



**Uchelgais Gogledd Cymru**  
**Ambition North Wales**

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# **North Wales Growth Deal Quarterly Performance Report**

## **2024-25 Quarter 1 (April - June 2024)**

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# 01 PORTFOLIO DIRECTOR SUMMARY

The focus over the last quarter has been on developing a strong pipeline of business cases ahead of approval by the Economic Ambition Board. These include the Centre for Environmental Biotechnology, LPWAN, Cydnerth, Tourism Talent Network, Deeside Anaerobic Digestion Plant, Advanced Wireless and Parc Bryn Cegin.

This quarter we saw the Economic Ambition Board approving the Full Business Case for the Former North Wales Hospital. This is a significant milestone for the Growth Deal, which will see the site developed including the restoration of the Grade 2\* listed building, development of new homes and green spaces, a skills and training facility as well as over 1,000m<sup>2</sup> of commercial space. The Section 106 agreement will be presented to the Denbighshire County Council planning committee in July, and the discussions on the funding agreement are progressing with Jones Bros.

We have seen great progress with some of our projects over the quarter. The construction of the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre is progressing well. With the procurement for the optic refurbishment, equipment and hydrogen element launched. Bangor University launched 4 tenders for the Digital Signal Processing Centre. Grŵp Llandrillo Menai launched a call for its final spoke for the Tourism Talent Network project.

Work is now underway on the Shared Prosperity funded workstreams:

- Annog Cyf have been appointed to deliver a programme to support communities to improve their broadband through an engagement campaign promoting various streams of funding and information; and directly help communities experiencing the poorest broadband.
- BIC Innovation is delivering a project providing advice and guidance to small businesses on how they can adopt the latest digital communications technologies.
- The Smart Local Energy Bid Writing support package launched. A tender is live on Sell2Wales to identify a list of suppliers, and applications are open for SMEs, social enterprises and community organisations to procure a bid writing consultant.

In partnership with the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) we launched phase 2 of the Emissions and Biodiversity project with the aim of streamlining the approach in line with local authority business case processes; and training over 75 project managers and decision-makers across Wales how to use the approach.

Miller Associates have presented the draft 'Strengthening Local and Regional Food Systems in North Wales' research report. The research was commissioned by Ambition North Wales, and has been a whole systems approach looking at economic, health, poverty and environmental considerations. The report will be finalised and shared regionally during the next quarter.

Looking forward to next quarter it promises to be a busy quarter with a number of projects targeting business case approval by the Economic Ambition Board.



**Alwen Williams**

**Portfolio Director  
Ambition North Wales**

# 02 PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE

Theme	RAG Status	Commentary
Portfolio Business Case	Green	The Portfolio Business Case 2023 update was approved by the Board in October and has been submitted to Welsh Government and UK Government as part of the annual award of funding process.
Delivery Pipeline	Yellow	The delivery pipeline has been reviewed and updated as part of the 2023 Portfolio Business Case. Projects will now report against this revised timetable
Governance	Green	The Portfolio, Programme and Project Management Framework is now well established with the Portfolio Board and five Programme Boards operating effectively. A Conflicts of Interest procedure is in place across all Boards.
Assurance	Green	The fourth annual Growth Deal assurance review (Programme Assurance Review) was completed in October 2023 with the report delivering an 'Amber-Red' confidence rating for the portfolio. A follow up Assurance of Action Plan (AAP) review took place in December 2023, with the report delivering an Amber Green confidence rating. The next review will take place during October 2024. The PMO have commissioned an independent review of Governance and Assurance, due to be completed by mid July.
Resource and Capacity	Green	The Growth Deal Programme Manager is due to leave her role at the end of August, recruitment for the post has started with interviews scheduled during the first week of July. Following approval by the Economic Ambition Board in March, fixed term contracts (not including staff funded by LEAP or SPF) have been extended to March 2026, reducing the risk of staff leaving in the short term.
Finance	Yellow	A total of £4.49m Growth Deal funding has been spent to date. This included £2.15m on the Digital Signal Processing Centre, £0.75m on the Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre and £1.22m to fund the revenue expenditure.
Investment	Red	Securing the public and private sector investment required to deliver the Growth Deal remains a significant risk across the portfolio. The Economic Ambition Board approved the Investment Strategy during their meeting in March 2024.
Risk	Red	Overall risk profile remains consistent with Quarter 4. The risk around capacity has reduced due to recent recruitment to the PMO and a new risk has been added to the register to cover the proposed transfer of the team and the Growth Deal to the Corporate Joint Committee. A number of high residual risks remain which are being managed by the PMO including affordability, consenting, delay and investment..
Benefits Monitoring & Evaluation	Green	Trainings have been held with Ambition North Wales and Project Sponsors in how to use the Benefits Reporting platform developed over the past year. Projects have all uploaded their indicators, and will start populating the platform over the coming weeks enabling the project, programme and portfolio teams to track progress towards spending objectives and benefits.
Emissions and Biodiversity	Green	Phase 2 of the Emissions and Biodiversity Project has been launched in partnership with the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) with the aims of (1) streamlining the approach in line with local authority business case processes and (2) training over 75 project managers and decision-makers across Wales how to use the approach.
Communication and Engagement	Green	Press releases on 'Accelerated 4G and broadband services for North Wales' and around the Regional Skills Partnership conference were issues this quarter. Promotion of the SPF funded activities as well as the Growth Deal Programme Manager position promotion have been shared on social media. Our engagement and reach continued to grow on social media, with over 6,000 website users.

