Meeting

NORTH WALES CJC ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE

Date and Time

9.30 am, FRIDAY, 11TH APRIL, 2025

Location

Virtual Meeting

For public access to the meeting, please contact us

Contact Point

Rhodri Jones

01286 679556

Rhodrijones1@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

NORTH WALES CJC ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE

Voting Members

Councillors

Gary Pritchard Isle of Anglesey County Council

Nia Jeffreys Cyngor Gwynedd

Charlie McCoubrey

Jason McLellan

Dave Hughes

Conwy County Borough Council

Denbighshire County Council

Flintshire County Council

Mark Pritchard Wrexham County Borough Council

Co-optee Members - Non Voting

Vacant Seat Bangor University
Professor Joe Yates Wrexham University
Yana Williams Coleg Cambria

Aled Jones-Griffith Grŵp Llandrillo Menai

Vacant Seat Chair of the Regional Skills Partnership

Vacant Seat Eryri National Park

Chief Officers – Non Voting

Dylan Williams Isle of Anglesey County Council

Dafydd Gibbard Cyngor Gwynedd

Rhun ap Gareth
Graham Boase
Neal Cockerton

Cyngol Swynioda
Conwy County Borough Council
Denbighshire County Council
Flintshire County Council

Alwyn Jones Wrexham County Borough Council

Officers in Attendance

Alwen Williams CJC Interim Chief Executive / Portfolio Director

Iwan Evans Monitoring Officer

Claire Incledon Deputy Monitoring Officer
Dewi Morgan Chief Finance Officer
Hedd Vaughan-Evans Head of Operations
Nia Medi Williams Senior Operations Officer

AGENDA

1. ELECT CHAIR

To appoint a Chair for 2024/25.

2. ELECT VICE-CHAIR

To appoint a Vice-chair for 2024/25.

3. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

To receive any declarations of personal interest.

5. URGENT BUSINESS

To note any items that are a matter of urgency in the view of the Chair for consideration.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING 5-10 SUB-COMMITTEE

To review the Terms of Reference for the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee.

7. CO-OPTION ONTO THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB- 11 - 12 COMMITTEE

To consider the co-option of a member representative from Eryri National Park Authority to be appointed onto the sub-committee.

8. THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE FORWARD 13 - 16 WORK PLAN

To consider the Forward Work Plan for the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee.

9. APPOINTMENT OF GROWTH DEAL SRO

17 - 18

To present the nomination for the new Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) for the Growth Deal.

10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chair shall propose that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussions on the following items due to the likely disclosure of exempt information defined in Paragraph 14 of Schedule 12A

of the Local Government Act 1972: Information relating to the financial business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

There is an acknowledged public interest in openness in relation to the use of public resources and related financial issues. It is also acknowledged that there are occasions, in order to protect the financial and commercial interests that matters related to such information need to be discussed without being publicised. The report deals specifically with financial and business matter and related discussions. Publication of such commercially sensitive information could adversely affect the interests of the bodies and the Councils and undermine the confidence of other Growth Deal participants in sharing sensitive information for consideration. This would be contrary to the wider public interest of securing the best overall outcome.

11. PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Alwen Williams (CJC Interim Chief Executive / Portfolio Director) and Hedd Vaughan-Evans (Head of Operations) to present the report.

12. 4G+ (CONNECTED KEY SITES AND CORRIDORS) FULL BUSINESS CASE

Stuart Whitfield (Digital Programme Manager) and Kirrie Roberts (Digital Connectivity Project Manager) to present the report.

REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE 11th April, 2025

TITLE: Terms of Reference for the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee

AUTHOR: Iwan Evans, Monitoring Officer.

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1. To review the Terms of Reference for the Economic Well-Being Sub-Committee (*Appendix 1*).

