



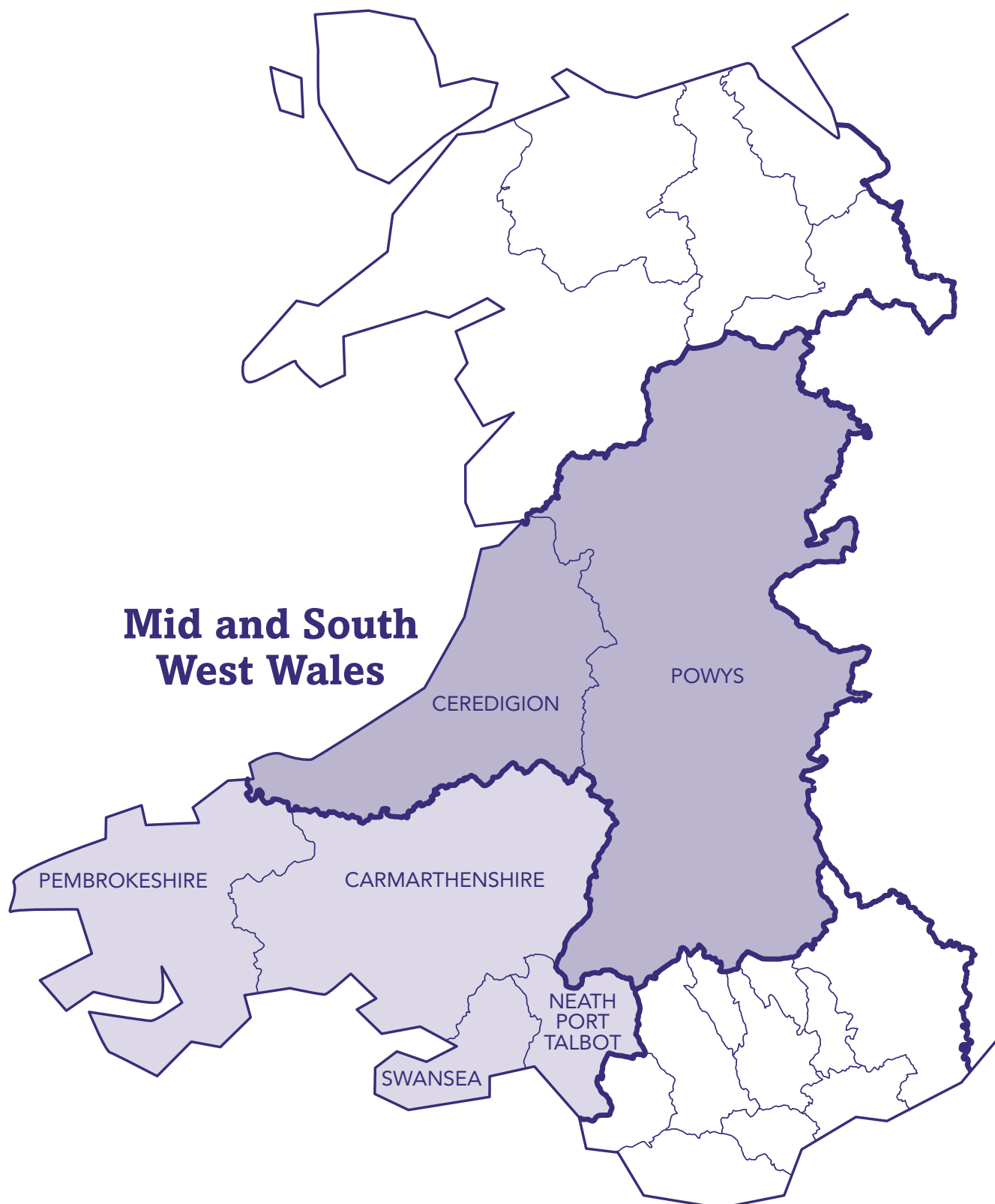
Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mid & South West Wales Regional Office

Towards A Regional Economic Framework

Stakeholder Engagement and Participation Document





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Ministerial Foreword

The Welsh Government's Economic Action Plan (EAP) outlines the basis for a regional approach to economic development.

One of my key commitments under the EAP is to deliver a stronger regional voice through a regionally-focussed model of economic development.

This approach aims to build upon the progress made in terms of economic development to date and engage in a conversation around shaping new Regional Economic Frameworks for Mid Wales and South West Wales. I recognise that government alone does not have all the answers and that a phased, collaborative approach, working together with stakeholders from across the regions, is vital to our success.

My ongoing commitment is to give the people and businesses we serve every opportunity for long-term economic development and prosperity for all. This Stakeholder Engagement and Participation document is the starting point on that journey – over the coming months, we want to work with our key partners, and the many other people who have an interest in the regional economy, to think about the big questions ahead and the challenges we face. We want to outline the ways in which we want to work, recognising that how we deliver is as important as what we deliver, and that the principles of sustainable development will underpin our approach.

