



NORTH WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

19th June, 2026

TITLE: Corporate Planning

AUTHOR: Alwen Williams, Chief Executive

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. To update the Corporate Joint Committee on the approach to corporate planning by Ambition North Wales, including preparations for the transition to managing the Local Growth Fund from April 2027.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1. To endorse the approach to Corporate Planning as outlined in the report.
- 2.2. To delegate to the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee to monitor delivery of the Corporate Planning workstreams
- 2.3. To authorise utilisation of funding provided to the Corporate Joint Committee to prepare for delivery of the Local Growth Fund beyond 2026/27, working collectively with local authorities and partners to co-produce the region's proposals.

3. REASON FOR THE DECISION

- 3.1. As outlined in the report.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. Corporate Planning is required for the Corporate Joint Committee, to provide a clear framework for how it will operate, prioritise resources and demonstrate accountability.
- 4.2. As a new entity, the Corporate Joint Committee needs a structured plan to coordinate activity, engage partners, meet its legal and well-being duties, and set out how regional ambitions will be translated into practical delivery.
- 4.3. Additionally, Welsh Government have stated their intention that the CJsCs in Wales take regional accountability for managing the Local Growth Fund from 2027/28(as outlined in the National Investment Plan agreed with UK Government). Welsh Government have provided £200,000 to Ambition North Wales to:

- Produce a Regional Growth Plan to support the planning and delivery of the Local Growth Fund for the region.
- Support relevant capacity building and partnership arrangements in the development of the Regional Growth Plan and associated preparations to implement from April 2027.

4.4. Ambition North Wales have identified a number of key components required for corporate planning:

- Corporate Plan – will set out the vision, priorities and actions.
- Vision Statement – to set out long-term ambition and direction for the region.
- Wellbeing statement and objectives - to meet duties under the Well-being of Future Generations Act.
- 10 year Regional Growth Plan as required by Welsh Government, setting out
 - provide a long-term (10 year) vision, and describing how existing funds and investors are contributing to it.
 - how investment through the Local Growth Fund is intended to address gaps and add value in delivering the vision, working as part of that wider investment landscape setting out a prioritised and targeted portfolio of interventions to be funded by Local Growth Fund.

4.5. In order to maintain the pace of delivery required on the Local Growth Fund, it is proposed to delegate the to the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee to monitor delivery of the Corporate Planning workstreams, with any final approvals to be referred back to the Corporate Joint Committee for final approval.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Ambition North Wales are proposing to utilise the £200,000 provided by Welsh Government to Ambition North Wales to work collectively with local authorities and partners to co-produce the region's proposals and ensure a smooth transition to the new arrangements.

| | LGf | CJC Grant/Reserves |
|--|----------------|--------------------|
| Commissioning a strategic partner to co-develop the documents outlined in 4.4. | 65,000 | 35,000 |
| Project management capacity at Ambition North Wales to coordinate the transition to the new arrangements | 55,000 | |
| Contributions for Local Authorities to support co-produce the Regional Growth Plan (£5k per LA) | 30,000 | |
| Preparation/Mobilisation for Year 2 and 3 of Local Growth Fund – to include development of plans, systems and capacity building. | 50,000 | |
| TOTAL | 200,000 | 35,000 |

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1. The legal implications are set out in the Monitoring Officer comments below.

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. **Monitoring Officer:**

“These recommendations are within the functions and powers of the Corporate Joint Committee.

The proposed delegation to the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee is appropriate insofar as it relates to monitoring delivery of the corporate planning workstreams. Any final approval of the Corporate Plan itself should be reserved to, or reported back to, the Corporate Joint Committee for decision, as indicated in the report.

In developing the Corporate Plan and Regional Growth Plan, the CJC will need to ensure compliance with its statutory duties, including the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, equality and Welsh language duties, public sector governance principles, and any requirements attached to the Welsh Government funding. Appropriate consultation and engagement with constituent authorities, partners and stakeholders should be built into the work programme.

On that basis, there are no legal objections to the recommendations, provided that the delegation is treated as a monitoring and oversight delegation only, and that final approval of the substantive corporate planning documents and any significant financial or policy commitments is brought back to the CJC.”

ii. **Statutory Finance Officer:**

“It is essential that preparations are made to meet the challenges of the Corporate Planning workstreams. The decision sought allows the Corporate Joint Committee to proceed with putting arrangements in place to deal with these matters, and the allocation of grants that is shown in Part 5 of the report is an appropriate way of proceeding with this planning work.”