

13 DECEMBER 2021

TOWARDS A REGIONAL ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK (REF) FOR SOUTH EAST WALES

REPORT OF CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION DIRECTOR

AGENDA ITEM 5

Reason for this Report

1. To set out a draft 'work in progress' document that starts the journey towards development of a Regional Economic Framework (REF) for SE Wales. This will seek to bring together a shared set of priorities across Welsh Government (WG) and the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR), in the context of continued shifts to place-based economic policymaking.

Background

2. In its input and responses to a framework for Regional Investment Wales in June 2020, CCR has maintained a keenness to support continued moves on the part of WG, informed and supported by OECD, towards a system of regional economic governance. This is important for many reasons, not least because regions and the agenda of regionalism, is seen as being at the centre of the kind of place-based economic policy that best supports sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth.
3. With successor arrangements to EU funds in the making and the first round of Community Renewal Fund projects announced in Wales; and development of the 'levelling-up' policy environment; it is clear the role of regions and locally-directed efforts to drive post-Covid economic recovery and support so-called 'left behind places' is set to grow.
4. Tackling the inter-related challenges of Covid, low growth productivity and climate requires a more aligned, co-ordinated and coherent approach. For CCR this means working in close partnership with WG to agree what needs to be done based upon clear economic intelligence, insights and evidence; and in order to make a compelling case for investment with key stakeholders and partners, principally, UK Government (UKG).
5. WG has committed to developing the place-based agenda with four regions identified in Wales, on the basis of common functional economic geography. Work continues with OECD on developing systems and processes to support

effective regional public investment and perhaps most pertinent of all, WG has introduced legislation in Wales (2021) to enact regional entities named Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs). This supports and builds upon the foundations already established by UKG, WG and the 10 local authorities through the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and enables continued steps to be taken towards optimal frameworks for regional economic governance and delivery.

6. Not all of the features of regional public investment are in place however at this time – and there will inevitably be a sequence and order to how key pieces of the legislative and policy framework will develop. The task of creating regional structures which are part of the Welsh policy environment – and are also capable of developing partnerships and collaborations with UKG, maintaining relationships with Europe and reaching out to assert Wales’s place in the world – will be complex and dynamic. Whilst therefore it is not possible at this time to prescribe fixed roles and a hierarchy of ‘who does what’ – it is neither the time to stand still.
7. Setting out the work developed to date is a key step in this new direction. The draft document at Appendix 1, shows the REF as ‘a work in progress’ and for now, establishes a set of common priorities for ‘Economic SE Wales’. It is acknowledged, that there is more to do and further to go – however, for now, this evolving draft sets out an agreed set of objectives that will be worked upon further and as the moving parts begin to settle and the policy and economic backdrop becomes clearer. A final version of the REF, agreed across CCR and WG, will be brought back to Regional Cabinet in early spring 2022. This will align with several important developments including the enactment of the CJC for SE Wales and revision of the CCR Economic Strategy and Investment Framework.
8. Key features of the draft REF include a focus on defining the sense of collaboration and shared purpose needed to tackle a range of challenges around Connectivity, Climate, Competitiveness and Resilience. These build upon the themes and issues set out in the CCR Economic and Industrial Plan (adapted for Covid 19 in 2020) and WG’s Economic Resilience and Reconstruction Mission (2021). Further work will continue in developing the challenges and articulating the responses that will most effectively address them in the context of continuing to build and develop frameworks for regional investment in Wales.

Financial Implications

9. There are no direct Financial Implications to this report, which seeks to begin a transition towards the development of a Regional Economic Framework for South East Wales, aligning priorities across Welsh Government and the Cardiff Capital Region, in the context of continued shifts to place-based economic policymaking.
10. Any resulting project expenditure to be funded from the CCR Wider Investment Fund will be approved within the context of specific future reports brought to Regional Cabinet for consideration.

Legal Implications

11. There are no legal implications in this report. However, Cabinet should be aware of the statutory duties set out below before endorsing the recommendations.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