We want you to help us develop ambitious new ideas for the future, as well as helping us to make difficult decisions about how best to focus our resources. We will work collaboratively with our partners to co-design and co-develop a single vision supported by a shared and prioritised set of outcomes, articulated in new Regional Economic Frameworks for the region. New Regional Economic Frameworks, co-designed with our partners, will develop the distinctive strengths of our region, supporting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and maximising opportunities to address regional and local inequalities, contributing to the Well-being Goals for Wales.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Skates'.

Ken Skates MS

Minister for Economy, Transport
and North Wales



Chief Regional Officer

As Chief Regional Officer for Mid and South West Wales, it is my privilege to be the voice of the region within Government and the voice of Government in the region. My role is to help provide leadership, coordination, planning and alignment of economic development activities across the region on behalf of the Government, working closely with delivery partners across the public, private and voluntary and community sectors.

There has already been considerable conversation and dialogue with regional partners at a strategic, sub regional and local level. Our team is disbursed across regional office locations including Aberystwyth, Newtown and Swansea and already developing positive relationships with key partners and the business community. This Stakeholder Engagement and Participation document is the first step on the journey to the co-design, co-development and co-delivery of Regional Economic Frameworks for Mid Wales and South West Wales.

It is only through a process of joint-working and co-design that we will create the shared endeavour and unity of purpose critical to a successful regional economy.

While we know the Regional Economic Frameworks will address some of the key themes that are emerging such as skills, infrastructure and support for business, our priority must be to ensure a genuinely place based and tailored response to needs and opportunities, recognising the distinct sub regional differences within and across Mid Wales and South West Wales.

As a first step, this document is designed to help us reach a shared understanding of the current nature of the regional strengths, challenges, opportunities and threats we face. It can also help us to identify key drivers of change and to explore their potential impact and influence on the region's economy which will help us to frame and prioritise our response through a shared vision and shared outcomes for the long term. We are already working closely with our local authority partners across the region (Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Neath-Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, Powys and Swansea,) in regard to economic development activity and look forward to continuing to work with them and a broader range of stakeholders to help inform the development of the REF in a process which is facilitated by the Co-Production Network for Wales.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rhodri Griffiths', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rhodri Griffiths

Chief Regional Officer –
Mid & South West Wales

ChiefRegionalOMSW@gov.wales

Introduction

Welsh Government's Economic Action Plan (EAP) established the basis for regional working. Growing our economy inclusively, spreading opportunity and promoting well-being are at the heart of EAP, underpinning its contribution towards delivery of our National Strategy: Prosperity for All and contributes to the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and shaped by the principles of:

- Public investment with a social purpose
- Simplification
- A stronger regional voice and;
- A focus on the long-term

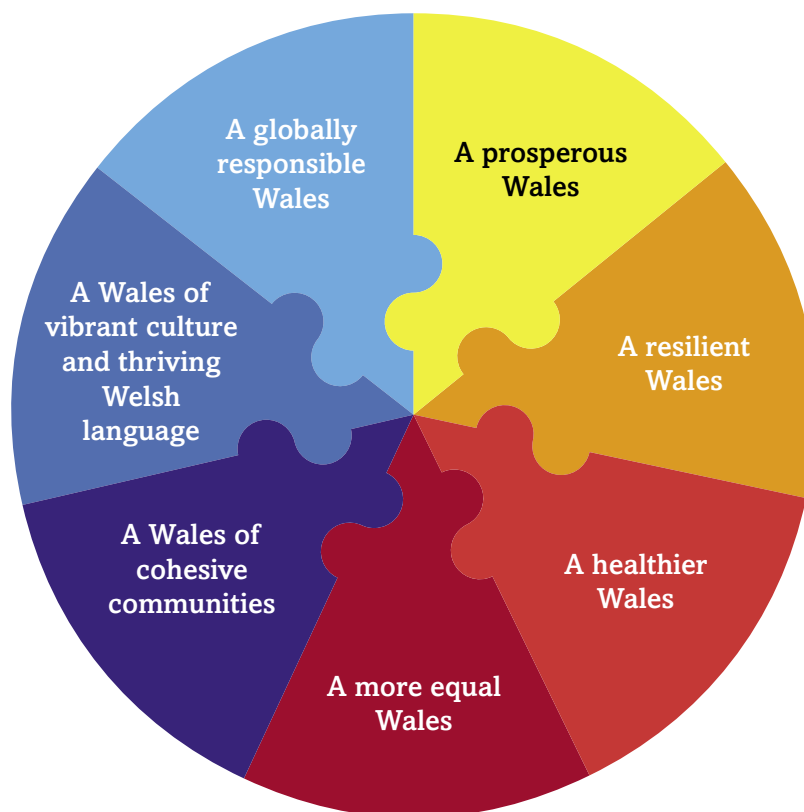
The shift to regional economic development provides many benefits, not least of all the opportunity to iron out regional disparities, as well as disparities within regions themselves. EAP and the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act calls on us to be more long term in our approach and to be more agile to ensure we are able to respond to the ever changing economic circumstances and to maximise new opportunities for growth.



