



City and County of Swansea

**Minutes of the Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee**

Remotely via Microsoft Teams

Thursday, 12 October 2023 at 10.30 am

**Present:** Councillor Rob Stewart (Swansea Council) Presided

**Councillors:**

Steve Hunt Neath Port Talbot Council  
Darren Price Carmarthenshire County Council

**Co-opted Non-Voting Representatives:**

Chris Foxall Chair of Swansea Economic Strategy Board

**Officers:**

Steven TO Aldred-Jones Carmarthenshire Council  
Jonathan Burnes Director (Swansea Bay City Region)  
Allison Lowe Swansea Council  
Chris Moore Joint S151 Officer (Carmarthenshire Council)  
Martin Nicholls Chief Executive (Swansea Council)  
Nicola Pearce Neath Port Talbot Council  
Debbie Smith Deputy Monitoring Officer (Swansea Council)  
Wendy Walters Chief Executive (Carmarthenshire Council)  
Ian Williams Swansea Bay City Region

**Apologies for Absence:**

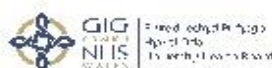
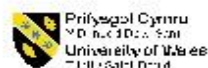
Councillor(s) David Simpson (Pembrokeshire Council)  
Maria Battle (Hywel Dda University Health Board) and Emma Woollett (Swansea Bay University Health Board)  
William Bramble (Chief Executive (Pembrokeshire Council)) and Karen Jones (Chief Executive (Neath Port Talbot Council))

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**14 Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.**

**15 Minutes.**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee held on 27 July 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.



## **16 Announcement(s) of the Chair.**

The following announcements were made:

- 1) The Chair thanked Professor Medwin Hughes who had recently retired from the University of Wales, Trinity St. David's for his support and work in contributing to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal. His successor Professor Elwen Evans would be invited to future meetings.
- 2) The Chair also conveyed his thanks and best wishes to Mark Hackett, Chief Executive of Swansea Bay University Health Board who had also stepped down from his role.

## **17 Public Questions**

There were no public questions.

## **18 Quarter 1 2023/24 Financial Monitoring.**

Chris Moore, Section 151 Officer presented a report to provide the Joint Committee with an update on the latest financial position of the Swansea Bay City Region.

**Resolved** that the Joint Committee approves the financial monitoring update report.

## **19 Swansea Bay City Deal Highlight Report.**

Jonathan Burnes, Swansea Bay City Deal Director provided a "For Information" update report to the Joint Committee on the programmes / projects progress that form part of the Swansea Bay City Deal Portfolio as outlined in Annex A. Updates were provided in respect of:

- Business Engagement & Communications;
- Yr Egin;
- Pentre Awel;
- Digital Infrastructure;
- Homes as Power Stations (HAPS);
- Swansea City & Waterfront Digital District;
- Pembroke Dock Marine.

In respect of Pembroke Dock Marine, it was noted that a new risk had been identified due to the unsuccessful contracts of difference auction round for offshore wind by UK Government. However, the risk was being mitigated and managed and a work plan had been devised in order to deliver the PDM outcomes, particularly around innovation infrastructure, which would serve energy transition ambitions for decades to come.

## **20 Construction Impact Assessment.**

Jonathan Burnes, Swansea Bay City Deal Director provided a "For Information" report to inform Joint Committee of the Construction Impact Assessment Summary as outlined in Appendix A.

The Director clarified information in the report which stated that the risk status remain unchanged, however he explained that the costs associated with two projects had increased in respect of SBCD Campuses and Pembroke Dock Marine. He explained the work ongoing in respect of both projects and outlined the mitigations that were being put in place to lower the risks.

Councillor Darren Price requested that HAPS in particular be considered in a different format or report to ensure that the Committee could track the impact of future inflationary pressures on the scheme.

## **21 Portfolio Gateway Review Recommendations Report & Action Plan.**

Ian Williams, Swansea Bay City Deal Portfolio Development Manager presented a report to inform Joint Committee on the outcome of the Portfolio Gateway Review and to agree the Action Plan in response to the review recommendations.

**Resolved** that:

- 1) Joint Committee notes the outcome of the Portfolio Gateway Review and approves the Action Plan attached at Appendix B and the response to the Review recommendations (Appendix A).

The meeting ended at 11.14 am

**Chair**