



Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee – 9 December 2021

## Yr Egin Gateway 5 Review Report

<b>Purpose:</b>	To inform Joint Committee of the recent Gateway 5 Review for Yr Egin
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Swansea Bay City Deal (SBCD) Joint Committee Agreement (JCA)
<b>Consultation:</b>	Joint Committee Programme Board
<b>Recommendation:</b>	It is recommended that Joint Committee members note the DCA Rating of Green awarded and the recommendations resulting from the Gateway 5 Review
<b>Report Author:</b>	Geraint Flowers (Yr Egin Project Lead)
<b>Financial Officer:</b>	Chris Moore (SEC151 Officer)
<b>Legal Officer:</b>	Tracey Meredith (Monitoring Officer)

### 1. Introduction

As part of the assurance arrangements for the SBCD Portfolio, an independent Gateway 5 Review was undertaken in November 2021 on Yr Egin where 15 stakeholders had conversations with the review team.

The primary purposes of the OGC Gateway 5 Review are to assess whether the anticipated benefits are being delivered and that the ongoing contractual arrangements meet the business need.

### 2. Background

The Review was undertaken by an independent, external team in accordance with the Welsh Government Integrated Assurance Hub Guidelines.

The SBCD Project Yr Egin received a Green Delivery Confidence Assessment (DCA) rating with 7 recommendations.



The Review Team finds that Yr Egin Phase1 (Ph1) has been delivered successfully and is on track to meet its Investment Objectives, recognising that some of these remain reliant on Phase 2 (Ph2).

Yr Egin is clearly a vibrant and well supported facility providing the creative hub for the local and wider community. Yr Egin is providing the opportunity to raise the status of the Welsh language and its culture in Carmarthen and wider area and is seen as a destination space to fulfil this objective.

All tenants (including the anchor tenant, S4C) expressed the benefits of the ability to collaborate and access excellent digital and production services.

COVID and lockdown had a major impact on the facility and its local presence, however the number of tenants is already back to almost pre-Covid numbers and the public and performance spaces are being well used.

It is acknowledged that full delivery of some of the investment objectives and the business case targets will not be fulfilled until completion of Ph2, however the RT received sufficient evidence to provide a Green delivery confidence based on the success of Ph1 to date, in relation to all of the ongoing objectives and targets.

This is all supported by a real willingness to learn from a variety of reviews and external research, and the awareness of all staff and stakeholders of the need to carefully consider what Ph2 outcomes need to be in order to meet the strategic needs in an ever-changing environment.

All interviewees were enthusiastic about the project and fully understood the vision, investment objectives and final outcome of Ph1. There was also acknowledgment of challenging times during project development and following completion due to Covid.

### **3. Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

### **4. Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

**Background papers:** None

**Appendices:**

Appendix A: Gateway 5 Review