2. DECISION SOUGHT

2.1. To adopt the Terms of Reference.

3. REASON FOR THE DECISION

3.1. The Sub-Committee must apply those rules and procedures as adopted by the Corporate Joint Committee and set out in the Terms of Reference – these are the powers delegated to the Sub-Committee. Any revision to these terms must be endorsed by the Corporate Joint Committee.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. On 17 January, 2025 the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee approved the establishment of the Economic Well-Being Sub-Committee, its membership and the Terms of Reference, to discharge the economic well-being function granted to the Corporate Joint Committee further to the Establishment Regulations. The strategic impetus to transfer the Growth Deal into the Corporate Joint Committee stemmed from the correlation in membership between the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee, the wish to avoid a multiplicity of regional bodies with similar functions, and the various legal and operational advantages and efficiencies of the Corporate Joint Committee being its own corporate entity
- 4.2. With the transfer of the Growth Deal on 1 April the strategic nature of the Sub-Committee's role provides that during the initial post transfer phase the Economic Well-Being Sub-Committee will be focused on driving forward the North Wales Growth Deal, and the Terms of Reference reflect this focus. As understanding develops about the definition of Economic Wellbeing at a regional level, the Terms of Reference will be updated to reflect this.
- 4.3. Membership of the sub-committee is drawn from the Membership of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee, with the Local Authority Leaders the nominated members. The current governance of the sub-committee is lifted from the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, and this is reflected in the arrangements around co-option.



5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1. The legal and governance implications are addressed in the body of the report.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1

Terms of Reference for the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer:

Report author.

ii. Statutory Finance Officer:

"I am of the opinion that the proposed Terms of Reference for the Economic Wellbeing Sub-Committee is reasonable, and I support them."

Appendix 1: Extract from the CJC's Constitution

The following extract forms part of the Corporate Joint Committee's Constitution and therefore the numbering convention is representative of its place within this.

The proposed Terms of Reference focuses on the Economic Well-being Function and the Growth Deal. The Investment Zone role will be the subject of a subsequent report.

Section 5

SUB-COMMITTEES

Economic Well-being Sub-Committee

- 5.8.1 The CJC shall appoint a Sub-Committee (known as the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee to lead on the Economic Well-being functions of the CJC
- 5.10.2 The Terms of Reference of The Economic Well-being Sub-Committee are set out in Part 3 of this Section. The terms of reference may be amended by the CJC from time to time.
- 5.10.3 The membership of the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee shall consist of the six Council Members of the CJC, together a representative from each of the following bodies appointed as a non-voting co-optee:
 - 1. Eryri National Parc Authority
 - 2. Bangor University
 - 3.. Wrexham University
 - 4.. Coleg Cambria
 - 5. Grwp Llandrillo Menai
 - 6. Private Sector Chair of the Business Advisory Board
 - 7. Chair of the North Wales Skills Partnership

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. AIMS/PURPOSE

- 1.1. Leading on the economic well-being function of the CJC.
- 1.2. Coordinating the planning and delivery of the Growth Deal:
 - providing direction for key strategies in support of the Growth Deal
 - uniting the Membership, other public sector bodies, charities and businesses around common purpose in support of the Growth Deal;
 - Identifying delivery as part of the Growth Deal to be developed by way of a Project Business Case in accordance with the Portfolio Business Case.
 - Reviewing the Growth Deal's Overarching Business Plan ("OBP")
- 1.3. Leading on the Corporate Joint Committee's contribution and participation in the North Wales Growth Vison.

2. FUNCTIONS OF THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE

The Sub- Committee will carry out the following functions:

- 2.1. To exercise the functions of the CJC in relation to the economic well-being of North Wales in accordance with and as defined in Section 76 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.
- 2.2. Keep the form of Projects to deliver the Growth Deal under review.
- 2.3. Approve Project Business Cases to deliver the Growth Deal in accordance with the Portfolio Business Case / Overarching Business Plan.
- 2.4. Provide strategic direction to the Executive Support Group and Portfolio Board (to include approval of remit for the Executive Support Group and Portfolio Board and approval of any resourcing issues).
- 2.5. Monitor performance, management and working arrangements (to include the necessary audit and assurance checks).
- 2.6. Ensure that sufficient resources are committed to the Growth Deal.
- 2.7. Arbitrate on any conflicts within the programme or negotiate a solution to any problems between the programme and external bodies.
- 2.8. Communicate and provide progress reports on strategic issues within the Growth Deal.
- 2.9. Promote partnership working.
- 2.10. Liaise with other Growth Deal or City Deal partners across the United Kingdom to share best practice and ensure a coordinated strategic approach.

