



## Report of the Director of Place

Economy and Infrastructure Service Transformation Committee –  
14 December 2023

### Local Economic Delivery Plan

<b>Purpose:</b>	To outline the strategic framework and action plan for the new Local Economic Delivery Plan for Swansea.
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan
<b>Consultation:</b>	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	It is recommended that the Committee:  1) Note the progress in producing the Local Economic Delivery Plan and provide comments on the document as set out in Appendix 2 of this report.
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#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 As outlined in the previous Strategic Transformation Committee Reports the new Local Economic Delivery Plan has been produced to set out the economic regeneration priorities and actions for Swansea. The Local Economic Delivery Plan complements the Regional Economic Delivery Plan, covering Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Swansea, and will guide the implementation of the Regional Economic Delivery Plan in a local context.

- 1.2 The Local Economic Delivery Plan comprises of a strategic framework which sets out our local missions, strategic aims and objectives through to 2030, and an accompanying action plan.
- 1.3 The Local Economic Delivery Plan has been 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 Bay University Health Board, Swansea Business Improvement District, 4theRegion, Urban Foundry, Indycube, Tramshed Tech, Welsh Government and UK Government. Workshop sessions have been held with Regeneration Swansea partners to develop the strategic framework and the action plan.

## **2. Local Economic Delivery Plan Strategic Framework**

- 2.1 The Regional Economic Delivery Plan was developed in the context of a range of plans and strategies at the local, Welsh and UK level. Important themes that emerged were the need to embed the wellbeing goals and ways of working from the Well-being of Future Generations Act into the Plan, the commitment to decarbonisation and achievement of net zero by 2050, the opportunities and challenges presented by technological and demographic change, and the impacts of the UK's exit from the European Union. These have been taken forward into the Local Economic Delivery Plan and have shaped the local missions, aims and objectives.
- 2.2 As outlined in the policy context section of the Local Economic Delivery Plan it complements and links to:
  - Swansea's Local Wellbeing Plan
  - Swansea Council Climate Change and Nature Strategy 2022-2030
  - Green Infrastructure Strategy – Swansea Central Area: Regenerating our City for Wellbeing and Wildlife
  - Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales
  - Swansea Council Corporate Plan 2023-28
  - 'Back on Track' Swansea Destination Management Plan 2023-26
  - Swansea Central Area Strategic Framework
- 2.3 The economic context section of the Local Economic Delivery Plan outlines the longer-term economic challenges in Swansea along with the distinctive strengths and opportunities we can capitalise on. The extensive economic analysis undertaken for the preparation of the Regional Economic Delivery Plan and the 2022 Assessment of Local Wellbeing in Swansea have informed this section.
- 2.4 The Regional Economic Delivery Plan sets out three 'Ambitions' which set out the nature of the South West Wales economy that we want to work towards. These ambitions, which have been carried forward into the Local Economic Delivery Plan, are:
  - Resilient and sustainable

- Enterprising and ambitious
- Balanced and inclusive

2.5 The Local Economic Delivery Plan has taken the high-level strategic direction from the Regional Economic Delivery Plan and recast this in a local context, to reflect Swansea's unique challenges and opportunities. Local missions have been chosen that largely mirror those in the Regional Economic Delivery plan for consistency and are in line with the economic evidence base for Swansea.

2.6 The missions guide the long-term economic policy direction for Swansea. Each mission is broken down into two strategic aims which provide the key areas of focus. Each strategic aim is then further broken down into a series of objectives. The high level summary of the Local Economic Delivery Plan Strategic Framework is outlined in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Local Economic Delivery Plan Strategic Framework

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 Aim 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
<b>Strategic Objectives</b>					
1.1 Promoting the benefits of climate action to businesses	2.1 Decarbonising the housing stock	3.1 Co-ordinated package of support which engages new and existing businesses	4.1 Inspiring and enabling all people to reach their potential in Swansea	5.1 Building a strong, healthy, and resilient city centre	6.1 Preserving and promoting our heritage
1.2 Decarbonising local businesses	2.2 Investing in renewable energy	3.2 Ensuring access to fit for purpose sites and premises	4.2 Responding to current and future skills needs	5.2 Creating flourishing, accessible district and local centres	6.2 Celebrating our unique arts and cultural offer
1.3 Creating local supply chains	2.3 Developing a more circular economy	3.3 Actively promoting Swansea as a place to invest, work, study and do business	4.3 Creating pathways to enter and progress in employment	5.3 Investing sustainably for a more resilient and greener future	6.3 Promoting Swansea as a green, wellbeing city
1.4 Harnessing low carbon technology/ industries	2.4 Supporting decarbonised transport solutions	3.4 Maximising the positive impact of large and small organisations on local communities and foundational economy	4.4 Growing and retaining highly skilled young people	5.4 Exploiting the benefits of digital infrastructure	6.4 Investing in the 'experience' economy
	2.5 Enabling green infrastructure	3.5 Fostering innovation and knowledge transfer between local businesses, Universities and Colleges			6.5 Making the economy work for everyone
<b>Cross Cutting themes</b>					
Working in Partnership – locally, regionally and nationally					
Promoting our successes					

### **3. Action Plan**

- 3.1 An action planning workshop was held with Regeneration Swansea in September to inform the development of the action plan. Following this, an action plan has been produced to outline the key actions we will be taking to deliver the strategic aims and objectives in the Local Economic Delivery Plan. Economic circumstances are forever changing so the action plan will be a 'live' working document that will be regularly reviewed and updated by partners. This will enable new actions to come forward where opportunities arise and for actions to be updated as projects progress.
- 3.2 Actions are listed under their primary strategic aim, but the links to all relevant objectives are shown. Specific actions have not been identified for the cross cutting themes as these are instrumental to the way we will deliver all of the actions within the Plan. As the action plan develops it will include timescales, named partners responsible for delivering the action, funding sources and progress. Regeneration Swansea will be responsible for the ongoing review and monitoring of the action plan on a regular basis.

### **4. Next Steps**

- 4.1 The full Local Economic Delivery Plan strategic framework and action plan is set out in Appendix 2, and the Service Transformation Committee are invited to provide comments on this document. The next stage will be for the Local Economic Delivery Plan to be submitted to Cabinet in the new year for approval.

### **5. Integrated Assessment Implications**

- 5.1 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 socio-economic 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.
- 5.2 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'.

- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) screening has been completed and is attached at Appendix A.
- 5.5 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 Local Economic Delivery Plan. A full IIA is being undertaken on the Plan.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 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.

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 There are no specific legal implications at this stage.

### **Background Papers:**

[Regional Economic Delivery Plan](#)

### **Appendices:**

Appendix A: Integrated Impact Assessment Screening Form

Appendix B: Local Economic Delivery Plan Strategic Framework and Action Plan