



**GMW
Partnership Meeting - Minutes
Council Chamber, Neuadd Cyngor Sir Ceredigion, Penmorfa,
Aberaeron, SA46 0PA
Tuesday, 26th April, 2016
14:00-16:30pm**

Present

Councillor Barry Thomas, Leader of Powys County Council (**Chair**)
Councillor Ellen Ap Gwynn, Leader of Ceredigion County Council (**Vice-Chair**)
Susan Bolter, Powys County Council
Carl Cooper, PAVO
Ann Elias, Ceredigion County Council
Paul Griffiths, Powys County Council
Russell Hughes-Pickering, Ceredigion County Council
Huw Morgan, Ceredigion County Council
Mike Shaw, Ceredigion County Council
Ceri Stephens, Mid Wales Manufacturing Group and Chair of Mid Wales Chamber of Commerce
Ann Watkin, Welsh Government
Meurig Thomas, Welsh Government
Councillor Avril York, Portfolio Holder Regeneration and Planning, Powys County Council
Councillor Gareth Lloyd – Cabinet Member for Economic and Community Development Services, Ceredigion County Council
Dr Sue Fish, Mid Wales Healthcare Collaborative
Paul Evans, Powys County Council
Dr. Rhodri Llwyd Morgan – Prifysgol Aberystwyth University
Jane Lewis, Regional Learning Partnership
Jenni Thomas, Powys County Council
Jacqui Weatherburn, Principal, Coleg Ceredigion
Arwyn Watkins, Regional Learning Partnership
Steve Cass – NPTC Group

In attendance

Sue Morgan (SM), Head of Entrepreneurship, WG (14:00-15:30)
Carys Roberts (CR), Senior Youth Entrepreneurship Manager (14:00-15:30)
Seren Jones, Ceredigion County Council – Note taker
Sonia Davies, Ceredigion County Council – Note taker

1.	<p>Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>Councillor Barry Thomas, who would take the Chair of the Growing Mid Wales (GMW) Partnership for the next 12 months, welcomed all to the meeting and introductions ensued.</p> <p>Apologies were received from:</p> <p>Barry Liles – Coleg Sir Gar Steve Doodson – NPTC Group Mared Rand Jones – FUW Doug Hughes – Hughes Architects Jeremy Patterson – Chief Executive, Powys County Council Hazel Lloyd-Lubran – Chief Executive, CAVO James Harrison – TSR Surveyors Councillor Alun Williams, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services, Assets, Transport and Carbon Management, Ceredigion County Council</p> <p>At the suggestion of the Chair, name cards for all attendees would be created for future meetings for ease of referencing to contributors.</p> <p>Action: Name cards to be created for the next GMW Partnership Meeting which is to be held on the 29th July, 2016.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th January, 2016</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Meeting held on the 8th January, 2016, were agreed to be a true record of the meeting. (Proposed by Councillor Ellen Ap Gwynn and seconded by Ceri Stephens, Mid Wales Manufacturing Group.</p> <p><u>Matters arising from the Minutes</u></p> <p><u>Page 3 – Strategic Transport Update</u> <u>Mobile Phone Coverage in Mid Wales</u></p> <p>MS informed the Partnership that a response has been received from Ed Vaizey, Minister of State for Culture and the Digital Economy and particular reference was made to paragraph three of the response, which read as follows:</p> <p><i>“The licence obligations will result in improved coverage across the UK, including Ceredigion and Powys, and it is expected that by the end of 2017 complete ‘not spots’ will reduce in Ceredigion from 14% down to 5% of landmass, and in Powys will fall from 10% to 4% of landmass. With regard to partial ‘not spots’, these are expected to reduce in</i></p>	<p>Admin</p>  <p>Minutes of Meeting 8th Jan...</p>