- 2.11. Prepare annual and quarterly reports on the delivery of the Growth Deal.
- 2.12. To recommend co-option of members onto the Sub Committee for decision by the CJC.
- 2.13. Subject to these Terms of Reference and the Policies and Strategies of the CJC to exercise its functions in regard to any other matters not covered which are conducive or incidental to, the discharge of these Terms of Reference.

3. TERMS

- 3.1. Ensure that it exercises its functions within the Policies Strategies and Budget adopted by the CJC from time to time.
- 3.2. Ensure that the proposals are affordable and deliver maximum value for money for the public sector.
- 3.3. Ensure that the Growth Deal is managed and delivered in accordance with the Delivery and Funding Agreement in relation to the Delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal ("GA3") by the North Wales CJC.

4. PROGRAMME & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- 4.1. To co-ordinate the planning, development and delivery of relevant Programme(s) / Project(s) within these Terms of Reference.
- 4.2. To monitor and review progress and impact of relevant Programme(s) / Project(s), and to put forward any recommendations to the Corporate Joint Committee.
- 4.3. To monitor and review the level and deployment and value for money of resources including staff and where it deems appropriate make recommendations to the CJC in relation to these matters.
- 4.4. To monitor and review the level and deployment of resources required including staff and where it deems appropriate make recommendations to the CJC in relation to these matters.

SPECIFIC DECISIONS IN RELATION TO THE GROWTH DEAL SUBJECT TO THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION IN SECTION 8

	DECISION	PORTFOLIO DIRECTOR MATTER	CJC CX MATTER	SUB- COMMITTEE MATTER	CJC MATTER
KEY	THEMES				
1.	Approval and adoption of any updated OBP save to the extent any such update amounts to a material change to the prevailing OBP or a material change in the content of the Portfolio Programme or any Project Business Case of any of the Approved Projects			Yes	
2.	Approval and adoption of Programme and Portfolio Business Cases			Yes	
3.	Approval and adoption of the Project Business Cases			Yes	
4.	Approval and adoption of the Project Full Business Cases where the Sub-Committee has specifically delegated the approval to the Portfolio Director.	Yes			
5.	Subject to 1 above, varying the Programmes to be delivered.			Yes	
FUN	DING AND EXPENDITURE				
6.	Approval of expenditure within the CJC scheme of delegation	Yes			
7.	Transfer of funds allocated from one Project to another			Yes	
8.	Entering into (or agreeing to enter into) any borrowing arrangement on behalf of the CJC and/or giving any security in respect of any such borrowing				Yes
	Accepting terms and conditions in relation to any third-party funding for the Growth Deal or Growth Vision				Yes
10.	Agreeing the scope of the Gateway Reviews	Yes			
	Agreeing any Welsh Government or UK Government Funding Conditions			Yes	
	IERAL				
12.	Approval of the terms of reference of a private sector advisory body			Yes	
13.	Establishment of officer, sub-group or project management body	Yes			
	Making any variations to or waiving any rights to or terminating any contracts which are material to the Growth Deal	Yes			
15.	Proposing amendments to the terms of Delivery and Funding Agreement				Yes
	Making any press or PR announcements or releases of whatever nature in relation to the Growth Deal	Yes			
17.	Approval of the Business Case for creation of a local authority trading company under Local Government Act 2003 should such a company be a suitable and preferred model to deliver a Growth Deal project				Yes



REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE 11th April, 2025

TITLE: Co-option onto the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee

AUTHOR: Iwan Evans, Monitoring Officer

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1. To consider the co-option of a member representative from Eryri National Park Authority to be appointed onto the sub-committee.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1. To recommend to the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee co-option of an Eryri National Park Authority Member (non-voting) onto the Sub-Committee to support its functions and responsibilities.
- 2.2. That the following Eryri National Park Authority Member be co-opted onto the Economic Well-Being Sub-Committee in relation to matters involving strategic planning functions only:
 - Jonathan Cawley, Chief Executive Officers

3. REASON FOR THE DECISION

3.1. On 21 March the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee agreed the membership of the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee shall consist of the six Council Members of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee, together with a representative from each of those bodies that were represented on the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB) to be appointed as a non-voting co-optees.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

4.1. The Membership of the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee is a direct lift and shift from the North Wales Economic Ambition Board. This is reflected in its current composition with the leaders of each constituent Council (voting Members), and co-opted membership from the educational parties and a representative from Eryri National Park Authority (planning matters), Chair of the North Wales Skills Partnership, and the Chair representative from the Business Advisory Board. This represents the position as required in the Corporate Joint Committee's Standing Orders – "The membership of the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee shall consist of the six Council Members of the Corporate Joint Committee, together a representative from each of the following bodies appointed as a non-voting co-optee".