Our Principles

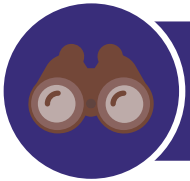
EAP is very clear that how we deliver is as important as what we deliver – and consideration of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act has reinforced the need to work differently to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act puts in place a ‘sustainable development principle’ that is applied through the 5 ways of working ensuring that public bodies take account of the long-term, work to prevent problems occurring or getting worse, take an integrated and collaborative approach, and consider and involve people.

Inclusive growth is beyond the scope of any single ministerial portfolio, neither can government achieve it by acting alone, it requires concerted action from all of government and between government and others working for the long term. This need for integration and collaboration has influenced the development of EAP and will be the basis for how our Regional Economic Frameworks (REFs) are developed and delivered.



We are committed to the following under-pinning sustainable development principles:

Long term



The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.

The REFs will present a vision for the region we want, founded on the principle that places matter and will seek to make real our ambition of delivering better jobs closer to home. The Frameworks will tackle our inherent structural challenges but be responsive by turning them into opportunities for a dynamic and distinct region which demonstrates inclusive, fair and sustainable economic growth by designing solutions for the future – together.

Prevention



How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.

The Chief Regional Officer will be the voice of the region in Government and the Government's voice in the region, feeding back local intelligence to tailor delivery and informing national priorities. Critically, they will provide leadership, coordination, planning and alignment within the region to ensure the REFs provides a clear direction as to the policy interventions that are needed to prevent current problems from getting worse and those anticipated in the future from happening.

Integration



Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.

The transition to a regionally focussed model of economic development will bring benefits including: Joined up economic development planning; Stronger local and regional supply chains; Better integrated transport; Strategic planning on a range of issues from land use to housing to skills, and; Stronger complementary economic and cross border collaboration. The approach will include working with the new and existing governance structures across local authority boundaries on issues such as economic development, regeneration, skills and strategic transport and infrastructure.

Collaboration



Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.

The REFs will encourage collaboration between all stakeholders: across the private, public and third sectors; decision makers and delivery bodies at an early stage to help achieve the long-term objectives of regional partners. This is important in helping to identify and address many of the barriers and needs, such as funding, viability and deliverability. This will also support the ability to create innovation and sharing of best practice sharing across sectors.

Involvement



The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

The REFs will be based on the principle of co-design and encourage continued involvement from stakeholders from an early stage in its development, to help make sure that it reflects the needs of the population across the region. Delivery will be focussed around a single shared vision for the region and supported by a suite of shared priorities and outcomes.



Strategic Context

Notwithstanding global, international and UK strategic drivers of change, there are a plethora of policies, strategies and plans in development and delivery at a national, regional and local level within Wales that will inform the development of the REFs where alignment and integration will be important.

The Welsh Government has outlined proposals for a new collaborative model of governance at the local authority and regional level through Corporate Joint Committees (CJC's) covering areas such as economic development, transport, planning and education. CJC's could provide the necessary governance arrangements for oversight of the development of the REFs, supporting the potential allocation and decentralisation of replacement EU funding to the region in a post Brexit approach to regional investment. Our REFs can provide the basis for drawing the relevant strategies together to ensure that partners align behind a single agreed vision with shared prioritised objectives and outcomes.

The Draft National Development Framework (NDF) seeks to identify the spatial planning priorities for Wales, around housing, employment, connectivity and infrastructure and also suggests a new National Forest for Wales. The National Infrastructure Commission for Wales also informs our approach to identify our future infrastructure needs and our plans to deliver better connectivity within Wales and the rest of the UK also reinforces the need for tailored interventions which address regional need and opportunity.

Our approach will contribute to the four broad priority areas agreed by Welsh Government Cabinet for replacement EU funds, but will also reflect additional regional priorities as identified:

- Reducing income inequalities for people, analysing the factors that create income inequality and reduce disposable and discretionary income
- More productive and competitive businesses, including the vital role of innovation and research as well as alternative business models
- The transition to a zero carbon economy, taking advantage of the opportunities this creates as well as reducing negative effects
- Healthier and more sustainable communities, recognising different challenges in different communities and the role of local areas in identifying priorities in their places.

Brexit presents significant risks for Wales, but rural Wales faces additional challenges compared to other parts of Wales. Exports and trade from sectors aligned to the land based economy as well as manufacturing provide a vital role in the rural economy. Our Welsh ports act as strategic gateways to key European markets and are important elements of the Welsh and UK economy.

Drivers of Change

There are a significant and increasing number of drivers of change that will shape the future prosperity of our regions. There is a wealth of data and evidence available that describes the current situation regarding economic, social, environmental and cultural conditions in the local and regional setting which can be used to create a shared understanding and consensus on an area's context, issues and opportunities, and inform the selection of regional and local objectives. However whilst this data can be used to provide projections of current trends in the short term in relatively stable and predictable environments, it is less useful in the context of the long term where places face significant uncertainty and change.