12. In developing the Plan and in considering its endorsement regard should be had, amongst other matters, to:
- (a) the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards;
 - (b) Public sector duties under the Equalities Act 2010 (including specific Welsh public sector duties). Pursuant to these legal duties Councils must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics. Protected characteristics are a. Age; b. Gender reassignment; c. Sex; d. Race – including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality; e. Disability; f. Pregnancy and maternity; g. Marriage and civil partnership; h. Sexual orientation; i. Religion or belief – including lack of belief, and
 - (c) the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act') is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act places a 'well-being duty' on public bodies aimed at achieving 7 national well-being goals for Wales - a Wales that is prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, has cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language and is globally responsible. In discharging their respective duties under the Act, each public body listed in the Act (which includes the Councils comprising the CCRCD) must set and published wellbeing objectives. These objectives will show how each public body will work to achieve the vision for Wales set out in the national wellbeing goals. When exercising its functions, the Regional Cabinet should consider how the proposed decision will contribute towards meeting the wellbeing objectives set by each Council and in so doing achieve the national wellbeing goals. The wellbeing duty also requires the Councils to act in accordance with a 'sustainable development principle'. This principle requires the Councils to act in a way which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Put simply, this means that Regional Cabinet must take account of the impact of their decisions on people living their lives in Wales in the future. In doing so, Regional Cabinet must:
 - look to the long term.
 - focus on prevention by understanding the root causes of problems.
 - deliver an integrated approach to achieving the 7 national well-being goals.
 - work in collaboration with others to find shared sustainable solutions.
 - involve people from all sections of the community in the decisions which affect them.
13. Regional Cabinet must be satisfied that the proposed decision accords with the principles above. To assist Regional Cabinet to consider the duties under the Act in respect of the decision sought, an assessment has been undertaken, which is attached at appendix 2.

Equality Act 2010

14. In considering this matter, regard should be had, amongst other matters, to the Councils' duties under the Equality Act 2010. Pursuant to these legal duties the Regional Cabinet must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics. Protected characteristics are:

- age;
- gender reassignment;
- sex;
- race – including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality;
- disability;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- marriage and civil partnership;
- sexual orientation;
- religion or belief – including lack of belief.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15. It is recommended that the Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet:

- (1) notes and endorses the principles and priorities emerging through initial work on development a Regional Economic Framework and approves to receive a final version in Spring 2022.

Kellie Beirne
Director, Cardiff Capital Region
13 December 2021

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Draft REF – Shared Endeavour – Towards a REF for SE Wales
Appendix 2 Well-being of Future Generations Assessment

Ministerial Foreword

Our approach to economic development is centred on the principle that places matter, and a belief in the importance of delivering prosperity and the benefits of economic growth to all parts of Wales. South East Wales, the Cardiff Capital Region, is a vibrant economic, commercial and cultural centre. It is, though, a Region of contrasts. Wales' smallest region geographically, it is our largest by population, with almost half of the population of Wales, and home to nearly half of all businesses. Prosperous commercial centres sit alongside areas of considerable deprivation and areas of outstanding natural beauty. Towns and Valleys still striving against the impacts of deindustrialisation sit alongside internationally important research, innovation and technological excellence.

The Regional Economic Frameworks (REFs) co-designed with our partners are part of a commitment to a more regionally focused model of economic development, that is centred on the distinctive strengths of all Wales' regions. The Local Authorities of the Cardiff Capital Region and the CCR team and network have worked with Welsh Government to build on their engagement across the public, private, academic and third sector to draft this document. For a Region of such contrast and with Welsh Government, ten Local Authorities, Cardiff Capital Region, UK Government and numerous stakeholders actively looking to support its economic development, it is vital we have been able to recognise the challenges and opportunities in the Region to develop a common set of priorities that shape all our delivery efforts.

The REF seeks to outline these shared priorities to support inclusive and sustainable economic growth that maximises opportunities to address regional and local inequalities. It will help tackle inherent structural challenges by turning them into opportunities for a dynamic and distinct region.

The REF focuses on what needs to be done, our shared priorities for the region. It does not, and should not explore the allocation of roles and responsibilities. That discussion will come as part of the next phase of our joint working.

No single organisation has all the answers. A phased, collaborative approach, working together with stakeholders across the region, is vital to our success. We have worked closely to develop a single vision articulated in this REF. We hope this enables the greater alignment in economic development and strategic planning required between partners as the foundations for new approaches via Corporate Joint Committees.

To benefit from these combined efforts and opportunities, including the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, potential Shared Prosperity Funds and the ongoing delivery from Welsh Government and our partners, we need to develop and deliver complementary and collaborative initiatives that benefit the people and places in Wales.

Welsh Government's Economic Resilience & Reconstruction Mission sets out our vision of a well-being economy which drives prosperity, is environmentally sound, and

helps everyone realise their potential. The REF can have a key role in ensuring activities at all levels align to focus our resources where they can have greatest impact.

This progress is notable and we're not strangers to working together in South East Wales. We can build upon good foundations where we have a record in co-investing and mutually supporting key strategic sectors, projects and programmes. Together Welsh Government, Local Authorities and the Cardiff Capital Region have supported the Compound Semiconductor cluster; are working closely in the development and delivery of the South Wales Metro; have adopted a challenge driven approach; are working together on the skills and talent the economy needs through the Regional Skills Partnerships; and have secured UK Research and Innovation and Strength in Places Funding. This is testament to the Regional strengths in emerging technology areas. But we're also working closely together to address our structural challenges by developing Strategic Sites and Premises funds, a Housing Viability Gap Fund and are working closely on initiatives designed to transform the Valleys and make real our ambitions of delivering prosperity and growth to all parts of the Region.

