

regional REVIEW

December 2022



Wales Regional Growth and City Deals 2022 Highlights



Prifddinas
Ranbarth
Caerdydd

Cardiff
Capital
Region



Uchelgais
Gogledd Cymru
Ambition
North Wales



Bargen Ddinesig
BAE ABERTAWE
SWANSEA BAY
City Deal



Tyfu
Canolbarth Cymru
Growing
Mid Wales

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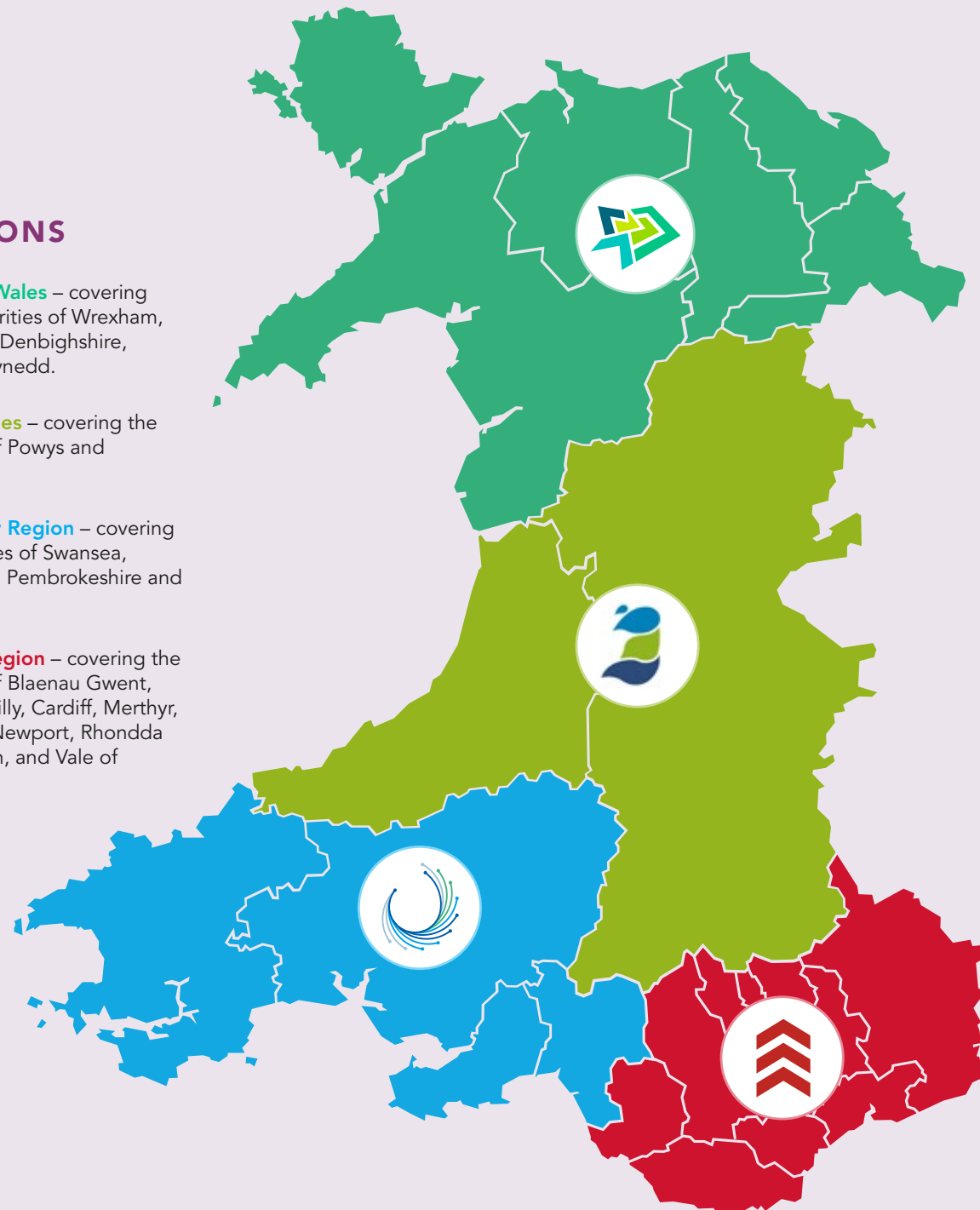
THE REGIONS

Ambition North Wales – covering the six local authorities of Wrexham, Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Gwynedd.

