



Portfolio Annual Report
2022-23





Executive Summary



Creating our future together

Welcome to the third Swansea Bay City Deal (SBCD) Annual Report that encapsulates a summary of a unique £1.2 billion investment across a regional portfolio of nine headline programmes and projects, throughout the counties of Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Swansea.

Aligned to three themes of economic acceleration, energy and smart manufacturing, and life science and well-being, all nine business cases have been approved by the Welsh Government and the UK Government, which means that the entire portfolio is now in full delivery.

The ambitious Portfolio will deliver some key benefits to the region over its 15 year life by:

- Creating over **9,000** jobs in areas including energy, manufacturing, digital, health and wellness, R&D, education, retail, leisure and tourism.
- Helping **14,000** people upskill, through **2,200** training opportunities and over **3,000** new apprenticeships.
- Contributing **£1.8-2.4 billion** additional regional Gross Value Added (GVA).
- Transforming South West Wales into a place of opportunity for everyone, where people can live and work, have quality education, jobs and healthcare and where businesses can thrive.

This report reflects the ambition of the SBCD and summarises the key milestones over the last 12 months (April 2022 – March 2023). It provides up-to-date summaries and the status of each project and programme, as well as containing case studies of key achievements, the benefits and impact delivered to date, communications and marketing activity, business engagement and a financial summary. Additionally, the report outlines some of the key activity we expect to see delivered in the financial year between April 2023 - March 2024.

The portfolio will deliver:



The key SBCD partners are:



The Portfolio Themes



The programmes and projects within the Portfolio cover three themes:

Economic acceleration	Life sciences & well being	Energy and smart manufacturing
<p>Providing the space, skills and connectivity to drive forward the regional economy to provide new opportunities for our businesses and communities to thrive.</p>	<p>Providing integrated developments that will combine cutting edge innovation, research and learning facilities with new business and within areas of life sciences, health, wellbeing and sport.</p>	<p>Placing the region at the forefront of energy and manufacturing innovation as part of the drive towards a low carbon economy and the strengthening of the existing manufacturing base.</p>
<p>£296.3m Total investment</p> <p>£1.08bn Additional Gross Value Added</p> <p>1,708 New Jobs</p>	<p>£331.4m Total investment</p> <p>£617m Additional Gross Value Added</p> <p>2,973 New Jobs</p>	<p>£628.9m Total investment</p> <p>£687m Additional Gross Value Added</p> <p>5,005 New Jobs</p>

Forewords



Cllr Rob Stewart

Swansea Council Leader
and Swansea Bay City Deal
Joint Committee Chairman

This year has seen further significant progress throughout the delivery of the portfolio, ongoing growth and investment across our region, continued economic recovery and the achievement of further key milestones.

We have continued to build success through our collaborative working, with the four local authorities, two health boards and two universities, and regional businesses supporting each other for our economy to grow, and we have seen further transformation across South West Wales with many projects excelling in delivery.

Complementary to the regions ambitions and the City Deals investment objectives, many other regional initiatives are coming to fruition. These include several Levelling Up Funding bids, the successful Celtic Freeport bid, securing commitment from Skyline, the Blue Eden project and the Global Centre of Rail Excellence in Wales.

I look forward to another exciting 12 months for the SBCD and feel privileged to be part of the fantastic journey that is shaping our region for the better.



Wendy Walters

Carmarthenshire County
Council Chief Executive and
Swansea Bay City Deal Senior
Responsible Owner

As the Senior Responsible Owner for the SBCD I am delighted with the progress that has been made over the last 12 months. The portfolio has celebrated its full delivery having secured all funding from the UK Government and the Welsh Government back at the end of 2021.

We have continued to strive forward to create jobs, realise aspirations and transform our region to the perfect place to work and live. Swansea Arena has been open for a full year, welcoming over 240,000 visitors and the Bay Technology Centre has also welcomed its first tenants. We have witnessed the ground breaking of Pentre Awel, The Innovation Matrix and elements at Pembroke Dock Marine project, as well as significant construction on the Kingsway. The three regional projects are also progressing well and all of which are starting to have an impact on our region.

We continue to follow robust governance and our monitoring and reporting ensure that everyone is kept up to date with the latest developments. We are working hard to build on the success of the last 12 months and move forward with our commitment to improve the South West Wales economy, creating a prosperous future for generations to come.



Jonathan Burnes

Swansea Bay City Deal
Portfolio Director

The dedicated and hard work of our regional partners is starting to pay off. 2022-23 has been highly successful. We have seen a series of planning applications awarded, commencement of groundworks on key sites across the region, tenders being developed, and contractors appointed to flagship initiatives, contracts being awarded to the local supply chain, and partnering between industry and training providers to offer opportunities for young people gain valuable skills that equip them to become our future workforce.

The momentum with delivery is reflected in our increasing marketing, communications, and business engagement activity. All this positivity doesn't mean our work is done though. We will continue to improve and push to realise our regional ambitions. Attracting further contractors for the design and build of infrastructure, partner with operators to manage the facilities, develop partnership and collaborations for R&D, innovation and skills development initiatives, work with businesses, tenants and partners to ensure we meet their immediate and growth needs and most importantly tell you all about the amazing opportunities we have to offer both within region and with broader investors and collaborators.

The SBCD Portfolio Office will continue to offer a professional service that supports regional partners and both Governments to deliver key benefits that make a real difference to people and businesses.



Chris Foxall

Swansea Bay City Deal
Economic Strategy Board
Chairman

The Economic Strategy Board has been involved in yet another busy year advocating, amplifying and advising the SBCD with this once in a generation opportunity to transform South West Wales.

We have met with several projects both in person and online over the last 12 months, using our boards experiences in sectors including Housing, Finance, Energy, Healthcare, Manufacturing and the hydrogen economy. We have provided advice, guidance and important links between the public and private sector. In particular, we advised the HAPS team on creating energy efficient homes. Digital Infrastructure outlined the progress of the project and opportunities for business across the region where we were able to see first-hand some of the important work being undertaken in partnership with Private Sector Organisations. We learnt more about the Skills & Talent skills gaps barometer and the Designation Renewables pilot project. Finally, we visited the PDM project for an update and a tour to see the progress and vast opportunities associated with the Port of Milford Haven. PDM should help secure more opportunities from the massive floating offshore wind potential in the Celtic sea.

We will continue with our advisory role over the next 12 months and look forward to seeing further progress as the projects progress through to delivery and operation, which will maximise opportunities for businesses of all sizes across the region.





Home as Power Stations (HAPS)



£505.5m Total Investment
£15.0m City Deal
£114.6m Public Sector
£375.9m Private Sector

This is a pioneering project that will facilitate the adoption of energy efficient design and renewable technologies into homes across the region – helping to tackle fuel poverty, cut regional carbon emissions and support local economic growth.

Supporting development of both new build schemes and retrofitting of existing homes will enable a programme of comprehensive monitoring and data collection. Financial support to develop renewable technologies within the region will ensure there is a sustainable local supply chain.



£251m
 Contribution to Regional GVA

1,804
 Jobs Created

10,300 New and Existing Homes
 fitted with Renewable Technologies

10,417+ KWh
 Energy Saving

19,000+ Tonnes of CO²
 Reductions Per Year

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- Established governance arrangements, including the HAPS Project Board.
- Formalised stakeholder engagement plan and project delivery implementation plan created.

Quarter 2

- Primary Funding Agreement created between the Accountable Body and Neath Port Talbot Council.
- Assurance Gateway Review undertaken with a Amber/Red rating.
- Monitoring and Evaluation contract advertised on Sell2Wales.

Quarter 3

- Gateway Assurance Action Plan implemented.
- Richard Lewis appointed as a Technical Co-ordinator.
- Cardiff University awarded the Monitoring and Evaluation contract.
- Opus contracted to support with Supply Chain work.

Quarter 4

- Supply Chain Event held at Parc Y Scarlets which brought together Registered Social Landlords and influential people from the four Local Authorities.
- Continued work with UK Government and Welsh Government to ensure the Optimised Retrofit Programme and ECO 4 Flex opportunities are maximised.
- £75k of funding secured from Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) to support skills development with associated HAPS technologies.
- Opus completed the Supply Chain Mapping consultancy work.
- Confirmation of £41m public and £1.4m private investment for 2022-23 through 187 newbuild and 6 retrofit HAPS homes.
- Further preparatory work for the launch of the Supply Chain Fund and the Financial Incentives Fund.



Skills and Talent



£30.5m Total Investment
£10.0m City Deal
£16.0m Public Sector
£4.5m Private Sector

With a particular focus on growth areas in the digital, construction, energy, smart manufacturing and health and wellbeing sectors, the programme will deliver 2,200 additional skills and development opportunities, 14,000 higher skills individuals and at least 3,000 new apprenticeships - which will support businesses by allowing them to grow and future proof through developing a talented workforce.

Working alongside partners from the private sector, higher and further education, schools and the third sector, the programme team are periodically identifying gaps in current provision and establish the changes needed to develop new courses and frameworks to meet these skill gaps. Pilot projects are being developed and deployed which align to the needs of industry and the key SBCD themes.

2,200
 Additional Skills

14,000
 Upskilling Opportunities

3,000 New Apprenticeships
 Opportunities

20
 New Course Framework

2+
 Centres of Excellence Developed

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- Approval of the first pilot project by the Regional Skills and Learning Partnership (RSLP). Destination Renewables, in partnership with Pembrokeshire College and Pembrokeshire County Council will prepare learners for a career in the renewable energy sector.

