



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.

NORTH WALES CLEAN ENERGY FUND IS OPEN!

We have launched a £24.6 million fund to provide vital financial support for businesses and voluntary-sector organisations, wanting to deliver clean energy or decarbonisation projects.

The overall fund, which will run over a five-year period initially, consists of two key sub-funds for organisations based in North Wales. A voluntary sector sub-fund led by WCVA for charities, social enterprises, and community-led projects; with UMi delivering on a private sector sub-fund for businesses. A third reserve fund can consider applications from other organisations and alternative funding models.

As part of the North Wales Growth Deal, the fund will deliver a £100m investment in the region, create 150 new jobs, and cut up to 125,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.



[Find out more](#)

APPROVAL FOR £18.8M ADVANCED WIRELESS PROJECT

North Wales is set to accelerate its digital transformation following recent approval of the full business case for the Advanced Wireless project. Funded by the Growth Deal, it will deliver a capital grant scheme, supporting investment in wireless technologies across private and public sectors.

With a total budget of £18.8 million, the project will promote economic growth, by encouraging businesses and organisations to adopt innovative wireless solutions.

This initiative forms a key part of Ambition North Wales' broader Digital Connectivity Programme, which focuses on delivering high-quality, affordable digital access across the region. The project is expected to create between 315 and 380 new jobs by 2036.

[Read More](#)

PIPELINE OF POTENTIAL PROJECTS ANNOUNCED

We have recently announced a pipeline of potential projects, which are being given the opportunity to bid for part of unallocated Growth Deal funding.

The move aims to accelerate regional growth through the delivery of sustainable economic projects across North Wales, which will generate jobs and align with environmental commitments.

More details [here](#)

TOURISM TALENT NETWORK - MAKING STRIDES

The Tourism Talent Network is a North Wales Growth Deal project, led by Grŵp Llandrillo Menai - set to transform the approach to tourism and hospitality skills delivery in North Wales.

The Growth Deal has committed £4.43m as part of the £19m project - with 'Spoke' businesses each receiving a £1m grant from the investment.

NEW STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Grŵp Llandrillo Menai and Snowdonia Hospitality & Leisure Ltd have signed a new Memorandum of Understanding, marking the beginning of a strategic partnership to strengthen the hospitality and tourism economy in North Wales.

As part of the Tourism Talent Network, the agreement outlines a shared commitment to creating pathways into employment through apprenticeships, work-based learning, and community engagement initiatives.

Gwenllian Roberts, Executive Director for Commercial Development at Grŵp Llandrillo Menai said: "By combining Snowdonia Hospitality & Leisure's operational expertise with our leading educational offer, we can co-create a pipeline of skilled professionals equipped to support a thriving, sustainable visitor economy."



[Read More](#)

THEATR CLWYD TO HELP DELIVER WORLD-CLASS TRAINING

The Mold theatre has been announced as the latest, 'Spoke' partner in the Tourism Talent Network project.

Designed to boost tourism and hospitality skills across North Wales, it will help deliver world-class training and knowledge-sharing across the region.

Theatr Clwyd will be joining two other 'Spoke' partners already on board - Zip World and Portmeirion. An additional 'Spoke' partner will be appointed later this year. The collaboration also includes strategic partnerships with the National Trust, and Snowdonia Hospitality & Leisure Ltd.



[Full story here](#)

REGIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN PROGRESS

Since our public consultation on the draft Regional Transport Plan (RTP) for North Wales closed in April, much work has been done to consider the feedback and develop final documents. We saw a key milestone in July when the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee approved our final plan and supporting documentation for submission to Welsh Government for consideration and approval.

[Find out more about the process and activities](#)

TIDAL ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT GETS UNDERWAY

The £16 million Cydnerth project, which will support the expansion of the Morlais tidal energy scheme, has moved into its construction phase, marking a major milestone for the North Wales low-carbon economy.

Work has begun on-site at Holyhead to strengthen the grid infrastructure for Morlais, which is run by local social enterprise, Menter Môn Morlais Ltd. Backed by the North Wales Growth Deal and funding from both the Welsh and UK Governments, Cydnerth will future-proof Morlais by increasing its grid capacity from 18MW to an eventual 240MW.

North Wales-based Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK has secured the contract for the construction and cabling work for Cydnerth.

[Read More](#)

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE AT NEW BANGOR UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT HUB

Work to develop the Centre for Environmental Biotechnology Plus (CEB+) at Bangor University's Henfaes site is complete. Backed by Growth Deal funding, the project was given the go-ahead last year and will be fully operational later in the year following the delivery of the bioreactor, a key piece of equipment for the industrial scale up facility.

CEB+ will lead research into enzymes and biological processes that offer low-carbon alternatives to industrial chemicals. With specialist lab space and equipment now in place, the centre is set to become a hub for collaboration between scientists and industry.