Growing Mid Wales – covering the local authorities of Powys and Ceredigion.

Swansea Bay City Region – covering the local authorities of Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire.

Cardiff Capital Region – covering the local authorities of Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr, Monmouthshire, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Torfaen, and Vale of Glamorgan.



2022: Saw all four regions in Wales continue their journey to reshape for a new era.

2022 saw **Ambition North Wales** reach a number of impressive milestones, including the launch of its first Growth Deal project - the Digital Signal Processing Centre at Bangor University - and approval of the Outline Business Case for the Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre and the Last Few % projects. That spirit of partnership also saw an impactful joining of forces with M-Sparc on the Dewch yn ôl 2022 campaign (to encourage young people to return or stay in North Wales to live and work); the championing of the Code First Girls programme to help reduce the skills gap in the region; the launch of three low-carbon initiatives to help North Wales farmers decarbonise in the race to net zero - and support for broadband connectivity at over 300 key sites (including hospitals and doctor surgeries) in the region.

It was also a year of highly encouraging progress for **Growing Mid Wales**. Since the signing of the Final Deal Agreement in January committing to a Growth Deal of £110M, Mid Wales has seen the establishment of a Digital Programme Board, a Sites and Premises Programme Board, an Economic Advisory Group and the formation of the Mid Wales Energy Strategy, with a number of game-changing projects given approval to proceed to the next stage of business case development. It augurs well for an exciting 2023, when the anticipated Outline Business Cases for Aberaeron Harbour Development, Ellan Valley Lakes, Food Manufacturing Innovation Centre, Cynefin: The Green Heart of Wales, Green Futures Innovation Park and the National Spectrum Centre are expected to fly the flag for the region's interests and priorities.

A seminal year saw **Swansea Bay City Deal's** entire portfolio of nine projects and programmes move to delivery phase across South West Wales - catalysing the potential for local businesses and communities from Port Talbot to Pembrokeshire. In particular, 2022 witnessed the opening of Swansea Arena, completion of the Bay Technology Centre plus the launch of the £10M Port Talbot Waterfront Property Development fund, and the 4th year of operation of Canolfan S4C Yr Egin in Carmarthen. With initiatives such as the first Skills & Talent pilot project approval (with Pembrokeshire College and Pembrokeshire Schools) and installation of IoT gateways as part of the Digital Infrastructure programme, the Swansea Bay City Deal programme is driving economic acceleration and smart manufacturing, as well as improving well-being and reducing carbon consumption, across its Region.

Cardiff Capital Region celebrated its fifth anniversary by making major investments in a £50M Strategic Premises Fund and £50M Innovation Investment Capital fund, as well as inspired interventions that included the £34.6M purchase of Aberthaw power station for repurposing as a green energy park, the £7M investment in the groundbreaking Cyber Innovation Hub, a £3M commitment to the Media Cymru hub, significant support for the £2.6M Sustainable Food Challenge Fund, and widespread championing of CCR's five priority sectors, exemplified by the £2M investment in the pioneering Jellagen medtech enterprise, and £1.6M funding for FinTech Wales.

It's been a monumental year for all four regions in Wales - enjoy the read!



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With thanks to:



January



Cardiff Capital Region



£50M Strategic Premises Fund launched

January saw the launch of a **£50M Strategic Premises Fund** to support delivery of CCR's Industrial and Economic Plan - with the aim of developing the new sites and modern floorspaces that will enable businesses in South East Wales to scale and achieve their full potential.

Aligned to the **CCR Strategic Priorities** of Regeneration & Infrastructure, Innovation and Skills & Employment, the Fund's anticipated outputs over the next 10 years include 120,000 square metres of new or refurbished employment space, 4,400 new or safeguarded jobs, and £85M leverage.



Ambition North Wales

Improved broadband connection for over 300 health care sites in the region through LFFN

Thanks to Ambition North Wales' support, broadband connectivity has been improved at over 300 sites across North Wales as part of the UK Government's Local Full Fibre Network scheme. The sites include community hospitals, doctor surgeries and ambulance stations. Feedback has shown that better broadband connection has led to improved and more efficient patient service and the scheme has made a huge difference to many, especially those who are most vulnerable and who benefit from remote access to services.







Growing Mid Wales

January saw the signing of the Final Deal Agreement of the Mid Wales Growth Deal by the Welsh Government, UK Government and the region's local authorities, Ceredigion County Council and Powys County Council. It marked the commitment of all partners to deliver a Growth Deal for the Mid Wales region.