Quarter 2

- Pembrokeshire College held an engagement event for local businesses and students taking part in Destination Renewables.
- Destination Renewables began delivery.
- Five pilot projects approved by the RSLP board including the Low Carbon Net Zero Awareness Raising project, Battery Manufacturing Skills, 21st Century Skills, Digital Sector pilot and the Nurturing Health and Wellbeing in a Digital World projects.

Quarter 3

- Enfys Stallard appointed as a Quality Performance and Monitoring Officer and Leanne Roberts as a Skills Development Officer.
- Destination Renewables wins the Offshore Wind Energy Skills Award 2022 in the Renewables UK Offshore Wind Awards and a finalist in the Wales STEM Awards 2022.
- RSLP held an event to launch their regional employment and skills plan.

Quarter 4

- Three further pilot projects approved by the RSLP board including the 5G Technologies Training How Green Was My Valley and Net Zero Wales Skills projects.
- Completion of an Assurance Gateway Review resulting in a second consecutive Green Rating.
- Julian Lloyd appointed as a Careers Pathway Project Officer.





Digital Infrastructure



£69.1m Total Investment
£24.5m City Deal
£13.5m Public Sector
£31.1m Private Sector

Digital infrastructure is a cross cutting theme through all the Swansea Bay City Deal projects and programmes. It is essential to the delivery of regional partner's digital transformation agendas, the economic growth of the region and improving social inclusion.

The aspirations of the programme can only be achieved by working collaboratively with industry, government, and regional partners. Sharing both successes and challenges, using data to make decisions and being agile in delivery.



£318.8m Contribution to Regional GVA

10+ Community Broadband Projects

200+ Public Sector Sites upgraded to full fibre

250+ Internet of Things Getaways Deployed

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- Participation in UK Government's National DCIA Early Adopters Group to gain insight of the lessons learned and best practice emerging from national pilot schemes.
- Supporting the deployment of digital infrastructure on public sector owned assets.
- Installation of regional LoRaWAN Gateways commenced, creating a Regional Digital Innovation Network which public and private sector partners can use to trial and test Internet of Things (IoT) applications.
- Significant regional private sector investment announcements made by Openreach & Ogi.

Quarter 2

- Initiated pre-market engagement with fibre builders to test proposed approach to delivering fibre connectivity to public sector sites and assets across the region.
- Launched consultation to identify opportunities for exploitation of digital infrastructure across the region to inform a regional digital portfolio.



Better broadband for everyone... leaving nobody behind.



A smart region ready and able to **innovate** and adopt emerging technology.



An **inclusive digital landscape** that meets everyone's needs.

Quarter 3

- Additional £100k funding allocated to expand the Regional Digital Innovation Network.
- Initiated pause and review of Connected Places workstream following publication of fibre accessibility across the region with an aim to ensure best value for public money.
- Completed recruitment of Local Authority hosted resources for our Next Generation Wireless and Rural workstreams.

Quarter 4

- Completed benefits realisation for 2021-22 which confirmed significant public and private investment in the region of £7.6m and £21.8m respectively.
- Completed pause and review of Connected Places workstream and identified the most appropriate delivery routes for moving forward with capital spend.
- Established plans and timescales for significant Shared Rural Network (SRN) investment across the region working with UK Government and Welsh Government.

Continual dialogue and engagement in 2022-23:

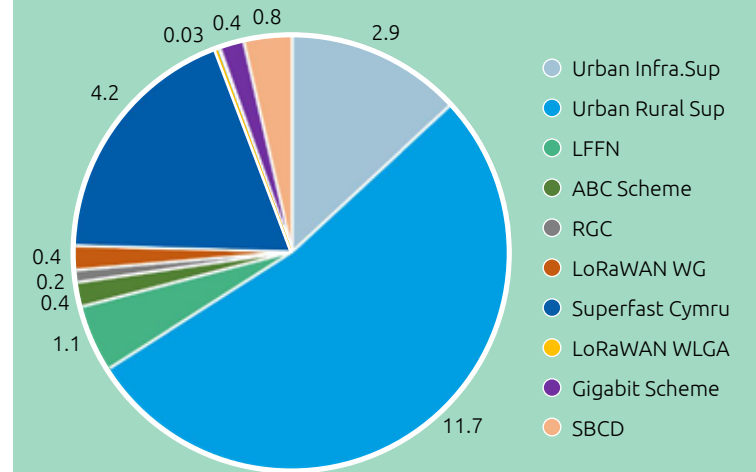
- Supplier and government lobbying and engagement.
- Facilitation of planned regional fibre build by private sector partners.
- Reviewed projected Gigabit broadband coverage alongside Welsh Government and take decisions on our rural superfast broadband procurement.

Improving Connectivity for South West Wales

Following the completion of the benefits realisation for the financial year 2021-22, which occurred in 2022-23, it showed that the programme has already excelled in meeting investment expectations.

- We said we would deliver **£2.5m Public Sector Investment**, we actually delivered **£7.6m**
- We said we would deliver **£0m Private Sector Investment**, we actually delivered **£14.56m**
- We said we would deliver **£0.5m SBCD regional investment**, we actually delivered **£0.5m**

Summary of investment (£m)



As a result of this investment in May 2022:

- The region was above the Welsh average for gigabit capable connectivity.
- The region was on par with the rest of the UK average for superfast connectivity.
- Over **100,000** additional premises across the region now have access to gigabit connectivity.
- Improved 4G coverage across the region with all four authorities above the Welsh and UK average for percentage coverage for 4G across all 4 network providers.





Yr Egin



£25.2m Total Investment
£5.0m City Deal
£18.5m Public Sector
£1.7m Private Sector

Canolfan S4C Yr Egin is a digital and creative cluster at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD) in Carmarthen. Its iconic building boasts an auditorium, superfast connectivity, state-of-the-art office spaces and post-production facilities for professional and community activities.

Welsh language broadcaster S4C as its anchor tenant and many leading creative and digital co-locate within the centre, with the occupancy rate always over 90%. Yr Egin aims to be a catalyst for a creative cluster community, inspire collaboration, develop talent, and enhance the status of the Welsh language.

The forthcoming Yr Egin Phase 2 will further support the creative industry sector in the region, which is anticipated to be around the provision of a Digital Production Facility.

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- The University conducted a Creative Sector Demand Study with the findings reported to the Portfolio Management Office (PoMO) and a Change Identification Process formally started for Yr Egin Phase 2.

Quarter 2

- UWTSD internal team met to discuss the delivery strategy required following the Creative Sector Demand Study.
- S4C and UWTSD join the LocalMotion Carmarthen project which plans to create the happiest and most prosperous town in Wales.

Quarter 3

- UWTSD internal team developed a new delivery strategy for Phase 2.
- First International Media Festival of Wales held in Yr Egin.
- S4C celebrated 40 years of broadcasting.

Quarter 4

- University engaged with expert consultants to develop a proposal for Phase 2 centred around the provision of a Digital Production Facility in an existing University space.
- Phase 1 maintained an occupancy level of 95%. Tenants included S4C, Atebol, Boom Cymru, Carlam, Moilin, Rural Office, Stiwdiobox and Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru.



Campuses



£130.9m Total Investment
£15.0m City Deal
£58.5m Public Sector
£57.4m Private Sector

Delivering two complementary initiatives on the Singleton Campus at Swansea University and Morriston Hospital, this project will add value to the regional life science, health and sport sectors.

Advanced research and development facilities will be created. Collaboration between academic research, industry and the NHS will place this project at the forefront of new technologies to improve healthcare, while creating opportunities for new life science and sport-tech companies and creating highly skilled jobs for people in the region.

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- Ecological assessment was conducted at the Singleton site and a revised cost estimated was made for new build.
- Following a Gateway Review in July 2021 the recommendations were addressed, with eight actions completed and three ongoing. The three ongoing actions will remain open for the duration of the project and they will be continually reviewed at regular points.

Quarter 2

- Welsh Government Minister for the Economy Vaughan Gething visited Swansea University's Singleton Campus to meet key stakeholders and learn more about the project.
- Clare Henson appointed as Project Manager and Sara Merrells as Project Officer.
- Review of Primary Funding Agreement drafted between Swansea Council and Swansea University.

Quarter 3

- Alex Evans appointed as Business Development and Communications Manager.
- Morriston Site Management Centre design brief signed off by Swansea University.

Quarter 4

- Discussions continued between Swansea University and Swansea Council on the Funding Agreement with final amendments being reviewed prior to sign off.
- Swansea University appointed a multi-discipline design team for the new build at the Singleton site.
- Ecology survey instructed on the Morriston access road.



£150m
Contribution to Regional GVA



1,120
Jobs Created



2,000m² Sports Tech & Med
Tech Research and Innovation Space



700m² Centre for Commercial
and Academic Collaboration



300+
Cluster Companies



100+ Innovation and
Commercial Opportunities





Pentre Awel



£200.5m Total Investment
£40.0m City Deal
£52.3m Public Sector
£108.2m Private Sector

Combining life science research, business development facilities, community healthcare, assisted living and a state-of-the-art leisure and aquatics centre, Llanelli's Pentre Awel will be among the first development of its kind.

Education and training facilities will be at the heart of the project and will focus on training the next generation of healthcare professionals.



LLANELLI - SIR GAERFYRDDIN - CYMRU

Pentre Awel

LLANELLI - CARMARTHENSHIRE - WALES



£467m
 Contribution to Regional GVA



1,853
 Jobs Created



50,000m² Development
 across all four zones



12,000m² Community Research,
 Education & Clinical Space



80 Life Science Businesses
 Established / Supported

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- Strategic partnership with Cardiff University (CU) established to lead on the innovation and business development functions.
- A team established to consider how the outdoor space can be used to align with the project objectives of health promotion, prevention and facilitating independence.
- Approval of the Reserve Matters Application by the Planning Committee. Ecology and Ground Investigations Surveys undertaken.
- Bouygues UK (BYUK) engaged with local organisations to plan a programme of community benefits, focusing on recruitment and training, supply chain, schools and community engagement.
- Procured design and development of zone 3, the assisted living and business expansion space.