- 4.2. The representatives of each partner body have undertaken a role as Advisor to the North Wales Economic Ambition Board to date. The completion of a co-option agreement is a statutory precursor to undertaking membership of the Corporate Joint Committee on the terms as set out in the co-option agreement. The co-opted Members are appointed for a two-year period or until they stand down from their employed role or resign, whichever is the lesser.
- 4.3. Statutory Guidance actively encourages involving others to support carrying out functions and responsibilities effectively. The Guidance outlines the importance of creating an inclusive and collaborative culture to ensure a wider perspective of its work. The strategic nature of the work of the Sub-Committee provides an opportunity for it to identify key partners and stakeholders that they consider would benefit their work. However, who is co-opted and how is a matter for the Corporate Joint Committee to decide.
- 4.4. By co-opting Members onto any Sub-Committee, the Corporate Joint Committee is co-opting an individual as a Member of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee on such terms as it determines. This means that the co-opted person is appointed as a Member to support the function of the Corporate Joint Committee, as opposed to representing any organisation or employer. The terms of the co-option will be set out in the co-option agreement and will relate only to those economic well-being functions which are delegated to the Sub-Committee.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1. The legal and governance implications are addressed in the body of the report.

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer:

Report author.

ii. Statutory Finance Officer:

"No comments from the perspective of financial propriety."



Agenda Ite<mark>m 8</mark>

REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE 11th April, 2025

TITLE: The Economic Well-Being Sub-Committee Forward Work Plan

AUTHOR: Hedd Vaughan-Evans, Head of Operations

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1. To consider the Forward Work Plan for the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1. To agree the Forward Work Plan.
- 2.2. That the Chair may amend the Plan to take account of variations in work scheduling subject to the Plan being brought to the following meeting of the sub-committee for agreement.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

3.1. The Forward Work Plan sets out a calendar of meetings for the following six months and aligns with the meeting dates of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

4.1. The Forward Work Plan sets out the calendar of meetings, and in addition outlines the work to be undertaken by the sub-committee further to its delegated functions as set out in its terms of reference.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1. The legal and governance implications are addressed in the body of the report.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 The Economic Well-Being Sub-Committee Forward Work Plan: April - October

2025



STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer:

"The democratic process of the sub-committee is properly addressed through an agreed work programme, which is set out in this Forward Work Plan."

ii. Statutory Finance Officer:

"The revenue and capital out-turn report for 2024/25 as well as the reports for the revenue and capital budget reviews for 2025/26 will be presented to the Economic Well-Being Sub Committee for information only. The revenue and capital budget reviews will also be presented to the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee and it will be the Corporate Joint Committee that will be approving the decisions sought."





ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PLAN

Meeting date	Report Title	Report Purpose	Report Author	Exempt
May 16th 2025	Revenue and Capital Out-turn position for 2024/25	To provide the Sub-Committee with the final position for both revenue and capital in 2024/25.	Dewi Morgan Sian Pugh	No
	Q4 2024/25 Performance and Risk Report	To present the Quarter 4 (January to March) Growth Deal performance report and updated Portfolio Risk Register.	Hedd Vaughan- Evans	No
	Smart Local Energy Full Business Case	To present the Smart Local Energy Full Business Case (FBC) for consideration by the Sub-Committee.	Sandra Sharp	Yes
	Responsible Adventure update	To present a report to update on three specific concerns before inviting a Full Business Plan for the Responsible Adventures project; specifically: • To provide a developed Local Benefits Scheme following engagement with the local communities; • To prepare a Strategy and operational principles for the e-bus; • To provide a progress report on the Engagement Plan	Elliw Hughes	No
July 11th 2025 – date to be confirmed	Annual Report 2024/25	To present the Annual report for 2024/25.	Alwen Williams	No
October 3rd 2025 – date to be confirmed	2025/26 Revenue and Capital Budget Review – August 2025	To provide the Sub-Committee with details of the actual revenue expenditure and income up to the end of August 2025, as well as projected full year out-turn against its annual budget.	Dewi Morgan Sian Pugh	No
	Q1 2025/26 Performance and Risk Report	To present the Quarter 1 (April to June) Growth Deal performance report and updated Portfolio Risk Register	Hedd Vaughan- Evans	No
	Cydnerth Project Progress update	To provide an update report on the project's progress with details on fees, budgets and timescales.	Gareth Rogers	No





