



# Bargen Ddinesig

BAE ABERTAWE  
SWANSEA BAY  
City Deal

# SBCD Highlight Report

## March 2024



# Communications and Marketing



Heidi Harries  
Communications  
and Marketing Officer

## SBCD Portfolio Office Feb – March 2024

### Activities Completed

- Finalised SBCD Marketing, Communications and Engagement Implementation Plan and Protocol and Guidance documents.
- Represented the City Deal in Carmarthenshire Careers Event, 4thRegion City Centre Conference and Marine Energy Wales Conference.
- Pentre Awel Topping Out Ceremony and Launch of Skills & Talent SPARC initiative.
- Website updates and social posts on Pentre Awel groundbreaking, job opportunities, Pembroke Port developments.
- Invitation and web booking pg



This includes a supesize slipway, pontoon and laydown space, as well as the newly refurbished Hangar Annexes.



### Activities Planned/Ongoing

- Planning, mapping and design of website upgrade.
- Represent the City Deal in 4thRegion City Centre Conference and Marine Energy Wales and the Carmarthenshire Careers Event.
- Plan and organise Meet the City Deal Event in NPT and Swansea.
- Planning and early drafts of 2023-2024 Annual Report.
- Plan and assist in the Pentre Awel topping off ceremony (on 29<sup>th</sup> February)



### Risks

Increases in constructions costs may have implications to overall project budgets/timelines/quality which may create variance from the figures that the press have already publicised.

Slippage in delivery may create negative press.

### Issues

None



# Business Engagement



**Peter Austin**  
Business Engagement  
Manager

SBCD Portfolio Office Feb - March 2024



## Activities Completed

### Activities

- Consulted Projects on Private Sector contributions
- Consulted projects on website upgrade proposal

### Attendances:

- 4theRegion Swansea City Conference Swansea Arena
- Joint Scrutiny
- DCW AI webinar

### Meetings

- Tinint re website upgrade

Note:  
Reduced activity due to 2 weeks annual leave during this reporting period.

## Activities Planned/Ongoing

### Current

- Updating Construction Costs report
- Assisting PoMO Business Case Update
- Liaising with Skills and Talent team on apprenticeship recording
- Ongoing upgrade of SBCD website
- Business Engagement support for programmes and projects,
- Planning regional showcase and other events
- Updating Portfolio events plan
- Arranging attendance at key events

### Ongoing

- Coordinating ESB meetings with Chris Foxall
- Ongoing monitoring of Portfolio procurement pipeline
- Ongoing monitoring of construction costs across portfolio
- Supporting Pentre Awel on Community Benefits steering group
- Responding to enquiries received via the City Deal email inbox
- Managing SBCD LinkedIn account
- Attendance at CEIC steering group meetings

## Risks

- Potential cost increases during construction phases of projects
- Poor take up of offer of support from ESB to assist projects with supply chain creation, private sector investment or building sectoral eco systems could cause opportunities to be missed.

## Issues

None



# Swansea City & Waterfront Digital District



Lee Richards  
Project Manager

Project Partner Lead: City & County of Swansea

## Activities Completed

### Hotel:

Swansea Council going out to market for a hotel developer from March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**71/72 Kingsway:** BYUK are indicating mid April for building completion but additional work will be required for some external areas.

Landord and tenant fit out – design packs prepared to go out to tender. Savills engaged with handover meetings.

HoT's in discussion with anchor tenant, plus 2nd floor tenant.

Budget on track but some contingency risks being managed .

- **Innovation Matrix:** IM Project started on site 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- Tenant HoTs at 65% of available net lettable space
- Planning for Handover Meetings progressing well
- Social Value targets are on track

### Innovation Precinct:

- Draft Change Request Notification has been submitted to City Deal Team. However, with the recent change in the University's senior leadership team, there is an ongoing internal review of the Innovation Precinct delivery strategy which may result in amendment to the current draft change request notification.



## Activities Planned

### Arena

Hotel – progress marketing.

### 71/72 Kingsway.

Begin construction work to link digital fibre from Copr bay to Kingsway.

Continue with soft landing handover meetings and go out to tender on internal fit out works.

Finalise HoT's for proposed tenants and continue marketing for office, retail and event space.