We will work with our partners to explore future trends and to think hard about work, the skills we need and the balance between labour market flexibility and fairness at work so that we grasp opportunities to innovate and future-proof against this changing environment.

Rising global temperatures and changing weather patterns are compelling us to think creatively about the need to decarbonise the traditional models of business, public services and infrastructure. The shift to a low carbon future offers huge opportunities for our regional economies to diversify and grow – but it also challenges us to support business, people and places in transitioning toward that low carbon future.

In the fourth industrial age, the world of work is now changing faster than it has ever before, where automation, artificial intelligence, digitisation, innovation and skills now recognised as critical factors which will shape the future economy of Wales and its regions. New digital technologies are having a huge impact on the traditional divisions of industry and presenting new and immediate challenges for our workforce.



Regional Economic Development

Regional economic development provides a framework for partners to drive collaborative working, set priorities which support local economic ambitions and objectives as a single voice and deliver key functions at a strategic level. Our aim is to build on the existing work at a regional level and add value by bringing partners together to understand the issues across Mid Wales and South West Wales. This place based approach already exists in some areas which enables partners to respond more effectively to discrete spatial challenges and opportunities. Regional economic development promotes cohesion, reduces the risk of silo working and encourages the sharing of information and dissemination of best practice.

We recognise that this large area includes two distinct economic regions, where existing arrangements between Local Authorities are taking forward the delivery of City and Growth Deals around Swansea Bay and in Mid Wales. We are therefore cognisant that there are distinct challenges and opportunities that exist within the regions. Working with our partners we will endeavour to shape varying approaches, bringing economic development much closer to stakeholders to develop thriving local economies.

The development of REFs can ensure greater alignment, reduce duplication and drive efficiencies whilst delivering upon shared outcomes. We recognise that a collaborative approach already exists, and a strategic thinking based upon detailed analysis of our regions, undertaken jointly by Local Authority partners in both Mid Wales and in South West Wales centred on economic development, regeneration and skills. Strategic documents such as the *Swansea Bay Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013-2030* and the recent Strategic Economic Plan & Growth Deal Roadmap prepared by the Growing Mid Wales Board, plus work undertaken by Regional Skills Partnerships provide an evidence base from which to build from.





Enterprise Zones Wales



City & Growth Deals

Welsh Government and its partners are working jointly to deliver City and Growth Deals across the Swansea Bay City region and Mid Wales. Growth and City Deals support our move towards a regional economic approach, providing local partners with additional freedoms to invest in areas which matter to their region, in return for taking on responsibility and accountability for the success of a deal.

Enterprise Zones

In 2012, the Welsh Government launched seven Enterprise Zones across Wales including the Haven Waterway. In March 2016 a new Enterprise Zone was designated at Port Talbot Waterfront in response to the announced job losses in the steel industry. Both Zones are designated geographical areas that support new and expanding businesses by providing a first class business infrastructure and focal point for investment.

Ministerial Task Force for the South Wales Valleys

In July 2016 Welsh Government set up a long-term initiative to deliver real change for the South Wales Valleys with which will create good-quality jobs, closer to people's homes and improve people's skills. In July 2019 the boundary of the Valleys area was extended to include the Gwendraeth and Amman Valleys, reflecting that they are very much culturally part of the south Wales coalfield, with their distinctive heritage around anthracite mining, shared with the adjacent valleys located to the east.

Mid Wales

Mid Wales is a large and predominantly rural area comprising the Local Authority areas of Powys and Ceredigion. It accounts for 39% of the land mass of Wales but only around 7% of the Welsh population. Mid Wales has a strong cultural heritage and a high proportion of Welsh speakers and known for its natural beauty and remoteness in areas such as the Brecon Beacons National Park and the Cambrian Mountains.

Work undertaken by the Growing Mid Wales Partnership¹ provides a statistical analysis of Mid Wales, highlighting the key issues facing the regional economy:



Population

- An estimated population of 206,000 in 2016 with growth rates since 2001 showing a noticeably different trend between Powys (+4.7%) and Ceredigion (-2.1%).
- An age profile dominated by residents aged 45 years and over, driven by the inward migration of older residents attracted by the area's high quality of life and where younger Mid Wales residents tend to leave the region seeking education and employment opportunities.
- Population projections estimate a 16% decline in the working age population and 37% increase in the 65 and over age group in Mid Wales between 2014 and 2039. This trend is likely to result in a contraction in the region's workforce over the next 15 years.



Housing

- Access to good quality affordable housing and home ownership is a particular issue for residents in Mid Wales. In many parts of the region house prices exceed national averages and, in relation to average wages, are less affordable compared to Wales as a whole.
- High levels of second home ownership, driven by housing affordability relative to other regions and the high quality of life Mid Wales offers, exacerbate the issues within the local housing market.
- Other challenges affect housing availability such as skills shortages in the local construction industry and the absence of volume developer interest in building homes in Mid Wales leads to relatively low levels of new housing development.