November 7th	Q2 2025/26 Performance and Risk	To present the Quarter 2 (July to September) Growth Deal	Hedd Vaughan-	No
2025 – date to be	Report	performance report and updated Portfolio Risk Register	Evans	
confirmed	Portfolio Business Case	To present the 2025 update of the Portfolio Business Case	Hedd Vaughan-	Yes
		and the outcome of the 2025 Portfolio Assurance Review for	Evans	
		the North Wales Growth Deal.		

^{*}The forward work plan includes standard agenda items, Growth Deal project business cases will be presented as required.

REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE 11th April 2025

TITLE: Appointment of Growth Deal SRO

AUTHOR: Alwen Williams, Portfolio Director

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1. The purpose of the report is to present the nomination for the new Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) for the Growth Deal.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1. That the Sub-Committee appoint Dylan Williams, Chief Executive of Isle of Anglesey County Council as the new Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) for the Growth Deal.
- 2.2. That the Sub-Committee agree to review the arrangements in 12 months' time.

3. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

3.1. To seek confirm the appointment of Growth Deal SRO in line with the decisions taken by the Economic Ambition Board in February 2025 to separate the role of SRO and Portfolio Director in response to the new requirement from government.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1. The North Wales Growth Deal is an agreement between the UK Government, Welsh Government and Ambition North Wales to deliver a transformational £1billion investment in the North Wales economy. The aim of the Growth Deal is to build a more vibrant, sustainable and resilient economy in North Wales, building on our strengths to boost productivity while tackling long-term challenges and economic barriers to delivering inclusive growth.
- 4.2. As per the Final Deal agreement, a portfolio, programme and project management governance structure has been put in place to oversee the delivery of the Growth Deal. This includes having a Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) for the Growth Deal and Lead Members across the programmes.
- 4.3. The Corporate Joint Committee is ultimately accountable for the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal objectives, delivering the projected outcomes and realising the required benefits. The SRO is accountable to the Corporate Joint Committee for the delivery of the agreed portfolio scope and objectives.



5. SENIOR RESPONSIBLE OWNER (SRO)

- 5.1. The role of SRO has been undertaken by Alwen Williams since the start of the Growth Deal alongside her Portfolio Director responsibilities. New requirements set out by Welsh Government and UK Government as funders of the Growth Deal now require these roles to be separated and undertaken by different individuals to increase accountability and provide additional leadership capacity.
- 5.2. In February 2025, the Economic Ambition Board approved a decision to separate the roles and to seek a nomination from one of the six local authority Chief Executives to act as Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) for the North Wales Growth Deal.
- 5.3. The local authority Chief Executives have considered the proposal and have nominated Dylan Williams, Chief Executive of Isle of Anglesey County Council to take up the SRO role. This proposal is seen as a natural extension of the current informal Lead Chief Executive role that Dylan Williams has been undertaking to support the Portfolio Director.
- 5.4. The SRO and Portfolio Director are accountable to the Corporate Joint Committee for the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1. There are no financial implications relating to this paper.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1. The Economic Ambition Board resolved in February 2025 to separate the roles of Portfolio Director and Senior Responsible Owner for the Growth Deal. This was in response to a clear government requirement to have a separate SRO and Portfolio Director. With the transfer of the delivery of the Growth Deal to the Corporate Joint Committee on 1st April 2025 the responsibility for implementing the decision and appointing the SRO now falls within the delegated functions of the Sub- Committee.

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer:

"As of 1st April 2025, responsibility for delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal was transferred to the North Wales CJC. With the completion of the transfer the Economic Ambition Board ("EAB") was wound up. However, it's decisions as they relate to the Growth Deal remain in effect. The CJC has delegated functions which reflect those of the EAB to the sub- committee. The decision on the appointment of the SRO is for the sub-committee to make."

ii. Statutory Finance Officer:



"No objections from the perspective of financial propriety."