# 03 DIGITAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

## Programme Aim

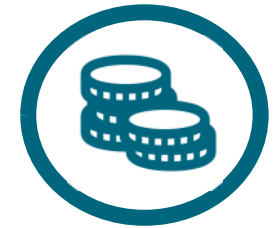
Deliver the step change in digital connectivity needed to ensure North Wales is able to satisfy user demand, maintain pace with the rest of the UK, unlock the potential of priority sectors and sites and underpin a flourishing innovation ecosystem.



**Job Creation Target**  
**380**



**GVA investment target**  
**£158m**



**Total Investment**  
**£41.7m**

RAG Status	Programme Manager Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the Outline Business Case for the Connected Key Sites and Corridors '4G+' project was approved by the Economic Ambition Board in March work has started on developing the Full Business Case, including preparations for market engagement.</li> <li>• The Connected Campuses 'Advanced Wireless' Outline Business Case completed its Gateway 2 Review in May with an overall Amber rating. Work is now underway to address recommendations prior to submission to the Economic Ambition Board.</li> <li>• Delivery of regionally led projects to support SMEs investigate new technologies and local communities improve broadband connectivity is now underway, funded through the Shared Prosperity Fund.</li> </ul>



**Cllr. Mark Pritchard**  
Lead Member



**David Fitzsimon**  
Senior Responsible  
Owner



**Stuart Whitfield**  
Programme  
Manager



Delivering to Plan with only minor issues to address (no action required)



Delivery behind schedule and /moderate issues to address (management action in place)



Delivery significantly behind schedule and/or significant issues to address (urgent action required)

# 03 DIGITAL PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Project (Project Sponsor)	Project Stage	Key Milestones (this quarter)	Key Milestones (next quarter)	RAG Status	RAG Rationale
<b>Digital Signal Processing Centre</b> Bangor University	Project Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 3 (final) Business Justification Case drafted for project internal Senior Responsible Owner review.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submission of final business justification case for the third tranche of funding to purchase equipment.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portfolio Management Office review of first draft Business justification case has been undertaken. Further work is underway by Bangor University to finalise.</li> </ul>
<b>Connecting the Last Few %</b> Ambition North Wales	Developing the Full Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project development paused until outcome of UK Government (BDUK) Project Gigabit cross regional procurement (expected July 2024);</li> <li>Annog Cyf. appointed to undertake Shared Prosperity Fund rural connectivity support project. Community engagement campaign has started.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial outcome of UK Government's procurement for Project Gigabit is expected by next quarter, when the options for regional investment will be reviewed.</li> <li>Shared Prosperity Fund workstreams support for communities to continue</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UK Government investment in broadband in the region due to commence following current procurement for its 'cross regional' framework. Outcome of this will define premises for Growth Deal intervention;</li> <li>Work to promote local upgrades commenced in April, funded by Shared Prosperity Funding, led by Ambition North Wales and delivered by Annog Cyf.</li> </ul>
<b>Connected Key Sites and Corridors</b> Ambition North Wales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4G+</li> <li>Full Fibre (FF)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing the Full Business Case (4G+)</li> <li>Developing the Outline Business Case (FF)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work to prepare market engagement for the 4G+ project started.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fibre project development to pause until outcome of UK Government (BDUK) Project Gigabit cross regional procurement (expected July 2024)</li> <li>4G+ market engagement</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project is now proceeding to market engagement and procurement;</li> <li>Fibre project will recommence following outcome of UK Government's cross regional procurement for gigabit broadband..</li> </ul>
<b>Connected Campuses</b> Ambition North Wales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Wireless (AW)</li> <li>LPWAN</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing the Outline Business Case (AW)</li> <li>Developing the Business Justification Case (LPWAN)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shared Prosperity Funded project to deliver connectivity assessments for SMEs across the region to support the objectives of the Advanced Wireless project started</li> <li>Gateway 2 Review of Advanced Wireless project completed.</li> <li>Amendments to LPWAN Business Justification Case drafted for final review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LPWAN Business Justification Case board approval by the Economic Ambition Board</li> <li>Completion of actions following Advanced Wireless Gateway 2 Review</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gateway 2 Review for Advanced Wireless completed with clear recommendations to be addressed prior to board consideration.</li> <li>LPWAN Business Justification Case updated in preparation of Portfolio Board and Economic Ambition Board review.</li> </ul>

# 04 LOW CARBON ENERGY PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

## Programme Aim

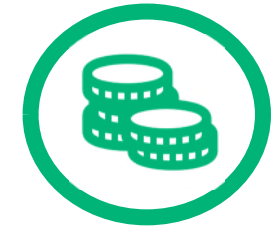
To unlock the economic benefits of transformational low carbon energy projects and position North Wales as a leading UK location for low carbon energy generation, innovation and supply chain investment.



**Job Creation Target**  
**980**



**GVA investment target**  
**£530m**



**Total Investment**  
**£668.5m**

RAG Status	Programme Manager Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Egni</b> - RIBA Stage 3 progressing well and ready for sign-off.</li> <li>• <b>Deeside Anaerobic Digestion Plant</b> - Positive progress made to overcome key funding agreement issues before the Full Business Case is submitted for consideration by the Economic Ambition Board.</li> <li>• <b>NEW-H2</b> - next phase of onboarding session this quarter to progress business case development.</li> <li>• <b>Holyhead Hydrogen Hub</b> - the project is looking to strengthen the offtake position for Hydrogen before proceeding to the next stages.</li> <li>• <b>Cydnherth</b> - Outline Business Case has been finalised and will be presented to the Economic Ambition Board for consideration in July.</li> <li>• <b>Smart Local Energy</b> - The Fund Advisor tender documents have been finalised. Timetable for launching the tender and reviewing submissions to avoid summer break periods is being planned.</li> </ul>



