

Supporting Innovation & Low Carbon Growth (SILCG) Programme

Dr Brett C Suddell, Programme Manager

Lisa Willis, Strategic Funding Programmes Manager

Nicola Pearce, SRO

28th February 2023

SBCD Joint Scrutiny Committee

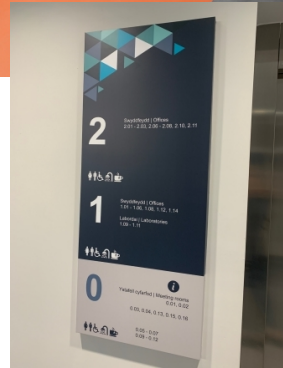
SILCG Introduction

- £57.7m programme of 7 interlinked projects:
 - Bay Technology Centre
 - South Wales Industrial Transition from Carbon Hub (SWITCH) with Swansea University (delivery partner)
 - Advanced Manufacturing Production Facility (AMPF)
 - Property Development Fund (PDF)
 - Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) Charging Infrastructure
 - Air Quality Monitoring Project (AQMP)
 - Hydrogen Stimulus Programme with USW
- SILCG Programme Business Case approved in August 2021
- Programme Manager appointed March 2022

Bay Technology Centre

- Construction completed Jan 2022
- Handover to NPT in July 2022
 - First commercial energy positive building in Wales
 - Won three prestigious awards to date, including:
 - Net Zero Award in 2022 Constructing Excellence Wales (CEW) Awards (June 2022)
 - Sustainability Award in the Insider Wales Property Awards (June 2022)
 - Commercial Property Project of the Year, British Construction Industry Awards 2022, presented at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London (October 2022)
- Two tenants currently on site, tenancies in development for pipeline of interested parties
- View BTC promotional videos here:
 - <https://bit.ly/3wksdGV> (English)
 - <https://bit.ly/3Pj46Ry> (Welsh)







- £20M (£16M construction, £4M for specialist equipment)
- Two stage Design & Build tender issued via South West Wales Regional Contractors Framework 16th September.
- Contractor open day organised in October 2022 at Swansea University to view new building technologies and legacy equipment – valued by prospective contractors
- Three excellent tenders scored and announcement due soon
- Heads of Terms (HoT) developed and currently with SU for approval
- Once HoT signed, successful contractor will be informed/announced

SILCG Projects

- Decarbonisation Theme (£3M allocated to projects)
- **Hydrogen Stimulus Programme**
 - Funding Agreement being reviewed by University of South Wales
 - Preparatory works undertaken
- **Air Quality Monitoring Project**
 - Air Quality Data Analyst and Scientific Officer in place
 - Ricardo undertaken review of Year 1 data
 - Presentation given to key stakeholders on 28/10
- **Low Emission Vehicle Route Map**
 - Development of the Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery Plan specification consulting with various external stakeholders

SILCG Projects

- Industrial Futures Theme (£27M)
- **Advanced Manufacturing Production Facility**
 - £17.2M construction and equipment
 - Regular meetings with Industry Wales to support pre market engagement activities to develop the scope aligned to the needs of industry and engage potential operators
- **Property Development Fund**
 - Expression of Interest stage
 - 14 applications received (heavily oversubscribed) – 13 invited through to Stage 1 formal application process
 - 9 stage 1 applications received, currently being assessed
 - Invitation to stage 2 to be issued in February

SILCG Programme - Assurance

- During October and November 2022 the SILCG Programme was subject to a NPT council internal audit. This involved a series of interviews and analysis of programme documentation, claims, governance, procurement etc.
- Conducted by NPT Audit Manager
- The outcome from the audit published on 15th November 2022 was the project demonstrated '**Substantial Assurance**' which is the highest rating available, which is rarely given. The whole team is very proud of this achievement.
- External reviews to date/ planned:
 - External peer review in January / February 2020
 - Gateway Review Project Assessment Review (PAR) in June 2020
 - Gateway Review Critical Friend Review (CFR) in October 2020.
 - Internal audit Oct/Nov 2022
 - Programme PAR planned for end of 2023

InnovateUK Launchpad

- NPTCBC is lead local authority on a recent InnovateUK submission to identify interested parties around an innovation cluster entitled ***NOW SWITCH (Net Zero Wales Sustainable Welsh Innovation to Transition from Carbon Hub)*** a consortium of SW Wales Local Authorities, Net Zero Industry Wales and Welsh Universities.
- InnovateUK plan to establish 10 launchpads across the UK with two already established in the Tees Valley area and Liverpool region. Each launchpad will have £7.5M funding to distribute in future funding calls created in consultation with InnovateUK and for region to apply to only.
- Decision was due 5th December, outcome still awaited

Forward Plan

- Additional tenants to be secured for BTC
- Signing HoT between Neath Port Talbot and Swansea University and appointment of contractors
- Signing Hydrogen Funding Agreement and purchase of specialist equipment
- LEV - Early 2023 focus will turn to progressing the regional LZEV Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery Plan ensuring alignment to all other existing activity across the region
- AQMP activities to continue with additional sensors deployed
- Pre-market engagement stakeholder event for AMPF facilitated by Industry Wales, scoping of facility, progress tender specification
- Assessment of PDF Stage 1 applications, invitations to Stage 2 to be issued

Thank you for listening