DECISION NOTICE
NORTH WALES CJC ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE
(Rule 20(3) of the Corporate Joint Committees (General) (No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2021)

13 November 2026 - Virtual Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Mark Pritchard (Wrexham County Borough Council) (Chair)

Robin Williams (Isle of Anglesey County Council), R Medwyn Hughes (Cyngor Gwynedd), Hugh Evans (Denbighshire County Council), Paul Johnson (Flintshire County Council).

Co-opted Members: Professor Paul Spencer (Bangor University), Professor Paul Davies (Wrexham University), Nick Tyson (Coleg Cambria), David Roberts (Chair of the Skills Partnership), Aled Jones-Griffith (Grŵp Llandrillo Menai) and Dave Penrith (Non-Executive Advisor).

Chief Executives of Constituent Councils: Sioned Williams (Cyngor Gwynedd), Sarah Ecob (Conwy County Borough Council), Helen White (Denbighshire County Council), Dylan Williams (Isle of Anglesey County Council), and Alwyn Jones (Wrexham County Borough Council).

Other officers present: Hedd Vaughan-Evans (Portfolio Director), Mark Watkins (Monitoring Officer), Sian Pugh (Assistant Head of Finance), Sara Jane Jones (Senior Accountant), Nia Medi Williams (Operations and Resources Manager), Elliw Alaw Hughes (Growth Deal Programme Manager), Meghan Davies (Energy and Net Zero Programme Manager), David Mathews (Land and Property Programme Manager), Catherine Morris-Roberts (Regional Skills Manager), Iain Taylor (Programme Manager), Kim Waller (Portfolio Management Office Head of Delivery), and Annes Sion (Democracy Team Leader).

Observers: Bryn Richards and Dewi Williams (Welsh Government) and Dominic Evans (UK Government).

Apologies:

Apologies were received from:

- Councillor Nia Jeffreys (Cyngor Gwynedd) with Councillor R Medwyn Hughes deputising
- Councillor Gary Pritchard (Isle of Anglesey County Council) with Councillor Robin Williams deputising
- Councillor Dave Hughes (Flintshire County Council) with Councillor Paul Johnson deputising
- Councillor Julie Fallon (Conwy County Borough Council)
- Professor Edmund Burke (Bangor University) with Professor Paul Spencer deputising
- Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd (Eryri National Park)
- Professor Joe Yates (Wrexham University) with Professor Paul Davies deputising
- Jenny Williams (Conwy County Borough Council) with Sarah Ecob deputising
- Neal Cockerton (Flintshire County Council)
- Dafydd Gibbard (Cyngor Gwynedd) with Sioned Williams deputising
- Dewi Morgan (Chief Finance Officer)

- Helen Edwards (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
- Alwen Williams (Chief Executive)

Cyd-Bwyllgor Corfforedig
Gogledd Cymru
North Wales
Corporate Joint Committee

DECISION NOTICE OF THE NORTH WALES CJC ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE

DATE OF DECISION 13 November 2026

SUBJECT

Item 5: NORTH WALES GROWTH DEAL - QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE AND RISK REPORT

DECISION

To consider and note the Quarter 2 Performance Report and updated Portfolio Risk Register.

To approve the submission of the Quarter 2 Performance Report to the Welsh Government and UK Government as well as the local authority scrutiny committees.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Quarterly reporting on progress against the North Wales Growth Deal is one of the requirements of the Final Deal Agreement.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report.

Cyd-Bwyllgor Corfforedig Gogledd Cymru
North Wales Corporate Joint Committee

DECISION NOTICE OF THE NORTH WALES CJC ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE

DATE OF DECISION 13 November 2026

SUBJECT

Item 6: NORTH WALES GROWTH DEAL - REQUEST TO EXTEND OBC VALIDITY PERIOD

DECISION

To approve the request to extend the Validity Period of the previously approved Outline Business Case as outlined in section 4.3 of the report.

To note that if the projects do not proceed to an approved Full Business Case during this time, it will be required to return for further consideration by the Sub-Committee.

To invite Transport for Wales and Network Rail, as they will be undertaking the work, to attend an Economic Well-being Sub-Committee meeting in the near future to provide an update on the work.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To seek the approval of the Sub-committee for an extension to the validity period for the Outline Business Case for the reasons outlined in part 4.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report.

Cyd-Bwyllgor Corfforedig
Gogledd Cymru
North Wales
Corporate Joint Committee

DECISION NOTICE OF THE NORTH WALES CJC ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE

DATE OF DECISION 13 November 2026

SUBJECT

Item 7: LOCAL GROWTH FUND IN NORTH WALES - INITIAL PRIORITIES AND NEXT STEPS

DECISION

To note the requirement from Welsh Government for a 10-Year Regional Growth Plan and a Local Growth Fund Delivery Plan for Years 2 and 3 - for Welsh Government approval to release funding from April 2027.

To endorse the emerging priorities as set out in section 4.5 of this report, noting that these continue to be draft and will be brought back for approval at a later date (see 2.6).

To request the Chief Executive to approach Cyngor Gwynedd to engage in discussions with a view to agreeing a commission arrangement to allow existing claim management and programme administration arrangements to continue into Year 2 of the programme with future arrangements for Year 3 and beyond to be evaluated in the summer of 2027.

To endorse the proposed prioritisation criteria set out in 4.6, and request that the Corporate Joint Committee apply this, in consultation with each local authority, to recommend provisional allocations in the delivery plan, brought back to this committee for approval in December (see 2.6).

To note the key principles of the Regional Growth Plan and Local Growth Fund Structure as set out in Annexes B and C, and request that the Chief Executive working alongside officers from partner organisations continue to develop these, and seek confirmation that this approach will meet the Welsh Government requirements.

To ask the Chief Executive to seek a delegation from the Corporate Joint Committee at its meeting on the 20 November, for the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee to approve the Local Growth Fund submission to Welsh Government in mid-December.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

There is c.£80 million of funding (c.£40 million per annum) available for North Wales for years 2 and 3 of the Local Growth Fund, conditional on Welsh Government approval. Ambition North Wales was asked to prepare a Regional Growth Plan and a Year 2 and 3 Local Growth Fund Delivery Plan and to be the Accountable Body for the Local Growth Fund Programme in Years 2 and 3.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report.

Cyd-Bwyllgor Corfforedig
Gogledd Cymru
North Wales
Corporate Joint Committee

DECISION NOTICE OF THE NORTH WALES CJC ECONOMIC WELL-BEING SUB-COMMITTEE

DATE OF DECISION 13 November 2026

SUBJECT

Item 8: HIGH IMPACT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - UTOPIA CITY PROJECT

DECISION

To accept the Expression of Interest for the Utopia City project and formally invite the project to join the reserve list.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To seek Economic Well-being Sub-Committee endorsement of the Utopia City project to join the reserve list.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report.