**Cllr Llinos Medi**  
Lead Member



**Dylan Williams**  
Senior Responsible  
Owner



**Elgan Roberts**  
Programme  
Manager



Delivering to Plan with only minor issues to address (no action required)



Delivery behind schedule and /or moderate issues to address (management action in place)



Delivery significantly behind schedule and/or significant issues to address (urgent action required)

# 04 LOW CARBON ENERGY PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Project (Project Sponsor)	Project Stage	Key Milestones (this quarter)	Key Milestones (next quarter)	RAG Status	RAG Rationale
<b>Cydnherth (Morlais)</b> Menter Môn	Developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreed heads of terms for Growth Deal loan with Menter Môn Morlais Limited (MMML).</li> <li>Security position for loan agreed in principal with WEFO.</li> <li>Draft heads of terms between Menter Môn Morlais Limited and Welsh Government for WG funding have been agreed.</li> <li>Outline Business Case finalised.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise Welsh Government funding arrangements,</li> <li>Hold discussions with WEFO to negotiate any potential clauses within current WEFO funding agreement to facilitate Ambition North Wales loan agreement with Menter Môn Morlais Limited..</li> <li>Commence procurement (if Outline Business Case is approved).</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline Business Case finalised and being considered for approval.</li> </ul>
<b>NEW-H2</b> Ambition North Wales	Developing the Strategic Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Held the first onboarding sessions with the new project sponsor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver next stage of onboarding sessions.</li> <li>Finalise Memorandum of Understanding with project sponsor.</li> <li>Firm up business case development timetable.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight delay with the process to appoint the sponsor, but overall timescales not impacted with sponsor going through onboarding process.</li> </ul>
<b>Egni</b> Bangor University	Developing the Full Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued with work on RIBA Stage 3 development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sign off procurement plan.</li> <li>Sign-off of RIBA stage 3 and commence the 2-stage procurement for a main contractor.</li> <li>Continue developing the Full Business Case.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project broadly on track. Slight slippage to the RIBA Stage development timetable that could be clawed back for Full Business Case</li> </ul>
<b>Smart Local Energy</b> Ambition North Wales	Developing the Full Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalised the tender documents.</li> <li>Launched SPF funded bid-writing support package.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-launch the Fund Advisor tender.</li> <li>To continue to evolve the required subsidy control approach.</li> <li>Finalise investment strategy and draft Full Business Case.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Fund Advisor procurement will shortly be released on Sell2Wales. Uncertainty will remain until that process is concluded.</li> </ul>



# 04 LOW CARBON ENERGY PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Project (Project Sponsor)	Project Stage	Key Milestones (this quarter)	Key Milestones (next quarter)	RAG Status	RAG Rationale
<b>Trawsfynydd</b> Cwmni Eginio	Developing the Strategic Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting decisions from Great British Nuclear (GBN) and UK Government on technology selection and site selection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No significant actions planned until decisions are made by Great British Nuclear (GBN) and UK Government on technology selection and site selection.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RAG status red as the decisions required by Great British Nuclear and UK Government on technology selection and site selection are a number of months away which increases the uncertainty on programme delivery timescales.</li> </ul>
<b>Deeside Anaerobic Digestion Plant</b> The Circular Economy Developments	Developing the Full Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agree way forward on the majority of funding agreement requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agree way forward on subsidy control related clauses.</li> <li>Finalise subsidy control assessment.</li> <li>Action outstanding Outline Business Case recommendations and present Full Business Case for approval.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding agreement to be finalised and subsidy control assessments to be completed before Full Business Case can be presented for approval. RAG status reflects the delays experienced since the Outline Business Case was approved.</li> </ul>
<b>Holyhead Hydrogen Hub</b> Menter Môn	Developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Met with DESNZ and Welsh Government regularly to discuss subsidy control requirements to better align approach.</li> <li>Explored potential opportunities with Welsh Government to secure offtake agreements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further the discussions with Welsh Government and DESNZ to explore opportunities to secure offtake agreements from the public sector.</li> <li>Undertake subsidy assessment with latest project financial forecasts.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RAG status is now red as achieving 50% offtake relies on public sector commitment which remains uncertain.</li> </ul>

# 05 LAND AND PROPERTY PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

### Programme Aim

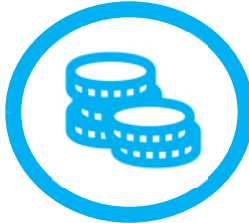
To address the shortage of suitable land and properties for business growth and to bring forward sites for housing development. To deliver improvements that stimulate investment in sites and premises in the Port of Holyhead and the wider region. Enables other programmes by ensuring the right land and property infrastructure is available.



**Job Creation Target**  
**2280**



**GVA investment target**  
**£129bn**



**Total Investment**  
**£355.4m**

RAG Status	Programme Manager Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Warren Hall, Broughton</b> - Welsh Government consultants are progressing with their review of the projects site's ability to meet the Hawarden airfield safety case.</li> <li>• <b>Western Gateway, Wrexham</b> -Transport for Wales have completed a Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG) O assessment as a revised case for change. The Council are now commissioning a WelTAG lite review to meet the highway investment tests.</li> <li>• <b>Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh</b> - The Full Business Case was approved in May2024 by the Economic Ambition Board. The S106 agreement is proposed to be considered by Denbighshire County Council planning committee in July. Discussions on the funding agreement with Jones Bros are progressing. The Levelling Up Fund Round 3 Memorandum of Understanding has been completed by the Council and returned to UK Government.</li> <li>• <b>Holyhead Gateway</b> - Holyhead Port expansion project outline business case has been substantially completed. Stena Line Ports Limited have requested additional time to complete their related commercial discussions.</li> <li>• <b>Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor</b> - Layout drawings, floor plans and elevations and detailed costings have been provided by consultant SP Projects in June and have been agreed by all parties. The draft Outline Business Case is substantially completed. Regular project team meetings are progressing.</li> <li>• <b>Kinmel Studios</b> - Stage 50 Ltd were placed into administration in early April by their main secured funder.. Discussions planned between Conwy Council Borough Council, Ambition North Wales and key individuals involved in the original proposal scheduled for July to consider if a revised proposal can be brought forward.</li> <li>• <b>Wrexham Gateway</b> - Following the UK Government confirming the relocation of 300 plus Civil Service posts from London/Home Counties to Wrexham, Wrexham Council Borough Council completed the Strategic Outline Case which was endorsed by the Land and Property Programme Board in June.. The Council are now to develop the Outline Business Case and planning application. .</li> </ul>

