



Uchelgais
Gogledd Cymru
Ambition
North Wales

North Wales Growth Deal Progress Update

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March 2021 – August 2023

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Foreword

This report provides an overview of our progress since the last meeting on March 3rd 2021. The report outlines our progress in implementing the transformative Growth Deal—a 15-year agreement with the Welsh and UK Governments—to sustainably develop North Wales and enhance economic, social, and environmental wellbeing. Our Ambition North Wales partnership comprising the six Councils, our Universities, Colleges, and the private sector, is our greatest asset and key to our success, as we innovate to overcome barriers and foster regional prosperity.

While the North Wales economy continues to face significant challenges, the imminent end of European funding sets a new context which necessitates a shift in our approach to development. To address this, the UK Government has launched the Shared Prosperity Fund, allocating £126.5 million across the six councils. These funds will be invested in supporting communities, local businesses, and our fellow citizens to flourish in the coming years.

We take immense pride in representing our region and view our work leading Ambition North Wales as an integral part of a broader ecosystem. While promoting economic prosperity through job creation, attracting investment, and enhancing the overall value of our economy is pivotal, it represents just one part of our mission. A thriving economy relies on a healthy environment, which is why our commitment to sustainable development underpins our approach. We also firmly believe that everyone should benefit, which is why we are developing our region in an inclusive way while promoting our language, culture, heritage, and aligning with the well-being goals for Wales.

Our progress reflects the strength of North Wales as a region and the resilience of our Ambition North Wales partnership, which is a privilege to lead. We firmly believe in our ability to not only embrace opportunities but also navigate and overcome challenges and ensure the future well-being and sustainability of our society.

Introduction

This report provides an overview of key activities since Ambition North Wales last reported to the Economy Skills and Infrastructure Committee on March 3rd 2021. This report covers:

- Background
- Summary of key activities delivered
- Priorities and work in progress
- Roadmap for project business case development and Delivery
- Key risks and issues
- Conclusions
- Appendices

Background

Ambition North Wales

The Ambition North Wales partnership was established in 2012 to develop a regional approach to economic growth and to address the challenges and barriers facing the North Wales economy. The partnership covers the six local authority administrative areas of North Wales comprising the councils of Gwynedd, Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Wrexham, and Flintshire. The partnership also includes the University of Bangor, Glyndwr University, and the two further education colleges Coleg Cambria and Grŵp Llandrillo Menai.

In December 2020, the partnership agreed the North Wales Growth Deal with UK Government and Welsh Government securing an investment of £240million into the North Wales economy as part of the deal.

A Portfolio Management Office has been established to deliver the Growth Deal and the first project business case was approved in December 2021 and is now in delivery.

North Wales Growth Deal

The aim of the Growth Deal is to build a more vibrant, sustainable, and resilient economy in North Wales. Building on the region's strengths to boost productivity and 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 Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The Growth Deal aims to bring over £1 billion of investment to North Wales in order to generate over 4000 new jobs and increase GVA by £2.4 billion. The UK and Welsh governments have committed to jointly investing £240 million capital over a 15-year period, with the remainder leveraged from private and public sources.

The desired outcomes of this investment are to be delivered through the delivery of a portfolio of five separate programmes which:

- build on our regional strengths in manufacturing and low carbon energy
- target digital innovation and infrastructure to better connect the region
- invest in key sites and premises for the developer market
- enable innovation to boost productivity
- support our key industries in tourism and agriculture to develop for the future

Growth Deal Programmes

The five Growth Deal programmes are:

- Agri-food and Tourism,
- Digital Connectivity,
- Innovation in High-Value Manufacturing,
- Land and Property
- Low Carbon Energy.

Summary of key activities

This section summarises the key milestones, and outcomes delivered in chronological order from March 2021.