Quarter 2

- UK Government Minister David T C Davies visited the site to meet key partners.
- BYUK completed key pre-construction activities and circulated their first community newsletter, promoted the community ambassador scheme, and engaged with over 700 pupils in local schools.
- First research project began – a partnership with a local pharmacy and the Scarlets to begin the pump priming of research activities and develop proof of concept.
- Education, Skills and Training mapping exercise completed including baseline of current course/programme provision in relevant subject areas. This will identify additional provision needed to ensure sustainable staffing and help address recruitment/retention challenges in the wider area.

Quarter 3

- Enabling work commenced comprising of a site strip and new drainage.
- UWTSO had the Memorandum of Understanding to deliver skills and training at Pentre Awel and focused on development of the business case to ensure sustainable delivery to meet needs.
- Research and Innovation discussions held with the three universities and Hwyl Dda University Health Board to set the parameters for research and innovation development.

Quarter 4

- Pre-construction programme completed, and construction contract approved by CCC Full Council. Ground-breaking Event with UK Government Secretary of State for Wales.
- Meet the Contractor event held for residents, beginning a series of monthly drop-in surgeries.
- BYUK deliverables for recruitment and training set with a minimum of 4,680 person weeks to be delivered. During pre-construction BYUK delivered 1000+ pupil interactions, 30 hours of STEM engagement and welcomed 350 pupils to its Believe Academy.
- Welsh Language Action Plan and Impact Assessment developed to ensure there is a positive impact on use and accessibility of Welsh.
- Winner of the BYUK Sustainability Award 2023 for saving over 77,600kg of Carbon Dioxide being emitted on the site over a 15-week period.



Through the Pharmabees project the school is working on with Pentre Awel, the expertise that the researchers have brought to the classroom has been influential. We are proud that our children are presenting at conferences to academics about bi-reactors, biodiversity, climate change, micro-plastics on their local beach, and the anti-cancer properties of the bees' honey in our school hive! This partnership has inspired many children to become scientists and study for a degree.

Joe Cudd
 Headteacher, Ysgol Pen Rhos



Pharmabees Project

Building on the Accelerate project and supporting biodiversity in Llanelli, Cardiff University worked with Ysgol Pen Rhos and the council to create pollinator friendly habitats. A bee hive was installed at the school and the children were engaged in activities that supported biodiversity, environmental improvement and within the wider green space provided opportunities for their family to spend time in nature.

Long Covid Study

As a proof of concept project Cardiff University sourced funding to support a medical study to test the benefits of a hyperbaric oxygen therapy on long covid. A hyperbaric Oxygen chamber was located within the Scarlet Rugby training base, patients were identified by a local pharmacy and a programme of treatment designed. This trial was designed to test private/public/academic collaborative working.

Making Spaces for Nature

An academic and enterprise partnership that aims to work with surrounding community to coproduce plans for improving the quality and access to natural spaces. The co-production process identified several key recommendations to create a more inclusive and accessible outdoor space that prioritise both the health and wellbeing of community members and the preservation of the natural environment.





Supporting Innovation & Low Carbon Growth



£59.6m Total Investment
£48.3m City Deal
£5.8m Public Sector
£5.5m Private Sector

This programme will deliver seven projects that support jobs and growth in the low carbon technology and innovation sectors.

1. The Bay Technology Centre (BTC) provides flexible office and laboratory space.
2. South Wales Industrial Transition from Carbon Hub (SWITCH) is an industrial decarbonisation research facility.
3. The Advanced Manufacturing Production Facility (AMPF) provides hybrid facilities, production units and office space in conjunction with an apprentice block.

4. Property Development Fund (PDF) consists of £4.5m of gap funding aimed to encourage development in the Port Talbot Waterfront area.
5. To develop a Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) charging strategy for the NPT area.
6. The Air Quality Monitoring Project (AQMP) will test alternative low-cost sensors to assess air quality and pollution.
7. Hydrogen Stimulus Project (HSP) will enable excess renewable electricity from BTC to be converted to hydrogen fuel for vehicles.

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- Morgan Sindall the building contractor for BTC win two awards: Net Zero Award in Constructing Excellence Wales (CEW) 2022 and the Sustainability Award in the Insider Wales Property Awards 2022.
- Details released of how local companies can access the PDF which will help businesses expand in the region through various infrastructure improvements.
- Mapping exercise of all internal, external, and public Zero Vehicle Emission locations.

Quarter 2

- Handover of the BTC from Morgan Sindall to Neath Port Talbot Council (NPT) and the first two tenants take up occupation. Building wins Commercial Property Project of the Year in the British Construction Industry (BCI) awards 2022.
- Tender posted on eTender for the Design and Build of the SWITCH project.
- Queens Commonwealth Baton relay passes the Baglan Bay Energy Parks' Hydrogen Centre.

Quarter 3

- NPTC Internal audit undertaken with a result of 'Substantial Assurance' – the highest achievable rating for the SILCG Programme
- BTC promotional video recorded and released.
- Open day on 19th October at SU Bay campus and SAMI (Singleton Campus) for prospective contractors to see facilities and equipment to gain better understanding of requirements for SWITCH facility.
- Data Analyst recruited for AQMP to evaluate data and inform future improvement initiatives in air quality for Neath Port Talbot and the region.
- £12.5m worth of applications to the £4.5m Property Development Fund grant
- Hydrogen Stimulus Project, funding agreement between NPT and USW developed.

Quarter 4

- Finalised the letter of indemnity with Swansea University for SWITCH, which will allow progress into procurement.
- Closing of stage 1 applications for the PDF
- Ricardo consultants appointed to undertake year 2 of AQMP activities.
- HSP procurement process for the electrolyser equipment commenced.
- AMPF held pre-market engagement meetings held with industry, academia and Welsh Government.

The Bay Technology Centre

Constructed by Morgan Sindall and located on Baglan Bay Energy Park, this modern office and laboratory space and an energy positive building - the first of its kind in Wales.

All electric building with zero fossil fuels used

Accelerated payback period of **7.8yrs**

Digitally modelled

PV panels integrated into façade of the building

Energy performance exceeds building regulations by **281%**

42% improvement in water efficiency compared to BREEAM 2018 baseline

Surrounded by **407m²** of wet woodland

2,500m² of flexible office and laboratory space

Built on time and within budget

The Bay Technology Centre already has five tenants, including Crossflow Energy a leading Welsh renewable energy technology specialist who has relocated to the premises.

“ Our objective is to help businesses across the world leverage the power of 'small wind' to support them in the roll-out of clean, reliable energy solutions. Now we have a property that allows us to practice what we preach.

It is a new area for Crossflow Energy, and we now have a base that meets our own sustainable ambitions.

Martin Barnes
 CEO at Crossflow Energy



This project is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government.



Swansea City & Waterfront Digital District



£171.5m Total Investment
£50.0m City Deal
£84.7m Public Sector
£36.9m Private Sector

With the aim to drive regional and City economic development and growth, this programme includes:

1. Swansea Arena development at the £135m Copr Bay phase one district in the city centre.
2. A state-of-the-art office development at 71/72 Kingsway providing space for 600 jobs, flexible co-working environments and office space for the innovative technology and digital sectors. It will be a carbon net zero building when in operation.
3. Innovation Matrix and Innovation Precinct developments delivered by the University of Wales Trinity St David (UWTSD), intended to harbour startup businesses and fostering entrepreneurship through close links with academia.

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- Swansea Council Beyond Bricks and Mortar Team won a highly commended award at the UK-wide Go Awards Scheme for their work on the Arena.
- Pile capping, drainage and preparation work continued at 71/72 Kingsway.
- Planning approval received and stage 4 design substantially complete for the Innovation Matrix. Kier Group hosted a Meet the Buyer Event to discuss the supply chain opportunities.
- Innovation Matrix Stage 3 design completed.

Quarter 2

- 100,000 tickets sold at the Arena including John Bishop, Alice Cooper and Kaiser Chiefs.
- Base slab levels completed and pouring commenced at the 71/72 Kingsway.

Quarter 3

- 145,000 tickets sold at the Arena and the Swansea Council Beyond Bricks and Mortar Team finalised benefit data.
- Bouygues UK welcome Civil Engineering students from Swansea University to the 71/72 Kingsway to learn about construction, and the career opportunities available.
- UWTSD drafted the first stage of the Change Request Notification for the Innovation Precinct which looked at refurbishing an existing building in the city centre.
- Innovation Matrix building contract negotiated and agreed.

Quarter 4

- Swansea Arena celebrates its 1-year anniversary.
- Work on the hotel programme and design continued.
- Construction on schedule for the 71/72 Kingsway with groundworks completed. Swansea Council organised a tour to encourage children to consider a career in construction and engineering.
- 71/72 Kingsway became a finalist in the Bouygues UK Sustainability Awards 2023.
- Innovation Matrix commenced on site.
- Innovation Precinct design development commenced.

Swansea Arena: 1 Year of Operation

- Nearly **240,900** visitors
- 74** ticketed performances
- 45** days of conferences and exhibitions
- 32** Creative Learning events with **1,340** attendees
- Nearly **79%** occupancy on ticketed shows (target was 65% for first year)
- 24** permanent jobs created with many more occasional staff opportunities

Since its official opening by UK Government and Welsh Government Ministers in March 2023, Swansea Arena has welcomed over 240,000 visitors in its first full year of operation.