### Innovation Matrix

- Further round of tenant engagement planned for March/April 2023
- Workstreams in place to define Furniture and AV solutions
- .Café operator strategy ongoing.

### Innovation Precinct

- Submission of a formal change control notification around the preferred alternative delivery model



## Risks

- Effect of Covid-19 and Material shortage on construction, including programme slowdown and impact on costs
- Inflationary pressures cited by BYUK arising from cost pressures experienced by themselves & sub-contractors on supply/availability/cost of fuel/materials attributed to Brexit, Covid, Ukraine situation:
- Effect of Covid-19 upon level and type of commercial demand for 71/72 Kingsway, Innovation Matrix and Innovation Precinct, also concerns about tenant fit-out contributions.
- Hotel: current market conditions causing funding challenges.

## Issues

Impacts of Covid and effects on redevelopment including timescales, costs and occupier demand.



# Pentre Awel

Alex Williams

Richard Reynolds

## Project Partner Lead: Carmarthenshire County Council



## Activities Completed

### Zone 1

- Construction now @ week 57. Successful 'Topping Out' held onsite 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to mark the completion of the steel frame for all five buildings. Faye Jones MP in attendance alongside all project partners and local members of BYUK supply chain. [Press release](#) issued. Key works progress / updates in the period:
  - Installation of glulam timber structure within the pool hall
  - Partitioning and M&E within Building B – Swansea University demise – continues to progress well
  - First capital plant being installed
  - Northwest section of footpath completed and opened
  - Developing design for cafe, leisure retail/customer hub and signage & wayfinding
  - BYUK has completed 90% of its procurement activity
  - 2 week prolongation of programme due to adverse weather
- 2,000 person weeks of Targeted Recruitment and Training achieved to date. Inclusive of 31 apprentices/shared apprentices
- 584 pupil interactions achieved, in addition to 91.5 hours of schools' engagement.
- Good turnout at 'Residents Surgery' held onsite 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024
- Business and Innovation Plan approved at Steering Group 06/03/24 setting out business sectors to be targeted. Broadening of sectors targeted from life sciences to health, social care and wellbeing.
- Swansea University has signed an 'Agreement to Lease' for its demise within Zone 1. It has set up an Implementation Group to agree the scope of services/training to be delivered within the Health and Wellbeing Academy onsite
- Hywel Dda - completion and sign-off of RIBA Stage 3 report for its space in Building D. Works to proceed to RIBA Stage 4. Lease discussions to be concluded shortly. Ongoing dialogue on access, operational and management requirements for hydrotherapy pool.

## Activities Ongoing/Planned

### Zone 1

- Pentre Awel Business Case to be updated and resubmitted to PMO – target July 2024
- Development of marketing literature to engage and attract businesses to Pentre Awel.
- 3 x SPF Project Manager posts advertised covering (1) Business Engagement; (2) Research and Innovation and (3) Social and Community Health. Interviews and appointment March/April 2024
- Continued exploration of 'Treat and Teach' proposals with the Health Board and Universities.
- Site hoarding artwork project with Coleg Sir Gar students. Unveiling ceremony deferred to May 2024 due to pre-election period.
- Capturing of data for CLES model to quantify local economic impact of construction spend
- Pentre Awel representation at 'Meet the City Deal' and events in March and April 2024.
- Procurement of an EV charging operator.
- Third Sector Protocol drafted.

### Other Zones

- CCC going out to the market in coming weeks to seek interest from a Development Partner for the hotel within Zone 4
- Zone 2 and 3 assisted living proposals under review to ensure scope aligns with market demand/need
- CCC has recently purchased and is redeveloping the former Plas y Bryn care home, providing an initial 'testbed' in advance of Zones 2/3 becoming operational.

## Risks

- PA1: Zone 1 not delivered to programme and budget. **Mitigation** - Ongoing monitoring via Construction Group, progress meetings and RDD schedule. Effective Cost and Project Management via Gleeds, and site supervision via Arup
- PA2: Failing to secure sufficient tenants to lease space within Zone 1. **Mitigation** - 'Teach and Treat' proposals, Business and Innovation Plan; SPF projects and appointment of dedicated staff to engage and attract businesses.
- PA5: Failure to realise objectives set out in City Deal business case. **Mitigation** - ongoing monitoring of delivery, updated Business Case to reprofile benefits and financial case.





