



Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee - 14 October 2021

## Swansea Bay City Deal Portfolio Gateway Review and Action Plan

<b>Purpose:</b>	To agree the Action Plan in response to the Gateway 0 Review Recommendations
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Swansea Bay City Deal (SBCD) Joint Committee Agreement (JCA)
<b>Consultation:</b>	Joint Committee Programme Board
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that:
<b>1)</b>	Joint Committee approves the Gateway Review Action Plan available in Appendix A as the response to the Gateway 0 review recommendations (Appendices B)
<b>Report Author:</b>	Ian Williams (SBCD Portfolio Development Manager)
<b>Financial Officer:</b>	Chris Moore (SEC151 Officer)
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Tracey Meredith (Monitoring Officer)

### 1. Introduction

1.1 The SBCD Portfolio Gateway Review Action Plan available in Appendix A has been developed in response to the recommendations made in the Gateway 0 review undertaken in July 2021.

### 2. Background

2.1 As part of the assurance arrangements for the SBCD Portfolio, an independent Gateway 0 Review was undertaken in July 2021.

2.2 The Review was undertaken by an independent, external team in accordance with the Welsh Government Integrated Assurance Hub Guidelines. Seventeen 'conversations' were held with stakeholders between 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> July together with a workshop session with the four local authority Leaders.



2.3 The SBCD Portfolio received an Amber-Green Delivery Confidence Assessment (DCA) rating. The summary finding of the Review were:

1. Swansea Bay City Deal Portfolio has made significant progress in the past 12 months.
2. The establishment of a professional, well-resourced Portfolio Management Office has been key to the progress, as has the dedication and commitment of the SRO in evolving the governance arrangements.
3. It is also evident that the leadership of the individual programmes and projects has been key to successful delivery in these regards.
4. There is strong stakeholder support and optimism across all sectors and a commitment from the Joint Committee to spending wisely now that the funding has come on stream from UKG/WG.

2.4 The Review Team made four prioritised recommendations to the Portfolio SRO to ensure that the portfolio is positioned for effective management and delivery. There were also a number of advisory comments made to further support the delivery of Portfolio. The full Review report is attached as Appendix B. The next Gateway 0 Review for the Portfolio will be held in July 2022.

### **3. Gateway Review Action Plan**

- 3.1 The Portfolio Gateway Review Action Plan combines both the formal and advisory recommendations and provides detail on the specific actions required to fulfil these recommendations together with the priority, timing, ownership, status and dependencies for each action.
- 3.2 To facilitate the completion of the Action Plan recommendations, the PoMO is engaging with partners across the Portfolio through its governance meetings and targeted engagement. A survey has recently been circulated to all SROs and Programme / Project leads for specific feedback on improvements to governance, reporting and communication arrangements.
- 3.3 Progress on implementing the Action Plan will be reported to future Programme (Portfolio) Board meetings. The completed Action Plan will also be forwarded to UK and Welsh Governments with the updated Portfolio Business Case in March 2022 in readiness for the next drawdown of City Deal funding.

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report. Recommendations from the previous AOR and gateway review have been implemented.

### **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

**Background Papers:** None

#### **Appendices:**

Appendix A: Gateway 0 Action Plan

Appendix B: Gateway 0 Review Report July 2021