Following a series of test events, comedian John Bishop was the first star to take to the stage, and since then many other major performances have included, Alice Cooper and The Cult, Royal Blood and Michael McIntyre as well as events such as 4theRegion City Centre Conference, Gaming Conventions, Public Sector meetings and university graduation ceremonies.

Developed by the Buckingham Group on behalf of Swansea Council and run by Ambassador Theatre Group (ATG) the arena is part of Swansea's £135m Copr Bay district project that also includes a coastal park, and the new bridge over Oystermouth Road. A hotel development is also being planned, which will soon be announced.



“ Since its opening, the arena has been a game-changer, revitalising the local economy, providing numerous opportunities for growth and having a significant positive effect on businesses in the area. The arena has not only created new opportunities for businesses but also generated a vibrant and dynamic atmosphere in the city centre, further enhancing Swansea's reputation as a thriving destination.

We have received reports from several establishments that they have experienced a remarkable surge in business. In some cases, businesses have verbally reported an incredible increase of around 200% in their customer base since the arena opened its doors. It has become a major attraction, drawing a significant number of visitors to Swansea from both within the city and beyond. As a result, local businesses, such as restaurants, cafes, and bars in particular, have witnessed a tremendous increase in footfall and customer demand. The increased business activity has had a ripple effect throughout the local economy. Businesses have been able to expand their operations, invest in improvements, and hire additional staff to meet the growing demand. This has led to job creation, increased tax revenue, and a general economic boost for the city.

It has given new life to the local economy, creating a thriving and prosperous environment for businesses to flourish. As Swansea BID, we are committed to supporting and capitalising on this positive momentum, ensuring that the benefits of the arena continue to be felt throughout the BID area community.

Russell Greenslade
 Chief Executive, Swansea Business Improvement District (BID)



71/72 Kingsway is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government.

£669.8m
 Contribution to Regional GVA

1,281
 Jobs Created

50+ Opportunities and space for Graduate Start-Ups

8,700+
 Training Weeks

10,684m² Facility for Digitally Focussed Businesses

3,500
 Capacity Indoor Arena



Pembroke Dock Marine



£63.9m Total Investment
£28.0m City Deal
£18.4m Public Sector
£17.5m Private Sector

This project will establish a world class marine energy and engineering fabrication, test and deployment hub, delivering the support and infrastructure needed to grow Wales' low carbon economy further.

The project expands upon the region's established facilities and extensive skill base, ensuring maximum operational efficiency and increased innovation opportunities, which will help drive down marine energy production costs.

Focusing on the growth of decarbonised energy production, the project includes dedicated early stage and commercial scale test sites, a CATAPULT innovation centre, and industry focused port infrastructure to ensure developers improve the effectiveness, cost efficiencies and installation of their innovative technology across four headline projects:

1. Pembroke Dock Infrastructure (PDI) will reshape the physical infrastructure of Pembroke Port to ensure maximum operational efficiencies for UK industry.
2. Marine Energy Test Area (META) will create pre-consented and licensed zones within the Milford Haven Waterway for component and scaled device testing.
3. Marine Energy Engineering Centre of Excellence (MEECE) will conduct life testing of marine energy components to boost their longevity.
4. Pembrokeshire Demonstration Zone (PDZ) enable offshore renewable infrastructure to catalyse the Celtic Sea floating offshore wind and marine energy opportunities.

Key Updates:

Quarter 1

- Pembroke Port held a Business Networking Event for businesses based at the Port to network and meet the Port's Commercial Manager.
- Hangar Annex building names announced – Catalina House, Falcon House, Erebus House and Oleander House following a community competition.
- META variation to planning consent was approved.
- META project staff held a workshop with Ysgol Harri Tudor year 10 engineering students at Pembrokeshire College as part of a Renewable Energy Workshop.
- MEECE deployed the marine test buoy at the META site.
- PDZ progressed into delivery with Project Director, Technical and Survey & Consents Managers recruited.

Quarter 2

- Brochure released outlining the office and workshop space available in the Port of Pembroke in the Hangar Annexes.
- Port of Milford Haven breaks ground with BAM Nuttall on the slipway and the new workboat pontoons in Pembroke Port.
- Wales First Minister Mark Drakeford visited Marine Energy Wales to understand more about the marine renewable energy opportunities in the region.
- Grid Application for 2.5GW of offshore wind into South Pembrokeshire has been drafted for PDZ with pre-application meeting conducted.
- MEECE buoy deployment successfully recovered at the META site and preparation underway for a second deployment.
- Marine Energy Wales released a State of the Sector Report.
- PDZ technical concept report delivered, re-scoping exercise complete and land agents contracted to support route identification for cables.

Quarter 3

- Port of Milford Haven won the Port Sustainability Award 2022 at the British Port Association Conference.
- The Walters Group were announced as the contractors on the new facilities at Pembroke Port to support FLOW.
- BAM Nuttall continued work on the slipway and pontoon and R&M Williams continued work on the Hangar Annexes.

- META secured a new marine licence which meant it could now accommodate more tidal turbines and larger mooring spreads.
- MEECE buoy deployed for a second time and the META site for further testing for the next four months.
- Celtic Sea Power (CSP) in collaboration with Welsh Government, ORE Catapult and Marine Energy Wales announce the Celtic Sea Cluster Strategy.

Quarter 4

- All project partners supported the largest ever Marine Energy Wales Conference in Swansea Arena and a visit from the City Deals Economic Strategy Board.
- BAM Nuttall completed the demolition of Slipway 2, pouring of concrete slabs continued to form the new slipway at Pembroke Port. Piling installed for the workboat pontoons. Drainage works of the timber pond completed.
- CSP's 23-27 Business Plan approved by shareholders paving the way for the business to continue to support the SBCR accelerate FLOW and marine energy opportunity whilst capturing the infrastructure, supply chain and skills related benefits.
- Port of Milford Haven, along with Pembrokeshire County Council, Neath Port Talbot Council and the Associated British Ports successfully secure the Celtic Freeport in South West Wales.



£343.4m
Contribution to Regional GVA



1,881
Jobs Created



1,000mw Contribution to
Decarbonisation Targets



60,600m²
Physical Infrastructure Creation



This project is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government.

Pembroke Dock Marine: Sustainable Construction

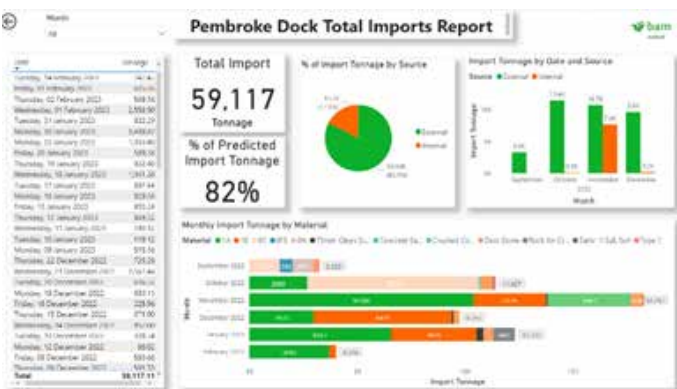
BAM Nuttall was appointed as the main contractor for the new supersize slipway, workboat pontoons and the infill of the historic pickling pond in Pembroke Port as part of the Pembroke Dock Marine project, which began construction in August 2022.

Material Tracking App

The timber pickling pond needed to be filled with both imported and site won material, with the site won material being recovered from the demolition of the old slipway and quay wall. A Material Tracking App was developed by the in-house digital construction team to track the material movements which helped with monitoring and reporting.

The app tracked:

- Haulier's waste carrier license
- Permit the material is imported under
- Material source, type and tonnage
- Date/time of material movements and vehicle registration



Sustainability Report

The civil engineering and construction industry is responsible for 39% of all global carbon emissions and around 36% of all energy use. Bam Nuttall is aware of the problem and wants to be part of the solution. The company has ambitions of becoming a net zero organisation by 2026 where a majority of its competitors are aiming for 2030.

BAM Nuttall uses an inhouse Sustainability Index for monitoring. The index looks at 14 measures of sustainability across projects to assess their performance against company targets. Project Managers can then identify areas for improvements and strive towards sustainability excellence.

The 14 measures fall within six categories which include: data presence, CO2 performance, waste performance, compliance, demonstrating success and social impact.

Since February 2023 the Sustainability Report commissioned showed that this project has consistently scored a 94% performance against the objectives, with the average for equivalent projects being between 70 and 79%.

“BAM Nuttall will continue to work with the Pembroke Dock Marine partners to identify innovative and sustainable ways of working in order to achieve our Net Zero ambitions. We hope to share best practices and work with our industry partners to reduce carbon emissions across the construction sector.”

Andrew Pointon-Bell
Project Manager, BAM Nuttall



Craig's Story

ICT Apprentice at The Port of Milford Haven

Delivery partner in Pembroke Dock Marine Project



Craig, from St Clears, joined the Port as an apprentice on a 2-year programme after studying at Pembrokeshire College. He is part of the Digital Solutions team which provides technical support on hardware and software to the staff at the port and is often the first point of contact for employees.

The opportunity to become an apprentice appealed to Craig as he wanted to develop his ICT skills, which would support him to advance his career. He was able to apply himself to on the job experiences beyond the classroom based skills opportunities.

The apprenticeship fast tracked his practical knowledge and skills, and provided a good personal challenge, which has led to notable improvements in Craig's skills and confidence.

Craig has found that there is many advantages of doing this apprenticeship. He is being paid while he is still learning, although his biggest benefit is that he is gaining experience, which is often hard to get when starting a new career as a young adult.

He is currently focusing on completing his apprenticeship continuing to improve his skills. He hopes to stay at the Port of Milford Haven once it has finished.

