



## REPORT TO THE GROWING MID WALES BOARD

17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

TITLE:	Mid Wales Growth Deal Report
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### 1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a brief overview of the progress, main activities and next steps relating to the Mid Wales Growth Deal.

### 2 Decision(s) Sought

- 2.1 None required.

### 3 Background and Relevant Considerations

- 3.1 The main focus over the coming months will be on bringing the project business cases forward, continuing to make headway on the programmes and to review and update the overall position on the Portfolio. This will be key to getting agreement from Government to commit to releasing Growth Deal funding in the next financial year.

### 4 Strategic Portfolio Business Case

- 4.1 The **Strategic Portfolio Business Case v2.0** (SPBC v2) has been drafted and is currently undergoing consultation. The draft was tabled at the Management Group meeting on **13<sup>th</sup> January** and subsequently a workshop arranged for **10<sup>th</sup> February** with members of the Management Group, UK Government and Welsh Government colleagues, the Economic Advisory Group and Welsh Government policy leads to take a more detailed look at the changes and invite feedback. Verbal feedback will be provided on that workshop.
- 4.2 Supporting documents have been updated including the **Private Sector Investment Strategy** which will also be subject to further consultation particularly with members of the Economic Advisory Group to provide private sector input.
- 4.3 Once input from the various parties have been incorporated into both documents final versions will be tabled for GMW Board approval at its meeting in March 2023. Subsequently all the documents will be provided to both Governments for consideration at the Welsh Cities & Growth Deal Implementation Board meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March. This will instigate the release of the Grant Award Letter.

### 5 Portfolio Assurance Review:

- 5.1 A Portfolio Assurance Review (PAR) has been organised for the week 14-17 February. The purpose of the review, involving an external and independent review team, is to provide assurance of us and to both Governments that we have everything in place to progress with the delivery phase of the Growth Deal. A report will be provided to the Senior Responsible Owners and subsequently feedback to the GMW Board.

## **6 Programme Progress**

- 6.1 Digital – the Programme Board is progressing with taking forward projects previously identified. Following a procurement exercise, Spirit Public Sector have been awarded the contract to provide further specialist support.

Sites & Premises - the contract with Welsh Government to secure funding for consultancy to take the previous programme work forward to the next stage is now in place. Following a procurement exercise, Savills have been awarded the contract for that consultancy.

## **7 Project Development**

- 7.1 The Portfolio Management Office is working with Project Sponsors regarding submission dates for their Strategic Outlines Cases or Outline Business Cases and planning assessments around Management Group and GMW Board dates. The Business Cases should be received between March and September.
- 7.2 Two Stakeholder Engagement Workshops have been held at which projects sponsors presented their proposals to members of the GMW Board and Economic Advisory Group. Presentations were also provided on the Programmes.

## **8 Next Steps**

- 8.1 Please refer to **Appendix 1** for the current Timeline.

## **9 Legal Implications**

- 9.1 None

## **10 Human Resources Implications**

- 10.1 None

## **11 Financial Implications**

- 11.1 None

## **12 Appendices**

- Appendix 1 - Growth Deal Next Steps Timeline