

APPENDIX B

Scrutiny Inquiry into Regional Working – Cabinet Action Plan

(NB Only include the recommendations agreed, in the action plan)

Recommendation	Action already being undertaken	New Action Proposed	Timescale	Responsible Officer
<p>1. We continue to be ahead of the game by looking at positive ways forward for Swansea in Regional Working collaborations by being involved, where possible, in pilots/trials that may ease and prepare the way forward for us.</p>	<p>The Council is playing a leading and proactive role in major regional collaborations. The Chief Executive takes the lead role for ERW and Western Bay as well as being an executive member of the City Deal Joint Committee and the Leader of the Council is the City Region Joint Committee Chair</p>	<p>The senior management restructure approved by Council on 21st June strengthens the Council's management capacity to ensure that the regional collaboration agenda can be taken forward proactively by Swansea whilst also allowing the Council to manage its ambitious programmes based around the corporate priorities.</p> <p>Continue to influence the collaboration agenda and decision-making at Welsh Government.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p>
<p>2. Address or mitigate the barriers found in existing regional partnerships and use the lessons learnt to inform our new collaboration activities.</p>	<p>The City Deal has a Joint Working Agreement in place and ERW has fully formed governance arrangements. A review of progress has been undertaken by IPC on the Western Bay Health & Social Care collaboration</p>	<p>Undertake a lessons learnt exercise (including learning points identified by the panel) across the three main regional collaborations and develop an action plan/s with resource implications to address any specific and remaining barriers.</p>	<p>2018/19</p>	<p>Director Leads</p>
<p>3. Ensure that we learn particularly from previous large</p>	<p>The Council meets up regionally with 5 other local authorities to discuss collaboration projects. The</p>	<p>Undertake a lessons learnt exercise (including learning points identified by the panel)</p>	<p>2018/19</p>	<p>Director Leads</p>

	collaborations both positive and negative aspects to help ease our way into new partnership arrangements.	Council has a clear rationale in place when collaborating and it is clear on the anticipated benefits and costs.	across the three main regional collaborations and develop an action plan/s with resource implications to address any specific and remaining barriers.		
4.	Ensure all partnerships have an effective governance structure that has a suitable amount of elected member challenge built in, particularly scrutiny in those larger most impactful partnerships like Swansea Bay City Region, Western Bay and ERW.	ERW has fully formed Governance Arrangements, which includes a Joint committee, an ERW Service Committee and an informal scrutiny mechanism. <i>A Joint Committee Agreement and joint scrutiny arrangements were agreed for the City Deal at Council on 26th July 2018.</i> Western Bay has a Joint Committee in place. There are scrutiny arrangements in place for all three partnerships	Review governance arrangements of the 3 main partnerships – ERW, Western bay and City Deal - to ensure they remain fit for purpose.	2018/20	Director Leads and Monitoring Officer
5.	That each partnership has one clear structured lead that can facilitate communication between the partnership and scrutiny.	The Council is playing a leading and proactive role in major regional collaborations. The Chief Executive takes the lead role for ERW and Western Bay as well as being an executive member of the City Deal Joint Committee and the Leader of the Council is the City Region Joint Committee Chair.	The new senior management structure agreed at Council on 21st June 2018 has director leads in place for each partnership.	Complete	Chief Executive
6.	That we ensure that the current financial and resource implications for Swansea (including quantifying officer time) are clearly and continually understood.	The Council has a clear rationale in place when collaborating and it is clear on the anticipated benefits and costs. The Council understands what it currently contributes directly to ERW, Western Bay and City Region and how much it contributes to all other partnerships. The Council is able to estimate how much officer time is committed to partnership working.	Continue to assess the value to the Council from being involved in existing or new partnerships, including an analysis of costs and benefits.	Ongoing	Corporate Management Team

7.	That a review is undertaken of the regional bodies that we work with, to see if any can be rationalised or amalgamated. We must be SMART about the partnerships which we are involved in to ensure we are adding value for time spent.	A mapping exercise has been undertaken that identified the key local, regional and national partnerships. The Council has a clear rationale in place when collaborating and it is clear on the anticipated benefits and costs.	Continue to assess the value to the Council from being involved in existing or new partnerships, including an analysis of costs and benefits.	Ongoing	Corporate Management Team
8.	That modern technology is used for meetings to reduce travel time, including, for example skype, video conferencing. Ensuring the right facilities are available for Councillors and staff and that they are encouraged and trained to use them.	Rolling out and promoting the use of Skype as part of the wider roll out of Office 365 resulting from the Council's Digital Strategy and modernisation agenda.	Review how Skype could be used amongst partners to reduce travelling and officer and Councillor time and further encourage participation in partnership working.	2018/20	Chief Transformation Officer
9.	Make more use of the third and private sector bodies in our collaboration activities.	The delivery of the City Deal will not be possible without the involvement of the private sector. The Western Bay Programme supports collaborative working between four statutory partner organisations, together with the third and independent sectors. ERW has independent members involved in the Executive Board.	Continue to engage the third sector in existing partnerships.	Ongoing	Director Leads
10.	Make representations to Welsh Government through our different working partnerships about streamlining and simplifying the business case and grant application process.	Representations made to Welsh Government on reforming the grant regime; for example through the Council's response to the recent Green Paper on Local Government Reorganisation.	Continue to press Welsh Government for a more streamlined grant process	Ongoing	Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer

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