	<p><i>Ceredigion from 42% down to 23.5% of landmass, while in Powys, they will reduce from 40% to 22% of landmass. The MNOs operate in a competitive market, and detailed address level rollout plans and related coverage data are not publicly available”</i> (Not spot - Signal from only one mobile network operator).</p> <p>It was noted that detailed address level roll out plans are not publically available. There will be coverage on how to reach those figures by the end of 2017.</p> <p>The Chair thanked MS for the update.</p>	
3.	<p>Regional Engagement – Framework of Action (Attachment B)</p> <p>MS presented the new draft Framework of Action to the Partnership members. MS began by thanking the Partnership members for their enormous cooperation and determination towards this final draft. MS stated that due to the work put in to this document, it is now a “moving” document for ownership and making the case for the region.</p> <p>MS drew attention to the fact that one contribution was received very late and as a consequence, has not yet been captured in the framework but this will be actioned shortly.</p> <p>Renewable energy has been highlighted as an opportunity on both a larger and smaller scale within the region. Interesting thoughts are emerging on whether to develop an agenda to de-carbonise the economy and develop and infrastructure to support electric cars.</p> <p>Cllr AY thanked MS for producing this updated draft today and it was noted, with enthusiasm that the document had improved significantly since the Partnership Meeting in January 2016.</p> <p>Cllr AY stated that she would like to see a bit more emphasis on Businesses in both Powys and Ceredigion within the Plan, which are looking to expand or looking for new premises, in an attempt to keep businesses within the Mid and West Wales region.</p> <p>AW noted that applications are currently being submitted to WEFO from Welsh Government which will address provisional strategic sites but stipulated that this would only be for a small number of locations. Two other applications are also currently under consideration with WEFO colleagues which are:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Bespoke Property developments; 2) Advance premises. (AW noted that she would check the position and revert to the Partnership) <p>Cllr AY also referenced priority 4. Cllr AY stated that there is currently a problem with skills base in the region. There is a requirement to</p>	 <p>Enc: B Mid Wales Framework for ...</p>

build a plan for high level apprenticeships, training, work and matching skills needs with businesses throughout the region.

Cllr EaG reiterated the importance of keeping skills in Mid Wales and there seemed to be a general consensus that Mid Wales remained less well served in terms of opportunities available in other parts of Wales.

CC stated that a number of initiatives are coming through via the Workforce Development Plan which are supported by EU funding which include volunteering and noted that PAVO are leading on an East Wales Project which includes five local authority areas which focuses on the pathway to employment. CC stated that it would be good to see this reflected in the plan.

JW highlighted that it must be remembered that providers, such as Further Education Colleges, have to provide details based on instruction from Welsh Government regionally and nationally.

EaG stated that we require correct information regarding the labour requirements market in the region. It was noted that there had recently been a change of focus with the Regional Learning Partnership (RLP) and it is hoped that we are now in a stronger position and have the right information to deal with the needs of the region.

Young people in Wales need to know that apprenticeships and opportunities are available to them, whilst ensuring training can also be kept in Wales.

PG noted that the draft framework, when finalised and subject to the comments received today, will be an opportunity to gage with Welsh Government and added that the Framework now needs to be created into an appealing document. It was also noted that a Marches Conference is to be held tomorrow (27th April, 2016) at which many of GMW Members would be in attendance and this would be an opportunity to gage with partners and put forward a vision.

Partnership Members were content with the way forward, as noted above and the Chair requested MS to undertake this action, ensuring translation of the document and share with the GMW members thereafter before final sign off by the Chair and Vice-Chair accordingly.

The Chair thanked MS for the informative update.

Action: MS to transfer the Framework in to one document ensuring translation, and to circulate to the Chair, Vice Chair and GMW Members for comment before sign off.

