

## **Swansea Bay City Deal – Update on the current position**

### **Governance**

- In July 2018 the four Authorities covering the Swansea Bay City region unanimously approved the Joint Committee Agreement. This legal agreement establishes the key governance structures for the City Deal including the Joint Committee, the Economic Strategy Board and Joint Scrutiny Committee and commits the four local authorities to work together over the 15 years of the Deal
- The Joint Committee and associated governance structures were formally established on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018. Cllr Rob Stewart has been appointed as the Chair of the Joint Committee, with Mark James as the Accountable Officer.
- The Joint Committee meets on a monthly basis to progress matters relating to the City Deal.
- The Economic Strategy Board (ESB) was formally established by the Joint Committee on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018
- The ESB is chaired by Ed Tomp, Vice President and General Manager of Valero, who is supported by a further 5 private sector members, all of whom were appointed via an open recruitment process.
- The ESB's role is to support the Joint Committee in reviewing projects and monitoring overall delivery, providing specialist knowledge and expertise to ensure maximum impact of the City Deal is realised.
- Since its inception, the ESB has engaged in focused discussions and undertaken site visits with project delivery and authority leads
- To date, the ESB has played a key role in assessing the first tranche of projects before being formally presented to the Joint Committee for decision.

### **Joint Government Independent review**

- A Joint Government review is being undertaken which is likely to conclude by the end of January. Both UK and Welsh Governments have noted that they are keen that momentum is not lost and as such work on individual projects will continue in parallel with the review
- Joint Committee members have underlined their continued commitment to the City Deal and detailed work on all 11 City Deal projects is continuing
- The Joint Committee has also agreed to carry out its own internal review into the City Deal to provide reassurance that procedures and governance are robust.

### **Project developments**

- Good progress is being made in relation to the development of business cases for the 11 projects.
- A significant amount of time and resource has already been invested by the region to ensure that robust business cases are developed

- The first tranche of projects have already been considered by the ESB and Joint Committee and are currently being reviewed by both Governments. These include the Swansea Waterfront & Digital District; Life Science & Well-being Village and Yr Egin.
- Other projects are at varying stages of development. Annex 1 provides an update on the individual projects.

## **Other developments**

### *Implementation Plan*

- An Implementation Plan has been developed and agreed by the Joint Committee and submitted to both Governments for approval. The Plan sets out the high level activities that support the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal including project details, milestones for the SBCD programme as well as indicative project timelines, risks and interdependencies. Government response to the implementation plan is awaited.

### *Business engagement events*

- The SBCD Regional Office together with the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership have delivered a series of workshops during October aimed at raising awareness of the City Deal among the regional business community. 76 businesses attended the workshops, which were held across the region
- The Region also held a successful event on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to promote and engage on the City Deal projects. More than 230 businesses attended.

### *Monitoring arrangements*

- The SBCD region is currently developing its monitoring and evaluation framework which will set out the proposed approach to evaluating the impact of the City Deal.
- Initial discussions have been held with the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner to ensure that arrangements embed the wellbeing principles
- Project progress is currently reported to the ESB and Joint Committee on a monthly basis.

### *Wider developments*

- In order to promote wider economic development, the region has submitted an application for funding under the UK Government's Local Full Fibre Network's most recent call for proposals. If successful, the LFFN bid will complement the overall digital ambitions of the SB City Deal proposal.
- The region has also submitted an expression of interest under the ESF Institutional Capacity priority as part of its commitment to deliver service reforms that will see a number of strategic functions delivered at a regional level.