Swansea Bay City Deal



Full City Deal Portfolio approved by both governments and in full delivery

The Swansea Bay City Deal reached a significant milestone following the approval of the Campuses Business Case by the Welsh Government and UK Government. This meant that all nine projects and programmes had now received the go ahead to proceed and the portfolio shifted its focus to delivery.



February



Cardiff Capital Region



Venture Graduate Recruitment & Development service opens for business

Venture, the Skills & Talent Hub of CCR, announced its latest Graduate Recruitment Service cohort in February, providing an expert end-to-end attraction and assessment service (at zero-cost) to employers of all sizes and sectors across South East Wales.

This unique offering also unveiled plans for a **Career Accelerator Programme** aligned to the recruitment service - providing a series of microcredential and masterclass modules to graduates, delivered by University of Wales and the Open University - to help graduates develop their work-readiness in the optimum time and maximise their impact with their employers.



Ambition North Wales

Encouraging young people to stay and work in North Wales

Ambition North Wales teamed with M-SParc for a second time, to encourage young people to think about staying or returning to North Wales to live and work. The Dewch yn ôl 2022 campaign featured interviews, discussions and insightful pieces about young people's experiences of living in the region as well as highlighting career opportunities. The campaign also matched individuals with potential job opportunities in their desired sectors. This year the campaign saw the return of four families to North Wales.



Swansea Bay City Deal

Contractors appointed to install Internet of Things (IoT) gateways for Digital Infrastructure

Contractors were appointed to install IoT gateways for the Digital Infrastructure programme which was jointly funded by the Welsh Government. 240+ LoRaWAN gateways started to be deployed which will provide comprehensive LoRaWAN coverage across the entire region. The Gateways will provide the region with a free to use IoT network for trialing and test bedding various use cases and applications.







Growing Mid Wales

Fourteen projects were funded under the Mid Wales Challenge Led Launchpad, Mid Wales's first ever challenge fund. Delivered by AberInnovation, the programme addressed societal challenges facing Mid Wales. The fund, supported by Ceredigion and Powys County Councils under the UK-wide Community Renewal Fund (CRF) and by the Welsh Government, awarded each project up to £30,000. The Mid Wales Regional Engagement Team and Growing Mid Wales have been working with these projects to help Mid Wales build a brighter future.





March



Swansea Bay City Deal



Official opening of the much-anticipated Swansea Arena

The 3,500 capacity arena, which is part of the £135 million Copr Bay development in the heart of Swansea and part of the Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District programme opened its doors. The official event was attended by Welsh Government First Minister Mark Drakeford and UK Government Minister David T C Davies with the opening act being comedian John Bishop. It is anticipated that over 175,000 people have now visited the arena since it opened its doors.

Showcase event held to celebrate City Deal portfolio in full delivery

To celebrate the key milestone that the entire City Deal portfolio was now in full delivery, a Showcase Event was held in Parc Y Scarlets. This was a fantastic opportunity for the 185 guests to celebrate the journey so far, for attendees to network, and to look at the opportunities that lay ahead.

Cardiff Capital Region



£36.4M purchase of Aberthaw heralds green transformation

March saw CCR commit **£36.4M** to purchase and repurpose the decommissioned coal-fired **Aberthaw power station**, with a vision to redevelop the iconic 489-acre site as a green energy park capable of shaping sustainability in our Region.

When remediated and repositioned as an exemplar of green energy production, Aberthaw possesses the **potential** to drive clean economic growth across our region, as a home for pioneering programmes that could include a zero-carbon manufacturing cluster, a hub for renewable energy projects centre, a catalyst for industrial decarbonisation and a centre of green jobs creation.





Ambition North Wales



New technology to help farmers decarbonise

This month saw the launch of three low-carbon initiatives to help North Wales farmers decarbonise. The initiatives were funded by the Welsh Government's Whole System Business Research Innovation for Decarbonisation scheme:

