

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BWRDD TYFU CANOLBARTH CYMRU / GROWING MID WALES BOARD HELD BY ZOOM ON FRIDAY, 11TH JUNE 2021

PRESENT

Ceredigion County Council Cabinet Members:

Councillor Ellen ap Gwynn, Leader of Ceredigion County and Cabinet Member for Policy Performance, Partnerships and Democratic Services **(EAG)**

Councillor Dafydd Edwards: Cabinet Member for Highways and Environmental Services together with Housing **(DE)**

Councillor Catrin Miles: Cabinet Member for Learning Services and Lifelong Learning **(CM)**

Councillor Rhodri Evans: Cabinet Member for Economy and Regeneration **(RE)**

Councillor Gareth Lloyd, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement Services and Public Protection Services **(GL)**

Powys County Council Cabinet Members:

Councillor Rosemarie Harris Leader of Powys County Council **(RH) (Chair)**

Councillor Aled Davies, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Transport **(AD)**

Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Education and Property **(PD)**

Councillor Heulwen Hulme, Portfolio Holder for Environment **(HH)**

Councillor Iain McIntosh, Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Planning and Housing **(IM)**

Economic Strategy Group:

Fiona Stewart, Chair of the Economic Strategy Group **(FS)**

Officers:

Eifion Evans, Chief Executive, Ceredigion County Council **(EE)**

Dr. Caroline Turner, Chief Executive, Powys County Council **(CT)**

Carwyn Jones-Evans, Strategic Manager Mid Wales Growth Deal **(CJE)**

Clive Pinney, Solicitor to the Council, Powys County Council **(CP)**

Elin Prysor, Monitoring Officer, Ceredigion County Council **(EP)**

Lowri Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services **(LE)**

Paul Griffiths, Advisor **(PG)**

Russell Hughes-Pickering, Corporate Lead Officer: Economy & Regeneration, Ceredigion County Council **(RHP)**

Arwyn Davies, Corporate Manager Ceredigion County Council **(AD)**

Diane Reynolds, Head of Economy & Digital Services, Powys County Council **(DR)**

In attendance: Elgan Hearn, Powys Local Democracy Reporter

1. CROESO AC YMDDIHEURIADAU / WELCOME AND APOLOGIES
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The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies received: Steve Hughson, Chief Executive of the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society and Nigel Brinn, Corporate Director Economy & Environment, Powys County Council.

2.	DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANT PERSONOL / DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST
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None.

3.	COFNODION Y CYFARFOD DIWETHAF/ MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING 26/05/2021
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The minutes of the last meeting held on 26th May 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

4.	LLYWODRAETHIANT / GOVERNANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report: Revised Inter-Authority Agreement
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CP presented a report to amend the Inter Authority Agreement to ensure Good Governance for the Development of a Portfolio Business Case and Agreeing a Final Deal Agreement with WG and the UK Government.

The document set out:

- What changes are required of the Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) to ensure good governance for the development of a Portfolio Business Case and agreeing a Final Deal Agreement with WG and the UK Government;
- To recommend to the Cabinets of both Authorities that the IAA is amended as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

The following are the main changes made to the draft amended IAA as set out in Appendix 1:

- Redefine scope of the “project” in the agreement to accommodate stipulated expectations and requirements for achieving Full Deal Agreement, as were outlined in the Heads of Terms document. – Development of a “Portfolio Business Case”;
- Strengthening the audit provisions;
- Including the joint scrutiny provisions into the IAA;

DECISION: Subject to replacing RLSP (Regional Learning and Skills Partnership) with RSP (Regional Skills Partnership) within the IAA the Board recommends to the Cabinets of both Authorities that the IAA is amended as set out in Appendix 1 of the report. On the understanding that a further amendment to the IAA may be required to reflect changes required by the introduction of Corporate Joint Committees for the Mid Wales area

5.	MID WALES GROWTH DEAL
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Verbal update on progress since the last meeting 26/05/21.

CJE gave an update on the progress since the last meeting held on 26th May 2021. Councillors Rosemarie Harris and Ellen ap Gwynn had a successful meeting with David TC Davies MP who shared their desire to progress to Full Deal Agreement. Arrangements are being made for Councillors Rosemarie Harris and Ellen ap Gwynn to meet with the new Minister for the Economy, Vaughan Gething MS.

CJE reported that the recruitment of 4 out of 5 key roles in the Portfolio Management Office (PMO) had been successful, and that the candidates will be starting in position soon. The recruitment of a Land and Property programme manager had been unsuccessful – and officers would discuss this further. It was suggested that the option of a secondment from the current teams within authorities is explored.

Meetings with civil servants of both governments are ongoing and clarification on the expectations are being sought. Officers within the two authorities are working closely and progress is being made. Workshops to consider the detail will be arranged with Members. The workshops will also provide an opportunity to review the project short list. It was noted that a similar session and discussion would need to be held with the Economic Strategy Group.

The Board agreed to seek Full Deal Agreement by autumn 2021.

It was agreed that an informal joint cabinet meeting be arranged at the end of July as a workshop for Members to workshop the emerging proposals, and further discussion with the ESG on their input and engagement to the process.

6.	UNRHYW FATER ARALL / ANY OTHER BUSINESS
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None.

7.	DYDDIADAU CYFARFOD NESAF / DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS
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29 September 2021 – Virtual
10 December 2021 - Virtual

County Councillor Rosemarie Harris
Chair