

OUTLINE OF THE GROWTH DEAL BID

The initial content of the Growth Deal is consistent with the vision and strategy adopted by the regional partners in 2016. The four principal themes of the Bid are:

- Strategic sites for employment, digital connections and housing;
- Transport infrastructure and services;
- Business innovation and growth; and
- Skills, worklessness and social reform.

The Growth Deal will run alongside and will support:

- UK and Welsh Government economic and social policy;
- UK Government policy to develop the competitiveness of the economy of the Union post BREXIT negotiations;
- Welsh Government policy for regional governance and devolution;
- the UK Government Industrial Strategy;
- the UK Government and Welsh Government Sector Plans specifically for nuclear, energy, manufacturing (Automotive and Aerospace) and digital);
- the Wales Infrastructure Plan; and
- Cross-border planning and connectivity e.g. Growth Track 360 and elements of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership Devolution Deal.

The bid promotes growth by strengthening high-value sectors in the fields of:

- Low Carbon Energy;
- Advanced Manufacturing;
- Digital and Creative;
- Support for Businesses.

Our projects will be identified under five main headings:

- Transport Infrastructure - Improving transport connections across the North;
- Sites and Property Infrastructure - The region is short of ready-made sites for the private sector;
- Digitalisation - Investing in digital infrastructure across the region and making the North ready for further developments;

- Skills and Employment - Significant skills gaps exist across the region and young people need to be inspired to follow careers which are consistent with the growth sectors in the region;
- Business Support - Supporting the area's businesses in specific sectors.

The strategic outcomes of the Growth Deal might include:

- Enhanced values for strategic employment and housing sites;
- Development to strategic sites;
- Transport access e.g. reduce travel times to strategic employment sites; transport usage figures to demonstrate modal switch to public transport;
- Business investment; Business growth; Business performance;
- Employment figures by type/sector/value;
- Skills figures - by type/sector/level - compared with the targets of the regional skills strategy;
- Reductions in worklessness and benefits dependency;
- Average income rates including household income;
- Regional Gross Value Added (GVA);
- Sustainable housing growth figures; and
- Renewable energy supply and carbon reduction.

Work is ongoing with the expert support of the Business School, Bangor University to develop a set of performance measures and outcome-based targets drawing on economic data and evidence.

Some of the outcomes expected from the Growth Deal include:

- Growth in GDP and production levels across the North;
- Growth in employment and investment by the private sector, particularly the low carbon energy, advanced manufacturing and digital sectors;
- Reduction in worklessness and economic inactivity.

The UK Government will expect Welsh Government to match its investment in North Wales. Both Governments will negotiate the scale of their investment in the North Wales Growth Bid. As part of the package, the Private Sector will also contribute to the Growth Bid.