

NORTH WALES GROWTH DEAL PORTFOLIO RISK REGISTER

Risk ID	Date Raised	Risk Category	Risk Name	Risk Owner	Description of the Risk	Current Gross Risk Rating			Trend	Mitigating Actions	Action Due Dates	Action owner	Residual Risk Rating			Trend	Status (Open / Closed)	Commentary	Date of last update
						P	I	Score					P	I	Score				
R003	21/10/2020	Financial	Affordability	Portfolio Management Office	If projects increase in cost, there is a risk they may not go ahead or project scope may need to be scaled down	5	5	25	↔	Project Business Cases will set out detailed project level financial, commercial and risk management measures to manage costs. Robust performance, risk and financial reporting arrangements will be established for all projects. Once Project Business Cases are approved, any additional costs incurred will be the responsibility of the Project Sponsor and alternative funding options will be considered. PMO engaging with sponsors at project level to identify mitigation for cost increases. Introduction of new projects introduces further potential for affordability risk, to be managed through business case development.	N/A	PMO, Project Sponsor	3	4	12	↔	Open	Risk reviewed. No changes to gross or residual risk scores. The residual risk rating remains high as costs have increased significantly since the Growth Deal was agreed in December 2020. While costs have stabilised at the moment, the Growth Deal funding from government is fixed at the amount agreed in 2020 therefore affordability remains a challenge for project. This is being managed on a project by project basis with some projects able to look at design changes, changes to deliver models and others needing to secure additional funding from other sources.	16/12/2025
						5	5	25		Monthly highlight reports to Programme Board with escalation routes to Economic Well Being Sub Committee	Monthly	PMO							
						5	5	25		Programme and project RAID logs in place to record risks and manage issues with mitigation managed at project level.	N/A	PMO							
						5	5	25		Project business cases and implementation plans to clearly set out risks to project delivery and mitigations. PMO working with sponsors to identify opportunities to minimise delay and where delay is unavoidable minimise impact	Quarterly	PMO, Project Sponsor							
						5	5	25		Quarterly reports to the Economic Wellbeing Sub-Committee and Portfolio Board with specific issues to escalate where necessary. PMO working with sponsors at project-level to identify opportunities to minimise delay and where delay is unavoidable minimise impact	In place	PMO							
R002	21/10/2020	Programme and Project Delivery	Delay	Portfolio Management Office	If there are delays to project delivery, there is a risk this could have an impact on the realisation of benefits or could result in projects not progressing.	5	5	25	↔	Routine reallocation of staff capacity to priority projects	Ongoing	PMO	3	4	12	↔	Open	Risk Reviewed. No change to residual risk however minimising delays remains a priority for the PMO. Mitigating capacity risk (R001) will contribute to mitigation however progress is still affected by sponsors	16/12/2025
						5	5	25		Monthly highlight reports to Programme Board with escalation routes to Economic Well Being Sub Committee	Monthly	PMO							
						5	5	25		Programme and project RAID logs in place to record risks and manage issues with mitigation managed at project level.	N/A	PMO							
						5	5	25		Project business cases and implementation plans to clearly set out risks to project delivery and mitigations. PMO working with sponsors to identify opportunities to minimise delay and where delay is unavoidable minimise impact	Quarterly	PMO, Project Sponsor							
						5	5	25		Quarterly reports to the Economic Wellbeing Sub-Committee and Portfolio Board with specific issues to escalate where necessary. PMO working with sponsors at project-level to identify opportunities to minimise delay and where delay is unavoidable minimise impact	In place	PMO							
R009	21/10/2020	Regulatory	Planning and Statutory Consents	Portfolio Management Office	If projects do not receive the necessary statutory consents and planning approval, there is a risk that projects will not be delivered and the benefits would not be realised.	5	5	25	↔	Project business cases will set out the consenting requirements for each project and the risks to project delivery	N/A	PMO, Project SROs	5	5	25	↔	Open	Risk Reviewed. The process to upgrade water treatment works to mitigate phosphates from their discharges is taking longer and this is now impacting planning applications. No Growth Deal projects affected yet but the Wrexham Gateway has had an outline application submitted. There is an emerging risk associated with SUDS/SABs potentially affecting consenting. Consenting remains a high risk and is being managed at a programme and project level within the Growth Deal.	16/12/2025
						5	5	25		Lead Role in PMO assigned for planning	N/A	PMO							
						5	5	25		Continued engagement with project sponsors and consenting authorities to understand consenting process and risks with support provided where appropriate at project level	N/A	PMO							
						5	5	25		Lessons learnt review to be delivered following project-level consenting delays	In place	PMO, Project sponsors							