¹ Strategic Economic Priorities for the Mid Wales region, AECOM. 2019



Skills

- Mid Wales performs well in terms of educational attainment with levels of achievement at GCSE level exceeding the Welsh average. The proportion of young people Not in Employment Education or Training (NEET) is low whilst working age qualification levels are also encouraging, exceeding the Welsh average in Powys and increasing steadily over recent years.
- Despite these strengths, skills gaps and recruitment difficulties are commonplace amongst Mid Wales employers. Apprenticeship numbers are decreasing and further education delivery is challenged by the rural nature of the region. At the same time employer investment in training is relatively low, reflecting the high proportion of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).



Deprivation

- The Mid Wales region has a comparatively low level of deprivation when measured with the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) however statistical measures do not tend to capture the true nature of rural disadvantage. Poverty in Mid Wales is variable, often hidden, and is related to the rurality and demographics of the region.
- WIMD sub-indicators and other relevant sources of data highlight high levels of deprivation in many towns and issues relating to access to services, isolation and fuel poverty across the region.



Economy

- Mid Wales faces a significant productivity challenge. The region's total gross value added (GVA), a measure of the increase in the value of the economy due to the production of goods and services, is amongst the lowest in the UK. GVA per hour worked, which takes account of the region's workforce, further demonstrates this with Powys lagging behind the rest of Wales and the UK at around 60% of UK average and in decline.
- Employment in the region is distributed across a limited range of sectors often linked to self-employment and micro-businesses. The public, education and health sectors dominate in terms of employment but agriculture and tourism play important roles. The absence of agglomeration economies presents weaknesses in both markets for products and services and a weak labour market which fuels both out-migration of young talent and the lowering of aspirations.

- The land based economy is of paramount importance to the Mid Wales economy, with agriculture employing circa 58,000 people and being instrumental to the region's culture and communities. Opportunities exist to diversify and add value to the agricultural sector by exploiting the region's research and development strengths.
- Mid Wales possesses significant environmental and cultural strengths and opportunities exist to build upon the region's natural assets in order to diversify and increase the value of the region's tourism sector.
- Manufacturing employs over 7,000 people, where niche areas of manufacturing expertise such as automation and motion engineering are concentrated in the Severn Valley.
- Based on the long term demographics of the region, the importance of the foundation economy will grow significantly. The ageing population will likely place increasing pressure on service delivery in the social and healthcare sectors, however this trend also presents real opportunities to demonstrate positive approaches to service delivery challenges within Mid Wales.
- The regions' Infrastructure consists of a limited transport network and poor digital and mobile connectivity. A lack of modern business accommodation, energy grid deficiencies and fuel poverty also hamper growth.