“Inspiring and enabling local young people to pursue a career in maritime, energy or hospitality and tourism are key social goals for us at the Port and apprenticeships is one of the ways we can do this. We are keen to increase apprenticeship opportunities in coming years.”

Vidette Swales
HR Director, Port of Milford Haven





Seb's Story

Electrical Apprentice at 71/72 Kingsway Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District

When Seb left school, he wasn't sure what he wanted to do, but after working with his dad on housing renovation projects, he found he liked working in construction.

Seb secured a place on CMBE's apprentice programme in 2022, as part of the drive to recruit local apprentices, which form part of Swansea Council's and Bouygues UK's Targeted Recruitment and Training requirements for the £34m Swansea Bay City Deal-funded, 71/72 Kingsway construction contract.

CMBE, a major, South Wales-based mechanical and electrical sub-contractor, has since enrolled Seb on the Level 2 Electrical Installation at NPTC Group at their Afan campus, resulting in him being in college one day a week and the other four days working on the new prestigious office development on the Kingsway, in the centre of Swansea.

At present he's installing the in-situ electrical conduit, which will be hidden within the concrete structure across the two basement levels and five storeys of the development.

The project is now entering the next phase the works and the internal visible containment and wiring has just commenced, Seb will now be involved in this element of works. He will be installing the cabling through the conduits he has previously installed and this will add a new dimension.

This is Seb's first real experience of a large construction site and has gained a better understanding of the complexities of the build, the health & safety required on a site, but more importantly, how crucial his role is in the look of finished building. Although his current task on site, the installation of the conduit is an onerous task, it won't be visible once the project is handed over. Seb's Electrical Installation Electrician apprenticeship will last 4 years, and after this project is complete, he will move to work on another CMBE project until he is signed off by the training provider JTL.



Amelia's Story

Graduate Project Officer at Celtic Sea Power Delivery partner in Pembroke Dock Marine Project

Amelia graduated from Swansea University with a BEng in Civil Engineering in 2020 and then spent a year working in engineering design as a Structural Engineer at a small consultancy specialized in domestic construction.

Amelia then decided to return to university and study for an MSc in Coastal Engineering in the University of Plymouth. Three months before graduating from her Masters she started her graduate job at Celtic Sea Power, where she wrote her dissertation on hybrid renewable energy supply to island communities.

The main aim of her graduate job is to build a model of all energy use in the area, and how this might change in the run up to Net Zero targets. It involves talking with industries like ports and studying their current energy use and operations. She also looks at how energy generation is likely to change and how natural resources can be maximised.

Amelia is working towards becoming a chartered engineer at Celtic Sea Power and is hoping her current role will help her do this. She would love to see technologies like wave and tidal energy become more commercial and hopes she'll be able to work on integrating them into our energy system. Her long term aim is to work on small scale renewable energy projects, powering ports or small islands!

Joining as a graduate has given Amelia the opportunity to lead on projects and she has been given great experience in a company that is actually going to make a difference in the future.

“ My advice to graduates looking for a graduate job would be to consider specialising in a subject if you plan to do a Masters - My course was in Coastal Engineering! Use LinkedIn for your job searches as a lot of companies don't have graduate schemes but will still take graduates, and if there is company that you are interested in, send them an email! Don't be afraid of applying to jobs that you don't think you're qualified for! ”



Portfolio Lessons Learnt

The Portfolio has a broad and in-depth range of interactions with many partners across the region in the private and public sectors. These interactions create many experiences and generates feedback and lessons amongst the associate partners.

A wealth of information and reflections are captured and held centrally within the Portfolio Office through a Lessons Learned Log and by sharing best practice with regional partners. In a broader context, the

SBCD also shares experiences and best practice nationally with other City and Growth Deals at every opportunity.

Having operated this approach since 2020, below are a few key lessons learned. We always seek feedback, so welcome your views of how the SBCD is performing and interacting. Email:

SBCD@cardiff.gov.uk to share your views.

Situation: Clear and defined Governance arrangements are critical to the successful delivery of the Portfolio	Recommendation: Robust governance arrangements need to be established and approved at a Portfolio level at the outset
Situation: Change of key personnel can cause a lack of continuity	Recommendation: Introduction of handovers, inductions to the SBCD to be provided to new personnel supported by formal meetings and the implementation of processes
Situation: Lack of flexibility in reviewing and adapting budgets	Recommendation: Ability to adapt project outputs to maximise benefits
Situation: Effective PoMO meetings and support recognised	Recommendation: Fully functional PoMO in place to support, guide and advise across the Portfolio on Governance, policies and procedures
Situation: Awareness and sharing of intelligence of deliverables	Recommendation: Sub-groups set up where programmes / projects come together to share best practice and lessons learned
Situation: SROs appointed with defined roles and responsibilities is critical to successfully deliver objectives	Recommendation: Continue to define roles, appoint SROs early on, provide SRO training and support, while ensuring all SROs are represented on the operational board
Situation: R&D and innovation are critical to the success of the SBCD	Recommendation: Avenues and access to Welsh Government and UK Government funding streams needs to be co-ordinated to maximise regional benefits
Situation: To be able to support delivery of some aspects of the programme existing resources were utilised, this has proven to be challenging	Recommendation: Encourage partners to appoint dedicated resources in line with internal needs, pressures and priorities
Situation: Evolving Robust Governance arrangements continue to ensure consistency of reporting, processes and procedures	Recommendation: Reporting embedded into Governance Boards to ensure visibility of Risks and Issues across the Portfolio, Benefits realised, assurance activity, procurement and change. PM Software used to ensure consistency of reporting

“

The Welsh Government is working in partnership with the Swansea Bay City Deal to deliver ambitious projects that will bring significant economic benefits to the region and to Wales. In the face of major economic uncertainty, the Welsh Government is committed to supporting a clear vision for stronger regional growth that supports better jobs in the industries of the future. We will work with partners to learn lessons and build on the progress made to secure our shared ambitions for the region.

”

Vaughan Gething

Minister for the Economy of Wales, Welsh Government



“

It's great to be see significant progress in the delivery of projects supported by the Swansea Bay City Deal. UK Government investment is paying off and we are now seeing how the Portfolio is supporting economic growth. With so many exciting projects and programmes underway across the region there are real, tangible benefits that are impacting local businesses and residents across South West Wales.

“In particular the advancement of the Swansea Bay City Deal in the Energy and Advanced Manufacturing sectors underpins the rationale of funding for the Celtic Freeport bid, covering Pembrokeshire and Neath Port Talbot. UK Government funding streams for the Growth Deals, the Shared Prosperity Funds and the Freeport are supporting jobs and prosperity for the region for generations to come.

David TC Davies

Secretary of State for Wales

”

Benefits to date

The Portfolio has seen significant progress in the benefits being delivered to date and in particular over the past 12 months, including:

£262m of total investment to date
10% of total investment target has been secured from the Private Sector
£83m+ investment in 2022-23

9,200 training weeks provided across Portfolio construction activity to date with at least **1,200** weeks delivered in 2022-23

At least **550+** Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employment opportunities

100 FTE apprenticeship opportunities created or continued as a result of construction activity

47,380m² of completed floor space across the Portfolio

200 HAPS homes delivered in 2022-23 realising £42m of investment

200+ contracts awarded to Welsh based companies

3 of 35 projects completed with a total investment of **£113m**

17 of 35 projects in delivery which will deliver **£415m** total investment once completed

15 of 35 projects approved and working through pre-commencement activity. Once complete, these projects will deliver the remaining **£711m** of SBCD forecast investment

Construction contracts in the region of **£50m** to be awarded through 2023-2024

Begin delivery of HAPS regional supply chain in FY 2023-24 to support leveraging the estimated **£383m** private sector investment

*Further jobs have been created, and will be confirmed with a 12-24 months' time lag post occupation

Contribution to Carbon Reduction

The portfolio helps to address and support carbon reduction with the long-term aim of achieving Wales's Net Carbon Zero target by 2050 and is aligned to the Welsh Government Net Zero Wales Carbon Budget 2 (2021 to 2025).

Each Lead Delivery Organisation will ensure that facilities are procured, built, and operated in compliance with the requirements set out in national and local policies and strategies.

The Portfolio places the region at the forefront of Energy and Smart Manufacturing and will contribute by:

- Successful delivery of three energy related projects: HAPS, PDM and SILCG
- Creating an estimated 80k+ m² of floorspace with a minimum of BREEAM excellence
- Creating at least 5,000 jobs across the renewables and energy sectors
- Create at least £620m GVA the renewables and energy sectors
- Attract at least £630m of total investment the renewables and energy sectors
- Provide at least 6,000 skills opportunities for the energy and renewables sectors
- Create a regional centre of excellence in the renewable energy
- Grow 2 supply chains in the installation, manufacturing, and operations of blue and green technologies through PDM And HAPS
- Enhance digital connectivity through full fibre, 5G and Internet of Things (IoT) to future proof the digital economy across the region.

An example of this practice in operation is the Bay Technology Centre, which is part of SILCG programme. Led by Neath Port Talbot Council, they set bold targets for energy performance and empowered the design team by giving the freedom to:

- Focus on building fabric – airtight, optimise orientation & massing
- Minimise material use – do more with less
- Maximise efficiencies of technologies
- Simulate occupancy and equipment usage
- Utilise thermal mass of floors to lower heating load
- Implement a robust metering strategy

The outcome was the successful delivery of the first award winning 'energy positive in operation' commercial facility in Wales. Producing more energy than it consumes.