# 05 LAND AND PROPERTY PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Project (Project Sponsor)	Project Stage	Key Milestones (this quarter)	Key Milestones (next quarter)	RAG Status	RAG Rationale
<b>Western Gateway, Wrexham</b> Wrexham County Borough Council	Developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wrexham County Borough Council are to procure a consultant to provide a WelTAG Lite assessment for traffic flows in 2024.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commencement of a WelTAG Lite assessment for revised traffic flows and numbers for the project.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project risk rating revised to amber following the Minister for North Wales and Transport indicating Welsh Government could review the Road Review recommendations for future Highway Capital Projects.</li> </ul>
<b>Warren Hall, Broughton</b> Welsh Government / Ambition North Wales	Developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welsh Governments consultants are progressing with their compliance tests for the airfield safety case on the project site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welsh Government consultant's report on the sites ability to meet the airfield safety case.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project risk rating remains at amber as revising the airfield safety case is still to be fully assessed and agreed by Airbus UK.</li> </ul>
<b>Former North Wales Hospital, Denbighshire</b> Jones Bros (Ruthin) Limited / Denbighshire County Council	The Full Business Case is approved, and the Project is moving towards implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Business Case was approved by the Economic Ambition Board in May 2024.</li> <li>Levelling Up funding Round 3 memorandum of understanding completed by the Council and returned to UK Government .</li> <li>Project sponsor to submit documents to Planning Authority on S106 agreement, planning condition compliance and Habitat licences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Subsidy Support referral to the Competition and Markets Authority to be registered on the Authority website.</li> <li>Complete the funding agreement with Jones Bros.</li> <li>S106 approved by the Council.</li> <li>Jones Bros commence Phase 1 works .</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green risk rating retained for the project as Full Business Case has now been approved and work on funding agreement and subsidy control is progressing well.</li> </ul>
<b>Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor</b> Welsh Government / Ambition North Wales	Developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SP Projects completed drawing pack, units floor sizes and detailed costings and these have been agreed..</li> <li>Outline Business Case and ancillary documents substantially completed..</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gateway 2 review to be undertaken in September.</li> <li>Complete the Outline Business Case and commence approvals process.</li> <li>Pre application planning discussions to commence.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green risk rating retained for the project as project is on track to present Outline Business Case to the Economic Ambition Board in the autumn.</li> </ul>
<b>Holyhead Gateway</b> Stena Line Ports Limited	Developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stena have asked to pause the project development pending the outcome of their commercial negotiations with the offshore energy sector.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreement of terms between Stena and commercial end users.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk rating retained at amber as negotiations with end user of new port areas is still ongoing.</li> </ul>

# 05 LAND AND PROPERTY PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Project (Project Sponsor)	Project Stage	Key Milestones (this quarter)	Key Milestones (next quarter)	RAG Status	RAG Rationale
<b>Kinmel Studios</b>	The Project is under review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stage Fifty Ltd were placed into administration in early April and are likely to be wound up following the payment of creditors from the company's assets.</li> <li>Discussions with the former Managing Director to see if there is a new funder for the project are ongoing.</li> </ul>	Revised proposals to be tabled for consideration for the project by the end of August 2024.		Risk rating as red following Stage Fifty being placed into administration.
<b>Wrexham Gateway</b> Wrexham County Borough Council	Developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Outline Case endorsed by the Land and Property Programme Board in June.</li> </ul>	Development of the Outline Business Case and Planning Application by the Council is to commence.		Risk rating as green given project progressing to next stage.



Cllr Jason McLellan  
Lead Member



Andrew Farrow  
Senior Responsible  
Owner



David Mathews  
Programme  
Manager



Delivering to Plan with only minor issues to address  
(no action required)



Delivery behind schedule and /moderate issues to address  
(management action in place)



Delivery significantly behind schedule and/or significant issues  
to address (urgent action required)

# 06 AGRI-FOOD AND TOURISM PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

## Programme Aim

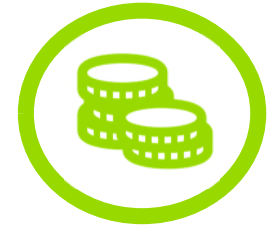
The Agri-food and Tourism Programme will optimise employment and training opportunities in North Wales by providing support facilities to ensure that the region has the skills needed to excel and become world leading. The Programme will also ensure prosperity through sustainably maximising our environment and landscape.