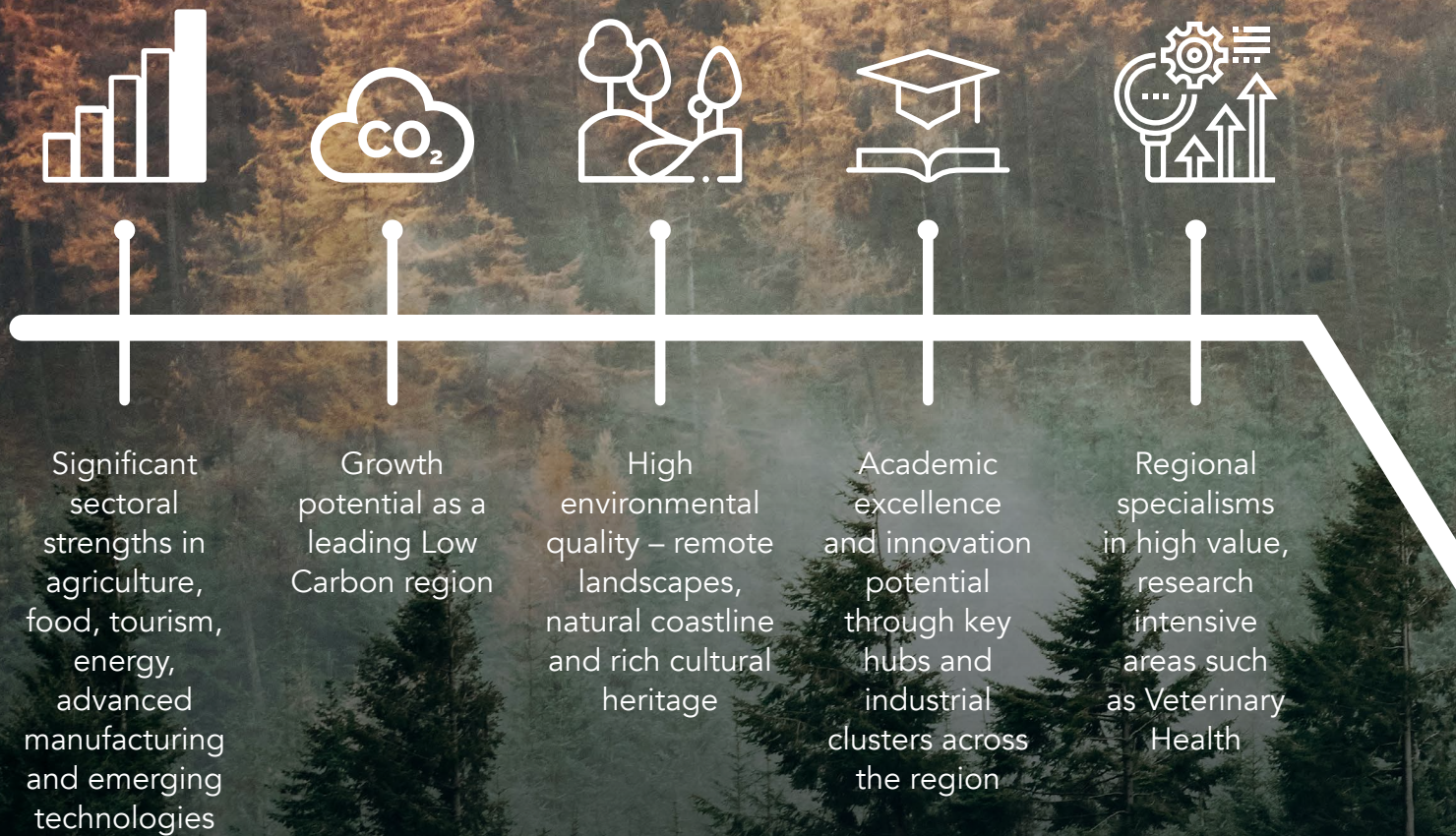


Transport and Digital Connectivity

- Mid Wales comprises a network of single carriageway A and B roads which form the strategic north-south and east-west corridors that link North and South Wales and Mid Wales to the West Midlands (cross border routes) providing essential freight and passenger movements.
- Rail links in Mid Wales are characterised by low service frequency, slow line speeds and limited direct services to major UK cities with the only regular principal service being the 2 hourly Aberystwyth to Birmingham International through services. The region's links to the English Midlands provides an opportunity to enhance existing cross border relationships.
- Digital connectivity lags behind other regions with fixed line superfast broadband only available to around 75% of premises in Powys and Ceredigion.
- Mobile network coverage is also a constraint on the Mid Wales economy. Around 1.3% of the UK receives no 3G coverage compared to 8.4% of properties in Powys and 7.8% in Ceredigion. 4G coverage provides a similar picture, with over half of properties in Ceredigion and a quarter in Powys lacking coverage.

Mid Wales – At a Glance

Strengths/Opportunities



Weaknesses/Threats

Low productivity and earnings combined with a narrow and vulnerable economic base

Projected employment decline

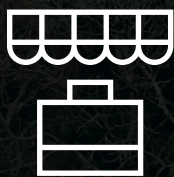
Market failure and hidden nature of a rural economy

Potential impact of Brexit on rural economy and communities

A static and weakening labour market

Ageing population – reduction in working age population and out-migration of young talent

Poor ICT, transport connectivity and a lack of modern business infrastructure





South West Wales

The South West Wales region is large and diverse containing urban centres across the local authority areas of Pembrokeshire, Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and Carmarthenshire. This diverse region also includes some of the most rural and sparsely populated parts of the UK and the urbanised, industrialised built up areas around Wales' second city Swansea which acts as the economic engine for the wider South West Wales region.

Population is concentrated in the south around Swansea Bay, with a secondary cluster of towns around the Milford Haven waterway and dispersed settlements in a wider rural hinterland across Pembrokeshire and northern Carmarthenshire. The city region is steeped in industrial heritage and is a major centre of employment while key regional centres such as Carmarthen, Neath and the four Haven Towns (Milford Haven, Haverfordwest, Pembroke and Pembroke Dock) play important sub-regional roles as local economic, leisure and service hubs. The region encompasses some of the highest quality natural assets in Europe – with multiple national and international designations for both marine and landscape environments including two National Parks.

Work undertaken by local authority partners focussing on the city region² combined with statistical data from Welsh Government sources provide an analysis of South West Wales, highlighting the key issues facing the regional economy:



Population

- An estimated population of circa 702,000 in 2018 representing around 22% of the total population of Wales. Over a third of the total South West Wales population (246,000) reside in Swansea which has seen a relatively strong population increase since 2001.
- The working age (16-64) population in South West Wales decreased marginally between 2008 and 2018, compared to a slightly larger reduction (0.2%) for Wales as a whole. At the local authority level only Swansea saw an increase in working age population levels with the largest reduction in Pembrokeshire.



Housing

- Access to good quality affordable housing and home ownership is a particular issue for residents across South West Wales. In many parts of the region house prices exceed national averages and, in relation to average wages, are less affordable compared to Wales as a whole.

² Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013-2030

- High levels of second home ownership, driven by housing affordability relative to other regions and the high quality of life South West Wales offers, exacerbate the issues within the local housing market.