## Project Partner Lead: Pembroke Dock Marine Board



### Activities Completed

#### PDI:

- Lot 3 Terrestrial infrastructure works planning underway
- Lot 3 GI complete
- Purchase of 1 x area of privately owned 'Triangle' completed, further negotiations with other landlords underway

#### PDZ:

- MH:HK Successful outcome of the funding submission to Innovate UK, through the South Wales Launchpad for the collaborative Milford Haven Hydrogen Kingdom Project.
- Subsea Soundscape (S3) OWEC bid submitted.

#### META:

- Swansea University tidal turbine test programme completed – device decommissioned
- Attended Pembrokeshire Aquaculture conference
- MEW conference – exhibiting and involved in 'Firmly Anchored' panel

#### MEECE:

- Attended Pembrokeshire Aquaculture Conference in the Bridge Innovation Centre
- Attended the Wales Freeports launch event in London
- Submitted £3.75M bid for ECOFlow funding
- Green Economy Centre bids both failed
- Milford Haven Hydrogen Kingdom bid for Launchpad funding was successful, subject to contract.
- Tidal Lagoon bid successful, subject to contract
- Met with Holyhead Freeport Team on Anglesey
- Attended MEW Annual conference
- Attended green ammonia conference in Birmingham

### Activities Planned

#### PDI:

- Continue Lot 3 planning/costing

#### PDZ:

- MH: HK Mobilisation
- Grid Workshop at Pembrokeshire College Destination Renewables

#### META:

- Dolphyn Hydrogen trial ad PEBL monitoring systems due to be deployed March 2024
- Developing funding bids to SMART Grants and WMFS:FR4 in collaboration with MEECE where possible

#### MEECE:

- Green Economy Centre bids will be recycled into Place Based Impact Accelerator bids
- Will resubmit a LaunchPad bid in round two, or submit for SmartFis funding
- Exploring joint bid with META into fisheries fund general call
- Exploring possibility of a small tidal range project based at Carew Mill Pond
- Marine Energy Wales Conference 13-14th March

### Risks

**PDI:** Unknown services within Lot 3 area. GI to undertaken during Q1 2024 to derisk and assist design/costing.

**PDZ:** Crown Estate Lease currently only covers test and demonstration of Wave Energy devices only (with the right to build substation/s). CSP engaging Crown Estate to broaden the scope into FLOW & Power to X applications. TCE listening but risk Crown Estate could resist any changes.

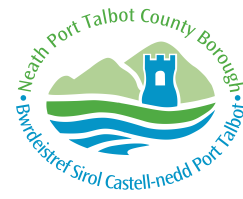
**META:** Attracting technology developers to test at META reliant on developer access to R&D funding.

**MEECE:** Supporting SMEs to deploy in META becoming untenable without quayside storage space.

### Issues

# Homes as Power Stations

## Project Partner Lead: Neath Port Talbot Council



Oonagh Gavigan  
Project Manager

14.3.24

### Project Board

Project Board meeting was slightly postponed until March. Focus of meeting will be :

- Welsh School of Architecture presenting end of year report and
- Supply Chain Fund recommendations.

### Supply Chain Development

Discussions have taken place with a variety of stakeholders to ensure the HAPS Supply Chain Development fund is suitably placed to maximise funding opportunities.

### Financial Incentives Fund

Inception Meetings have commenced with each of the successful organisations to discuss individual monitoring that will take place in the houses. Site visits and marketing content is being gathered as projects progress.

To ensure a suitable length of monitoring, retrofit schemes have been prioritised. Schemes that were successful for the New Build element will be invited to an inception meeting in due course.

