



**Growing Mid Wales
Partnership Meeting**
The Chamber, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells
Friday, 11th January 2019
10:30am – 12:30pm

Attendees

Rosemarie Harris (RH)	Leader, Powys County Council (Chair)
Ellen Ap Gwynn (EAG)	Leader, Ceredigion County Council (Vice Chair)
David Powell (DP)	Chief Executive, Powys County Council
Ann Elias (AE)	Ceredigion County Council
Ann Watkin (AW)	Welsh Government
Arwyn Watkin OBE (AW)	Cambrian Training Company
Carwyn Jones-Evans (CJ-E)	WLGA
Ceri Stephens (CS)	Mid Wales Manufacturing Group
Claire Miles (CM)	Mid Wales Regional Engagement Officer
Cllr. Myfanwy Alexander (MA)	Powys County Council
Cllr. Peter Davies MBE (PD)	FUW
Cllr. Rhodri Evans (RE)	Ceredigion County Council
Dafydd Edwards (DE)	Ceredigion County Council
Dr. Rhodri Morgan (RM)	Aberystwyth University
Emma Wilde (EW)	Mid Wales Chamber of Commerce
Gareth Jones (GJ)	Powys County Council
Gavin Crouch (GC)	Ceredigion & Powys County Councils
Gwawr Price (GP)	Visit Wales
Hazel Lloyd-Lubran	CAVO
Hywel Davies (HD)	University of Wales Trinity St. David's
Jenni Thomas (JT)	Powys County Council
John Jones (JJ)	Welsh Government
Lisa Griffiths (LG)	Powys County Council
Mark Dacey (MD)	NPTC Group of Colleges
Matt Morden (MM)	Coleg Ceredigion & Coleg Sir Gar
Nia Williams (NW)	Mid Wales Joint Committee
Nicola Thornton-Scott (NT-S)	NPTC Group of Colleges
Paul Evans (PE)	Bronllys Estates
Peter Davies (PD)	FUW



Peter James (PJ)	Welsh Government Regeneration
Rhian Hayward (RH)	Aberystwyth University
Rhodri Evans (RE)	Ceredigion County Council
Rob Halford (RH)	WEFO
Russell Hughes-Pickering (RHP)	Ceredigion County Council
Val Hawkins (VH)	Mid Wales Tourism
Vanessa Noughton (VN)	Welsh Government

In attendance

Lois Park – Transport for Wales
 Gareth Brown – AECOM
 Seren Jones – Note taker – Ceredigion County Council

<p>1.</p>	<p>Introductions and Apologies The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and introductions were made.</p> <p>Apologies were received from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr. Dafydd Meurig, Gwynedd County Council • Cyng. Cllr/ Dafydd Meurig - Gwynedd County Council • Cyng/Cllr. Martin Weale, Powys County Council • Eifion Evans, Ceredigion County Council • Mike Shaw, Ceredigion County Council • Jane Lewis - Carmarthenshire County Council • Julian Atkins - Brecon Beacons National Park • Mr. Emyr Williams, Snowdonia National Park • Peter Skitt, Hywel Dda Health Board. • Prof. Robert Brown, University of Wales Trinity St. David's. • Rebecca Williams - CLA • Rob Holt, Welsh Government • Rowland Rees-Evans, Mid Wales Tourism • Sandra Isaac, Coleg Ceredigion • Terri Thomas, Welsh Government • Rhodri Griffiths, Welsh Government 	
<p>2.</p>	<p>Minutes and actions from last GMW Partnership on 16th October 2018. The Minutes from the meeting held on the 16th October 2018 were agreed as a correct record subject to the following minor amendment:-</p> <p>To remove Cllr. Martin Weale from the list of attendees. Cllr. Weale was not in attendance at the GMW Partnership on 16th October 2018.</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the Minutes.</p>	