This was achieved by collaborative use of BIM 360 modelling software, which also led to:

- Designing out waste, producing only 2.4 tonnes/100m² versus a typical UK project at 11 tonnes/100m²
- 59 tonnes of construction waste were recycled/recovered, which is exemplary
- 96% construction waste diverted from landfill
- 42.12% improvement on net water consumption by installing efficient sanitaryware
- Through end-of-life planning, 92% of the building fabric can be recycled



Skills and Talent: Pilot Project Success



Over the last 12 months the Skills & Talent programme have approved 9 pilot projects which will prepare young people for upcoming jobs across the region.

Public Sector Match Funding of £712,83

Private Sector Match Funding of £439,000

Private Apprenticeships Investment of £536,764



Net Zero Wales Skills

Sector: Energy and Smart Manufacturing, Renewable Technologies

Designed to address the green skill gaps in the private and public sector in manufacturing related industries this pilot will also build knowledge and skills and create career pathways to support Wales in meeting its net zero goals. Co-designed by academics and industry and in collaboration with the South Wales Industrial Cluster, Regional Learning and Skills Partnership this will be delivered to secondary and post 16 learners and is unique with the content tailored to real, everyday working practices.

Battery Manufacturing Skills (BMS)

Sector: Energy and Smart Manufacturing, Renewable Technologies, New Skills, Digital Technology

Aims to establish a framework of short professional development courses designed to responding to a skill gap in battery manufacturing and related industries. Delivered in collaboration with private sector organisations, this pilot will build on skill gaps in the battery manufacturing and supply chain providing training, upskilling, and reskilling to higher skilled students and the local workforce. 25 individuals will receive higher skilled training with one new framework created.



Pembrokeshire Passport to Employment

Sector: Low Carbon, Renewable Technologies

The first pilot project to be approved and in delivery, will bring together students and companies that specialise in the renewable energy sector, creating an industry led framework on Blue-Green Energy. It will prepare young talent for upcoming local job opportunities and a career in the renewable energy sector. Already gaining external recognition through an award, it is taught collaboratively between industry, schools and Pembrokeshire college.

Low Carbon New Zero Awareness Raising

Sector: Low Carbon, Construction, Renewable Technologies

Led by Cyfle, who are Building Skills specialists, this regional project aims to raise awareness of zero and low carbon technologies in the construction sector by delivering industry relevant carbon reduction training. Delivering 4 new courses it will work with apprentices and trainees creating 100 shared and 500 traditional apprentices, along with involvement from 1,000 school pupils in year 10 and 11.



Port of Milford Haven



Net Zero: How green was my valley?

Sector: Energy and Smart Manufacturing, Renewable Technologies

This pilot will build a cohort of teachers into a knowledgeable and effective workforce that uses digital skills and gaming to train pupils about climate change, the importance of net zero and the opportunities from the circular economy. Delivered in a 'train-the-trainer' style to teachers who will then deliver the information back to the classroom.

Nurturing Health and Wellbeing in a Digital World

Sector: Digital, Health and Well-being

Specifically targeting schools in the City of Swansea and led by Gowerton Comprehensive school, this will teach 3-16 year old pupils about the life science, health and sports sectors including the development of new technologies to support a healthy and well-balanced lifestyle.



5G Technologies Training

Sector: Digital

Designed to address the lack of awareness of 5G, this pilot will work with industry to ensure the region fully understand the opportunities and potential of 5G. With a range of training from introductory to advanced levels across a wide range of sectors, it will help generate innovation and drive further investment to the region.

21st Century Skills

Sector: Construction, Net Zero, Health and Wellbeing

Delivered by construction experts Bouygues UK, this pilot will develop work related experiences for 40 learners in year 6, 120 learners in years 10 and 12 and 1,000 learners in years 7, 8 and 9. There will be a particular focus on working toward net zero in construction industry and the skills needed to meet the climate emergency challenge.

Careers in the Digital Sector

Sector: Construction, Engineering, Digital Arts and Industries

With a focus on the need for enhanced digital skills in the creative industry for pre and post 16 learners, this project is delivered by Neath Port Talbot Council and will up-skill and increase learning to around 2,070 individuals as well as creating Primary School career pathways.



“The Skills and Talent Programme is creating bespoke, innovative, and exciting pilot projects offering regional solutions that address the training requirements for both the City Deal projects and industry partners. As the pilot projects move into the delivery phase it is great to see this invaluable investment help support the skills needs of today and the future generations across Wales.”

Edward Morgan
Chairman of Regional Learning
and Skills Partnership, South West Wales

The Award-Winning Portfolio

Over the last 12 months, the portfolio has gained recognition through several prestigious industry accredited awards.



Destination Renewables Pilot Project

This Skills and Talent pilot project won the national 'Offshore Wind Energy Skills Award' in the Renewables UK Offshore Wind Awards 2022 and was also a finalist in the Wales STEM Awards 2022.



Pentre Awel

Delivered by Bouygues UK, Pentre Awel has won the Bouygues UK Sustainability Award 2022 by saving over 77,600kg of Carbon Dioxide being emitted on the site over a 15-week period.



Bay Technology Centre (BTC)

Part of the SILCG programme, has picked up three high profile awards in 2022 for its environmental credentials. Commercial Property Project of the Year Award in the British Construction Industry (BCI) Awards 2022, Net Zero Award in the Constructing Excellence Wales (CEW) Awards 2022 and the Sustainability Award in the Insider Wales Property Awards 2022.



Port of Milford Haven

The Port, which is a strategic delivery partner in the Pembroke Dock Marine project has picked up the Port Sustainability Award at the British Ports Association (BPA) Conference 2022. BPA recognised the port for its sustainability credentials and commitment to environmental sustainability within the port and surrounding communities.



71/72 Kingsway

Part of the Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District project, this construction project was a finalist in the Bouygues UK Sustainability Awards 2022.

“It’s great to see so many of our projects being recognised through top industry awards. It’s a testament to the project teams and partners throughout the region and gives us confidence that we are trailblazing and making a difference to the lives of people in our region, the environment and economy. In addition to these awards, Swansea has also recently been named as one of the UK’s top four cities in the Estates Gazette 2022 awards, which further recognises the enormous regeneration and economic development happening in the heart of our region.”

Cllr Rob Stewart
Chairman of the Joint Committee

Financial Summary

The Portfolio’s overall investment position is estimated to be £1,256.41 million over the 15-year life cycle of the portfolio, as summarised below. Total Swansea Bay City Deal (SBCD) investment from all sources was £262.15m, of which £26.91m was private sector investment at the end of the financial year 2022-23.

The economic climate in which we operate continues to present Portfolio delivery challenges. Several macro-economic factors, including availability of resources and recruitment, energy prices, construction costs, inflationary pressures, and the COVID pandemic have resulted in delivery slippage and escalating cost pressures over the last three years.

Despite these challenges, all projects and programmes are progressing through delivery and all partners are all fully committed to the delivery of their SBCD initiatives.

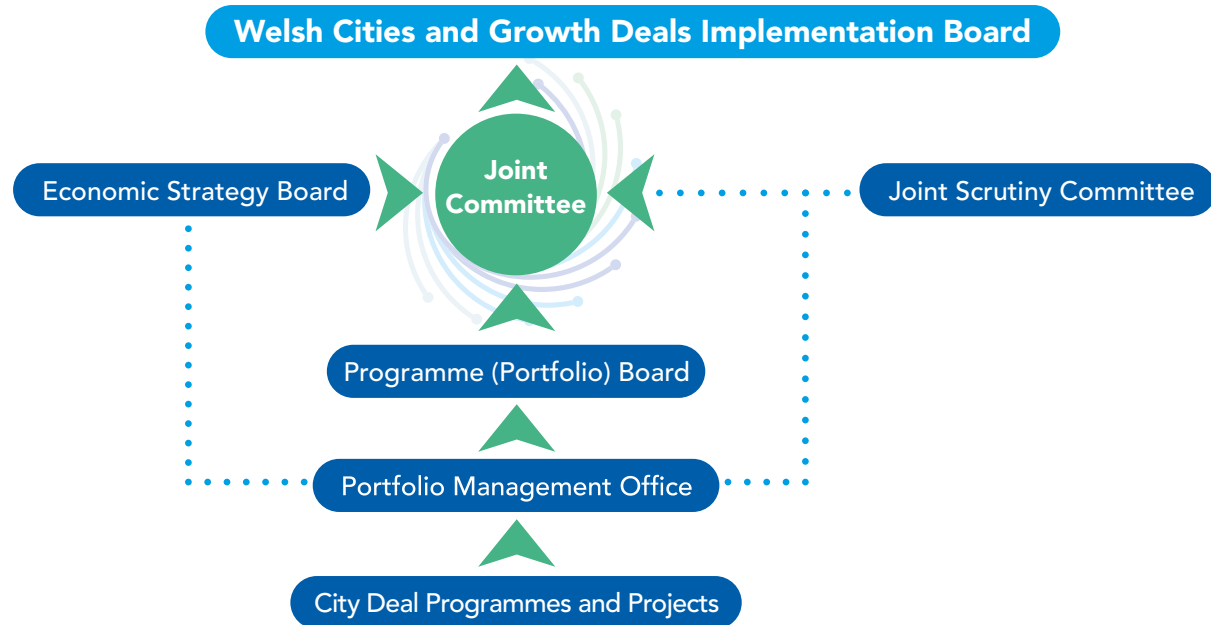
In 2022/23 financial year, the SBCD invested £83 million on the planning, procurement, build and operations across the majority of the nine of the Portfolio’s projects and programmes. Further large investments through procurement and build will take place between 2023/24 – 2028/29.

Close monitoring, mitigation and resolution of risks, issues and communicating delivery and financial profiles with all stakeholders is continually undertaken by the Portfolio Management Office. This helps to determine the impact that the macro-economic climate is having on the delivery of the Portfolio.

