

SWANSEA BAY CITY REGION JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE 8th October 2024

Pre Audit Annual Statement of Accounts 2023/24

RECOMMENDATIONS/KEY DECISIONS

To provide Joint Scrutiny Committee with the Joint Committee Pre - Audit Annual Statement of Accounts 2023/24 (Appendix A) for the Swansea Bay City Deal.

1. Introduction

Carmarthenshire County Council as the Accountable Body is responsible for the financial stewardship of the Swansea Bay City Deal. This is the fourth year the Swansea Bay City Deal Joint Committee has had to compile a Statement of Accounts in line with the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014, as amended in 2018. This Pre-Audit Statement of Accounts will be audited by Audit Wales in line with the detailed Audit Plan and any amendments will be noted in the ISA 260. The Pre-Audit Statement of Accounts 2023/24 is attached at Appendix A.

2. Statement of Accounts 2023/2024

The Statement of Accounts present full financial statements for the financial year 2023/24, as required by legislation. To the period which ended on 31st March 2024, the Joint Committee and Portfolio Management Office expenditure incurred totalled £3,512.8k. Income through partner contributions, top slice and interest earned totalling £3,554.9k. This resulted in a surplus of £42.1k with the balance being transferred to the City Deal reserve, which now demonstrates £182.9k in total.

Further income received by the Joint Committee included the sixth instalment of Welsh and UK Government City Deal Grant totalling £23.1m along with an additional front-loading contribution of £19.3m. Grant of £39.2m was dispersed to projects during the year. Accrued interest is dispersed to projects on an annual basis apportioned on the basis of the City Deal grant award. This was approved at Joint Committee on 10th July 2020. Debtor and creditor amounts represent contributions outstanding from partners and funders, and the amount owing to Carmarthenshire County Council as the Accountable Body.

3. Financial Implications

The total annual expenditure of the Joint Committee was £2,979.3k. The total expenditure for the Portfolio Management Office was £533.5k. Income through top slice of £785.2k and interest earned of £2,769.7k. This resulted in a surplus position of £42.1k. The current

reserves reside at £182.9k for the Joint Committee, and £54.2m for the portfolio investment fund.

City Deal grant totalling £42.4m and generated interest of £2,769.7k was accounted for within the year. Payments totalling £39.2m have been disseminated from the Accountable body.

The estimated portfolio forecasted investment position (as at 31st March 2024) demonstrates an underinvestment of £4.9m. Currently the portfolio is presenting a total investment over the fifteen-year life span of the Swansea Bay City Region Deal of £1.278bn. This is subject to fluctuation over the life span of the project and will be monitored quarterly through financial templates and through the Portfolio risk register. The remaining business cases were approved within the year and the portfolio is now in full delivery.

Appendices:

Appendix A - Joint Committee Pre-Audit Annual Statement of Accounts 2023/24 for the Swansea Bay City Deal.

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