March 2021 – June 2021

- We secured a grant of £200,000 from Decarbonise the OFGEM Green Recovery funding, bringing in 1MW of additional power at the Former North Wales Hospital, Denbighshire. This funding will provide the capacity to develop low carbon technologies and systems such as EV charging infrastructure and heating systems at the site, which are essential to reducing carbon emissions.
- We secured £500,000 of funding from Welsh Government's Whole System Business Research Innovation for Decarbonisation (WBRID) scheme to fund low carbon and agricultural projects. The funding is essential in developing projects as we aim towards the net-zero target. Working in partnership with the Welsh Government and Coleg Cambria, we supported three organisations in creating low carbon agri initiatives through the Whole Business Research Innovation for Decarbonisation (WBRID) scheme. The three initiatives were:
 - Bio Factory Energy designed, built and deployed an innovative Micro-Anaerobic Digestion solution. The aim is to capture methane from slurry and convert it into heat for use on the farm or as an off-grid source of Energy. This will reduce the amount of energy required from the grid and provide a cost saving on energy bills and fertilizer – as well as being beneficial to the environment.
 - Promar International are creating a bilingual, user-friendly online carbon accounting tool, and sustainability platform to measure and monitor sustainability of a farm. The new tool will measure and monitor the sustainability of a farm businesses and will let livestock farmers make year on year comparisons.
 - M-Sparc managed the design and build of an innovative Artificial Intelligence computer vision and drone solution. The drone scans an area and identifies weeds, to trigger another drone to deploy a specific amount of pesticide to the weeds. This has been successfully tested and proven to help reduce time and costs for farming communities as well as introduce an energy efficient opportunity to decarbonise farming.
- We held consultation sessions with the private and public sectors to identify priorities for mobile Connectivity across the region's Transport Networks. Findings of the consultation sessions influenced the Growth Deal's Digital Connectivity projects.

July 2021 - September 2021

- The **Outline Business Case for the Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub** was approved in August 2021. The approval was a major milestone, bringing the project a step closer to creating a world-class hub to enhance the food and drink sector.
- The new **Energy Strategy** was launched with a vision to transform the way energy is used across the region. Working with the Energy Service at Welsh Government, the strategy will bring us a step closer to the net-zero carbon target for 2050.

October 2021 - December 2021

- The **Digital Signal Processing Centre** was the first Growth Deal project to see approval of its Full Business Case and to secure the funding. The £3 million funding will be invested in cutting-edge equipment to develop the facility, which will manage how digital information is processed efficiently and reliably. In addition to creating up to 40 new jobs for the region, it will be integral to respond to the increase in digital needs.
- We secured £387,600 of funding from the **Community Renewal Fund to conduct Smart Local Energy System feasibility studies** in four of the region's counties. These Systems could unlock many community benefits including the opportunity to generate and sell energy locally at a more affordable cost, the potential to create new jobs and contribute towards decarbonisation of the local energy system.
- Our first ever '**Early Market Engagement**' event was held for regional businesses in December. The aim was to help SME's to understand more about the procurement process behind the Growth Deal. The event focussed on our priorities and how businesses can get involved.
- We launched **Ambition North Wales**, a new brand and website in November 2021 to represent our vision for a prosperous North Wales and the partnership in place to deliver that vision.

January 2022 - March 2022

- Following the approval of the first Full Business Case for the North Wales Growth Deal in December 2021, the **Digital Signal Processing Centre was the first project to be operational** with orders placed for phase one of the project and the first items of new equipment have been received.
- We joined M-SParc's 'Dewch yn ôl' Campaign - we took part, for the second time, in this campaign with the aim of attracting young people to stay to in North Wales to live and work.
- The **Local Full Fibre Network Scheme improved Broadband Connections for 300 sites** in North Wales. Over 300 public sites such as, doctor surgeries, ambulance stations, and community hospitals benefitted from better broadband connectivity this year, due to the Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) scheme, funded by the UK Government.

The Digital Connectivity team led on the delivery of this scheme, helping the health care sector deal with the increase in demand for patient services, following the pandemic.

The scheme has targeted sites to tackle some of the challenges caused by slow or unreliable broadband services, supporting them to adopt more efficient ways of working digitally and ultimately helping them to improve patient service delivery.

April 2022 - June 2022

- We hosted a **Digital skills networking event** in collaboration with M-Sparc. This was an afternoon of networking between employers and graduates. The event addressed

feedback received from employers in the region who stated that their biggest challenge was recruitment. Following the event, graduates and young people were offered interviews with local employers.