The SBCD received a further funding award in 2022/23 from the Welsh Government and UK Government, releasing the fifth annual draw down of City Deal funding. This has taken the total drawdown to £100m since Portfolio commencement. The latest City Deal funding draw down includes the accelerated UK Government grant which will now be awarded over a ten-year period, rather than the original fifteen-year period.

Annual Investment Forecast Profile

Investment Component	Year 0-4 2017-22	Year 5 2022-23	Year 6 2023-24	Year 7 2024-25	Year 8 2025-26	Year 9 2026-27	Year 10 2027-28	Year 11 2028-29	Year 12 2029-30	Year 13 2030-31	Year 14 2031-32	Year 15 2032-33	Total
	(£m)												
Capital / Revenue													
Capital Expenditure	154.16	79.80	183.18	131.59	184.37	189.45	135.53	129.48	0	0	0	0	1,187.55
Revenue Expenditure	25.02	3.18	14.61	13.74	9.28	0.35	0.42	0.43	0.45	0.46	0.47	0.46	68.86
Total	179.18	82.97	197.79	145.33	193.65	189.79	135.95	129.91	0.45	0.46	0.47	0.46	1,256.41
Component Expenditure													
City Deal Expenditure	32.87	23.53	80.61	75.20	18.12	5.42	0	0	0	0	0	0	235.75
Public Sector Expenditure	126.77	52.07	62.55	17.23	55.43	51.48	16.47	0	0	0	0	0	382.00
Private Sector Expenditure	19.54	7.37	54.63	52.90	120.10	132.89	119.48	129.92	0.45	0.46	0.46	0.46	638.66
Total	179.18	82.97	197.79	145.33	193.65	189.79	135.95	129.92	0.45	0.46	0.46	0.46	1,256.41



Welsh Cities and Growth Deal Implementation Board

This is a joint UK Government and Welsh Government Board with responsibility for providing assurance and advice to the Joint Chairs regarding strategic and operational issues, the release of funding to the Portfolio, the oversight and monitoring of projects, and effective governance and assurance.

Joint Committee (JC)

Chair, Cllr Rob Stewart,
Leader of Swansea Council

Comprising of the four regional Local Authority Leaders, as well as senior representatives from all eight primary partner organisations, it holds the Programme (Portfolio) Board and PoMO to account and has overall responsibility for scrutiny and approvals.

Economic Strategy Board (ESB)

Chair, Chris Foxall

This is a private sector advisory body which acts as the voice of business. The ESB provides strategic direction for the City Deal through advice to the Joint Committee on matters relating to the City Region.

Programme (Portfolio) Board

Chair, Wendy Walters, Chief Executive Officer,
Carmarthenshire County Council

Responsible for overseeing the operations of the City Deal, Programme (Portfolio) Board will review changes to business cases and developments to the portfolio as it progresses. It consists of the head or senior representative of each of the eight partner organisations.

Joint Scrutiny Committee (JSC)

Chair, Cllr Rob James, Elected Member in
Carmarthenshire County Council

Provides advice, challenge and support to the Joint Committee and made up of three elected members from each of the four local authorities.

The Portfolio Management Office (PoMO) is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Portfolio and is in regular contact with the wider City Deal teams and board members.



The SBCD is also supported by Carmarthenshire Council's Section 151 Officer and Swansea Council's Monitoring Officer as part of the statutory functions of the portfolio.

Chris Moore

Director of Corporate Services, Carmarthenshire County Council and SBCD Section 151 Officer

Chris is responsible for the administration of the JC affairs under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 and overall responsibility for the financial administration of the City Deal.

Tracey Meredith

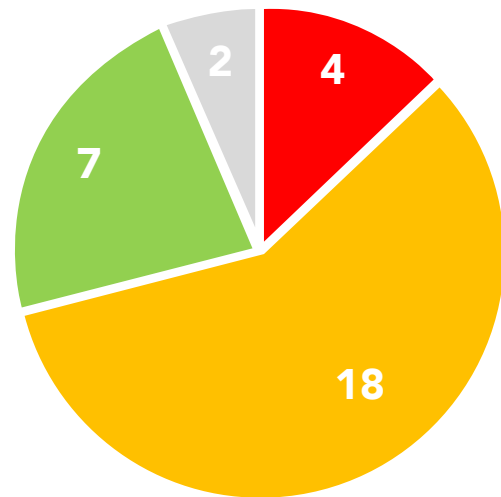
Monitoring Officer, Swansea County Council and SBCD Monitoring Officer

Tracey is responsible for ensuring good governance and maintaining the highest ethical standard, ensuring the legality of arrangements and that the JC Agreement is complied with.

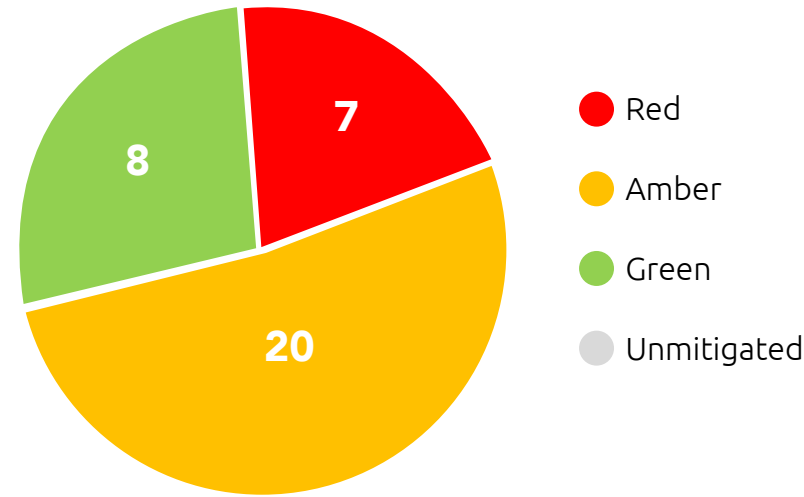


Throughout 2022-23 the Portfolio has identified 4 new Portfolio risks. This is reflective of the Portfolio being in full delivery with many mitigations being worked on to lower risk ratings.

**Mitigated Risk Ratings
March 2022**



**Mitigated Risk Rating
March 2023**



- Red
- Amber
- Green
- Unmitigated

The Portfolio red risks for 2022–23 were:

1. Private sector funding contribution/s not realised in line with business case projections.
2. Increase in construction costs.
3. Welsh Government 2021 update of TAN 15 development risk of flooding, coastal erosion and associated flood planning maps.
4. In year slippage of investment.
5. Slippage in delivery of against key milestones.
6. Projects and programmes delivering all business case outputs and outcomes.
7. Pressure on construction industry to meet demand of City Deal and other public sector procurements.

Throughout the year, the portfolio has further developed a Construction Impact Assessment, as a consequence of the growing economic pressures on construction activity and energy prices following the recovery from COVID-19 and the Ukraine war. Close monitoring has identified some significant cost increases on construction activity which have in turn required additional investment in some instances from lead delivery organisations.

Moving forward, from Quarter 1 2023-24, greater visibility of the Construction Impact Assessment reporting will take place with the aim to identify and close funding gaps across the portfolio through recorded and monitored mitigations. This should safeguard the Portfolio delivery, by identifying issues and resolutions as early as possible so that the Portfolio realises the intended benefits as planned.

Gateway Reviews

The SBCD Portfolio and projects are subject to Office of Government Commerce Gateway Reviews, facilitated by the Welsh Government Integrated Assurance Hub, to assure successful progression and overall delivery of the portfolio and associated projects and programmes.

The SBCD has undertaken a further strategic review of the Portfolio in July 2022 together with reviews on the HAPS, Swansea Waterfront and Skills and

Talent programme. A schedule of forthcoming reviews has been developed for the next 12 months, including an annual Portfolio review planned for July 2023.

The table below shows the most recent reviews undertaken across the portfolio together with their Delivery Confidence Assessment rating (DCA) and the estimated date for the next assurance review

Portfolio / Programme / Project	Stage	Latest Review Date	DCA Rating	Next Planned
Portfolio	0	July 2022		July 2023
Homes as Power Stations	PAR	Nov 2022		Oct 2023
Supporting Innovation & Low Carbon Growth	PAR	June 2020		Dec 2023
Pentre Awel	PAR	Sept 2020		Oct 2023*
Digital Infrastructure	0	Oct 2020		Oct 2023*
Pembroke Dock Marine	PAR	Feb 2020		Sept 2023
Yr Egin	5	Nov 2021		Tbc 2023
Swansea Waterfront & Digital District	PAR	Nov 2022		Sept 2023
Skills & Talent	0	Jan 2023		Tbc 2025
Campuses	PAR	Aug 2021		Jan 2024

*Estimate

Portfolio Gateway 0 Review Recommendations 2022

The 2022 Gateway assurance review for the Portfolio returned an Amber/Green rating with 4 recommendations, all of which have been completed. The recommendations related to the need to update programme and project business

cases, monitoring of costs and benefit profiles across the portfolio, access for projects to PoMO intelligence and data and the use of clear plain language in governance reports.









