

Report of the Director of Place

Economy and Infrastructure Service Transformation Committee – 20 July 2023

Local Economic Delivery Plan Strategic Framework

Purpose: To outline the draft strategic framework for the new

Local Economic Delivery Plan for Swansea.

Policy Framework: South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery

Plan

Consultation: Access to Services, Finance, Legal.

Recommendation(s): It is recommended that the Committee:

 Note the progress in producing the Local Economic Delivery Plan and provide comments on the draft strategic framework as set out in section

3.2 of this report.

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1. Introduction

1.1 As outlined in the previous Corporate Development Committee Report on 26th January 2023, a new Local Economic Delivery Plan (LEDP) is being produced to set out the economic regeneration priorities and actions for Swansea. The LEDP will complement the Regional Economic Delivery Plan (REDP), covering Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Swansea, and guide the implementation of the REDP in a local context.

1.2 The LEDP will include the following:

Executive Summary

- Strategic context
- Economic context
- Strategic Framework setting out the aims and objectives
- Action plan for delivering against the aims and objectives
- 1.3 The indicative timescales for completing this work are as follows:

Activity	Date		
Develop local missions and objectives	February – March 2023		
Draft strategic framework produced	April 2023		
Preparation of action plan	July – September 2023		
Draft LEDP	September – October 2023		
Final version LEDP	November 2023		

- 1.4 The evidence base for developing the Local Economic Delivery Plan can be drawn from the extensive economic analysis undertaken for the preparation of the REDP and the 2022 Assessment of Local Wellbeing in Swansea (which informed the Local Wellbeing Plan).
- 1.5 The LEDP is being produced in consultation with the Regeneration Swansea Partnership, which brings together key public, private and third sector organisations involved in economic regeneration in Swansea including Swansea University, University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Gower College Swansea, Coastal Housing, Pobl, Caredig, Swansea Council for Voluntary Services, Department for Work & Pensions, Swansea Business Improvement District, 4theRegion, Urban Foundry, Indycube, Welsh Government and UK Government.

2. Strategic Context

- 2.1 The Regional Economic Delivery Plan provides the overarching strategic framework for the preparation of the Local Economic Delivery Plan. The REDP was developed in the context of a range of plans and strategies at the local, Welsh and UK level, in particular the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the commitment to decarbonisation and achievement of net zero by 2050, the opportunities and challenges presented by technological and demographic change, and the UK's exit from the European Union.
- 2.2 The REDP sets out three 'Ambitions' which set out the nature of the South West Wales economy that we want to work towards. These are:
 - Resilient and sustainable
 - Enterprising and ambitious
 - Balanced and inclusive

- 2.3 The ambitions are supported by three complementary Missions, which will guide activity over the next ten years:
 - Mission 1 Establishing South West Wales as a UK leader in renewable energy and the development of a net zero economy
 - Mission 2 Building a strong, resilient and embedded business base
 - Mission 3 Growing and sustaining the 'experience' offer
- 2.4 At the local level, the Swansea Economic Recovery Action Plan is informing the preparation of the LEDP.

3. Draft Strategic Framework

3.1 The Local Economic Delivery Plan will take the high level strategic direction from the REDP and recast this in a local context, to reflect the unique challenges and opportunities in Swansea. As a starting point for this, the following 'Local Missions' were agreed at the Regeneration Swansea meeting in February 2023:

Regional Missions						
REDP	A UK Leader in renewable energy and the net zero economy	Building a strong, resilient and embedded business base	Growing and sustaining the experience offer			
Local 'Swansea' Missions						
LEDP	Transitioning to a net zero economy	Building a strong, resilient business and skills base	Growing and Promoting Swansea's strengths and experience offer			

3.2 A workshop session was then held in the March Regeneration Swansea meeting to develop the strategic aims and objectives that sit below the missions. This has led to the creation of the draft strategic framework outlined below:

Local Mission 1		Local Mission 2		Local Mission 3			
Transitioning to a Net Zero Economy		Building a Strong, Resilient Business and Skills Base		Growing and Promoting Swansea's Strengths and Experience Offer			
Strategic Aim 1	Strategic Aims 2	Strategic Aim 3	Strategic Aim 4	Strategic Aim 5	Strategic Aim 6		
Decarbonising the Business Base	Decarbonising the Wider Economy	Growing productivity and resilience across the economy	Creating a pipeline of skilled and talented people	Creating Connected, Sustainable Places	Strengthening our Distinctiveness		
Strategic Objectives							
Promoting the benefits of climate action	Decarbonising the housing stock	Co-ordinated package of support which engages new and existing businesses	Enabling and inspiring all people to reach their potential in Swansea	Building a strong, healthy, and resilient city centre	Preserving and promoting our heritage		
Decarbonising businesses and buildings	Investing in renewable energy	Ensuring access to fit for purpose sites and premises	Responding to current and future skills needs	Creating flourishing. accessible district and local centres	Celebrating our unique arts and cultural offer		
Creating local supply chains	Developing a more circular economy	Actively promoting Swansea as a place to invest, work, study and do business	Creating pathways to enter and progress in employment	Investing sustainably for a greener future	Promoting Swansea as a green, wellbeing city		
Harnessing low carbon technology/ industries	Supporting decarbonised transport solutions	Maximising the positive impact of large and small organisations on local communities and foundational economy	Growing and retaining highly skilled young people	Exploiting the benefits of digital infrastructure	Investing in the 'experience' economy – tourism, food, leisure, culture and arts		
	Enabling green infrastructure	Fostering innovation and knowledge transfer between local businesses, Universities and Colleges			Making the economy work for everyone		
Cross Cutting theme							
Working in Partnership – locally, regionally and nationally							

3.3 The Service Transformation Committee are invited to provide comments on the draft strategic framework. The next steps will be to finalise the framework, draft the supporting narrative and begin development of the accompanying action plan.

4. Integrated Assessment Implications

- 4.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socioeconomic disadvantage
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 4.2 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.
- 4.3 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.
- 4.4 An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) screening has been completed and is attached at Appendix A.
- 4.5 The Local Economic Delivery Plan will complement the existing Regional Economic Delivery Plan and aim to create an economy that is resilient and sustainable; enterprising and ambitious; and balance and inclusive. It is expected that it will have a positive impact on people and communities in Swansea by improving economic performance and creating sustainable employment opportunities. In line with the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty, due regard will be given to the impact on protected groups in the development of the LEDP. A full IIA will be undertaken on the Plan during its development.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no immediate and direct implications arising from this report. Any actions stemming from the Local Economic Delivery plan will need to identify the nature, timing and design of any programmes or projects and the resulting costs and funding prior to any investment decisions being made.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 There are no specific legal implications at this stage.

Background Papers:

Regional Economic Delivery Plan Swansea Economic Recovery Plan

Appendices:

Appendix A: Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Form