

Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee - 29 October 2019

Additional Resource Funding Proposal

Purpose: To seek approval of the Joint Committee to

develop a detailed proposal for expenditure of

additional resource funding from Welsh Government in accordance with the outline

proposal provided in this report.

Policy Framework: Swansea Bay City Deal

Consultation: Programme Board

Welsh Government

Recommendation(s): It is recommended that:

 Joint Committee authorise the Programme Board to develop detailed proposals for the expenditure of additional resource funding from Welsh Government

Proposals for the expenditure of additional resource funding from Welsh Government be based on the achievement of the three key objectives as detailed in this report

That the Joint Committee submit the outline proposal detailed in this report to UK and Welsh Government for endorsement

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Access to Services Officer:

1. Introduction

1.1 On 15th July 2019 the UK and Welsh Governments announced the release of £18m of City Deal funding based on the approval of business cases for the Yr Egin and Swansea City and Waterfront Digital District projects and subject to project specific terms and conditions being agreed.

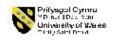
















- 1.2 At the same time Governments also announced that a further £18m may also be available this year for other projects within the City Deal. Release of this additional £18m is subject to the region meeting clear terms and conditions which will relate to the implementation of the recommendations of the Swansea Bay City Deal Independent Review.
- 1.3 In order to assist the region in meeting these terms and conditions in a prompt manner, the Welsh Government have made an additional £100k of funding available to the region.

2. Key facts:

- Revenue funding
- Total = £100k
- deadline 31st March 2020

2.1 What the money can be used for:

- 2.1.1 The funding is available to the region for additional resources which will ensure achievement of the recommendations made in the Independent ACTICA review of the Swansea Bay City Deal and any other terms and conditions associated with the release of a second tranche of £18m City Deal money.
- 2.1.2 The additional £100k is intended "to compliment the money already being spent in the region to implement the recommendations of the Independent Review to manage the City Deal as a Portfolio and to develop an Integrated Assurance and Approval Plan. This will support a stocktake of the remaining deal projects ensuring the region's readiness for city deal and joint strategic authority delivery."

2.2 What the money cannot be used for:

- 2.2.1 Welsh Government have clearly noted that the additional funding cannot be used for any of the following activity:
 - To fund existing resources
 - To fund existing work
 - To fund the salary of the new Programme Director
 - To fund the salaries of the new Portfolio Management Office

2.3 Proposal:

- 2.3.1 It is proposed that the additional resource funding of £100k be used to fulfil the following objectives;
 - (i) Undertaking of peer reviews:

Both Governments have suggested that an independent better business case accredited consultant be appointed to informally review draft

business cases for all City Deal projects before they are formally submitted to Governments for formal review. This process would replace the previous iterative review process with both Governments and is intended to speed up the appraisal process. It is proposed that the same consultant is appointed to conduct peer reviews across all forthcoming City Deal projects to ensure consistency across the programme.

- (ii) Development of an Integrated Assurance Framework for the City Deal: Recommendation 3 of the ACTICA SBCD Review requires that an Integrated Assurance and Approval Framework (IAAP) be established in order to support the management of the City Deal as a portfolio of projects. It is proposed that the additional £100k of resource funding be used to fund a consultant to undertake the development of the IAAP which will also feed in to monitoring and evaluation plans.
- (iii) Stock take of the City Deal programme: In order to gain a clear perspective of the readiness of the current City Deal programme it is proposed that the additional £100k of resource funding be used to fund a consultant to conduct a stock date of the entire programme. The findings of this stock take can then be used by the newly appointed Programme Director and existing SBCD Governance structures to help ensure the City Deal is managed as a portfolio and to strengthen joint strategic delivery.

2.4 How:

2.4.1 The SBCD will look to utilise opportunities to call off Welsh Government's existing frameworks to allow swift appointment of appropriate consultants. This is particularly important in the case of the Peer review activity so as to prevent potential delays in the approval of projects which are coming forward in the next few months. The Programme Board will also consider whether the development of the IAAP and the stock take activity can be delivered as one contract award.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 The £100k funding must be spent by 31st March 2020.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 The procurement of a Consultant/s must comply with all relevant procurement legislation and the standing orders/Contract Procedure Rules of the employing authority. The procurement route highlighted in paragraph 2.4.1 above should satisfy these requirements.

Background Papers:

- ACTICA Independent Review Report January 2019
- Internal SBCD Review Report January 2019