**Job Creation Target**  
**380**



**GVA investment target**  
**£281m**



**Total Investment**  
**£41.3m**

RAG Status	Programme Manager Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Responsible Adventure project have continued developing their Outline Business Case through site visits with stakeholders and preparing their pre-planning applications .</li> <li>The Tourism Talent Network team and the Portfolio Management Office worked together to finalise procurement and their Full Business Case alongside management of a rebranding exercise, a student engagement project funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund and selection of the final project spoke.</li> <li>The Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub are considering options having received feedback on their updated environmental surveys from Natural Resources Wales.</li> <li>The Task and Finish group established to explore the agriculture/horticulture gap in the Growth Deal has received a draft research report and are working with the programme board and wider stakeholders to finalise the report before it is shared regionally.</li> </ul>



**Cllr Charlie McCoubrey**  
Lead Member



**Sioned Williams**  
Senior Responsible  
Owner



**Robyn Lovelock**  
Programme Manager



Delivering to Plan with only minor issues to address (no action required)



Delivery behind schedule and /moderate issues to address (management action in place)



Delivery significantly behind schedule and/or significant issues to address (urgent action required)

# 06 AGRI-FOOD AND TOURISM PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Project (Project Sponsor)	Project Stage	Key Milestones (this quarter)	Key Milestones (next quarter)	RAG Status	RAG Rationale
<b>Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub</b> Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	Developing the Full Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change of Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) from Martin Jardine as interim SRO to Gwenllian Roberts</li> <li>Remaining environmental surveys have been completed and shared with Natural Resources Wales.</li> <li>Updated project plans have been developed and shared with Cyngor Gwynedd.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider feedback from Cyngor Gwynedd and Natural Resources Wales.</li> <li>Determine whether to prepare full planning application.</li> <li>Further develop the Full Business Case.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rating remains red due to project delays and issues raised within the planning applications..</li> </ul>
<b>Tourism Talent Network</b> Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	Developing the Full Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change of Senior Responsible Owner from Lawrence Wood to Gwenllian Roberts</li> <li>Portfolio Management Office support with procurement preparations with Spoke partners.</li> <li>Process and documentation for Final Spoke selection drafted and shared with Portfolio Management Office.</li> <li>Ongoing work on emissions and biodiversity assessments, funding agreement and operational planning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise the Full Business Case and submit to the Portfolio Management Office for approval</li> <li>Progress project rebrand,.</li> <li>Continue final Spoke selection process</li> <li>Branding activities progressed</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Business Case being prepared for approval in September 2024</li> </ul>
<b>Responsible Adventure</b> Zip World	Developing the Outline Business Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Outline Case endorsed by the Programme Board.</li> <li>Stakeholders engaged through two Better Business Case workshops separately considering the visitor attractions and transport aspects of the project.</li> <li>Development of the Outline Business Case.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage stakeholders through further Better Business Case workshops.</li> <li>Prepare Outline Business Case for Gateway Review and approval process.</li> <li>Submit relevant pre-planning applications.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline Business Case being prepared for Economic Ambition Board approval in November 2024.</li> </ul>

# 07 INNOVATION IN HIGH VALUE MANUFACTURING PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

## Programme Aim

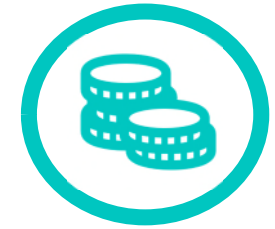
To consolidate North Wales position as a powerful and innovative high value manufacturing cluster, building on existing specialisms and leading expertise to create a higher value, more diverse economic base that supports the transition to a low carbon economy.



**Job Creation Target**  
**180**



**GVA investment target**  
**£114m**



**Total Investment**  
**£39.5m**

RAG Status	Programme Manager Commentary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre is progressing well. Further procurement for the project (Optic refurbishment, project equipment, hydrogen element) has been launched.</li> <li>Bangor University have been finalising their Business Justification Case and managing associated procurements ahead of consideration by the Economic Ambition Board in July 2024.</li> </ul>



**Cllr Dyfrig Siencyn**  
Lead Member



**Tony Ward**  
Senior Responsible  
Owner



**Robyn Lovelock**  
Programme  
Manager



Delivering to Plan with only minor issues to address (no action required)



Delivery behind schedule and /moderate issues to address (management action in place)



Delivery significantly behind schedule and/or significant issues to address (urgent action required)