MS

<p>4.</p>	<p>Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Programme (REAP) & Youth Entrepreneurship (Presentation)</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Sue Morgan (SM), Head of Entrepreneurship, and Carys Roberts (CR), Senior Youth Entrepreneurship Manager of Welsh Government, to the meeting to provide presentations on the Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Programme (REAP) & Youth Entrepreneurship. (A copy of the presentation is attached for information).</p> <p>Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Programme (REAP)</p> <p>SM provided a brief overview of REAP.</p> <p>Key points focused on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aim of the Programme • Who the team are • Framework system • The process of the programme • The progress of the programme <p>An opportunity for questions and discussion followed.</p> <p>Emphasis was given that this programme should be drilled down to the GMW region and rural situations too. The Mid Wales region should not be ignored! SM agreed and noted that it was for groups such as GMW to decide what they would like the programme to focus on. SM stated that they are trying to be as inclusive as possible and that the information provided was evidence based and not a research programme.</p> <p>For information, SM explained that the project will be fully funding a PHD student to look at this area of work, which is currently out to tender. The title of the PHD will be 'Developing an innovation entrepreneurial situation for Wales'.</p> <p><u>Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy (YES)</u></p> <p>CR provided a presentation.</p> <p>Key points focused on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of the YES Strategy • Engaging, Empowering and Equipping Audiences (5-25yrs) • The Aims of the Strategy • Business Wales – Youth Entrepreneurship Services • Enabling partners • The impact 	 <p>Overview of REAP in Wales and progress t</p>
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An opportunity for questions and discussion followed.

CR stated that she would welcome further discussions with Partners on what opportunities the Strategy could offer for the Mid Wales region. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to hold an event in Mid Wales and encourage young people and broader stakeholders to engage.

The GMW Partnership welcomed this idea and agreed that it would be beneficial to work together to understand the needs of the area.

MS highlighted it would be beneficial for this idea to be discussed and taken forward at a meeting of the Working Group.

Action: Youth Engagement Strategy Event for Mid Wales region to be discussed at the Working Group.

The Chair thanked both SM and CR for their presentations to the Partnership today.

MS

5. **Mid Wales regional engagement; regional proofing of European funded operations (Attachment C)**

MS presented the Mid Wales Regional Engagement Update Report to the Partnership members (a copy of which is attached for information). MS explained that the Report sets out six different projects underway across the region. MS noted that the group has drafted some responses to make on behalf of the region which has been set out project by project on the second page of the Report, which require the agreement of the GMW Partnership. (Please see attached Report for further information). MS took the members through each recommendation in detail.

Clr AY thanked MS for his update today and emphasised the need to be as creative as possible in this work and maximise the benefit for the whole of the GMW area.

The Chair requested MS to circulate the recommendations, together with a timeline for each recommendation, to the GMW Partnership to ensure all Members are content.

Action: Members agreed;
1. The recommendations on the following operations and that these be forwarded to the respective beneficiaries and WEFO:

Area		Operation	Lead Beneficiary
WWV	ESF	Growing Workforces through Learning and	University of Wales Trinity Saint David



Regional Engagement up...

MS

		Development (GWLAD)	
WWV	ERDF	Wales Business Fund	Finance Wales
EW	ERDF	Wales Business Fund	Finance Wales
WWV	ERDF	Social Business Growth Fund	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
EW	ERDF	Social Business Growth Fund	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
WWV	ERDF	Beacon +	Aberystwyth University

2. In future, and to facilitate feeding back to WEFO, the recommendations of the Cross Sector Working Group will be circulated immediately to the GMW Partnership to ensure that members have the opportunity to comment and or agree within a specified period. Following this, the Chair of the Partnership will then authorise the submission and the following meeting of the Partnership will receive a report of the Chair’s delegated decisions in the previous period under this authority.

6. Regional Learning Partnership – SQW Report & Regional Delivery Plan Employment and Skills

The Chair welcomed Jane Lewis (JL) to the meeting to provide a presentation on the Regional Learning Partnership (RLP) Report & Regional Delivery Plan Employment and Skills. (A copy of which is attached for information).