						5	5	25		Chair and/or Portfolio Director to write to consenting authorities highlighting the impact of delayed decisions when individual project risks are escalated.	As required	Portfolio Director							
						5	5	25		Refer back to Programme SRO to review risk/issue of Phosphate consenting affecting multiple projects to propose appropriate mitigation.	N/A	Programme SRO							
						5	5	25		For reserve list projects criteria on planning has been set prior to business case submission ie. no commitment of funding until business case approval	N/A	PMO							
R007	21/10/2020	Financial	Private Sector Investment	Portfolio Management Office	If the private sector investment is not secured, there is a risk that projects will not be delivered or delivered at reduced scale impacting on the benefits to the region.	4	5	20	↔	Continued engagement with Project Sponsors and private sector partners and coordination of funder/investors	N/A	PMO, Project SROs	4	4	16	↔	Open	No change to residual risk. Securing the private sector investment for the Growth Deal remains a high risk however the position has improved with the creation of the reserve list and subsequent approved business cases. Risk also relates to R020 Subsidy Control.	16/12/2025
						4	5	20		Development of robust project business cases and contractual agreements for Growth Deal funding	N/A	PMO, Project SROs							
						4	5	20		New investment strategy in place to support PMO engage funders and secure private investment	In place	PMO							
R008	21/10/2020	Financial	Public Sector Investment	Portfolio Management Office	If the public sector investment is not secured, there is a risk that projects will not be delivered or delivered at reduced scale impacting on the benefits to the region.	4	4	16	↔	All Ambition North Wales partners have signed up to the Growth Deal and Governance Agreement.	Complete	NWEAB	3	4	12	↔	Open	Risk reviewed, no changes. A high number of approved FBCs led by public sector sponsors.	16/12/2025
						4	4	16		Development of robust project business cases and contractual agreements for Growth Deal funding	N/A	PMO, Project SROs							
						4	4	16		Support project sponsor applications for other public funding sources where appropriate	As required	PMO							

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R010	21/10/2020	Reputational and Social Impact	Spending Objectives	Portfolio Director	If projects fail to deliver against the portfolio spending objectives, there is a risk that the Growth Deal may not meet its targets in relation to job creation, GVA and investment.	5	4	20	↔	Robust business cases will be developed for each programme and project in line with 5 Case Business Model and will need to set out contribution to portfolio spending objective targets	N/A	PMO, Project SROs						No change to Gross and residual risk. While the creation of the Reserve List has mitigated the impact of projects withdrawn and provided momentum with recent business case approvals the risk remains high.	
										Grant Funding Agreements to contractually commit sponsors to delivery of spending objectives, with regular reporting and monitoring to ensure early intervention where required.	Ongoing	PMO						Risk to be reviewed following 2025 Portfolio Business Case update	16/12/2025
										Portfolio review and change control process in place.	N/A	PMO						Open	
										New project process was completed in early 2025 with a reserve list of projects established (total of 21 projects - 17 new projects, and a further 3 projects moved to reserve list).	Complete	PMO	4	4	16	↔			
										Investment strategy has been developed and approved by the Economic Ambition Board.	In place	PMO							
R015	22/10/2020	Reputational and Social Impact	Benefits Realisation	Portfolio Management Office	If project benefits are not realised, there is a risk that the overall Growth Deal could fail to deliver the benefits set out within business case.	4	4	16	↔	Each programme and project will be responsible for benefits management through a Benefits Realisation Plan.	N/A	PMO, Programme and Project SROs						Risk reviewed. No changes to gross or residual risk scores. A recent assurance review highlighted the work of the PMO on benefits realisation as good practice which will ensure the structures and systems are in place to help projects realise and report on benefits realisation.	
										Monthly highlight reports to Programme Board to monitor benefits realisation	Monthly	PMO						Open	
										Procurement Principles adopted with focus on community benefits and social value	Complete	PMO							16/12/2025
										Benefits Realisation guidance developed and being disseminated to project sponsors for use in project business cases	N/A	PMO	3	3	9	↔			
										Impact system launched and project teams trained.	N/A	PMO							
R001	21/10/2020	Programme and Project Delivery	Capacity	Portfolio Director	If sufficient resources are not in place at portfolio, programme and project level, there is a risk that this could impact on the successful delivery of the deal	4	5	20	↔	Ambition North Wales approved Revenue budget to extend fixed term contracts.	In place	PMO						Risk reviewed. No changes to gross or residual risk scores. Procurement of additional specialist support e.g. procurement, project management etc is underway following PAR recommendation, residual probability to be reduced once support appointed across these functions.	