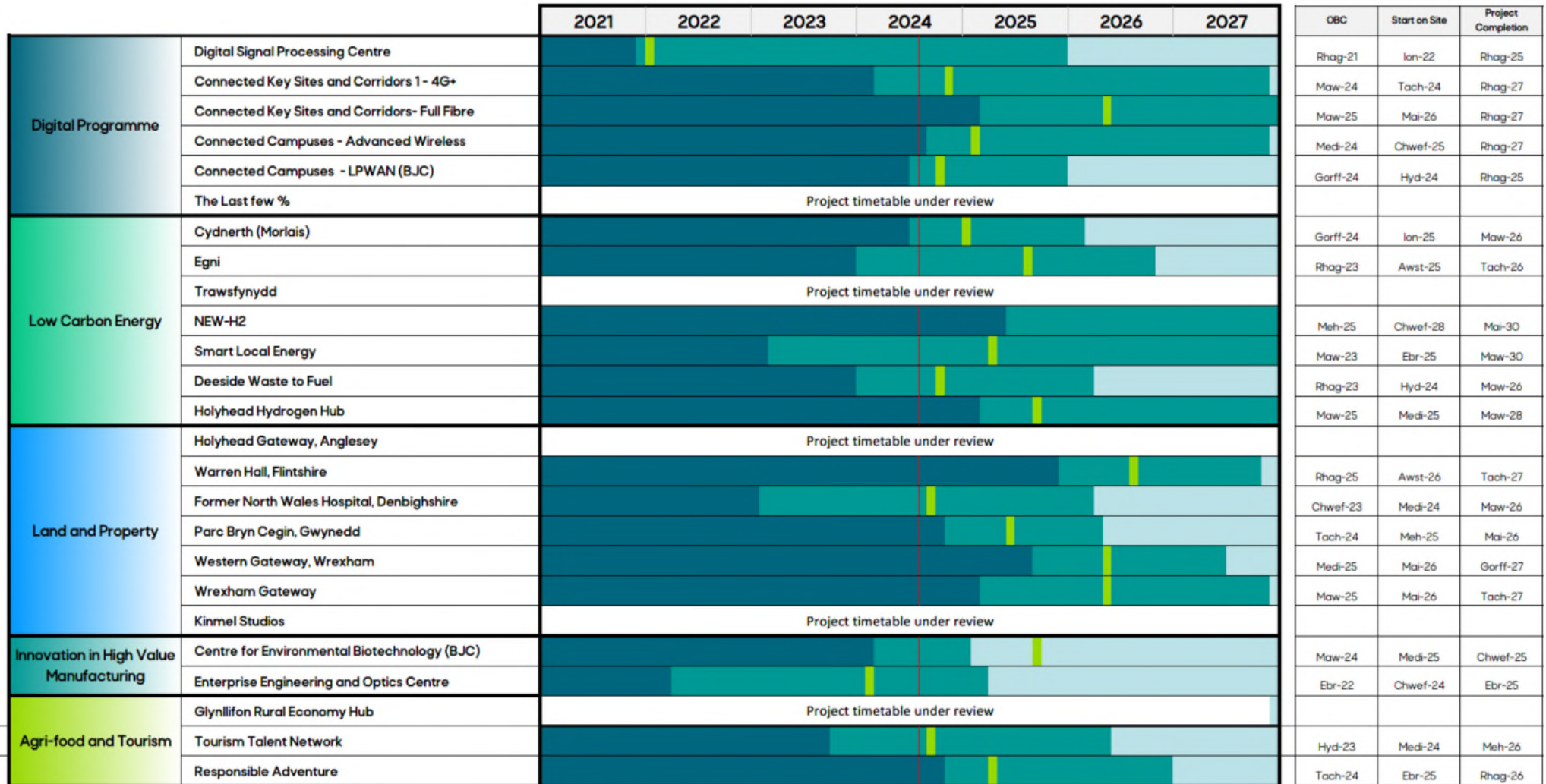
# 07 INNOVATION IN HIGH VALUE MANUFACTURING PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

Project (Project Sponsor)	Project Stage	Key Milestones (this quarter)	Key Milestones (next quarter)	RAG Status	RAG Rationale
<b>Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre</b> Wrexham University	Project Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Published tenders for the OpTIC works and equipment.</li> <li>Beam signing ceremony at the Plas Coch campus with construction continuing to schedule.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate tenders for the OpTIC works and equipment purchases.</li> <li>Continue work on hydrogen and remaining equipment tender scoping</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project on track</li> </ul>
<b>Centre for Environmental Biotechnology</b> Bangor University	Developing the Business Justification Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalising Business Justification Case ahead of Economic Ambition Board consideration.</li> <li>Preparation of Funding Agreement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek approval of Business Justification Case by the Economic Ambition Board</li> <li>Finalise procurements for works contract (Henfaes refurbishment) and first phase of equipment purchase.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rating moved from Red to Amber following Gateway Review and Portfolio Management Officer Review.</li> </ul>





# 09 GROWTH DEAL PROJECT DELIVERY PIPELINE



■ Business Case Development and Approval Phase (Approval of OBC pre procurement)  
■ Procurement and Project Delivery Phase (Includes approval of FBC post procurement)

■ Start on Site  
■ Operational and Benefits Realisation Phase

# 10 OBJECTIVE TRACKER - OVERVIEW OF DELIVERY

		Portfolio Business Case 2023 Targets			Approved Project Business Case Targets				Difference			
		GVA (€M)	Jobs Created	(€M) Total Investment*	OBC/ FBC**	GVA (€M)	Jobs Created	(€M) Total Investment*	GVA (€M)	Jobs Created	(€M) Total Investment*	
Digital	Digital Signal Processing Centre (DSP)		10	35	2.96	FBC	12	33	3.0	+2	-2	+0.04
	Connecting the last few %		10	135	4.17	OBC	15	130	4.0	+5	-5	-0.17
	Connected Key Sites and Corridors	4G+	50	115	9.40	OBC	9	TBC at FBC	8.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Fibre				n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Connected Campuses		30	0	20.68	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Low Carbon Energy	Cydnerth (Morlais)		30	100	8.87	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	NEW-H2		35	90	28.42	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Egni		30	50	8.00	OBC	19	49	10.0	-11	-1	+2
	Smart Local Energy		130	230	102.00	OBC	122	174	106.0	-8	-56	+4
	Trawsfynydd		70	505	244.12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Holyhead Hydrogen Hub		20	20	28.77	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Deeside Anaerobic Digestion Plant		20	40	63.28	OBC	34	65	60.0	+14	+25	+1.72
Land and Property	Western Gateway, Wrexham		120	360	43.36	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Warren Hall, Broughton		120	445	69.76	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh		10	50	99.94	FBC	35	70	107.0	+25	+20	+7.06
	Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor		20	50	5.91	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Holyhead Gateway		370	925	181.44	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Wrexham Gateway		10	150	14.37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Kinmel Studios		50	200	32.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Agrifood and Tourism	Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub		30	95	16.79	OBC	45	96	13	+15	+1	-3.79
	Tourism Talent Network		10	5	12.94	OBC	35.3	68	12.88	+25.3	+63	-0.06
	Responsible Adventure		20	175	12.40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Innovation in High Value Manufacturing	Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre		30	60	16.42	FBC	70	70	18.12	+40	+10	+1.7
	Centre for Environmental Biotechnology		30	90	3.50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Growth Deal Portfolio Total			Targets			8OBC + 3FBC	Approved			Difference (Approved v Target)		
			1,255	3,925	1,029		396.3	755	3425	-858.7	-3,170	-686.5

