



To: Cllr Rob Stewart, Leader Swansea County Council
Cllr Rob Jones, Leader Neath Port Talbot Council
Cllr David Simpson, Leader Pembrokeshire County Council
Cllr Emlyn Dole, Leader Carmarthenshire County Council

cc: Chief Executives

Review of the Swansea Bay City Region City Deal

It is now more than 18 months since we signed the Heads of Terms Agreement for the Swansea Bay City Region City Deal.

Both the UK and Welsh Governments are aware of the hard work to develop robust business cases and governance arrangements for each of the projects, which form the City Deal.

We remain fully committed to delivering the deal in partnership with you. As has been discussed during recent meetings, we share your wish to see the deal delivering for the region, however, we have not yet collectively reached the point where government funds can be released.

The determination of all partners to see this deal succeed has been demonstrated by the hard work on all sides to develop the elements of the deal, as required in the Heads of Terms.

We are now at the stage where it is appropriate to review the deal, to help us progress to the next stage of delivery.

As you are aware we have been considering the potential for a focused, independent and rapid review. This will provide us all with assurance that the structures, processes and governance are in place to deliver a robust and successful deal, which realises the full economic benefits promised by this ambitious programme.

The time is now right to commission this review, working together with all partners in the region.

The review will assess the progress to date; consider whether oversight and compliance are proportionate and robust at both programme and project level, and provide recommendations for the future, as appropriate.

These recommendations will inform decisions about funding and no money will be released until the review is complete. They will also provide further confidence for potential private sector investors across the deal as a whole.



We are keen to maintain momentum and would like to encourage you to continue working on individual projects in parallel with the review. All current and future business cases will, of course, need to be considered in light of the review's outcome and recommendations.

We reiterate once again our commitment to the success of this deal and we look forward to the role this review will play in supporting its success.

Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP Secretary of State for Wales UK Government	Ken Skates AM Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport Welsh Government
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