## **Annex 1: Project Updates**

### ***Digital Infrastructure***

- Cube and Innovation Point have been appointed to develop the business case.
- Workshops have been held with the other SBCD projects to identify synergies and gather data and analysis to support development of the business plan.
- An initial draft business case will be presented to the Joint Committee early 2019
- Working closely with the UK and Welsh Governments, especially over digital access plans in the region
- In discussions with UK mobile operators - all of whom have discussed early opportunities with the project
- Workshops have been held with industry leaders to examine potential development opportunities, synergies and business models

### ***Skills and Talent***

- Delivery of the Skills & Talent project will align with the eleven SBCD projects
- Regional Learning & Skills Partnership has worked closely with WG's Policy advisors on the content of the business plan
- Work continues with schools across the region and specific schemes have been identified to raise the skills of young people required by the City Deal projects.
- Working with secondary schools (Carmarthenshire as a pilot) on a specific Welsh Baccalaureate for post 16 students with a specific area of work for students to work on around the City Deal projects
- A pre-16 package has also been developed and distributed to schools in Carmarthenshire
- Training Solutions Committee are working on the skills gaps and identifying solutions for the skills gaps within the region
- RSLP have been engaged with industry across the region to highlight the City Deal and ensure that any skills gaps identified meet with the wider needs of businesses across the region

### ***Swansea Waterfront & Digital District project***

Project has been supported by the Economic Strategy Board and Joint Committee and is currently being reviewed by Governments.

### ***Box Village and Innovation Precinct***

- The University has entered into a development agreement with its private sector partner to take forward the delivery of the Box Village
- Advanced funding is in place covering the project design and planning submission for Box Village
- Contractor appointed and now progressing design for planning submission (two stage design and construct)
- Submission of planning application in December 2018
- Commencement of construction programmed for March 2019 with practical completion programmed for September 2019

### *Digital Village*

- The Kingsway - work is continuing on east Orchard Street to commence new landscaped areas
- Detailed design of Digital Village is underway

### *Digital Square & Arena*

- Entering pre-contract services agreement with the primary contractor for Digital Square & Arena
- Advanced construction enabling works are progressing

### *Yr Egin*

- Project has been supported by the Economic Strategy Board and Joint Committee and is currently being reviewed by Governments.
- Phase 1 is complete and formally opened on the 25th October 2018
- 75% has already been let with detailed negotiations underway for remaining business space.
- Commencement of design/ECl tenders for Phase 2 in December 2018.
- Phase 2 commencement of construction planned for December 2019 with completion planned for March 2021

### *Life Science and Well-being Village*

- Outline Planning application will be considered at an Extraordinary Planning Committee in January, 2019
- CCC have engaged a city finance expert to produce a robust commercial business plan
- In light of recent events, Carmarthenshire County Council has also employed external legal consultants to undertake an independent review of the project. The Authority has also engaged the Wales Audit Office to ensure that they have an opportunity to review governance and procurement arrangements.

### **Centre for Next Generation Services (CENGs)**

- Business case is being finalised
- WEFO ERDF match funding secured for the project
- Finalising design and technology specification for the 'building as a power station' to prepare design and build contract
- Planning application/approval – June – September 2019
- Construction period anticipated Autumn 2019 – end 2020
- Building identified as an 'Active Building' in Swansea University's successful Active Building Centre proposal (Challenge Fund)
- Following a soft market testing exercise, project team will carry out a procurement exercise to appoint an organisation to run the CENGs organisation

### ***Life Science and Well-being Campuses***

- Project will focus on the two sites at Murrumbidgee and Singleton to create new Research, Development & Innovation facilities
- Project Lead continuing to develop business case

### ***Pembroke Dock Marine***

- Development of business case on-going
- Marine Energy Testing Areas (META) - Project Design Envelope and site selection has been finalised
- META - Scoping submitted to NRW on November 16<sup>th</sup>, public exhibitions held during December
- Pembroke Dock Improvements (PDI) - Hangar Annex Planning Applications submitted
- PDI - Framework contractors contacted to carry out design feasibility of Slipway build, graving dock infill and access assessment between the two assets, Timber pond infill method, and a swept path analysis for the transport corridor between Gate 1 & Gate 4

### ***Factory of the Future***

- Development of business case on-going
- Building scale and adjacencies agreed with industry partners and end users
- Procurement approach identified
- Pre-Planning surveys completed
- Land – currently being discussed with WG Ministers
- Private Sector investment announcement imminent
- Late stage collaboration agreement discussions with 5G technology provider ongoing

### ***Steel Science***

- Building scale and adjacencies agreed with industry partners and end users
- Procurement approach identified
- Pre-Planning surveys completed
- Land – currently being discussed with WG Ministers
- Development of business case on-going.