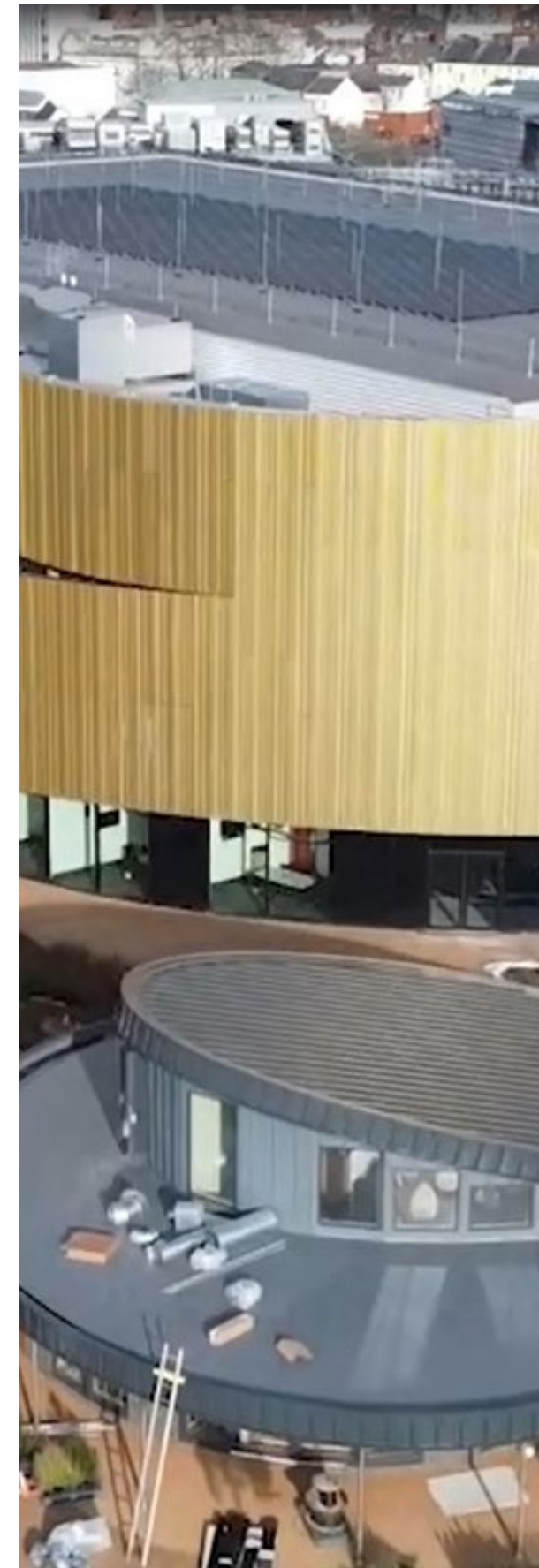
- The Green Eagle by M-SParc, in collaboration with tenants Aerialworx and Fortytwoable, is a drone that identifies weeds or invasive species using artificial intelligence, supporting farmers by targeting pesticide applications to reduce time, cost and chemicals on farms.
- The Micro-anaerobic digestion system by BioFactory captures methane from slurry so it can be used as heat or an off-grid source of energy, reducing energy costs and acts as a fertiliser for the land.



Growing Mid Wales



In 2021, Welsh Government commissioned the Mid Wales Energy Strategy, co-developed by the Welsh Government Energy Service, Growing Mid Wales, and regional stakeholders. This is part of the Wales-wide energy planning work to support the pathway to net zero. Following this, the region has spent 2022 engaging and shaping an action plan to deliver upon the strategy document.







Cardiff Capital Region



£7M investment in Cyber Innovation Hub inspires world-first ecosystem

April's announcement of CCR's **£7M investment in the Cyber Innovation Hub** helped create a world-first that brings together industry, government and economic partners in a in a co-ordinated, co-funded approach to cyber skills, innovation and new enterprise creation. Led by Cardiff University, with partners including Airbus, Alacrity Cyber, CGI, Thales NDEC, Tramshed Tech, and the University of South Wales, the Hub aims to grow the cyber security sector in Wales by more than 50% - creating 25+ high-growth companies, attracting £20M+ in private equity investments, and training more than 1,000 cyber-skilled individuals to fulfil the ever-growing potential of this incredible new ecosystem.



Ambition North Wales



Getting girls and non-binary people into coding

We joined forces with Code First Girls to provide free coding courses to women and non-binary people within the digital sector. Currently, only 19% of those who study computer science post-16 are female - the course aims to close the gender skills gap within this important and growing sector.