										Additional procurement, finance, legal and technical capacity to be secured for projects and PMO as required. New consultancy framework to be established Q2 2025/26	Ongoing	PMO						Open	
										PMO engage partners to ensure capacity for delivery and promote recruitment activity	Reviewed monthly	PMO, Project Sponsors							16/12/2025
										Recruitment over Q3/Q4 for Portfolio Director, Project Managers, and other new CJC Roles to increase resources supporting the PMO.	In place	PMO	3	4	12	↔			
										Approval from both Governments to increase the top slice from to 2.15% and enabling PMO to draw down additional funding through Growth Deal budget and extend contracts as required	In place	PMO							
										PMO resources directed to priority projects to ensure FBC completion.	In place	PMO							
R006	21/10/2020	Environmental	Climate Change and Biodiversity	Portfolio Director	If projects do not take account of carbon emissions or biodiversity loss within project level assessments, there is a risk the portfolio could contribute towards the issues of climate change and biodiversity loss	4	3	12	↔	Position statement on Climate Change and Biodiversity adopted by the Economic Ambition Board.	N/A	NWEAB						Risk reviewed. No changes to gross or residual risk scores. Roll out of methodology and associated training continues	
										Project business cases to demonstrate delivery against the adopted the position.	N/A	PMO, Project SROs						Open	
										Methodology on how to take account of carbon emissions and biodiversity loss within project business cases now published and shared with all projects.	In place	PMO	3	3	9	↔			16/12/2025
										Streamlined methodology for smaller and low risk projects developed with WLGA to be adopted	In place	PMO							
R020	03/10/2022	Programme and Project Delivery	Economic Context	Portfolio Management Office	If there are significant changes to the UK economy (e.g. cost of living crisis and the energy security crisis), then the strategic and economic cases for programmes and projects may be adversely impacted	4	5	20	↔	Project business cases and implementation plans to clearly set out the case for projects and the risks to project delivery, including the impact of recent economic developments	N/A	PMO, Project Sponsors						Risk reviewed: No immediate changes however recent changes in global tariffs may present further risks.	
											3	5	15	↔					16/12/2025
											Open						Increase in NI costs and minimum wage start in Q1 25/26 may impact supply chains across projects for construction and operation.		
																	Developing global issues affecting supply chains and energy market likely to affect costs in the short to medium term.		

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R018	01/10/2020	Financial	Revenue Funding	Portfolio Management Office and Project Sponsors	If sufficient revenue funding is not in place to support the activities of the PMO and delivery of the Growth Deal, then project delivery and achievement of spending objectives and benefits may be impacted	4	5	20	↔	Economic Ambition Board approved Revenue budget to extend fixed term contracts. Longer term solutions continue to be investigated Partners and project sponsors responsible for sourcing revenue funding to support non-Ambition North Wales led projects PMO working to identify additional funding opportunities for Ambition North Wales led projects PMO capitalises salary costs associated with project delivery where appropriate and in line with guidance. Growth Deal top slice increased to 2.15%, allowing extension of Fixed term contracts SPF bid to 6 local authorities successful.	N/A	PMO			12	↔	Open	No changes to gross or residual risk scores. Budget for 2025/26 approved by the Economic Ambition Board in February 2025	16/12/2025
R019	01/10/2020	Programme and Project Delivery	Supply Chain & Skills Capacity	Portfolio Management Office	If the regional supply chain does not have the capacity to deliver projects, then projects' delivery could be impacted and regional benefits could be lower.	4	4	16	↔	Project business cases and implementation plans to clearly set out risks to project delivery and mitigations, including supply chain risks. RSP working with PMO to identify regional supply chain / skills challenges and identify mitigations Additional funding secured for skills activity Projects to conduct early market engagement where appropriate	N/A	PMO			12	↔	Open	No changes to gross or residual risk scores. Close collaboration between the PMO and the RSP on skills and supply chain is key to reducing the probability of this risk. This is an ongoing activity to ensure the capacity and skills are in the region to take advantage of the opportunities through the Growth Deal.	16/12/2025