- We joined forces with **Code First Girls** to provide free coding courses to women and non-binary people within the digital sector. Currently, only 19% of those who study computer science post-16 are female - the course aims to close the gender skills gap within this critical and growing sector.
- The **Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre outline business case was approved** - The Outline Business Case (OBC) for the project secured approval to move to the next stage. The project will explore the use of alternative, lightweight materials, which will reduce carbon within the manufacturing sector.
- We hosted a stand at the **Urdd National Eisteddfod** in Denbighshire for the first time in May 2022. It was an excellent opportunity to meet young people, children and parents to discuss Ambition North Wales and the Growth Deal, whilst putting the region on the map for visitors from across Wales and beyond.
- Anglesey-based business, Cufflink won the North Wales Start-Up award at the 2022 Start-Up Awards. As category sponsor for the second year, we were delighted to see a record-breaking number of entries from our region.

July 2022 - September 2022

- We secured grant funding to deliver local area energy plans - The North Wales Regional Energy Strategy action plan was approved by the Economic Ambition Board, with the aim to decarbonise our energy systems and ensure that the region benefits from the transition. To support the delivery of the action plan, we secured grant funding from Welsh Government to recruit a team of three to lead on this work and to develop the plans.
- The last few % outline business case was approved. The approval was a major milestone, bringing the project a step closer to providing a consistent connectivity quality across the region with superfast broadband (30 megabits per second).
- The First Minister, the Rt. Hon. Mark Drakeford, MS, and the Secretary of State for Wales, the Rt. Hon. David TC Davies, MP, attended the launch of our first Growth Deal project. The Digital Signal Processing Centre (DSP) at Bangor University aims to develop solutions to benefit businesses and residents with better communication capabilities, such as 5G and 6G. Providing North Wales businesses and communities with more cost-effective, secure, and efficient use of their applications.
- One of the turbine developers linked to a Growth Deal project, Cydnerth (Morlais), secured a guaranteed price for its electricity, making it the first tidal Wales-based project to secure a contract as part of the UK Government's Contract for Difference allocation. As a result, the developer Magallanes Renovables will have guaranteed revenue from the electricity it generates at Morlais.

October 2022 - December 2022

- We launched our carbon emissions and biodiversity methodology to address climate change within the region, which follows our commitment that all Growth Deal projects will aim to:
 - operate at net zero,
 - achieve a 10% increase in biodiversity
 - reduce carbon emissions by at least 40%

The methodology, developed with Arup, will guide Growth Deal projects as they work towards these ambitious targets.

- The Economic Ambition Board endorsed a joint venture approach with Welsh Government for the proposed delivery of up to 3,000m² of advanced build employment units at Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor. The site will be provide business relocation and expansion opportunities.
- We sponsored the new "Go Skills Award" at the Go North Wales Tourism Awards. This award recognised the contribution businesses have made to improving skills in the tourism and hospitality sector. The winner of the award was Wales Ambassador a tourism Ambassador Scheme run by Denbighshire County Council. The scheme provides people with online courses designed to improve the local and visitor experience.
- Ambition North Wales conducted a mobile connectivity survey on the quality of 4G connectivity across the region to identify which areas in North Wales currently lack coverage. The results established which areas require investment for better mobile connectivity across the region's main transport networks.

January 2023 - March 2023

- The 2023-2025 North Wales Skills and Employment Plan was launched. The Plan provides an insight into the supply and demand of the skills system in the region and what employers' priorities are. More than 160 employers attended the launch to hear inspirational talks and specialist panel discussions about the plan.
- The Economic Ambition Board approved the Smart Local Energy Outline Business Case (OBC). The project aims to support energy projects across North Wales to achieve renewable energy and decarbonisation targets, which will have an element of local ownership.
- Construction started on the Morlais project, the road excavations are complete and ducting and cabling are well underway. 97% of the staff employed, live in North Wales, with 68% being Welsh speakers. The Growth Deal investment will remove barriers to the future expansion of the Morlais project.
- In early 2023, Bangor University's DSP Centre project entered its second year of delivery. Since its launch, the project has progressed to achieving academic and professional recognition in publications such as the Institute of Engineering Technology and more. In its first year, the DSP Centre achieved the following:
 - Created 6 sustainable high-value jobs
 - Generated an additional £614,095 GVA
 - Secured £4.6million in additional funding