Marketing and Communications

Business Engagement

Significant Marketing and Communications activities have taken place over the last 12 months including:

-  **Portfolio Communications and Marketing Plan** update covering key messages, stakeholders, branding, channels and an activity plan
-  Participation in **2 audio interviews** to support the Celtic Freeport Bid and Business and Economy Roundtable
-  Updated the City Deal **website** with the latest news stories: 
-  Facebook reach of **63,641** and **1,009** Facebook followers
-  Twitter reach of **691,395** and **1,562** Twitter followers
(Reach is the number of people that saw, engaged, clicked on, re-tweeted, commented or liked the post.)
-  **Partnership working** with key communications contacts at partner organisations and at the other Welsh City and Growth Deals
-  **Key Milestone Log** to plan marketing activity
-  **Annual Review** booklet of Key Milestones across Welsh City and Growth Deals
-  Attendance at **12 events** including Introbiz, Welsh Business Show, Welsh Construction Show, 4theRegion and Marine Energy Wales Conference
-  **Production of Marketing Assets** including a brochure

Many programmes and projects are effectively securing investment and engaging with private sector partners as delivery is picking up pace. This has led to a significant draw down of private sector financial contribution including:

-  **£14.5m** Digital Infrastructure supplier investment into the region for 2021-22
-  HAPS has leveraged circa **£1.4m** investment for new build homes and retrofits working with private sector
-  **£13.9m** secured investment for Pembroke Dock Marine via Port of Milford Haven
-  **77** apprenticeships, valued at **£500k**; and **£400k** of private sector contribution for pilot projects in the Skills and Talent programme
-  Swansea Arena celebrated its first year of operation and realised a **£1m** contribution from operators ATG
-  SILCG 's Property Development Fund created **a huge amount of interest** from private sector developers and was heavily oversubscribed



The Pembroke Dock Marine contribution:

- Appointing BAM Nuttall as a main contractor for the slipway, over £3.8m spend with locally based contractors on materials, plant, labour and sub-contractors.
- Walters Group have spent a further £3.1m on the land remediation element of the contract with locally based sub-contractors.
- R&M Williams, lead contractor refurbishing the historic Hangar Annexes complex, have spent circa £1.7–£2m with local suppliers.

- The PoMO continues to engage with business representative organisations such as the Institute of Directors, and regional business groups including Swansea Bay Business Club, SA1 Business club and regional networking organisation 4theRegion. Engagement also continues with Cwmpas, to promote the third sector and social enterprise.

The PoMO has serviced 100s of enquiries from interested businesses throughout 2022- 23, which are followed-up and shared with projects and stakeholders as appropriate.

“ The Swansea Bay City Deal continues to be a focus for collaborative working that supports local business opportunities both directly and indirectly.

The series of projects linked to investment strategies can only help in the ongoing formation of public-private enterprises at the SA1 Business Club.

Lawrence Bailey on behalf of SA1 Business Club



Business Partners

SBCD continues to work in partnership with many private sector companies across a range of sector to deliver the Portfolio's objectives.





Key activity for April 2023 - March 2024

Quarter 1

Skills & Talent: Establish a youth forum to provide young people with opportunities to have a voice that informs the direction of skills developments.

Digital Infrastructure: Complete recruitment of Local Authority Digital Champions resources.

Homes as Power Stations (HAPS): Launch of the Financial Incentives Fund (FIF) to incentivise Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), Local Authorities and Private Sector developers and landlords to install technology into homes to make them cleaner, greener and more efficient.

Pentre Awel: Develop mapping processes to ensure that opportunities for working across partners boundaries are maximised. Mapping exercise to identify skills needs/providers and gaps identified.

Campuses: Investigate investment opportunities and stakeholder mapping.

Yr Egin: Work with internal creative and digital resource and external consultancy appointments to develop the information required to inform a more detailed change control notification and updated business case.

Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District:

- 71/72 Kingsway: Launch marketing campaign.
- Innovation Matrix: Contractors Kier start on site and the development of 5G bid with the Infrastructure Project.

Supporting Innovation and Low Carbon Growth (SILCG):

- South Wales Industrial Transition from Carbon Hub (SWITCH): Announce the successful

contractor to build SWITCH Harbourside facility and commence the 12-month design phase.

- Advanced Manufacturing Production Facility (AMPF): Pre-market engagement survey with local industry and stakeholders.
- Bay Technology Centre (BTC): Official opening ceremony.
- Air Quality Monitoring Project (AQMP): Ricardo continue QA/QC of the network.
- Property Development Fund (PDF): Deadline for stage 2 applications.
- Update SILCG Portfolio Business Case and Outline Business Case for enhanced AMPF project.
- Low Emission Vehicle (LEV): Setup Infrastructure working group. A multi stakeholder group to identify and address the different challenges across the business units.
- Hydrogen Stimulus Programme (HSP): Sign University of South Wales funding agreement.

Pembroke Dock Marine (PDM):

- Pembroke Dock Infrastructure (PDI): Complete the east side of slipway at Pembroke Port and switch over live operations from the west to the east. West side demolition begins.
- Marine Energy Test Area (META): Tow trials to take place within the Milford Haven Waterway for RRES Tidal Turbine.
- Marine Energy Engineering Centre of Excellence (MEECE): Completion of Monitoring & Evaluation Report for WEFO and Inaugural meeting of PCC-led Task and Finish Group for Celtic Freeport Skills & Talent proposal.
- Pembrokeshire Demonstration Zone (PDZ): Complete European Regional Development Fund activities.

Quarter 2

Skills & Talent: Further pilot projects move into delivery, including User Experience Apprenticeships upskilling of staff and delivery roll out for Sept-23.

Digital Infrastructure: Place order for full fibre infrastructure to regional public sector locations and assets.

Homes as Power Stations (HAPS): Agree allocations of the FIF and issue funding agreements.

Pentre Awel: Confirm lease agreements, complete options appraisal for outdoor activities/projects and finalise education skills and training provision with FE and HE institutions.

Campuses: Service improvements and patient impact review.

Yr Egin: Update business case and submit change control request.

Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District:

- 71/72 Kingsway: Appoint Building Management.
- Innovation Matrix: Formal commencement event. Interior design, Furniture Fixtures and Equipment and Audio Visual packages finalised. Tenant legals progressed.
- Innovation Precinct: Change Business Model and Accommodation Schedule workshops and property solution workshops commence.

SILCG:

- PDF: Assessment and award of the successful applications.
- AMPF: Pre-market engagement survey with local industry, businesses and HE/FE providers.
- HSP: Commissioning of electrolyser to produce Hydrogen.
- BTC: Ongoing activity to promote centre and secure new tenants.
- LEV: Each local authority to meet and discuss regional approach.

PDM:

- PDI: Berth and commission of new workboat pontoons and complete Hangar Annexes construction.
- META: Participation at the 10th PRIMaRE Conference, which provides a forum for exchanging the latest research and development and fostering collaborations in Marine Renewable Energy.
- MEECE: Completion of WEFO-funded operations and segue into Legacy activity. Begin delivery of South Wales cohort Fit 4 Offshore Renewables Programme.
- PDZ: Update and align PDM Business Plan with The Crown Estate Commercial leasing round and Electricity Systems Operator Holistic Network Design.





Key activity for April 2023 - March 2024

Quarter 3

Skills & Talent: Planning is underway with stakeholders to roll out a regional work experience project.

Digital Infrastructure: Undertake benefits impact assessment for 2022–23. Align programme’s rural investment to Project Gigabit and Welsh Government’s approach to driving gigabit capable broadband to very hard to reach premises in the region.

HAPS: Launch of the Supply Chain Fund (SCF) which is to support activities which will result in the successful development of a regional supply chain in the manufacture, sourcing, installation, operation, management, and maintenance of renewable technologies.

Pentre Awel: Finalise project planning and operational structure for the assisted living elements within Zone 2 and 3.

Campuses: Establish an Institute of Life Sciences Innovation Centre at Morriston Hospital.

Yr Egin: SBCD approval process for the updated business case and change control notification.

Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District:

- 71/72 Kingsway: Begin External PR.
- Innovation Matrix: Café operator Meet the Buyer Event. Outcome of 5G bid with Digital Infrastructure Project will be known.
- Innovation Precinct: Change Control progresses into City Deal approval process.

SILCG:

- AMPF: Submission and approval of Outline Business Case incorporating Net Zero Skills centre of excellence. Contract to be advertised for 2 stage design and build process.
- HSP: Look into replacement of fleet vehicles with hydrogen powered equivalents.

PDM:

- PDI: BAM Nuttall to complete supersize slipway, workboats, and handover to the Port of Milford Haven (MHPA).
- META: Participation in International WaTERS 10th Anniversary Workshop which drives collaboration and knowledge transfer between test centres and global regions.
- MEECE: Begin delivery of North Wales cohort Fit4OR Programme.

Quarter 4

Skills & Talent: Barometer Review with a focus on educational capacity.

Digital Infrastructure: Launch Digital Innovation Network and 5G, IoT opportunities.

HAPS: Event for stakeholders to share lessons learned following the commission of Cardiff University’s Welsh School of Architecture to carry out the technical monitoring of homes that have adopted the ‘HAPS approach’.

Pentre Awel: Zone 1 building structural frame and floors completed and operational structure ahead of building completion in October 2024.

Campuses: Submit planning application to unlock the wider Morriston Hospital site.

Yr Egin: Design and procurement of approved solution for Egin phase 2.

Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District:

- 71/72 Kingsway: Practical completion of the building and begin Fit-Out.
- Innovation Matrix: Innovation Matrix: Final fit-out works commence and tenant legals conclude.
- Innovation Precinct: Formal design stage commences.

SILCG:

- AQMP: Analysis of year 2 data gathering exercise.
- SWITCH: Finish the design phase and prepare for the build phase.
- AMPF: Evaluate tender submissions and announce successful contractor.

PDM:

- PDI: Complete Land Remediation works package and handover of new laydown areas from the Walters Group to MHPA.
- META: Participation in the MEW Conference, the largest event dedicated to marine renewable energy in the UK.
- MEECE: Begin Delivery of 1st Wales Launch Academy programme.



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