

SWANSEA BAY CITY REGION JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE 6th December 2022

Portfolio Gateway Review & Action Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS/KEY DECISIONS

To inform on the outcome of the Portfolio Gateway Review and to agree the Action Plan in response to the review recommendations

REASONS

1. Introduction

The SBCD Portfolio Gateway Review Action Plan available in Appendix A has been developed in response to the recommendations made in the Gateway 0 review undertaken in July 2022.

1. Background

As part of the assurance arrangements for the SBCD Portfolio, an independent Gateway 0 Review was undertaken in July 2022.

The Review was undertaken by an independent, external team in accordance with the Welsh Government Integrated Assurance Hub Guidelines. Seventeen 'conversations' were held with stakeholders between 20th-22nd July together with a workshop session with the local authority Leaders.

The SBCD Portfolio received an Amber-Green Delivery Confidence Assessment (DCA) rating. The summary finding of the Review were:

1. The SBCD Portfolio continues to make progress and is well-regarded across many stakeholder groups
2. The establishment of the PoMO and the dedication and support from Joint Committee has been key to progress
3. The leadership of the individual programmes and projects has been key to successful delivery to date. There is a desire to ensure that 'the whole is greater than the sum of the parts'
4. The operating environment has become more difficult over the last 12 months presenting risks that are largely outside the control of the Portfolio.

All reasonable measures to strengthen its position and be proactive in the event of difficult choices are being made

The Review Team made four recommendations to the Portfolio SRO to ensure that the portfolio is positioned for effective management and delivery. The recommendations covered the development of business cases, the monitoring of costs and benefits, access to PoMO intelligence and the use of clear language and executive summaries in reporting. The full Review report is attached as Appendix B. The next Gateway 0 Review for the Portfolio will be held in July 2023.

2. Gateway Review Action Plan

The Portfolio Gateway Review Action Plan provides detail on the specific actions required to fulfil the four recommendations of the review together with the timing, ownership, status and dependencies for each action.

To facilitate the completion of the Action Plan recommendations, the PoMO is engaging with partners across the Portfolio through its governance meetings and targeted engagement. Progress on implementing the Action Plan will be reported to future Programme (Portfolio) Board meetings. The completed Action Plan will also be forwarded to UK and Welsh Governments with the updated Portfolio Business Case in March 2023 in readiness for the next drawdown of City Deal funding.

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