April 2023 - June 2023

- In June we launched our search for an industry partner to work with us to deliver a Green Hydrogen Hub for North Wales, with up to £11.2million of capital available to enable industry demand for hydrogen. The launch of the Hydrogen Sponsor Challenge followed a pre-launch event, in April, to inform industry and government about the proposed competition and a further consultation period during May. This is a great step forward for the Low-Carbon Energy Programme and we look forward to announcing further detail in due course.
- Grwp Llandrillo Menai has signed a memorandum of Understanding with the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) and will look to establish a base at the Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub to support SMEs with automation efficiency and productivity.

- We launched the process to procure a fund manager for the Smart Local Energy project on Sell2Wales.
- For the third consecutive year, we sponsored the North Wales Start-Up award at the **Wales Start-Up Awards**, held in Depot, Cardiff. The event celebrates entrepreneurs and new businesses from all over Wales. Pioneering low-carbon bioplastics developers, Plantsea Ltd, based at M-Sparc, was the successful North Wales Start-Up category winner. The organisation aims to replace environmentally damaging petroleum-based plastics with biodegradable alternatives using natural resources found on the seashore.
- At the **Wales Food and Drink Awards** microbrewery, Bragdy Twt Lol were deserved winners of the Business resilience category, sponsored by Ambition North Wales, at this year's event. It was a pleasure to welcome the ceremony evening to North Wales for the first time. It's a great platform for Welsh producers and suppliers whilst highlighting the sector's diversity and celebrating their success stories.

July 2023 - August 2023

- The Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre appointed Wynne Construction for the design and build of the new centre that will support manufacturing businesses in the region to decarbonise. Businesses can use the facilities to test materials within a controlled environment, providing more efficient products and systems requiring less energy, which will minimise costs and carbon emissions. Additionally, the project will create local job and training opportunities and attract investment.
- As the Growth Deal's portfolio of projects was to be delivered over 15 years, change was always expected. During 2022-23 we have seen the withdrawal of two projects and a change request for one project, which resulted in an unallocated fund of £37m.

Coleg Cambria and the Economic Ambition Board jointly decided that the Llysfasi Net Zero Farm project would not be funded through the Growth Deal. Instead, it will secure funding from alternative sources, notably the Welsh Government's Sustainable Communities for Learning fund, which aligns closely with the college's educational objectives.

The Economic Ambition Board decided to withdraw the Bodelwyddan Key Strategic Site from the Growth Deal following the Denbighshire County Council's review of the Local Development Plan and due to significant changes in the expected size of the project and the timescales for delivery.

A change request for the Egni project was approved to withdraw Phase 2 from the Growth Deal but continue with Phase 1 as the project's sole focus.

The Economic Ambition Board made some key decisions regarding the reallocation of funding within the Deal.

Firstly, the establishment of a £7m Portfolio Delivery Fund for 2023-24 to support mature projects within the portfolio dealing with cost inflation or viability issues to move into delivery.

Secondly, the Board agreed on the criteria and an allocation of £30m capital funding for a project replacement process. The Growth Deal Funding process launched in early 2023, providing an exciting opportunity to identify new ambitious, innovative and transformational projects to join the Growth Deal and to deliver jobs and investment in the region. Twenty six applications were received, and the Economic Ambition made their final selection during July after a robust assessment Process. Five projects have been invited to join the Growth

Deal, these projects will drive economic growth, create jobs and attract investment to the region as well as delivering on our wider aspiration to build a vibrant, sustainable and resilient economy for North Wales.