Growing Mid Wales

As part of the development of the Mid Wales Growth Deal, an Economic Advisory Group was established comprising business leaders with expertise relevant to the Mid Wales region: Bronwen Raine, Managing Director Antur Cymru Enterprise/ Antur Teifi; Douglas Hughes, Managing Director, Douglas Hughes Architects Ltd; Kathryn Austin, Chief People & Marketing Director of the Heart with Smart Group; Kristian Hicks, Advisor/ Strategy Consultant; Martin Kiss, Business Consultant, and Steve Lesbirel, Managing Director, Bbi Group.

Their role is to provide a business voice on the Growth Deal to the Growing Mid Wales Board and positively promote the Growth Deal within the Mid Wales business community.



May

May saw elections being held in all Local Authority areas across Wales, following which the City and Growth Deals welcomed new and existing members for the next political term.

Swansea Bay City Deal



The Swansea Bay City Deal Joint Committee welcomed two new members with Cllr. Darren Price (Carmarthenshire) and Cllr. Steve Hunt (Neath Port Talbot) joining existing members Cllr. Rob Stewart (Swansea) and Cllr. David Simpson (Pembrokeshire).



Cardiff Capital Region

CCR Regional Cabinet welcomes five new members

May also saw elections in all local authorities across our Region - with CCR welcoming Cllr. Mary Ann Brocklesby (Monmouth), Cllr. Lis Burnett (Vale of Glamorgan), Cllr. Geraint Thomas (Merthyr), Cllr. Sean Morgan (Caerphilly), and Cllr. Stephen Thomas (Blaenau Gwent) to the **CCR Regional Cabinet**.

Growing Mid Wales

Gaining a comprehensive understanding of the current connectivity levels across the region, the Digital Programme has undertaken mapping work, influencing where investment should be directed and which future projects will be prioritised. The Digital programme is one of eight strategic growth priority areas identified within the Growing Mid Wales Vision.



Cardiff Capital Region

£1.6M investment in FinTech Wales opens five-year partnership opportunity

In May, CCR announced a **£1.6M, five-year investment in FinTech Wales** - the independent not-for-profit membership association that champions the FinTech and Financial Services industry in Wales. The investment saw the two organisations commit to working closely together to help establish Wales as a leading FinTech sector in the UK - aligned to the CCR's **"Competitive Clusters"** focus on developing competitive, innovation-led ecosystems in priority sectors such as FinTech, Compound Semiconductors, Creative Industries, Cyber and MedTech.



Swansea Bay City Deal

£10m Port Talbot Waterfront Property Development fund launched

The Supporting Innovation and Low Carbon Growth programme launched this £10m fund aimed to boost development in Harbourside, Baglan Energy Park and Baglan Industrial Estate. The funding will specifically target the research, development and innovation sectors with the aim of creating jobs in these areas. 14 applications received and 13 invited through to stage 1 formal application process.







Ambition North Wales

Attending the Eisteddfod for the first time


We hosted a stand at the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Denbighshire for the first time in May. It was a great opportunity to meet young people and parents, to talk to them about Growth Deal projects, whilst putting the region on the map for visitors from Wales and beyond.



Ambition North Wales

A significant milestone reached for the Enterprise Engineering and Optics Centre project

The project, supported by the North Wales Growth Deal, reached a significant milestone in May with approval of its Outline Business Case. This is the penultimate stage before funding is released. The project aims to help manufacturing companies by providing them with products and systems which require less energy therefore minimising costs as well as reducing consumption and carbon emissions.









Ambition North Wales



Cufflink win North Wales Start-Up award

Anglesey-based business, Cufflink won the North Wales Start-Up award at the 2022 Start-Up Awards this month. The company aims to help consumers store and share personal or corporate data via a free app to limit the impact of data breaches. As category sponsor for the second year, we were delighted to see a record-breaking number of entries from our region.

Swansea Bay City Deal



Pentre Awel Meet the Buyer event hailed a success

Construction businesses from around South Wales attended Bouygues UK's first Meet the Buyer event to discuss working on the zone one project of the landmark Carmarthenshire County Council led Pentre Awel Development in Llanelli. Held at Parc Y Scarlets, more than 100 businesses attended to look at opportunities in brickwork, roofing, carpentry, ecology, painting, and landscaping.





Swansea Bay City Deal



Tower crane arrives at 71/72 The Kingsway

The first of two tower cranes arrive at the former Oceana nightclub site as early construction works continue on 71/72 The Kingsway. Part of the Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District programme this new office development will create space for up to 600 jobs for businesses in the tech, digital and creative sectors.