R020	26/04/2024	Regulatory	Subsidy Control	Portfolio Management Office	Link to Public Sector investment risk R008: If subsidy control assessments cannot be confirmed the approval of funding for projects may be delayed or jeopardised.	3	4	12	↔	Review options for no subsidy investment, e.g. commercial loans Address details and assessment with sponsors at earliest stage (Terms sheet) Legal advice commissioned early on all Subsidy Control assessments Subsidy Control lead and support allocated within PMO	As per SOC-FBC stages	Programme Managers			9	↔	Open	Risk reviewed. No changes to gross or residual risk scores Challenges in completing 7 Principle assessments being supported by external specialist legal advice but these need to be addressed earlier in the assurance process, e.g. at Terms sheet stage pre OBC completion.	16/12/2025
R016	22/10/2020	Programme and Project Delivery	Assurance	Head of Operations	If agreed assurance processes are not followed, there is a risk that project approval could be impacted and could result in suspension/postponement of government grant payments.	3	5	15	↔	Integrated Assurance and Approval Plan (IAAP) agreed with Welsh and UK Government as part of Final Deal. Continued engagement with Welsh Government Assurance Hub to refine and update the Integrated Assurance and Approval Plan (IAAP) PMO assurance lead to coordinate delivery of assurance in accordance with the IAAP Streamlined approach to assurance introduced for new projects	Complete	PMO			8	↔	Open	Risk reviewed. No changes to gross or residual risk scores. An assurance review in October 2024 resulted in 4 recommendations to be undertaken by the PMO. An action plan will be put into place to address these.	16/12/2025
R017	22/10/2020	Financial	Financial Management	s151 Officer	If appropriate financial arrangements are not put in place, there could be a risk to the delivery of the deal, draw-down of the funding grant and allocation of funds.	3	4	12	↔	Ambition North Wales will utilise existing financial processes of Cyngor Gwynedd as the Host Authority. Project Business Cases will set out detailed project level financial, commercial and risk management measures to manage finances Robust monthly performance, risk and financial reporting arrangements will be established for all projects Robust financial claims process established for the drawdown of funding	N/A	PMO			6	↔	Open	No changes to gross or residual risk scores. Residual risk remains low due to the processes in place by Ambition North Wales and the funding agreements with project sponsors.	16/12/2025
R014	22/10/2020	Financial	Fraud	Portfolio Director	If appropriate processes are not put in place and managed, there is a risk that the portfolio could be subject to fraudulent claims resulting in misuse of public funds	4	4	16	↔	Projects to have robust financial monitoring processes in place including due diligence checks on project sponsors and funding recipients. PMO to review claims and applications submitted before passing them onto accountable body for payment Code of conduct and conflicts of interest policy incorporated as part of Governance Agreement 2 Conflict of Interest Register maintained for all programmes, projects and advisory groups.	N/A	PMO			8	↔	Open	No changes to gross or residual risk scores. Residual risk remains low due to the processes in place by Ambition North Wales. A further round of fraud training was held for the PMO and Business Delivery Board in May 2024. From 2025 projects in delivery will include grant/fund schemes will be managed according to PMO's approach to due diligence.	16/12/2025
R013	21/10/2020	Reputational and Social Impact	Political Change	Portfolio Director	If stakeholders are not managed effectively, there is a risk that political change could impact support for the portfolio, programme and projects.	4	4	16	↔	Frequent engagement with UK, Welsh Government and local government politicians and officials. GA2 and Final Deal agreement to confirm commitments of all parties. New members to be briefed on the Growth Deal Portfolio following change to the leadership. Engagement with new Government Ministers	Complete	Ambition North Wales, PMO			8	↔	Open	No changes to gross or residual risk scores. The risk remains low at present. Briefing with new UK ministers is ongoing. Senedd and local elections in 2026 and 2027 mean this risk may increase in the future.	16/12/2025

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R021	26/04/2024	Programme and Project Delivery	Transition to CJC	Portfolio Director	Transition of PMO to CJC. If staffing and process arrangements are not managed effectively there is a risk that PMO operations and project delivery may be delayed	3	4	12	↔	TUPE consultation with staff Impact on policies and processes to be reviewed before full transition	Complete	Portfolio Director	2	3	6	↔	Closed	Risk reviewed. Transition completed April 25 No changes to gross or residual risk scores. Work underway to review potential impacts and agreement of policies and processes for the new CJC subject to Economic Ambition Board approval	16/12/2025