Key Points focused on:-

- The background of the RLP & the need for a time to change
- Purpose of the RLP
- Value added of the RLP currently
- The need for an RLP type initiative
- Activities for RLP 2020
- Design principles in going forward
- Recommendations and core functions
- Appointed new Board Members from a range of sectors

Particular reference was made to slide 19 ‘Response to the recommendations – Appointed new Board with nominations from the following sectors:’ It was noted that there is currently no GMW representation on the Board and JL welcomed a discussion of delegating a representative from the GMWP. It was noted that the inaugural meeting of the Board would be held on the 4th May, 2016. Discussions ensued.



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	<p>It was agreed by the GMW Partnership meeting today that MS of Ceredigion County Council would represent the GMW Partnership on the Board.</p> <p>Further discussions would follow as to whether Paul Evans, Powys County Council, should sit on the SERG Group. JL to discuss further with Powys County Council.</p> <p>All members were in agreement that both representatives would provide positive opportunities on behalf of the GMWP.</p> <p>It was noted that discussions are on-going for representations from Swansea, Carmarthen and Aberystwyth Universities.</p> <p>The Chair thanked JL for her presentation to the Partnership .</p>	
7.	<p>Mid Wales Healthcare Collaborative (Presentation)</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Dr Sue Fish (SF) to the meeting.</p> <p>SF provided a presentation on the Mid Wales Healthcare Collaborative, a copy of which is attached for information.</p> <p>Key points focused on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The background of the Collaborative • The organisations represented at the Collaborative & the area of Wales which is covered • Next steps for the Collaborative • The role of the Management Board • Role of the Workforce, Education and Training Working Group • Research Working Group • Information on the Rural Health and Social Care Professional Advisory Forum • The new Centre for Excellence in Rural Health Research which will see Aberystwyth University work closely with the Mid Wales Healthcare Collaborative and Hywel Dda University Health Board. <p>The Chair thanked SF for the presentation today and stated that it is an exciting and influential time for the Collaborative.</p> <p>It was agreed to receive a further presentation by SF at the next Partnership Meeting on the 29th July 2016 on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powys Teaching Health Board - to understand fully what is happening in the area; 	 <p>MWHC - Growing Mid Wales April 2016.pdf</p> <p>SF CCC Cylch Caron Project Manager</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cylch Caron Project – ensuring attendance by a Cylch Caron Ceredigion County Council representative at the next meeting. <p>Action: Presentations to be received at the next GMW Partnership on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powys Teaching Health Board (to understand fully what is happening in the area); • Cylch Caron Project – Ceredigion County Council representative to attend the next meeting to provide an update on the development. 	
8.	<p>Strategic Transport Quarter 1 2016 Update (Attachment D)</p> <p>Due to time constraints today, AE was unable to present a full update to the Partnership. AE drew Members’ attention to the fact that the report (attached for information) does highlight the number of plans and strategies released by the Welsh Government ahead of the election period, and the report provides an overview of how they fit in strategically and regionally. AE stated that the region had been able to work with Marches LEP transport group where Mid Wales had been able to highlight within their strategic plans our transport corridors as well as engaging with Highways England on their proposed Economic Growth Plans, in order to recognising the importance of connectivity into Wales.</p> <p>PG stated that this is a great opportunity to make connections, especially from West to East Wales and vice-versa, and to attract business from across the border.</p> <p>It was noted that a comprehensive and detailed update was provided by AE at a TraCC meeting last Friday.</p> <p>The Chair thanked AE for a detailed report and requested that AE’s Strategic Transport update should be placed early on the agenda for the next meeting to allow sufficient time for AE to present a full update to the GMW Partnership.</p> <p>Action: Strategic Transport Update to be placed as one of the first Agenda items at the next Partnership meeting on the 29th July 2016.</p>	 <p>Attachment D Strategic: Transp...</p> <p>Admin</p>
9.	<p>AOB There were no additional items for discussion today.</p>	
10.	<p>Date of next meeting: - Friday, 29th July, 2016, at 10am Powys County Council Offices, Llandrindod Wells.</p>	

**COUNCILLOR BARRY THOMAS
CHAIR**

DRAFT