Cardiff Capital Region



CCR & Catalan Government work towards close collaboration

CCR welcomed **Catalonia's Trade and Investment Agency** in June, for two days

of constructive talks on commercial collaboration - focused on the high tech innovation that increases regional wealth and sustainable job creation.

Discussions involved ways of working on cluster development, innovation and knowledge transfer - with a particular focus on the **Creative Economy** and **Compound Semiconductors clusters** - exploring how a work-ready talentbase and entrepreneurial foundation can empower specialist companies to flourish, making both CCR and the Catalan region attractive areas for inward investment.



Growing Mid Wales



The Growing Mid Wales monthly newsletter was established, shining the spotlight on the work of the different teams within the partnership and the projects shortlisted within the Growth Deal Portfolio that are seeking funding to support delivery and boost the region's economy. All the newsletters can be found on the News and Events page on the Growing Mid Wales website.



July



Ambition North Wales

First Growth Deal project launched: future proofing digital communication

The First Minister Mark Drakeford MS, and now Secretary of State for Wales David TC Davies MP were invited to celebrate the launch of our first Growth Deal project - the Digital Signal Processing Centre at Bangor University.

Growth Deal funding has enabled the centre to develop solutions to support future digital requirements to benefit businesses and residents with better communication capabilities such as 5G and 6G. This will provide businesses and communities with a more cost-effective, more secure and more efficient use of their applications.



A significant milestone reached for the Last Few % project

The Growth Deal project, the Last Few %, reached the Outline Business Case stage. The project will ensure that the quality of connectivity is consistent across the region with superfast broadband (30 megabits per second). It aims to provide sustainable and affordable broadband connectivity to benefit North Wales communities and businesses.



Swansea Bay City Deal

Skills and Talent Programme approves first pilot project

Pembrokeshire College and Pembrokeshire schools have received the go ahead for the first pilot for the Skills & Talent programme. Starting delivery in September, this unique pilot project will equip students with the skills they need for upcoming local job opportunities with a focus on the 'blue/green' and renewable energy sector. The pilot will work in conjunction with local companies that specialise in this field.



Cardiff Capital Region



CCR Business Conference unveiled to unleash growth and ambition

In July, CCR announced plans for a **first-ever business conference** designed to encourage good growth and help businesses of all sizes and sectors realise their ambitions in the Region.

The **'Unleash' Conference** will be held at the International Conference Centre (ICC) in April 2023, with expert speakers and practical workshops focused on helping the many different types of companies that make up the Region's SME economy become as successful and sustainable as they can be, in an era that brings both significant challenges and huge opportunities.







Growing Mid Wales



Joint chairs of the Growing Mid Wales Board - Councillor James Gibson-Watt, Leader of Powys County Council and Councillor Bryan Davies, Leader of Ceredigion County Council - met each other for the first time at the Royal Welsh Show . This was an opportunity to confirm their commitment to work together to deliver the Mid Wales Growth Deal.

August



Ambition North Wales

Morlais secures investment

This month one of the turbine developers linked to Growth Deal project, Morlais tidal energy secured a guaranteed price for its electricity. This is the first tidal Wales-based project to secure a contract as part of UK Government Contract for Difference allocation and gives the developer, Magallanes Renovables, a guaranteed revenue from the electricity it generates at Morlais. The award is seen as an endorsement for Morlais at a crucial time in its development, with onshore construction now underway.



Trawsfynydd project completed Market Engagement event

Cwmni Egin, the company starting development at the site of the former nuclear power station in Trawsfynydd, launched its market engagement process over the summer. The process will inform the business proposition for the site as Cwmni Egin refines proposals to deploy the first small scale nuclear project in the UK.



Swansea Bay City Deal

Port of Milford Haven breaks ground on key phase of Pembroke Dock Marine Project

Construction of a new supersize slipway and new workboat pontoons began at Pembroke Port, which marks a big step forward in supporting the country's transition to a net zero and the ports position for floating offshore wind opportunities. Local residents have also named the landmark annexes that are being redeveloped that are attached to the historic Sunderland Hangars in the port.