\* Total investment shown here includes 1.5% Portfolio Management Office costs

\*\* OBC - Outline Business Case, FBC - Full Business Case



# 11 GROWTH DEAL – CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROFILE

Programme	Project	Project Sponsor	2021/22 (£m)	2022/23 (£m)	2023/24 (£m)	2024/25 (£m)	2025/26 (£m)	2026/27 (£m)	2027/28 (£m)	2028/29 (£m)	2029/30 (£m)	2030/31 (£m)	2031/32 (£m)	2032/33 (£m)	2033/34 (£m)	2034/35 (£m)	Total (£m)
Digital	Digital Signal Processing Centre (DSP)	Bangor University	0.12	1.66	0.37	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.96
Digital	Connected Key Sites and Corridors	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	4.00	2.00	2.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.87
Digital	Connected Campus	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.94	10.10	4.93	4.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.68
Digital	Connecting the last few percent	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.32	1.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.17
Low carbon energy	Cydyherth (Morlais)	Menter Môn	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.33	4.44	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.87
Low carbon energy	Egni (Low Carbon Energy Centre of Excellence)	Bangor University	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.97	1.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.94
Low carbon energy	Trawsfynydd Power Station	Cwmni Eginio	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.50	2.50	5.00	5.70	5.00	0.00	19.70
Low carbon energy	Hydrogen Hub and Transport Decarbonisation	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.61	5.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.23
Low carbon energy	Smart Local Energy	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.75	3.00	9.25	9.25	2.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.63
Low carbon energy	Deeside Waste to Fuel*	The Circular Economy Ltd	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.20	3.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.40
Low carbon energy	Holyhead Hydrogen Hub*	Menter Môn	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.80
Land and property	Holyhead Gateway	Stena Line	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.64	17.00	9.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34.47
Land and property	Warren Hall Strategic Site	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.38	7.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.77
Land and property	Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.90	3.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.94
Land and property	Parc Bryn Cegin Strategic Site	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.91
Land and property	Western Gateway, Wrexham	NWEAB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.48	4.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.96
Land and property	Kimmel Studios*	Stage Fifty	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.40	3.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.80
Land and property	Wrexham Gateway*	Wrexham County Borough Council	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.79	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.79
Innovation in High Value Manufacturing	Centre of Environmental Biotechnology (CEB)	Bangor University	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.96
Innovation in High Value Manufacturing	Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre	Glyndŵr University	0.00	0.00	0.75	6.52	4.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.55
Agri-food and tourism	Glynlifon Rural Economy Hub	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.20	4.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.82
Agri-food and tourism	Tourism Talent Network	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.13	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.43
Agri-food and tourism	Responsible Adventure*	Zip World	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.30	3.70	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.20
2.15% to fund the NWEAB's revenue budget			0.22	0.28	0.56	1.10	1.15	0.82	0.30	0.15	0.15	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.07	0.05	5.15
<b>Portfolio Total</b>			<b>0.34</b>	<b>1.94</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>23.92</b>	<b>58.68</b>	<b>68.65</b>	<b>44.81</b>	<b>19.71</b>	<b>1.65</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>5.10</b>	<b>5.80</b>	<b>5.07</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>240.00</b>

\*Replacement projects

# 12 GROWTH DEAL PROJECTS: CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATION PROFILE

Programme	Project	Project Sponsor	Profile 24/25 (£m)	Actual YTD (£m)	Variance (£m)*	Rationale
Digital	Digital Signal Processing Centre	Bangor University	0.81	0.00	-0.81	The BJC for the DSP is scheduled for approval ahead of the next financial clam.
	Connecting the Last Few %	Ambition North Wales	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Connected Key Sites and Corridors	Ambition North Wales	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Connected Campuses	Ambition North Wales	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Low Carbon Energy	Cydnerth (Morlais)	Menter Môn	0.00	0.00	0.00	No Full Business Cases have been approved. Expenditure expected in second half of the year following Full Business Case approvals.
	NEW-H2	Ambition North Wales	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Egni	Bangor University	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Smart Local Energy	Ambition North Wales	0.75	0.00	-0.75	
	Trawsfynydd Power Station	Cwmni Egin	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Deeside Waste to Fuel	The Circular Economy Development	3.20	0.00	-3.20	
	Holyhead Hydrogen Hub	Menter Môn	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Land and Property	Western Gateway, Wrexham	Ambition North Wales	0.00	0.00	0.00	Funding Agreement for the Former North Wales Hospital Project is currently being finalised, with a financial claim due to follow early on in the project. Expenditure on Holyhead Gateway in 2024-25 at risk due to current project delays.
	Warren Hall, Broughton	Ambition North Wales	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh	Ambition North Wales	3.90	0.00	-3.90	
	Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor	Ambition North Wales	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Holyhead Gateway	Stena line	7.64	0.00	-7.64	
	Kinmel Studios		0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Wrexham Gateway	Wrexham County Borough Council	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Agri-food and Tourism	Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	0.00	0.00	0.00	No Full Business Cases have been approved. Expenditure expected in 2024-25 ahead of schedule for Tourism Talent Network.
	Tourism Talent Network	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Responsible Adventure	Zip World	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Innovation in High Value Manufacturing	Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre	Glyndwr University	6.52	0.37	-6.15	First claim for the EEOC has been paid. Expenditure expected in 2024-25 for Centre for Environmental Biotechnology ahead of schedule.
	Centre for Environmental Biotechnology	Bangor University	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Portfolio Management Office Costs			1.1	0.16	-0.94	
Total			23.92	0.53	-23.39	