Skills

- The region contains major skills deficits with insufficient people with higher level skills and too many people with no qualifications at all. All local authorities in the area apart from Carmarthenshire have higher proportions of the working age population with no qualifications than the Welsh average.
- For the year ending 31st Dec 2018 Carmarthenshire and Neath Port Talbot had a lower proportion of people aged 18-64 qualified to at least NQF level 2 than the Wales figure of 78.9%.



Deprivation

- There are pockets of severe deprivation within the urban centres and market towns, with a number of LSOAs, particularly in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot ranking highly. Inter-generational worklessness remains a stubborn issue to address, often exacerbated by physical isolation and where 'in-work' poverty is also a key issue.
- The more rural parts of north Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire suffer from their relative peripherality, where difficulties accessing key services and fuel poverty are evident.



Economy

- The city region supports some 311,000 jobs and circa 57,000 businesses making it a major driver of the Welsh economy. It contains globally significant firms such as Tata Steel in Port Talbot and Valero in Pembrokeshire. The region is home to a centre of national importance in terms of the energy and marine sectors based on the Milford Haven Waterway.
- Almost 99% of all enterprises operating in South West Wales are SMEs however, their contribution to employment (65%) and turnover (31%) is much smaller.
- Looking at all businesses (large and SMEs) operating within South West Wales, the area has a greater proportion of enterprises in Agriculture (8.9%) than both Wales (7.2%) and the UK (2.3%). The other notable difference is that South West Wales (21.9%) has relatively fewer enterprises operating within the financial and business services than the UK (26.3%).
- South West Wales GVA per head in 2018 was below the Welsh figure and levels have been below Welsh and UK figures for the past two decades. The productivity gap between the city region and the UK is a key factor underpinning sub-optimal economic performance.

- The sectoral mix of the economy as a whole is geared towards low value sectors when compared to the UK and the nature of occupations on offer within these sectors are often of lower value than elsewhere. The challenge is create new and sustain existing employment for the city region and its workforce.
- The employment rate in South West Wales remains below the figure for Wales and the unemployment rate above the Welsh figure. In the year ending September 2019, the employment rate in South West Wales was 71.9%, up 2.4 percentage points over the year (number employed up 10,900 to 317,400 people). The employment rate in South West Wales was 1.7 percentage points below the Welsh rate, 3.7 percentage points below the UK rate and lowest of the Welsh economic regions.
- The economic inactivity rate in South West Wales was 21.1%, above the Welsh rate of 19.7% and the highest of the Welsh economic regions. Over the year, the economic inactivity rate decreased by 1.8 percentage points and compares to a reduction of 0.3 percentage points for Wales as a whole. Compared to the all Wales proportions, South West Wales had a larger share of economic inactivity due to long-term sickness (31.3% v 28.7%).
- The city region's environment and tourism offer is a key economic driver, offering residents, visitors and investors an attractive quality of life proposition be this the Gower Peninsula or Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