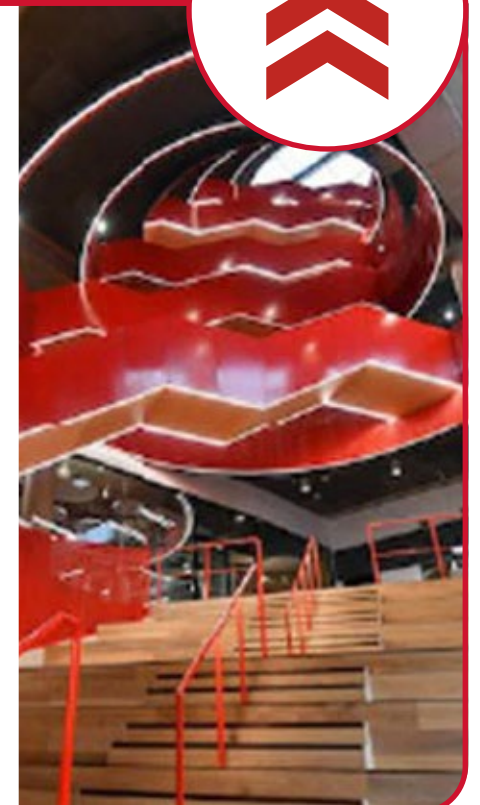


Cardiff Capital Region

CCR relocated to the sbarc




CCR moved to a new 'home' in August, relocating from offices in Ystrad Mynach to the newly-opened **sbarc building** on Maindy Road in Cardiff - the world-first facility dedicated to working with business and society to create, test and incubate new initiatives.

The state-of-the-art building is designed to nurture partnerships between entrepreneurs, business leaders and academics - representing a perfect fit for CCR's ambition to create a collaborative and resilient Region built on **innovation, sustainability, inclusivity and connectivity**.





Growing Mid Wales



Potential Growth Deal projects submitted their Strategic Outline Business Cases for assessment and the following six projects were given the mandate to progress to the development of Outline Business Cases: Aberaeron Harbour Development, Elan Valley Lakes, Food Manufacturing Innovation Centre, Cynefin: The Green Heart of Wales, Green Futures Innovation Park, and the National Spectrum Centre. These proposals cover a number of themes identified under the Vision’s strategic growth priority areas.



September



Cardiff Capital Region



CCR's £2.6M Sustainable Food Challenge to increase sustainable food supply

September saw **CCR's £2.6M Sustainable Food Challenge** launched, to identify and support projects that harness the potential of land, technology and people, with the aim of increasing the sustainable production and supply of locally grown food in the Cardiff Capital Region.

The Challenge was created in partnership between Cardiff Council, Monmouthshire County Council, the SBRI (Small Business Research Initiative) Centre of Excellence and Welsh Government, together with the CCR Challenge Fund - to run in three phases, with success to be evaluated by 2025. Successful applicants will be awarded 4-month feasibility contracts of **up to £50,000 per project**.



Ambition North Wales

North Wales Regional Energy action plan approved

The North Wales Regional Energy Strategy action plan was approved in September, with the aim to decarbonise our energy systems and ensure that the region benefits from the transition. To support the delivery of the action plan and associated local areas plans, we secured £350,000 from Welsh Government Local Area Energy Planning scheme to recruit a team of three people to lead on this work.



Growing Mid Wales

A Mid Wales Employment and Skills Survey was undertaken. Key findings from the survey have fed into the Mid Wales Employment and Skills Plan and Action Plan for 2022-2025 that will be finalised and launched Spring 2023.



Swansea Bay City Deal

Economy Minister visits £130m Campuses project

Welsh Government Minister for the Economy Vaughan Gething visited Swansea University to understand more about the Campuses project and how this exciting development will boost innovation and business growth in the expanding Medical Technology and Sports Technology sectors. UK Government Minister David T C Davies visited the project earlier in the year and was also impressed with the opportunities available.

October



Ambition North Wales

Methodology announced for addressing climate change

This month saw the publication of our methodology to address climate change within the region. This follows our commitment that all Growth Deal projects will aim to operate at net zero, achieve a 10% increase in biodiversity and reduce carbon emissions by at least 40%. The methodology, developed with Arup, will guide Growth Deal projects as they work towards these ambitious targets.



Growing Mid Wales

At the AGM of the Mid Wales Regional Skills Partnership Board, Emma Thomas of key regional company ABER Instruments was announced as the new Chair of the Board. The Chair of the Mid Wales Regional Skills Partnership plays a key role in helping to drive the region's vision for learning and skills, representing the voice of the private sector in the region to influence and support regional decision-making and to champion the region at a national level.



