



REPORT TO GROWING MID WALES BOARD

15th December 2021

TITLE:	Establishing a 2021/22 revenue budget for Growing Mid Wales Board.
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1. Purpose of the Report

1.1. To set out the current revenue budget position of the Growing Mid Wales Board and set a proposed 2021/22 budget.

2. Decision(s) Sought

2.1. To approve the Annual Budget for 2021/22.

3. Background and Relevant Considerations

3.1. Since the formal establishment of the Growing Mid Wales Board via Inter-Authority Agreement in December 2019, development activity to date on the Mid Wales Growth Deal has largely been funded through spot contributions by the two Local Authorities and external grant funding (Welsh Government).

3.2. Additional revenue support was received in April 2021 from the Welsh European Funding Office for an element of revenue costs to help establish a Portfolio Management Office for the period up to July 2023.

3.3. In order to operate effectively, the GMW Board requires an annual budget to be approved – with clear contributions defined from both Local Authorities.

4. 2021/22 Revenue Budget Position

4.1. No formal budget has been set for the GMW Board for 2021/22.

4.2. ESF P5 has been secured – and covers the salary costs of the current Portfolio Management Office (PoMO) with defined local authority match funding via spot contributions (£272,860 each) – for the period February 2021 up to July 2023. This is covered under a separate grant funding agreement so does not form part of the GMWB budget.

4.3. At the Board meeting on 26/05/21, additional resourcing requirements were identified to assist with the development of the Portfolio Business Case to an estimated value of £80,000. In lieu of the Board not yet having confirmed its budget for 2021/22 – it was proposed this work taken forward under the

delegated authority of the Chief Executives to authorise direct contributions to fund this work.

4.4. Further expenditure has been incurred/committed in 2021/22 in respect of :

- Lead Officer Costs (Carwyn Jones-Evans) – April-December '21 £51,000
- Advisor (Paul Griffiths) - April-December '21 £19,500
- Professional Fees (Digital Programme) - £ 37,288
- External Legal Advice in Respect to the Economic Strategy Group - £750
- External Legal Advice on IAA3 - £17,500
- Hydrogen work match funding - £10,000

4.5. This brings a projected total expenditure of £216,038 in the 2021/22 financial year. This would need to be covered by contributions from each Local Authority, equating to £108,019.

5. Recommendations

5.1. The Board approves the Annual Budget for the year 2021/2022 of £216,038 to be funded equally by Ceredigion and Powys County Councils.

6. Legal Implications

6.1. Local Government and Finance Act 1972 **Deddf Cyllid a Llywodraeth Leol 1972**

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1. There are no HR implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

8.1. To ensure financial compliance

9. Appendices – n/a