

Welcome to our newsletter which brings you the latest news from Ambition North Wales and the North Wales Growth Deal. If you would like further information about our work, please contact us on info@ambitionnorth.wales.

TOURISM TALENT NETWORK PROJECT GETS THE GO AHEAD

A new transformational project, which aims to ensure the tourism and hospitality sector in our region has the skills it needs for the future, has been given the green light to proceed.

The Tourism Talent Network project, led by Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, can now access £4.43m in funding through our North Wales Growth Deal following approval of its full business case. The project which has the hub at Grŵp Llandrillo Menai's Rhos-on-Sea Campus is supported by partner 'spoke' businesses - The National Trust, Portmeirion, Snowdonia Hospitality and Leisure Limited and Zip World.



TIDAL ENERGY SECTOR TAKES ANOTHER STEP FORWARD

The Cydnerth project, which is part of the Menter Môn Morlais tidal energy scheme off the coast of Anglesey, recently progressed to its next stage.

The £9m Growth Deal outlay, which is part of a wider investment, would fund an increased capacity grid connection linked to Morlais, enabling it to move towards its potential generating capacity of 240MW. In addition to generating low-carbon energy, the proposed expansion aims to create new jobs and supply chain opportunities.

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CEB+ PROJECT PROGRESS

An investment of £2.96m for equipment and laboratory space at the Centre for Environmental Biotechnology Plus (CEB+) has been approved by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board

The project, which is led by Bangor University, will enable the centre to research unique enzymes as a low-carbon alternative to creating products and processes that normally tend to use industrial chemicals harmful to the environment.

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COMBATTING DIGITAL DEFICIT IN NORTH WALES

RURAL DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

Our work to connect rural North Wales to superfast broadband, continues to support individuals and business across the region. The Rural Digital Connectivity project is offering further free drop-in sessions for helpful advice on how to get the best out of your internet. Find an event near you:

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ADVANCING WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY

A project, focused on promoting the adoption of 'advanced wireless' technologies across all sectors in the region has taken a significant step forward, having had its outline business case approved by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board.

The proposed £19m grant scheme would help private businesses and public sector organisations upgrade their systems to advanced wireless solutions, for example the use of 5G to support productivity and innovation.

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FIBRE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FUND

As part of our efforts to support improvements in digital connectivity, we are highlighting the benefits of a UK government-funded programme - <u>Openreach's Fibre Community</u> Partnership.

Residents and business in eligible properties can apply for a voucher worth up to £4,500, which must be pledged towards the cost of building the network. They must also commit to to upgrading to a faster internet connection. Homes and businesses within 21 communities are currently being targeted, as follows:

Conwy:

 Cerrigydrudion, Dolgarrog, Dolwen, Llanfairfechan, Llanfairtalhaiarn a Tynygroes

Denbighshire:

 Bodfari, Clawdd Newydd, Glyndwr a Llandyrnog

Flintshire:

Caerwys

Gwynedd:

 Beddgelert, Fairbourne, Llanbedr, Llandderfel, Llanwnda a Llithfaen.

Wrexham:

Glyn Ceiriog

Ynys Môn:

• Bodorgan, Llangoed a Pentraeth

For more information on the Fibre Community Partnership Fund, please contact:

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EMPOWERING FUTURE GENERATIONS

PROCUREMENT PLACES DAN ON ROAD TO SUCCESS

We recently bid farewell to Daniel Powell, a Business and Management student at Bangor University, who joined us on a placement for a year.

Dan mainly worked on procurement and social value - creating, checking and reviewing documents such as contracts and invitations to tender for Ambition North Wales' projects. He was also provided with formal training. As he returns to university and into his final year of study, Dan tells us about his experience:

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WORK EXPERIENCE FOR SAMUEL

We were delighted to welcome, Samuel Valentine, a year-12 pupil at Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen, who joined us on work experience recently. Passionate about concept art and animations, he was involved with designing social media posts and contributing ideas and feedback to the development of the new Skills Portal. Read more about Samuel's experience:

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NEW SKILLS PORTAL NEAR DELIVERY

The Regional Skills Partnership (RSP) will launch a new Portal in early 2025. The easy-to-use website will feature career vacancies and apprenticeships, as well as support and training opportunities for

individuals, businesses and employers in North Wales.

As part of the market research for the Portal, the RSP held workshops with young people to discuss their experiences on different career pathways, transferrable skills and challenges related to making career decisions.

Keep your eyes peeled for more information on the launch soon.



DID YOU KNOW?

We work closely with the Welsh Government and all the local authorities in North Wales to develop coordinated and localised plans that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, aiming to reach net zero by 2050.

For the past year, we've been working with Arup and the Carbon Trust to develop these plans to ensure they reflect each local authority area and are consistently working to benefit the entire region.

Our next steps will involve providing relevant support for delivering these plans, attracting inward investment and ensuring we meet our net zero targets.

OUR FIRST CONSTRUCTION PROJECT COMES TO LIFE

The building of the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre (EEOC), led by Wrexham University, continues to progress at pace and is expected to open for the next academic year. The pioneering build will deliver a specialist centre for research, business collaboration and skills development in optics, photonics and composites as lightweight alternatives for manufacturing.

The result will be to offer regional manufacturing businesses support in reducing the environmental impact of their products and processes. It will also integrate hydrogen as a substitute fuel source contributing to sustainable practices in industry.







