

Lisa Willis

European and Strategic Funding Manager

Neath Port Talbot Council

The Quays

Brunel Way

Baglan Energy Park

SA11 2GG

18<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Lisa:

**Re: Houses as Powerstations Collaboration Opportunity.**

The Homes as Power Stations regional programme and the Active Building Centre are aligned in a number of ways and will continue to work together to accelerate market adoption of energy positive and net zero homes to provide cleaner, cheaper and more resilient energy.

The Active Building Centre strategic objectives are aligned to the HAPS investment objectives, with particular reference to the following ABC strategic objectives: 'create a critical mass of buildings' (residential in the case of HAPS), 'Active Buildings as 'Energy Positive Agent' reducing grid impact (the HAPS definition is energy positive over a 12 month period), and 'Adapt the Active Building Technology portfolio to tackle existing stock' (the HAPS proposes to facilitate the adoption of energy positive homes for new build and existing stock through a retrofit programme).

Neath Port Talbot CBC, as lead local authority for the HAPS programme, provided a letter of support to Swansea University for its submission to the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund to establish an Active Building Centre, and it is proposed that the two programmes will establish a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the collaboration. The partners are committed to delivery of Active Buildings at a scale to make the region a UK leader.

There are a number of areas where the two programmes will collaborate, including:

***Demonstrators***

The Homes as Power Stations programme will provide real life examples of energy positive homes, both new build and retrofit, including at scale developments across the Swansea Bay City Region to demonstrate the benefits, including commercial viability of homes as power stations / active homes at scale by breaking down commercial barriers.

Professor Dave Worsley

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The HAPS developments will provide real life data at a local and regional level to feed in to the Active Building Centre national (UK wide) programme and will go some way to supporting the output of 17 demonstrator projects.

Neath Port Talbot CBC is a partner in the HAPS pathfinder project in Neath, a collaborative project between Neath Port Talbot CBC, Pobl and Swansea University's SPECIFIC project to showcase renewable technologies across a mixed tenure of 16 dwellings (flats and houses).

The aim of the HAPS and the Active Building Centre is to progress the rollout and increased scale of these technologies across a number of building typologies and the two programmes will work together to facilitate this. The HAPS programme will promote a flexible design approach and will continually monitor the performance of the technologies adopted.

Neath Port Talbot CBC has already identified up to 5 development schemes within the HAPS programme, totalling up to 150 units across the Swansea Bay City Region, which have the potential to be aligned to the Active Building Centre Active Homes programme.

The HAPS programme has already been identified in the Active Building Centre collaboration activity programme, in particular work packages 2,4,6,7,8,9,11 and 12 and the HAPS programme team will work with the ABC programme team to develop a programme of delivery to realise this activity.

#### *Monitoring and evaluation*

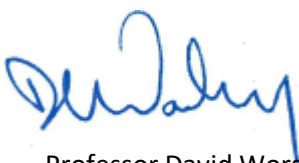
There is a commonality in the monitoring and evaluation of the HAPS and Active Building Centre programmes, and the programme teams will ensure consistency of approach and baseline data.

The HAPS programme proposes a continuous monitoring and evaluation of technologies/ performance management to ensure continuous improvement to feed in to design development and will act as a living test bed (design feedback), this complements the work packages of the Active Building Centre.

The HAPS proposes a marketing / education programme to disseminate the findings of the HAPS programme including energy performance, health benefits and social benefits including 'liveability / human interface with the technology which is aligned to the Active Building Centre programme elements on Health and Wellbeing, 'Active on the Inside' and Human interface design which are part of the Swansea University research element of the Active Building Centre.

We are very much looking forward to starting work with you all on this exciting and genuinely trail blazing opportunity.

Yours sincerely



Professor David Worsley