### Events Attended

- RLSP Construction Cluster Group Meeting
- WLGA Subsidy Control Seminar
- 4 the Region – 'It's your Swansea' conference

### Additional Activity

- Joint Scrutiny Site Visit (4.3.24) to Tai Tarian scheme 'County Flats' to enable board to better understand the HAPS concept.
- Apprentice Social Media and Marketing commenced role to support HAPS.
- Visit to Swansea University SPECIFIC project where they have received Place Based Impact Accelerator Account funding for an infrared heating project.
- Supporting Regional Learning and Skills Partnership (RLSP) to set up a 'Retrofit Group' to better respond to the needs of businesses and win local contracts.
- Initial meeting with 'A Regional Collaboration for Health' - ARCH to maximise opportunities for collaboration and data sharing around health and homes.
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund in Neath Port Talbot is funding 2 HAPS Demo Houses. The partnership between Tai Tarian, NPTCBC and Welsh School of Architecture is now progressing. Houses have been identified and initial data gathering/surveys has commenced.
- Visit to North Wales Decarbonisation Hub that links RSLs to training and the supply chain through Ffram24 framework.

### Activities Planned

- Input to final report to MCS to evaluate funding achievements (£75k grant received)
- Support organisation of NPT Business & City Deal event on 9<sup>th</sup> April @ Margam Orangery.

### Risks

Cost increases and supply issues in relation to technologies and wider construction.

TAN 15 – Updated TAN may have potential implications for the location of some assets and wider implications not yet known

Ensure alignment to other energy efficiency in housing programmes. This is in progress with on-going engagement.

### Issues

None identified



Trawsnewid Cartrefi Cymraeg  
Transforming Welsh Homes

# SBCD Campuses

Project Partner Lead: Swansea University



Clare Henson  
Project Manager



## Activities Completed

### WS1: **Morrison Management Centre**

- Site Visit taken place
- Revising design and room requirements

### WS2: **Sketty Lane**

- Engaging with stakeholder groups
- Design meeting with Architects – External façade.
- Design commission for Wales Meeting presented
- End stage 3 report issued
- **Engagement highlights**
- Continued engagements with Vodafone senior leadership teams, WRU, FAW, Sport UK. All at varying stages of development.
- Visit to SU and Campuses project from Department of Business Trade

### Swansea Bay Sports Park (phase 2)

- 3G pitch on sketty lane continues to progress, nearing completion

### WS10: **5G Infrastructure vodafone**

- SU Singleton and Bay sites surveyed. Morrison hospital initial site visit

## Activities Planned

- Follow up meetings with all workstreams and leads
- Change notification drafted, reviewed and submitted to SBCD for approval

### WS1: **Morrison Management Centre**

- Continue to progress

### WS2: **Sketty Lane:**

- Public consultation opened
- Tender pack to be completed.
- Tender to go live

### **Engagements:**

- Continued engagements Vodafone, WRU, FAW, Sport UK
- Continued Stakeholder engagement activity with potential incubator businesses

### Swansea Bay Sports Park (phase 2)

- Completion of 3G pitch and progress floodlighting scheme

## Risks

- Incubation space – Potential under demand and over supply of incubation space across the region leads to failure to generate occupancy, resulting in failure to realise project benefits and deliverables
- Private sector engagement and investment – failure to secure external partners, student numbers and tenant income lead to failure to achieve income targets, resulting in inability to realise benefits
- Building affordability. Value engineering options Sketty Lane approved.

## Issues

- Funding agreement - delays lead to delay in Phase 1 project activity, resulting in delay to outputs and benefits.





# Digital Infrastructure

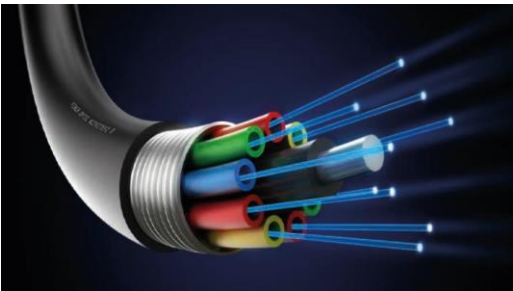
VACANT  
Programme Manager

Rebecca Llewellyn / Dija  
Oliver  
Project Managers

## Programme Partner Lead: Carmarthenshire County Council

### Activities Completed

- Completed scoping of 5G Innovation Fund opportunities with City Deal Project and Programme Leads.
- Conducted lessons learnt from Dark Fibre Phase 1.
- Completed initial scoping of Dark Fibre Phase 2.
- Briefed CCC councillor for regeneration, digital and policy of the programme's delivery to date.
- Hosted alt net provider Netomina at regional LA team meeting who provided update of commercial rollout plans and on-site visit to Llanelli exchange.
- Data analysis of latest NROMR complete working with BDUK on anomalies.
- Scripting of first case study video. Filming to take place in 3 weeks.



