipulations and conditions laid out between the Board and the UK & Welsh Governments	NWEAB	By SCVCG March 2021

Note for officers – Committee Report Deadlines

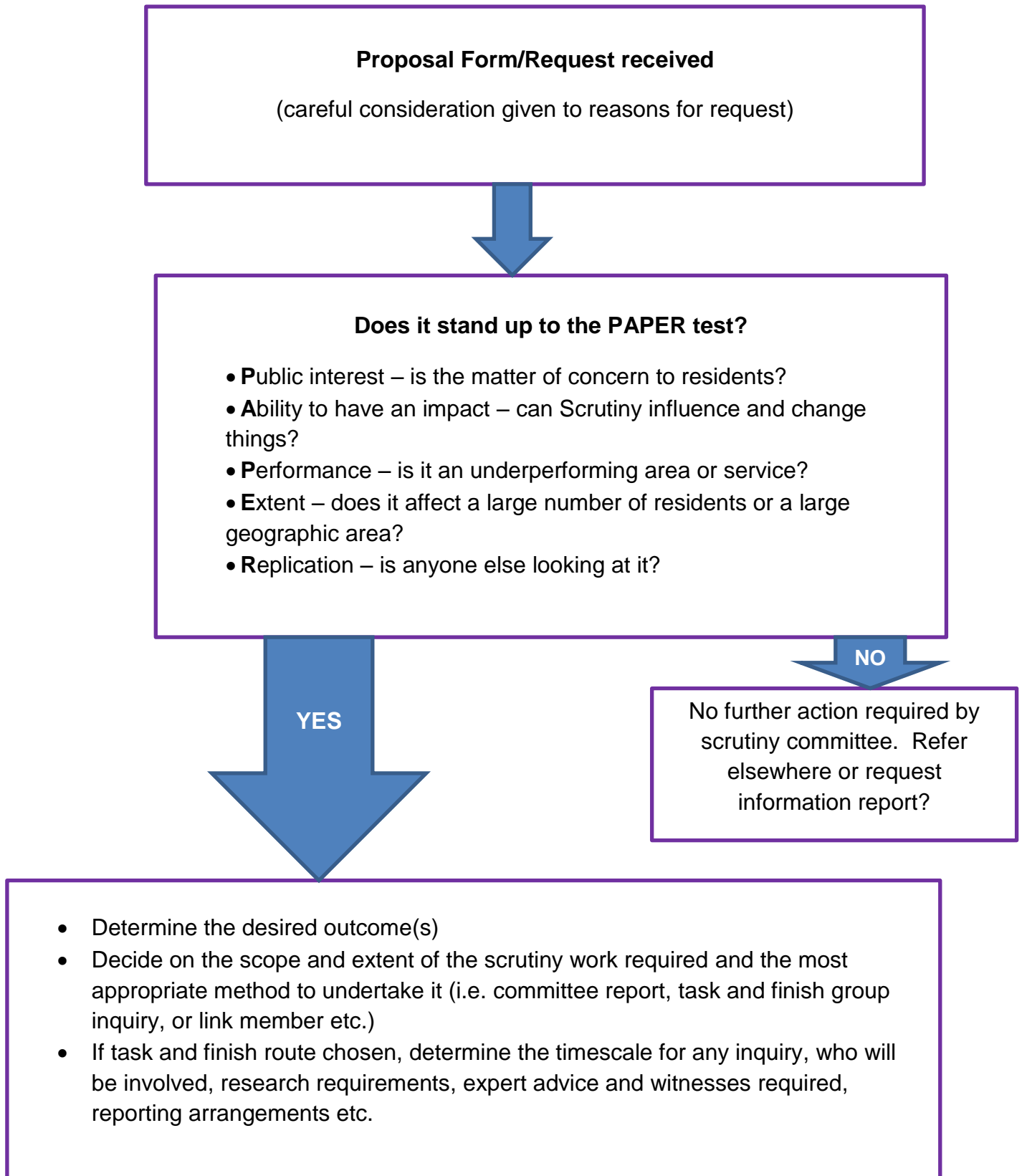
Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline	Meeting	Deadline
8 July	24 June	16 September	2 September	4 November	21 October

