



REPORT TO THE GROWING MID WALES BOARD

11th May 2020

TITLE:	Proposition Document: A Vision for Growing Mid Wales
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1. Purpose of the Report

1.1. To bring to the Board's attention the final draft document "A Vision for Growing Mid Wales", outlining the Strategic Economic Plan and the Growth Deal Roadmap for final approval.

2. Decision Sought

2.1. To approve the document in final draft form and to agree to its submission to both Governments to initiate formal negotiations.

3. Proposition Document: A Vision for Growing Mid Wales

3.1. Since the last meeting of the Growing Mid Wales Board on 20th November 2019, Members have been closely engaged in the development of the region's collective proposals to both Governments. Both to initiate formal negotiations on the Mid Wales Growth Deal and also to articulate a vision for broader investment in the region – from a range of potential funding sources.

3.2. This amounts to the attached document "A Vision for Growing Mid Wales", which constitutes two distinct sections:

- Section 1: Strategic Economic Plan
- Section 2: Growth Deal Roadmap

3.3. Members will have been engaged in the development of the document throughout, with both Local Authority Cabinets considering the document in full on the 21st February and the Economic Strategy Group later on the 9th March.

3.4. The document has thus been amended to reflect the specific comments and feedback received at these sessions.

3.5. The document is now presented to the GMW Board having reflected all these comments and now stands ready as a final draft.

3.6. Despite the current Coronavirus pandemic, the document remains valid as a baseline of the Mid Wales economy before the pandemic took hold – and outlines our clear strategic priorities to instigating positive, long-term and sustainable change that will drive recovery efforts and pursue future growth.

3.7. It has been pitched at the strategic level deliberately in terms of framing the Growth Deal as per previous discussions we've had with both Governments about developing it iteratively and progressively – ensuring the evidence base is right, putting in the right

governance and working arrangements and ensuring there is a clear vision and understanding of the requirements in the Mid Wales region.

- 3.8. Whilst we do not yet know the full scale of the impact this virus will have, it is acknowledged that it will require significant public policy co-ordination and intervention across all levels of Government to align scarce public resources to meet genuine drivers of economic recovery through strong local and regional intelligence from businesses and communities. The importance of working collaboratively and for the long term will be paramount to our recovery and future growth here in Mid Wales.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1. Once the document is approved in final draft, it will be submitted formally on behalf of both Leaders to pursue a political meeting with both Governments to receive feedback and engage on the next steps.

5. Appendix

- 5.1. A Vision for Growing Mid Wales (Strategic Economic Plan and Growth Deal Roadmap).