### Activities Planned

- Award Dark Fibre Phase 1 contract.
- Review scope of 5G Innovation Fund to include applications from private sector.
- Issue PIN for Dark Fibre Phase 2.
- Sign MoU's and draft specification for Dark Fibre Phase 2.
- Sign variation letter for Local Broadband Fund.
- Map data to indicate commercial rollout, Project Gigabit, voucher schemes and potential SBCD infill procurement.
- Establish working group for Better Broadband Infill Procurement.
- Develop detailed programme plan for entire length of the programme including a critical path and key decision milestones.
- Host 5G event in Swansea
- Finalise informative animation series.
- Pre-production planning of case study films and legacy infographics.
- Complete benefits realisation for 2022/23.
- PR on new proposed Openreach plans published in Carmarthenshire.

### Risks

#### Shared Rural Network

**IF** the SRN programme fails to meet its June 2024 deadline for PNS sites **THEN** there is a risk that the investment and coverage improvements are lost.

#### National Rolling OMR

**IF** premises remain on the Under Review category indefinitely, **THEN** there is a risk that are our programme does not target the right beneficiaries which could **RESULT IN** reputational damage for the programme.

### Issues

#### Delivery

The programme manager has since moved to work as Chief Digital Officer (CDO) for Carmarthenshire CC on an interim basis, which has the resulted in the programme manager role to become vacant.

# Supporting Innovation & Low Carbon Growth

Project Partner Lead: Neath Port Talbot Council

March 2024



Dr Brett Suddell  
Programme Manager

## Activities Completed

### Bay Technology Centre

- The High Value Manufacturing Catapult have signed heads of terms on 1<sup>st</sup> March for office 0.06 and expect to be setup by 26<sup>th</sup> March. A further two leases on the ground floor are expected to be signed in early April. This suite of rooms in the BTC will be to provide an interface for Welsh based organisations to access the wider UK Catapult network.
- Strategic projects office funded through SPF recently signed a HoT for a ground floor office which will be set up in the next week.

### South Wales Industrial Transition from Carbon Hub (SWITCH)

- Ongoing workshops with Morgan Sindall to progress to RIBA stage 3 and identify opportunities for cost reduction
- NPT proposal development for submission to Tata Transition Board to seek additional funds

### Property Development Fund (PDF)

- The project team have continued to support applicants through the Stage 2 process and provided guidance and assistance.
- 3 completed Stage 2 applications have been received, each application has been reviewed by a QS & received a valuation report.

### Property Development Fund (PDF) Cont.

- Each application has been submitted to the SILCG Board and approved subject to caveats.
- The Council launched round two of the PDF was publicised in November 2023 - [https://www.npt.gov.uk/1410?pr\\_id=7325](https://www.npt.gov.uk/1410?pr_id=7325)
- Previously anticipated there would be an underspend based on the completed Stage 2 applications for round one, however, round two has filled us with confidence that all of the spend will now be met. More info on Stage 2 applications will be provided in the next update

### Air Quality Monitoring Project

- The second Ricardo report has been reviewed.
- A next steps meeting has been held with monitor suppliers.
- NPT has decided they are content with the findings of the report and are now awaiting comments from Vortex.
- Report will be ready to present to the SILCG board once comments from Vortex are received.

### Low Emission Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

- NPT Zero Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy presented to NPT scrutiny committee and accepted as a report. Preparation of a strategic action plan is underway.

### Enhanced Advanced Manufacturing Production Facility (EAMPF)

- WG organised a meeting on 14th February around HVM catapult where NPT presented vision for EAMPF

### Hydrogen Stimulus Project

- The installed electrolyser at the USW Hydrogen Centre in Baglan continues to produce green hydrogen. USW are working with partners to extend the number of hydrogen vehicles available in the region, including engagement with Bus and Truck suppliers. This activity will now converge with identifying potential hydrogen vehicles to be deployed in the NPT fleet.
- Additional external funding has been secured
- Significant effort continues with partners to stimulate industrial hydrogen for decarbonisation projects at scale within the region, as well as the Western Gateway hydrogen steering group, encompassing hydrogen activities in South Wales and the West of England.