3.	<p>To receive a presentation by Transport for Wales</p>	
	<p>Lois Park, Senior Rail Stakeholder Manager at Transport for Wales attended the meeting to provide a presentation on the company. A copy of the presentation is attached below.</p> <p></p> <p>Presentation for GMW Partnership Mex</p> <p>Key points covered:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport for Wales’ purpose • Transport for Wales’ structure • Details on Grant Agreement • Details on the Station Improvement Fund • Train Service Improvements • Bow Street Station • Potential Schemes for the future <p>An opportunity for questions followed.</p> <p>Lois Park stated that she would be happy to have further discussions with Members after today’s meeting if they wish.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Lois Park for her presentation today.</p>	
4.	<p>To receive the AECOM Report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Strategic Economic Priorities for the Mid Wales Region b. Evidence Based Programmes of Interventions Baseline Report <p>To consider next steps and immediate priorities.</p>	
	<p>Gareth Brown (GB), AECOM, attended the meeting to present the attached Report and presentation to Members.</p> <p> </p> <p>GMW covering report 19-01-07 GMWP Next Steps and Imme January.pdf</p> <p>GJ provided a brief background of the work undertaken by AECOM to date and explained that the ‘Strategic Economic Priorities for the Mid Wales Region’ document presented today has been created following the constructive feedback received by Members following AECOM’s</p>	

	<p>presentation at the Partnership meeting held on the 16th October 2018.</p> <p>GJ stated they would like to receive Members endorsement of these projects to achieve real change in the region over the next 15 years.</p> <p>GB provided the presentation to Members. Key points covered:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about AECOM's commission • Progress to date • Progress since the last meeting • Vision & Objectives • Next steps <p>GJ stated that the Strategic Economic Priorities for the Mid Wales Region will be a regional document owned by the region and will be driven forward by the Partnership.</p> <p>Following discussion, the Partnership Members agreed and supported the 'Strategic Economic Priorities for the Mid Wales Region' document presented today and the actions required to take the programmes forward.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>To receive update on the Growth Deal bid</p>	
	<p>DP provided a verbal update on the Growth Deal bid which also links to the AECOM work presented above. DP stated since the last Partnership meeting in October, both Ceredigion & Powys Councils and the private sector have worked closely together to see what the Growth Deal is starting to look like. DP thanked AW and RG from WG in particular for their engagement and support. DP stated that work is ongoing to get the key components in place to take the Growth Deal bid forward.</p> <p>DP explained that public money will flow through this Growth Deal therefore WG and the UK Government will want assurance that the correct processes have been undertaken before the draft proposition document is signed off.</p> <p>DP stated that there is a virtual Programme Office in place at the moment comprising of senior officers from the two Local Authorities however discussions are ongoing regarding establishing an actual programme office and how it will work.</p> <p>DP introduced Gavin Crouch, who has been jointly appointed by Ceredigion and Powys on a short term basis as a Special Advisor to develop the business cases for the Growth Deal. DP noted that Powys County Council have also appointed an Economic Developer on a short term basis to look at issues to help support this.</p>	



	<p>DP stated that they are also engaging with colleagues in North Wales regarding the lessons learnt and feedback following their Growth Deal bid.</p> <p>DP stated that the Growth Deal will focus on a small number of strategic and significant projects.</p> <p>DP stated that it is hoped a joint informal Cabinet meeting will be scheduled for next week to discuss the IAA for a Joint Committee approach.</p> <p>AW stressed the need for the Growth Deal proposal to be strategic, ambitious and help deliver transformational change to the economy of mid Wales. It needs to build on a clear vision for the region that is based on identified opportunities for the region and tackles the barriers to achieving it. It must be based on a partnership approach and involves the private sector in its design and delivery.</p> <p>DP stated that Terms of Reference have been drafted for the Economic Strategy Board and both authorities have a list of proposed people to be part of it.</p> <p>RH stated that she would envisage a broader stakeholder group or several stakeholder groups for those not involved in the immediate group.</p> <p>Cllr. PD stated that he felt that there was nothing inspiring within the Strategic Economic Priorities document with regard to agriculture, and suggested whether establishing an Agricultural/ Auctioneer sub - Committee in order to share new ideas and opportunities would be beneficial?</p> <p>Following discussion, It was agreed that it is not the correct time to establish this group at the moment. There are many exciting things being developed for agriculture via Aberystwyth University. RH provided a brief overview of projects being developed at IBERS.</p> <p>The Chair also suggested that PD could get together with other farming representatives to gather ideas.</p> <p>AECOM stated that they still welcome comments from Members on the Strategic Priorities if Members wish to do so.</p>	
6.	Regional Engagement Update Report – Quarter 4 2018	
	CM presented the attached report to all which provided an update from	



Quarter 4 2018.