Swansea Bay City Deal

First international Media Festival of Wales held in Canolfan S4C Yr Egin

The University of Wales Trinity Saint David and Yr Egin welcomed the International Media Festival of Wales, which celebrates the best of content creators, programme-makers, photography and writing talent in Wales and around the world. It was an opportunity to commemorate success as well as network and share experiences with industry experts. Yr Egin also celebrated its 4th full year of operation - home to anchor tenants S4C, along with around 12 creative sector small businesses.

International
Media
Festival
of
Wales



Cardiff Capital Region



CCR's £3M investment in Media Cymru sees fruition

October brought the launch of Media Cymru - a unique collaboration that will position CCR as a global media hub, generating £236M GVA by 2026 through inclusive and sustainable economic growth that's green, fair and aligned to Welsh Government's Wellbeing of Future Generations approach. Led by Cardiff University, this world-first testbed for new content,

approaches and formats brought together 23 media production, broadcast, technology, university and local leadership partners, with CCR contributing £3M to a total £50M investment that included funding by the **UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)** Strength in Places Fund.

November



Cardiff Capital Region



CCR's £50M Innovation Investment Capital fund launched

November brought the much-anticipated unveiling of **CCR's £50M Innovation Investment Capital fund (IIC)** - with a fully-subscribed launch event at Cardiff's Principality Stadium seeing a 180-strong audience learn how this fund will take SME innovation in South East Wales to a whole new level.

The IIC was launched to increase the availability of patient capital in South East Wales by encouraging 'good growth' through investments of £2M - £7M in innovative, scalable and R&D focused businesses. This groundbreaking new fund saw CCR choose **PwC** to manage the sourcing and screening of all investment applications, with **Capricorn Fund Managers** providing portfolio and risk management services.

Ambition North Wales



Addressing mobile connectivity challenge

In November, we announced the findings from our survey on the quality of 4G connectivity across the region. The survey, conducted with Farrpoint, helped identify which areas in North Wales currently lack coverage. The results will be used to establish which areas need direct investment as well as to plan improvements to mobile connectivity across the region's main transport networks.

Swansea Bay City Deal



City Deal portfolio wins even more awards

The Skills and Talent first pilot project 'Destination Renewables' has won the Offshore Wind Energy Skills Award in the inaugural Renewables UK Offshore Wind Awards. Our partners in the Pembroke Dock Marine project also won the Port Sustainability Award at the British Ports Association Conference this month. Previously this year the Bay Technology Centre, which is part of our Supporting Innovation and Low Carbon Growth programme picked up 3 separate awards for its energy positive credentials.



Growing Mid Wales

A programme board was established to oversee development and delivery of the Sites and Premises programme. Building on earlier scoping work, the Programme Board looks to confirm a deliverable programme of investment and sustainable development that will help meet identified demand.

December



Growing Mid Wales

Plans are underway for a series of stakeholder engagement workshops on the Growth Deal with Elected Members from both Ceredigion and Powys local authorities, representatives from Welsh and UK Government and the Growth Deal's Economic Advisory Group. The workshops will feature presentations from the Project Sponsors, providing the opportunity to discuss the proposals and provide feedback; helping to strengthen the business cases.

Swansea Bay City Deal

Homes as Power Stations announce partnership with Cardiff University

The Homes as Power Stations (HAPS) project, which is set to introduce energy efficient technologies to thousands of properties, has announced that Cardiff University were successful in their bid to facilitate the Technical Monitoring and Evaluation element of the project. The purpose of this is keep track of the implementation and impact of the houses that have adopted the HAPS approach across the four local authorities.



Cardiff Capital Region



CCR Climate Coalition announced independent business survey findings

In December, the **CCR Climate Coalition** announced the results of our first survey designed to understand the 'climate change' needs and concerns of businesses and independent organisations in South East Wales.

The survey results showed an **urgent requirement** for up-to-date information on decarbonisation best practices, together with a demand for ongoing knowledge share and access to 'green' funding mechanisms. The Coalition aims to establish a Steering Committee in January 2023 to put in place an action plan to address these needs.



Ambition North Wales

The Economic Ambition Board agreed the process and criteria for the new Growth Deal Fund, following two project withdrawal in 2022. We will be launching the process in January 2023 and seeking proposals for potential new projects.

Cardiff Capital Region



CCR invests £2M in Jellagen to open up endless possibilities for regenerative medicines

The company's pioneering platform is primed to accelerate the medical development of Collagen Type 0, representing a **radical breakthrough in the treatment of skin diseases** and tissue reconstruction; and establishing another leading innovator in the CCR's fast-growing MedTech priority sector.