### Additional Activities:

- Agreement on new SILCG programme and sub project branding by SILCG board and stakeholders
- Supporting Tata Transition Board with project prioritisation requests for further details
- Discussions with PoMO on new SBCD website

### Events / networking

- Early stages of supporting the organisation of the NPT event on 9th April

# Skills and Talent

## Project Partner Lead: Carmarthenshire County Council



Samantha Cutlan  
Programme Manager



### Activities Completed

- 19 pilot projects approved providing training and awareness raising of key skills for the region with the 5th quarterly claims process underway,.
- Apprenticeship Frameworks from Level 2-6 developed in UCD and now in delivery.
- Options leaflet developed and produced for learners
- Workshop attended by all pilot project leads successfully complete with great feedback and more planned.
- First meeting of Youth Forum has taken place



### Activities Planned

- Continued engagement with stakeholders and City Deal Skills Group to develop pilot projects to meet Skills Gaps within region. with some exciting pilots in discussion.
- Teacher Encounters test pilot began Dec 23, with 2<sup>nd</sup> phase due to take place March 24.
- Engagement and awareness events taking place in each of the local authority areas targeting pupils and parents.
- Work Experience Project small test pilot being developed and due to begin Summer Term of 24.
- Working with BT on the development of Immersive Classroom spaces.
- Engagement with City Deal Project contractors and tenants being planned to support the recruitment of apprentices across the City Deal region.
- Pilot Project Marketing material being produced to showcase activity taking place.
- RLSP Website updates taking place showcasing Skills and Talent activity
- Barometer Data being reconciled ready for move onto digital system.
- Potential development of further Apprenticeship frameworks in planning/discussions.
- Engagement with the potential Celtic Sea Investors to support the identification of future skills needs
- Further marketing filming of remaining pilot projects planned.

### Risks

With the other City Deal projects being at different stages of delivery, a lack of knowledge of their specific skills needs/gaps, could delay pilot project development in those key areas. Continued engagement with the 8 City Deal projects during the Skills Barometer review will help to address this. We have also set up a Skills Subgroup made up of the City Deal Project Managers to drive the skills conversation forward.

Apprenticeship uptake by the City Deal projects has been lower than anticipated, which could impact on achievement of target outputs. Activity planned to take place to support an increase in engagement with supply chain/tenants/stakeholders.

### Issues

Impact of different funding streams being introduced on the training landscape is impacting and crossing over our area of work. Maintaining an understanding of these funds and activities will prevent any possible duplication. Reduction in Welsh Government Apprenticeship Funding



# Yr Egin



**Geraint Flowers**  
Project Manager

## Project Partner Lead: UWTSD



**Prifysgol Cymru**  
Y Drindod Dewi Sant  
**University of Wales**  
Trinity Saint David

## Activities Completed

Following the outcomes of a creative sector demand study and noting the excellent benefits realisation of Egin 1, the University is in the process of considering a change in the delivery model for Egin 2

The new solution has the potential to be a more targeted and effective combination of facilities, equipment and services that will better suit the particular needs of the creative industry in the region, as well as Wales as a whole.

The revised Egin 2 delivery model is now proposed to be centred around the provision of a Virtual Production Facility at the Carmarthen Campus

A change control notification and revised business case have been prepared and are currently being discussed with the University's new PVC for commercial before any formal submission is made



## Activities Planned

Agreement of new change control and IAAP process with SBCD, in line with current development Programme for Egin Phase 2 following internal approval from the University's new Senior Leadership team and in particular the new PVC for commercialisation. This process has been ongoing for some time as the project needs to align with the University's investment priorities moving forward



## Risks

Failure to agree proposed revision of project outputs will place the Egin 2 project at risk

Failure of Egin 2 project to satisfy industry needs through poor specification/planning and/or an unsupported business model

## Issues

Ongoing time delay as the University integrates its strategic objectives with existing project commitments

Lack of unified view of specific needs of creative industry in the region from industry

