



NEATH PORT TALBOT PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD

Highlight Report

Well-being Objective	
There are more green, secure and well-paid jobs and skills across the area are improved	
Group/Partnership	
Neath Port Talbot Local Economic Partnership	
Reporting Period	
May 2024 – October 2024	
Steps	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop Circular and Foundational economies and promote local people and businesses to spend more money in NPT• Encourage a regenerative local economy where the impacts of production and consumption are reduced• Increase the number of apprenticeship, traineeship and work placement opportunities in the local area and support more people to access them• Support more people to achieve the necessary qualifications linked to the skills that local employers need now and in the future• Ensure local businesses, local people and communities have maximum benefit from external major investment for the area both existing and planned	
Current position/recent progress:	<p>Considerable activity underway which will contribute to meeting the well-being objective and identified steps, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UK Shared Prosperity Fund <p>Neath Port Talbot Council is leading the delivery of the £33m UK Shared Prosperity Fund programme in Neath Port Talbot. There are five anchor projects, Skills and Multiply projects and Strategic Projects in delivery in addition to five third party grant schemes.</p>



- UK Levelling Up Fund

There are two UK government funded programmes in delivery – Vale of Neath Visitor Attractor programme including Gnoll County Park and Pontneddfechan infrastructure improvements, and the Port Talbot Town Centre Regeneration programme including improvements to the Princess Royal Theatre.

- UKRI Launchpad

Neath Port Talbot Council is a strategic partner in the South West Wales Innovate UK Net Zero Industry Wales led Driving Net Zero Innovation and Growth Launchpad which provides funding opportunities and regional support for businesses developing decarbonisation initiatives.

- TATA Transition

Launch of Supply Chain fund and Employability and Skills funds imminent as part of the immediate response package. Business Growth and Start Up fund being developed. Capital projects also being developed for consideration at next Transition Board meeting in November.

- Celtic Freeport

Submission of documentation for Full Business Case accelerated and now submitted for consideration.

- Local Economic Action Plan (LEAP)

Strategy finalised and utilised to frame the development of the capital and revenue funds supported through the TATA Transition Fund

- Neath Port Talbot Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy

Development underway

- Various business support and place based interventions underway



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of skills and employability interventions
Next Steps:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPT LEP Meeting on 3rd October Evaluation of UK Shared Prosperity Fund in Neath Port Talbot Mapping of strategies and interventions of partner organisations Development of the NPT Regeneration and Economic Development Strategy Launch and delivery of TATA Transition projects Approval of Celtic Freeport FBC Planning for future UKG funding programmes
How is progress being measured?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and evaluation processes in place for all interventions
Challenges Faced:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant schemes ending without continuity of funding / agreement of replacement initiative Financial constraints on partner organisations
Decisions Required:	<i>None</i>
Reporting Officer:	<p>Lisa Willis, Neath Port Talbot Council Ian Williams, Neath Port Talbot Council</p>