The new projects awarded a provisional allocation of Growth Deal capital funding subject to approval of their business cases are:

- Responsible Adventure project by Zip World - £6.2m
 - Kinmel Studios project by Stage Fifty - £6.8m
 - Holyhead Hydrogen Hub project by Menter Môn - £3.8m
 - Deeside Waste to Fuel Plant project by The Circular Economy Ltd - £6.4m
 - Wrexham Gateway project by Wrexham County Borough Council - £4.79m
- We were part of Cyngor Gwynedd's stand at the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol. During the week we promoted the work of Ambition North Wales, and had some fun activities for children. We hosted a panel discussion on 'Unlocking the North Wales Economy', Nia Thomas from the BBC chaired the panel, with great insights from our panel Alwen Williams (Ambition North Wales, Sioned Hughes (Altair Ltd), Eiliw Williams (Cwmni Egino) and Sioned Williams (Cyngor Gwynedd).

Priorities and work in progress

Over the next twelve months, our focus, alongside our partners, remains firmly on driving our projects forward to deliver the new jobs and investment required to support future prosperity for North Wales.

In July, our board will select new projects to come into the North Wales Growth Deal. This is an exciting milestone and will ensure that unallocated capital as a result of some projects not moving forward, will be reallocated and invested in new projects.

In terms of our current portfolio, we always knew that our projects would take time to mature and be delivered, this is something that is signified by the fifteen-year term of the Growth Deal, however, we have some exciting milestones to accomplish next year including:

- Securing a sponsor to work in partnership to develop a Green Hydrogen Hub for North Wales. This will be an organisation or consortium of organisations that will design and deliver the project for which up to £11.2m of Growth deal funding will be invested into helping fossil fuel powered organisations become low carbon hydrogen customers.
- Launching our Smart Local Energy fund. The aim of the project is to create prosperity in North Wales by supporting and enabling clean energy and decarbonisation solutions. This will be delivered by targeting investments in clean energy solutions that create new local job opportunities, will attract local investment, and can be replicated throughout North Wales.
- Starting construction on the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre. This is a project led by Wrexham University to deliver state-of-the-art facilities to explore optics, photonics, and composite materials as a lightweight material alternative, which will reduce carbon within the manufacturing sector.
- Starting construction on the Centre for Environmental Biotechnology, a project led by Bangor University to develop an enhanced research facility to explore the use of biological

processes, such as unique enzymes, as low carbon alternatives to products and industrial manufacturing processes.