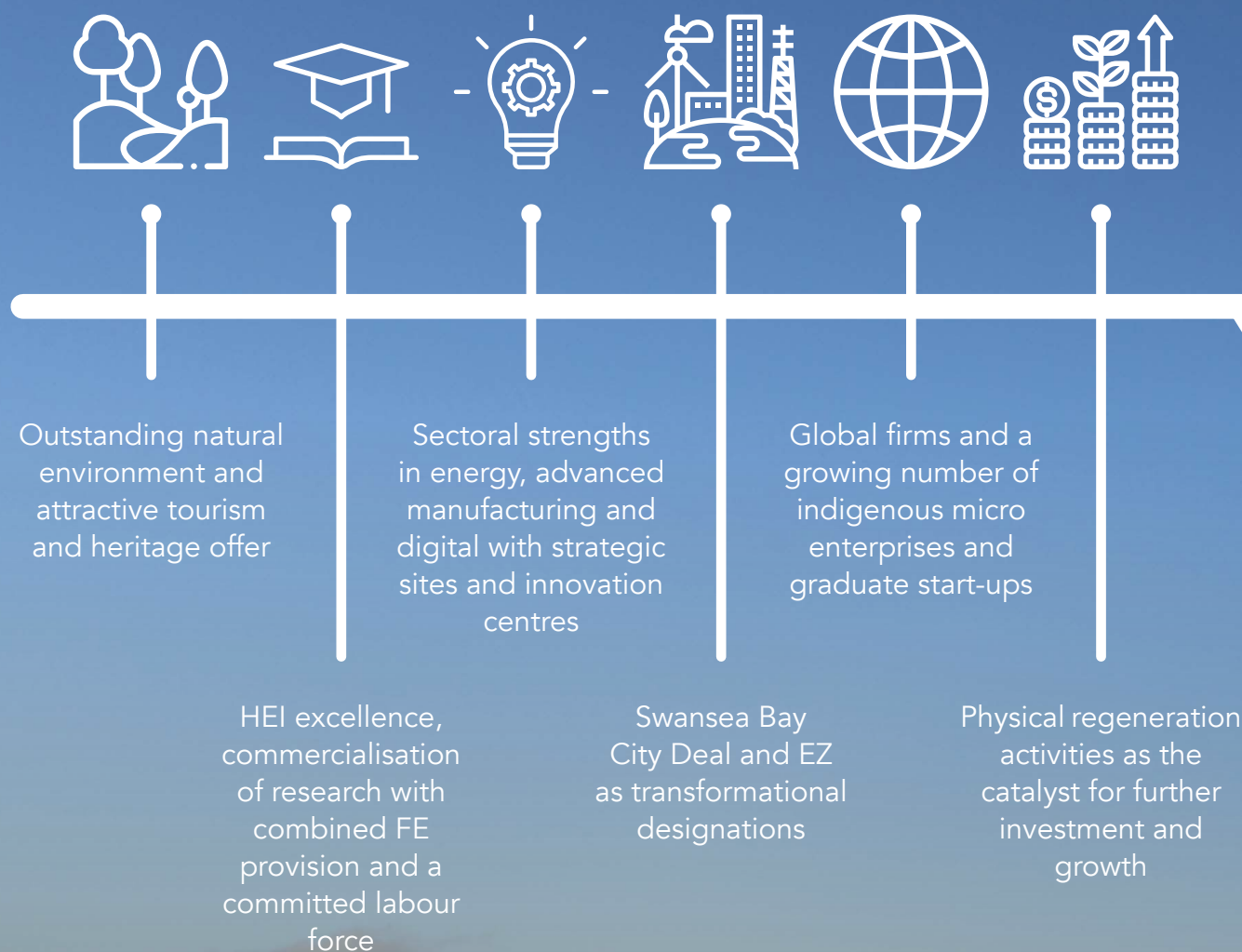


Transport and Digital Connectivity

- The region contains key strategic routes including the Trans European Network which links Europe to the Republic of Ireland. The M4 motorway, trunks roads and strategic local roads are all vital gateways to the region for freight and passenger movements and are the most commonly used entry/exit routes to South West Wales.
- Milford Haven Waterway is the third largest port in the United Kingdom and makes a significant contribution to the regional economy. Being one of the deepest and safest UK harbours it is critical to the continuing success and growth of the region's internationally important energy sector.
- Proposals for a Swansea Metro can enhance connectivity and improve choices for those seeking to access key services such as education and employment.
- The region's airports and airfields also provide opportunities for improved connectivity, adding to the area's investment offer.
- Rural parts of the region experience inadequate digital and mobile connectivity, often lagging behind other regions where a lack of competitive infrastructure hampers an ability to attract investment and talent.

South West Wales – At a Glance

Strengths/Opportunities



Weaknesses/Threats

Lagging productivity, skills deficits and concentrations of economic inactivity, unemployment and deprivation

A lack of modern business infrastructure, with limited speculative development, low rental values and viability gaps highlighting market failure

Struggling city and town centres with declining footfall

Poor digital and transport connectivity in parts of the region

Potential impact of Brexit on rural communities and ports



Shaping Our Future – What Happens Next?

This document sets out the broad socio-economic context for Mid Wales and South West Wales, the nature of the strengths, challenges, opportunities and threats we face. Its purpose is to support the development of our Regional Economic Frameworks, and to ensure they become a genuine driver of positive change for all. This will only be possible if all of our region's partners come together, agreeing a collective vision and co-defining the actions we must all get behind if we are to make it happen.

We have reached this point by talking, and listening, to one another. Representatives of the private and third sectors, our Enterprise Zone Boards, all six of our local authorities, and our various economic partnership structures across Mid and South West Wales have contributed to date.

Going forward, this must continue. Our aim is to publish our Regional Economic Frameworks by the end of 2020 (reflective of wider related work such as the NDF, Regional Investment post EU Funding and the emergence of Corporate Joint Committees) and now it is crucial that we involve all those who are stakeholders in our regional economy and work together to:

- Embrace the collective knowledge of the region to add the detail, nuance and emphasis which positive change for all will require.
- Establish the ways of working which will be most conducive to delivering positive change for all.
- Define the roles and responsibilities required of all stakeholders to support these new ways of working.

Publication of 'Stakeholder Engagement and Participation' document



**Reflecting on all that
we know right now**

Doing this means not only working together to find answers, but working together to find the questions we must ask in the first place. It requires both breadth and depth of knowledge and experience, from every sector, every corner of the region, and from many individuals, from the board room through to the front line.

Over the coming months we will be promoting many simple ways to get involved. We sincerely hope that you — whoever you are, and whatever part you play in our regional economy — will join us.

To get involved and to find out more information

Write to us:
Mid & South West Wales Regional Office
Welsh Government
Ladywell House
Newtown
SY16 1JB

E-mail us at:
ChiefRegionalOMSW@gov.wales

Publication of the Regional Economic Framework



**Working together to
co-create Regional
Economic Framework**

**Getting behind its vision
and making it work**