Partnerships Scrutiny Work Programme.doc

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Member Proposal Form for Scrutiny Forward Work Programme	
NAME OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
TIMESCALE FOR CONSIDERATION	
TOPIC	
What needs to be scrutinised (and why)?	
Is the matter one of concern to residents/local businesses?	YES/NO
Can Scrutiny influence and change things? (if 'yes' please state how you think scrutiny can influence or change things)	YES/NO
Does the matter relate to an underperforming service or area?	YES/NO
Does the matter affect a large number of residents or a large geographical area of the County (if 'yes' please give an indication of the size of the affected group or area)	YES/NO
Is the matter linked to the Council's Corporate priorities (if 'yes' please state which priority/priorities)	YES/NO
To your knowledge is anyone else looking at this matter? (If 'yes', please say who is looking at it)	YES/NO
If the topic is accepted for scrutiny who would you want to invite to attend e.g. Lead Member, officers, external experts, service-users?	
Name of Councillor/Co-opted Member	
Date	

Consideration of a topic's suitability for scrutiny



Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
25 May	1	Reactive Maintenance Framework for Schools and Non-Schools Properties	To seek approval to tender the Framework	Yes	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / David Lorey / Mark Cassidy
	2	External Enveloping and Energy Efficiency Framework for Council Housing	To seek approval to tender the works as part of a four year framework	Yes	Councillor Tony Thomas / David Lorey / Glyn Forsdick
	3	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd
	4	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
29 June	1	Annual Performance Review	To consider the Annual Performance Review	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Iolo McGregor
	2	Replacement LDP revised Delivery Agreement and Covid Impact Assessment	To seek Cabinet approval for revisions to the Replacement LDP Delivery Agreement and accompanying Covid19 impact assessment for submission to Welsh Government	Yes	Councillor Mark Young / Angela Loftus
	3	Replacement LDP - Report back on Preferred Strategy	To report back on the responses to the	Yes	Councillor Mark Young / Angela Loftus

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
		consultation	Replacement LDP Preferred Strategy consultation and seek approval for subsequent proposed amendments to the Preferred Strategy		
	4	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd
	5	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
27 July	1	Queen's Buildings Rhyl Project	To seek approval to award a contract for the delivery of Phase 1 of the Queens Building Rhyl	Yes	Councillor Hugh Evans / Russell Vaughan
	2	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Meeting	Item (description / title)		Purpose of report	Cabinet Decision required (yes/no)	Author – Lead member and contact officer
21 Sept	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd
	2	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
19 Oct	1	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd
	2	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator
23 Nov	1	Corporate Plan Update: July to September 2021	To monitor the Council's progress in delivering the Corporate Plan 2017 – 2022	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Iolo McGregor
	2	Finance Report	To update Cabinet on the current financial position of the Council	Tbc	Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill / Steve Gadd
	3	Items from Scrutiny Committees	To consider any issues raised by Scrutiny for Cabinet's attention	Tbc	Scrutiny Coordinator

Cabinet Forward Work Plan

Note for officers – Cabinet Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>11 May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>15 June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>13 July</i>

Updated 06/05/2021 - KEJ

Cabinet Forward Work Programme.doc

Progress with Committee Resolutions

Date of Meeting	Item number and title	Resolution	Progress
15 April 2021	5. Community Support Services Market Position Statement 2021-2024	<p>RESOLVED: subject to the above observations confirms that –</p> <p>(i) <i>the Community Support Services' Market Position Statement 2021-2024 reflects an understanding of the local market and business of local providers, and that it clearly sets out how the current and future range of care and support will be influenced and tailored to respond to specific local issues, and support the delivery of key corporate and Community Support Services' priorities; and</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>as part of its consideration it has read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment at Appendix 2 to the report.</i></p>	The Lead Member and Officers have been informed of the Committee's recommendations.

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