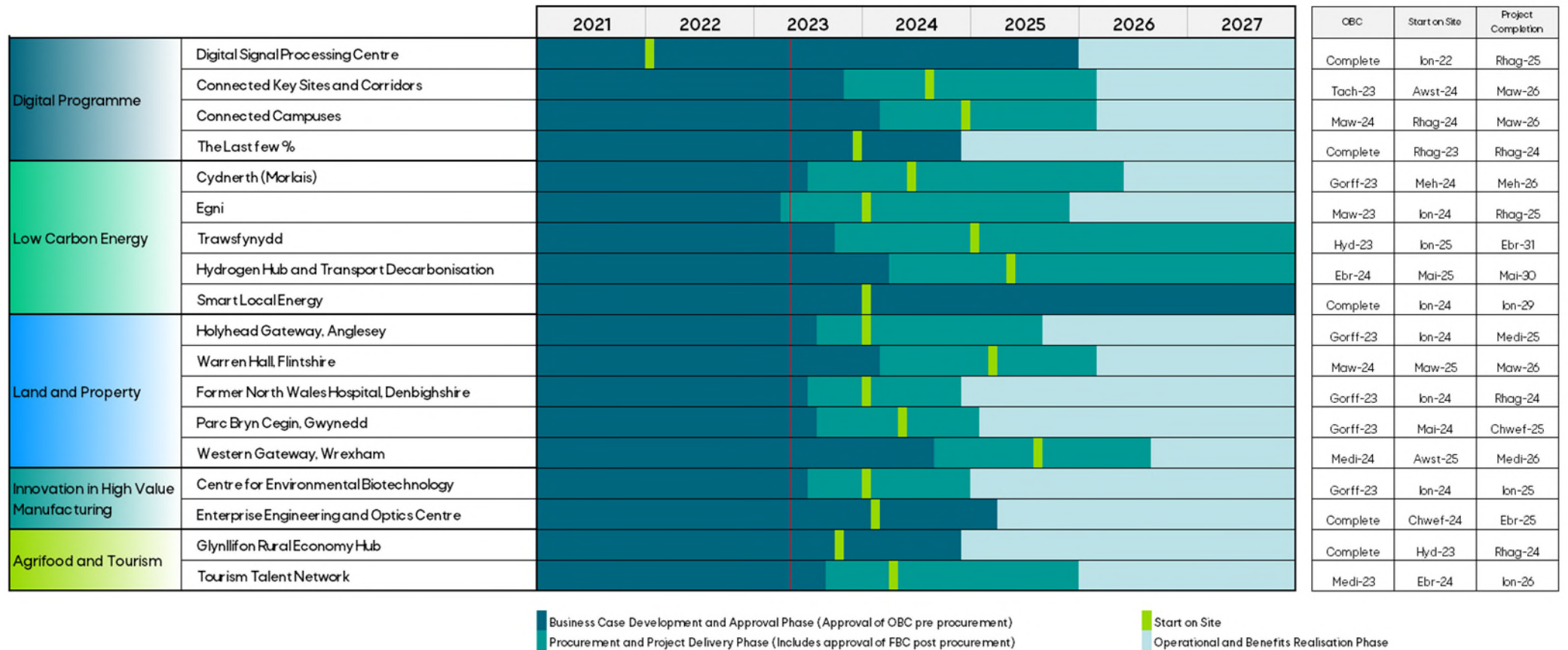
- Starting construction on the first Tourism Talent Network “spokes”, the first part of a collaborative project being delivered by Grŵp Llandrillo Menai and leading regional tourism businesses that seeks to transform the tourism and hospitality sector in the region by future-proofing sector skills provision.
- Investing in the second phase of development with the Digital Signal Processing Centre at Bangor University. This was the first of the Growth Deal projects to secure investment from the Growth Deal and we look forward to further enhancing the centre’s facilities in the coming year.
- Reaching an investment decision for our Last Few % digital infrastructure project which addresses the so called ‘digital divide’ (the difference in connectivity quality between towns and rural communities) and consider how we provide the right infrastructure to allow everyone in North Wales to enjoy affordable superfast connectivity (at least 30 megabits per second).
- Driving towards a net-zero future is an underpinning principle for the Growth Deal. We are embedding our approach to sustainable development through carbon reduction and biodiversity and ensuring that we really deliver against the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act as we move forward.
- Completion of our Local Broadband Fund project funded by the Welsh Government. The project aims to deliver gigabit connectivity to 18 public sector sites including libraries, community councils and offices.

Roadmap for project Business case development and Delivery

Outlined below is the project Business case development pipeline:

Project	Consenting Stage				Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6	Stage 7	Stage 8
	Pre-application stage	Outline planning / Consent	Full planning / Consent	Conditions discharged	Determine the Project context	Preparing the Strategic Outline Case	Preparing the Outline Business Case	Approval of the Outline Business Case	Preparing the Full Business Case	Approval of the Full Business Case	Project implementation and monitoring	Project Evaluation
Digital Signal Processing Centre	No planning required				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⌚	
Connected Key Sites and Corridors	Consenting requirements TBC				✓	⌚						
Connected Campuses	Consenting requirements TBC				✓	⌚						
Last Few %	Consenting requirements TBC				✓	✓	✓	✓	⌚			
Cydnerth (Morlais)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⌚					
Trawsfynydd Power Station	Consenting requirements TBC				✓	⌚						
Egni	⌚				✓	✓	⌚					
Smart Local Energy	Consenting requirements TBC				✓	✓	✓	✓	⌚			
Hydrogen Hub & Transport Decarbonisation	Consenting requirements TBC				✓	✓	⌚					
Holyhead Gateway	Harbour Revision Order Submitted & Marine License granted				✓	✓	⌚					
Former North Wales Hospital	✓	✓	✓	⌚	✓	✓	⌚					
Western Gateway, Wrexham	LDP adoption outstanding				✓	⌚						
Warren Hall, Broughton	⌚				✓	⌚						
Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor	⌚				✓	✓	⌚					
Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub	⌚				✓	✓	✓	✓	⌚			
Tourism Talent Network	Consenting requirements TBC				✓	✓	✓	⌚				
Centre for Environmental Biotechnology	⌚				✓	✓	⌚					
Enterprise Engineering and Optics	✓	✓	✓	⌚	✓	✓	✓	✓	⌚			