The facility is expected to create up to 65 jobs and boost the regional economy by £15 million in net GVA.

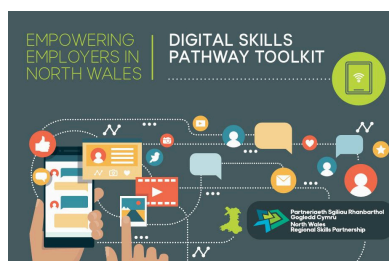


SUPPORT TO BUILD A MORE DIGITAL WORKFORCE

A new Digital Skills Toolkit for employers in our region has been developed by our North Wales Regional Skills Partnership.

The publication is in response to many businesses highlighting the fact that they know digital skills matter, but they're not always sure where to begin. Often they aren't confident in identifying the specific digital skills their teams need or aren't aware of the training options available.

The Toolkit aims to address these issues. As a practical, easy-to-use guide it is designed to help business leaders navigate the often complex world of digital upskilling. Whether a business is just beginning its digital journey or looking to adopt more advanced technologies, the toolkit provides a clear starting point.

[Find out More](#)

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT NEARS COMPLETION

Industry partners, academics and those involved in the build of the North Wales Growth Deal's first construction project came together recently to celebrate its progress as a sustainable development.

The construction of the new engineering facility - part of the Enterprise, Engineering, and Optics Centre Project, on the Plas Coch campus - is a pioneering development, which will become a specialist centre for industry engagement, research and innovation.

The project has already resulted in a 30.5% increase in biodiversity on the University's campuses. The construction phase has also surpassed its social and local economic value target, demonstrating a strong commitment to delivering lasting benefits across North Wales.

The EEOC is on target to open for the start of the academic year in September 2025.



[Read More](#)

AMBITION NORTH WALES 2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED

Our annual report highlights the progress made in delivering the North Wales Growth Deal, work linked to our responsibilities as a regional Corporate Joint Committee as well as our role in delivering broader regional projects.

The Growth Deal has seen significant progress made on many projects across all five of its programmes. These include our first construction project being delivered, advancements towards further improvements in digital connectivity, infrastructure developments and crucial low carbon energy schemes making strides.

[The Report](#)



ALWEN WILLIAMS APPOINTED AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The North Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) - known as Ambition North Wales, has confirmed Alwen Williams as its first Chief Executive. She has led on the delivery of the region's Growth Deal as Portfolio Director at Ambition North Wales for five years, a role she has more recently combined with interim Chief Executive of the CJC.

The CJC is a new regional local government organisation, created by Welsh Government, with statutory responsibility to produce a regional transport plan and a regional strategic development plan as well as a duty to enhance and promote regional economic well-being.

[Read More](#)



INNOVATION FUNDING BOOST FOR AGRI-TECH AND FOOD-TECH

As part of the Cluster Management Organisation for Mid and North Wales, we were delighted to see thirteen pioneering businesses receive funding through Innovate UK's Agri-tech and Food-tech programme. The support is helping companies tackle key challenges like sustainable farming, food safety, and smart processing.

Each project has been awarded funding through the Minimal Financial Assistance route, allowing smaller scale research and development and feasibility work to get underway. The aim is to test and develop new ideas which have strong potential for future growth.

[More Details](#)

WREXHAM NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD



We were delighted to be part of Pentref Wrecsam at this year's National Eisteddfod. On Thursday 7th and Friday 8th August we were on site sharing information about our work and met with people from across Wales. We also had plenty of activities for children on our stand too!

On Friday we also jointly hosted a panel discussion with Wrexham University. Alongside colleagues from the Regional Skills Partnership we talked about the University's new engineering facility - part of the Enterprise, Engineering, and Optics Centre Project, on the Plas Coch campus - and the training and career opportunities it will offer the region's young people.

ANGLESEY SHOW 2025

We enjoyed our time at the Anglesey Show this year. Visitors were keen to find out about our projects including details of our Clean Energy Fund. As guests within Menter Mon's stand at the show we were also delighted to be part of their 30th birthday celebrations.

PROGRESS CONTINUES ON RESPONSIBLE ADVENTURE PROJECT



The Responsible Adventure project led by Zip World continues to move forward, with several key milestones reached in recent months.

One critical development is the Penrhyn Quarry Swing, which is expected to receive planning consent later this year. This will mark a step forward for the project, bringing us closer to seeing its impact on jobs and economic activity in the region.

Alongside these developments, Zip World is continuing to shape its local benefits scheme. The latest proposals include support for local entrepreneurs, a skills plan aligned with employment pathways, and a local schools programme. Discussions are also underway to develop a strengthened framework for delivering community support.

The £16.7m project includes a £10.5m investment from Zip World themselves and £6.2m from the North Wales Growth Deal.

For project and process updates visit: [Ambition North Wales | Responsible Adventure](#)