Regional
Engagement Update |

Key points included:-

TRI Programme

CM noted that good progress has been made with the development and submission of several regionally prioritised projects under the TRI Programme to include Ladywell House, Newtown, and Canolfan Dulias, Lampeter.

CM noted that the Regional Investment Property Fund will be going to WG's Capital Panel for recommendation this month.

The Partnership noted the current position in the Regional Profile for the TRI Programme.

ERDF P4.4

CM noted that this is capital infrastructure funding under the ERDF programme which is only available in Ceredigion. CM stated that since the last Partnership, discussions have been taking place with partners about potential capital infrastructure projects and there are pipeline projects which have been submitted to WEFO for consideration. (See report).

The Partnership endorsed the prioritisation of ERDF P4.4 pipeline projects agreed by the Officers' Group meeting on 22nd November 2018.

ERDF Priority 5

CM stated that ERDF Priority 5 is a new ESF priority which relates to public services reform and regional working which is applicable to both Powys and Ceredigion areas. The presentation attached below provides further information. RH and CJ-E also provided the Partnership of a detailed overview of what the priority entails.



P5 powerpoint for
circulation.pptx

It was noted that the four regions have been in discussions with WEFO re backbone projects. The priority is about working in partnership with

	<p>key stakeholders across the region to deliver change. . 4 bids will need to be submitted to WEFO by the end of February 2019. If someone wants to engage, then they should talk to MS & CM.</p> <p>For information, CJ-E stated that he is presenting at a WCVA event on Monday if any representatives from the third sector would like further information.</p> <p>It was noted that it has not yet been decided who will be leading and completing the application on behalf of the region.</p>	
7.	GMW Trade Event at the Senedd on 31st January 2019	
	<p>LG stated that arrangements are being finalised for the GMW Trade Event being held at the Senedd on the 31st January 2019. 30 businesses (15 from Ceredigion and 15 from Powys) have been invited to attend. JT will be visiting the Senedd on Tuesday, 15th January 2019 to finalise arrangements. JT will be corresponding with the businesses regarding arrangements for the day.</p> <p>It was noted that the event is being sponsored by Russell George AM, Kirsty Williams AM & Elin Jones AM.</p> <p>LG stated that discussions are also being held with the Senedd's catering department to produce a light lunch which will hopefully be produce sourced from the Mid Wales region.</p> <p>It was noted that Ken Skates AM, Minister for Economy & Transport, and both Leaders of Powys and Ceredigion (EAG & RH) will address the event.</p> <p>EW from MWCC suggested that it would be beneficial for the GMW Partnership to have its own social media platform to advertise such events. The Partnership agreed that this is a great idea and would be for further consideration when the programme office is in place with a stronger position for resource to focus on this.</p> <p>RH stated that there is a warm welcome for all Partnership members to attend this exciting event at the Senedd on the 31st January 2019.</p>	
8.	National Assembly for Wales, Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee, 31st January 2019	
	<p>It was noted that the above Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee will take place at the Senedd on the 31st January 2019 which both Cllr. EAG and Cllr. RE will be attending. LG stated that she would be preparing a briefing paper for both Cllr. RH & Cllr. EAG prior to the Committee.</p>	
9.	Connectivity and Infrastructure Working Group Quarter 4	

	<p>AE provided an update from the Connectivity and Infrastructure Working Group (Quarter 4). A copy of the Report is attached.</p> <p> Enclosure - Connectivity and infrastr</p> <p>Key points highlighted:-</p> <p>AE stated that they have been successfully working with the Marches LEP and WG on a remit for the A483 and A458 Mid Wales Cross Border roads which is jointly funded by Midlands Connect and WG.</p> <p>AE stated that following a cross-border bus forum this week, there has been an agreement to formulate a bid for funding linking Aberystwyth to the “health corridor” for bus and rail transport to access health services.</p>	
10.	Any Other Business	
	There were no additional items to discuss.	
11.	Future Meeting Dates	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, 12th April 2019 at 10.30am in The Chamber, Penmorfa, Aberaeron, Ceredigion • Friday, 12th July 2019 at 10.30am in County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, Powys • Friday, 11th October 2019 at 10.30am in The Chamber, Penmorfa, Ceredigion • Friday, 10th January 2020 at 10.30am in County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, Powys 	

Leader of Powys County Council, Councillor Rosemarie Harris, Chair