Outlined below is the project Delivery plan:



Key risks and issues

The Portfolio Risk Register is updated on a regular basis by the Portfolio Management Office and reviewed by the Portfolio Board and the North Wales Economic Ambition Board on a quarterly basis.

While the risk profile remains stable, the risk profile does remain high with a number of red residual risks including capacity, delay, affordability, public and private sector investment, consenting and spending objectives.

Securing the public and private sector investment required to deliver the Growth Deal remains a significant risk across the portfolio and an investment strategy is being developed to support the team to meet the investment targets.

Portfolio-level risks regarding consents and delay remain high due to project-level issues. Affordability remains a high risk due to ongoing inflation, supply chain issues and construction cost increases. The risk around capacity has reduced slightly due to the extension of fixed term contracts related to Growth Deal delivery but remains high.

Conclusions

The report provides a summary of the activity and progress on the North Wales Growth Deal. Additional detail and information is included in the appendices.

We will be happy to address the Committee's questions at the session on the 13th of September.

Appendices

- Programme infographics
- [Quarterly Reports](#)
- [Annual Reports](#)

Appendix – Programmes



The programme aims to promote and support employment and training in the Agri-food and Tourism sectors, building on world-leading skills and expertise already established within the region.

Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub

Lead Sponsor: Grŵp Llandrillo Menai

A distinctive, world class rural economy hub offering food-grade facilities and knowledge transfer services to enhance the food and drink sector.

Tourism Talent Network

Lead Sponsor: Grŵp Llandrillo Menai

Future-proof tourism and hospitality skills provision and increase the commercial benefits from one of the best established and fastest growing sectors in the region.

	Stage 1 Determine the project context	Stage 2 Prepare the Strategic Outline Case	Stage 3 Preparing the Outline Business Case	Stage 4 Approval of the Outline Business Case	Stage 5 Preparing the Full Business Case	Stage 6 Approval of the Full Business Case	Stage 7 Project Implementation and Monitoring	Stage 8 Project Evaluation
Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub	Complete ✓	Complete ✓	Complete ✓	Complete ✓	In progress ⌚			
Tourism Talent Network	Complete ✓	Complete ✓	In progress ⌚					





Digital Connectivity

Programme Overview and Progress

Addressing connectivity challenges within the region, enhancing the capability to develop new technologies for the future ensuring that businesses and residents can benefit from fast, high-quality connectivity.

Connected Campuses

Lead Sponsor: Ambition North Wales

Establishing network coverage at key commercial sites in the region, supporting businesses with valuable connectivity options.

Connected Key Sites and Corridors

Lead Sponsor: Ambition North Wales

Enhancing the reliability and quality of mobile services on the main roads and rail routes, enabling full-fibre services to key commercial sites across the region.

The Digital Signal Processing Centre

Lead Sponsor: Bangor University

Research and development of new technologies which improve how data is processed efficiently and reliably between devices and people.

The Last Few %

Lead Sponsor: Ambition North Wales

Providing a minimum 'superfast' (30Mbps) broadband to poorly connected communities across North Wales.

	Stage 1 Determine the project context	Stage 2 Prepare the Strategic Outline Case	Stage 3 Preparing the Outline Business Case	Stage 4 Approval of the Outline Business Case	Stage 5 Preparing the Full Business Case	Stage 6 Approval of the Full Business Case	Stage 7 Project Implementation and Monitoring	Stage 8 Project Evaluation
Connected Campuses	Complete	In progress						
Connected Key Sites and Corridors	Complete	In progress						
Digital Signal Processing Centre	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In progress	
Last Few %	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In progress			





Innovation in High Value Manufacturing

Programme Overview and Progress

Promote innovation and commercialisation of technology in the manufacturing industry, building on the existing strength of the sector within our region.