# APPENDIX A – SUMMARY OF GROWTH DEAL PROJECTS

	Project	Sponsor	Summary
Digital	<b>Digital Signal Processing Centre (DSP)</b>	Bangor University	The project will allow the DSP Centre to expand its presence and remit, integrating fully with the National Strategy Project (NSP) and enable the scaling of key assets including a 5G testbed, research capacity and state-of-the-art equipment.
	<b>The last few %</b>	Ambition North Wales	This project targets universal superfast coverage across North Wales, which have yet to be served by other means and cannot obtain speeds of at least 30Mbps (download).
	<b>Connected Key Sites and Corridors</b>	Ambition North Wales	This project aims to enhance the reliability and quality of mobile services on the main roads and rail routes in North Wales, enabling full-fibre services to key commercial sites across the region. Focussing on developing fibreoptic networks, which are essential for delivering 4G, 5G and gigabit capable broadband.
	<b>Connected Campuses</b>	Ambition North Wales	The project will accelerate the development of a range of digital connectivity options with a current focus at 18 key regional economic sites.
Low Carbon Energy	<b>Cydnerth (Morlais)</b>	Menter Môn	Investing in infrastructure to connect to the National Grid network and monitor marine environmental effects. This will enable an increase in the deployment of turbines by tidal developers and the generation of renewable energy.
	<b>NEW H2</b>	Ambition North Wales	Support delivery of a demonstrator project involving the production of green hydrogen from low carbon energy sources and its use within regional transport networks.
	<b>Egni (Low Carbon Energy Centre of Excellence)</b>	Bangor University	Investing in the development of facilities at Bangor University and Menai Science Park, enhancing the North Wales and UK capabilities for innovation in low carbon energy and related areas, helping to create the conditions for new inward investment and business growth in the low carbon energy supply chain in North Wales.
	<b>Smart Local Energy</b>	Ambition North Wales	To help achieve renewable energy, decarbonisation and local ownership targets, the project will support innovative enabling projects and demonstrators that overcome market failures and unlock private and community sector investments in smart local energy solutions.
	<b>Trawsfynydd</b>	Cwmni Eginio	The site is uniquely placed for a 'First of A Kind' deployment of a Small Modular Reactor (SMR) or Advanced Modular Reactor (AMR). Alongside the public and private sector, the Growth Deal will contribute funding towards enabling infrastructure for this development.
	<b>Deeside Waste to Fuel</b>	The Circular Economy Ltd	Creation of a facility to convert 182,000 tonnes per year of commercial food waste destined for landfill/incineration into green bio-methane, power, and fertiliser.
	<b>Holyhead Hydrogen Hub</b>	Menter Môn	This project will build a green hydrogen production facility at Parc Cybi, Holyhead, producing around 2000+kg/day of green hydrogen, supplying road, maritime and rail transport customers across North Wales.
Land and Property	<b>Western Gateway, Wrexham</b>	Ambition North Wales	Delivery of primary services to enable the site to be brought to the market for sale and development.
	<b>Warren Hall, Broughton</b>	Ambition North Wales	Delivery of primary services to enable the 65-hectare mixed use site to be bought to the market for sale and then development by the private sector.
	<b>Parc Bryn Cegin, Bangor</b>	Ambition North Wales	Provide industrial floor space to meet known demand for units.
	<b>Former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh</b>	Ambition North Wales	The Growth Deal funding will assist in the delivery of a cleared and remediated site with primary services to bring forward a mixed-use commercial and residential development
	<b>Holyhead Gateway</b>	Stena Line	Future proof the Holyhead Port by providing new deep-water heavy loading and cruise facilities, improved vehicular access, guaranteeing the future of the breakwater and providing for the demands of regional energy projects.
	<b>Wrexham Gateway</b>	Wrexham County Borough Council	This project is a sustainable development of a vibrant regenerated area, creating a focal point to support business investment and a multi-modal transportation hub with links to active travel.
	<b>Kinmel Studios</b>		This project will design, build and operate film and television studios at Tir Llwyd Enterprise Park along with a training academy and incubator units.
Agri-food and Tourism	<b>Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub</b>	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	The vision is to create a distinctive, world-class Rural Economy Hub at Glynllifon, offering a range of facilities and services to strengthen and enhance the regional economy, specifically through growing the food and drink sector.
	<b>Tourism Talent Network</b>	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	Future-proofing the pipeline of skills provision and increase commercial benefits from one of the most established sectors in the region. The talent network will stimulate public-private collaboration to coordinate action on skills and product development to transform and accelerate the growth of the tourism and hospitality sector in the region.
	<b>Responsible Adventure</b>	Zip World	A multi-element project as part of a sustainable and eco-tourism package including a new sustainable Cable Car, Slate Explorer including visitor viewing platform and an eBus Network.
Innovation in High Value Manufacturing	<b>Centre for Environmental Biotechnology (CEB)</b>	Bangor University	The Centre for Engineering Biotechnology will be a world-leading centre in the discovery and characterisation of novel extremophilic enzymes of industrial relevance. The Centre for Engineering Biotechnology will provide a strong foundation for attracting world-leading researchers, significant public and commercial research funding, and inward investment to Wales.
	<b>Enterprise Engineering &amp; Optics Centre</b>	Wrexham University	The Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre will provide facilities targeted to boost high-level skills development for the region and enable Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's) and large businesses to work in partnership with Wrexham Glyndwr University on commercially driven research and development in optics, composites and hydrogen fuel cells.