Centre for Environmental Biotechnology

Lead Sponsor: Bangor University

Exploring the use of biological processes as low carbon alternatives to products and industrial manufacturing processes

Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre

Lead Sponsor: Glyndŵr University

Delivering state-of-the-art facilities to explore optics, photonics and composite materials as a lightweight material alternative, reducing carbon within the sector.

	Stage 1 Determine the project context	Stage 2 Prepare the Strategic Outline Case	Stage 3 Preparing the Outline Business Case	Stage 4 Approval of the Outline Business Case	Stage 5 Preparing the Full Business Case	Stage 6 Approval of the Full Business Case	Stage 7 Project Implementation and Monitoring	Stage 8 Project Evaluation
Centre for Environmental Biotechnology	Complete ✓	Complete ✓	In progress ⌚					
Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre	Complete ✓	Complete ✓	Complete ✓	Complete ✓	In progress ⌚			





Land and Property

Programme Overview and Progress

Addressing land and property challenges within the region, to unlock opportunities and build on our strengths. The programme will develop sites to provide residential and employment premises. It will also maximise capacity at key transport links.

Former North Wales Hospital

Lead Sponsor: Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK

Develop and clean the site for residential development and for businesses to relocate or expand.

Holyhead Gateway

Lead Sponsor: Stenaline

Improve the port's capacity and facilities, creating a berth for energy projects and general freight

Parc Bryn Cegin

Lead Sponsor: Ambition North Wales

Develop land for new build employment premises suitable for relocation opportunities.

Warren Hall, Broughton

Lead Sponsor: Ambition North Wales and the Welsh Government

Providing critical services to the site for business reallocation, expansion, or attracting new businesses.

Western Gateway, Wrexham

Lead Sponsor: Ambition North Wales

Providing critical services to the site for business reallocation, expansion, or attracting new businesses.

	Stage 1 Determine the project context	Stage 2 Prepare the Strategic Outline Case	Stage 3 Preparing the Outline Business Case	Stage 4 Approval of the Outline Business Case	Stage 5 Preparing the Full Business Case	Stage 6 Approval of the Full Business Case	Stage 7 Project Implementation and Monitoring	Stage 8 Project Evaluation
Former North Wales Hospital	Complete	Complete	In progress					
Holyhead Gateway	Complete	Complete	In progress					
Parc Bryn Cegin	Complete	Complete	In progress					
Warren Hall, Broughton	Complete	In progress						
Western Gateway, Wrexham	Complete	In progress						



Low Carbon Energy

Programme Overview and Progress

Unlocking the benefits of developing low carbon energy projects within the region, positioning North Wales as a leading location for the low carbon energy sector.

Cydnerth (Morlais)

Lead Sponsor: Menter Môn

Develop additional grid connections for tidal energy suppliers to deploy more turbines within the zone.

Egni

Lead Sponsor: Bangor University

Developing a Centre of Excellence, enhancing research, design and innovation in low carbon energy.

Hydrogen Hub

Lead Sponsor: Ambition North Wales

Kick-start the region's hydrogen economy by supporting and delivering a hydrogen hub.

Smart Local Energy

Lead Sponsor: Ambition North Wales

Support projects to achieve renewable energy, decarbonisation and have local ownership.

Trawsfynydd

Lead Sponsor: Cwmni Eginio (Welsh Government)

Deploy Small or Advanced Modular Reactors at the site to generate low carbon energy.

	Stage 1 Determine the project context	Stage 2 Prepare the Strategic Outline Case	Stage 3 Preparing the Outline Business Case	Stage 4 Approval of the Outline Business Case	Stage 5 Preparing the Full Business Case	Stage 6 Approval of the Full Business Case	Stage 7 Project Implementation and Monitoring	Stage 8 Project Evaluation
Cydnerth	Complete	Complete	In progress					
Trawsfynydd	Complete	In progress						
Egni	Complete	Complete	In progress					
Smart Local Energy	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In progress			
Hydrogen Hub	Complete	Complete	In progress					