Our, joint, ongoing commitment is to give the people and businesses we serve every opportunity for achieving long-term economic wellbeing with dignity and fairness for all. We recognise that how we deliver is as important as what we deliver. This Regional Economic Framework is an important point on that journey. We want to continue working with our partners who have an interest in the regional economy to meet the challenges we face and grasp new opportunities.

Vaughan Gething MS, Minister for Economy

Councillor Anthony Hunt, Chair, Cardiff Capital Region

Shared Endeavour:

Towards A Regional Economic
Framework for South East Wales,
Cardiff Capital Region

DRAFT

Draft December 2021

Introduction and Context

Our Place

As the home of the capital city of Wales and over 1.5 million people, 49% of the population, and 48% of the businesses in Wales, South East Wales is a vibrant and diverse Region, at the heart of Wales socially, politically and economically.

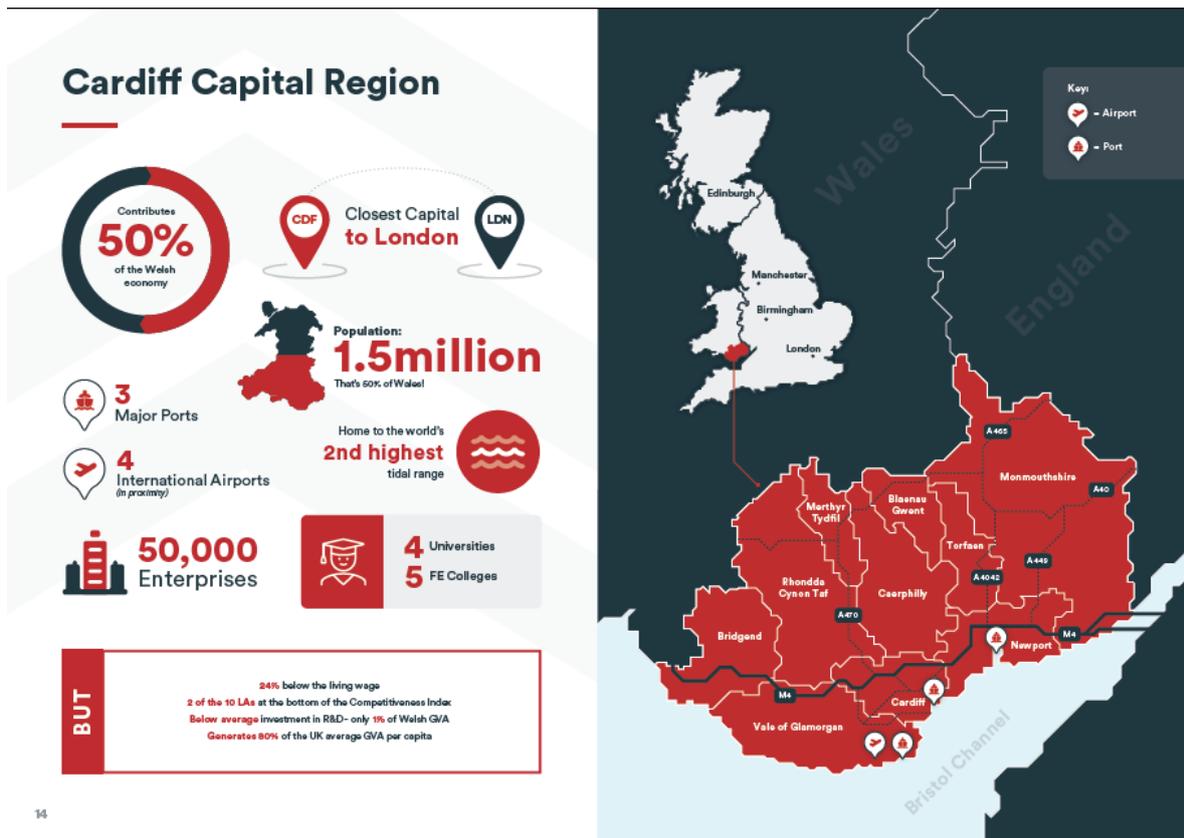
The Region embraces a uniquely diverse population, economy and geography. Home to 10 local authorities with environments that vary from the cities of Cardiff and Newport, historic market towns and rural communities, to the post-industrial Valleys heartland and a 30-mile coastal belt, the Region has enjoyed significant regeneration and investment over recent decades, creating new business parks, quality housing developments and imaginative recreational initiatives; with landmark projects including the Cardiff Bay regeneration, major road and rail infrastructure works such as the A465 Heads of Valleys road and the successful reintroduction of passenger rail services to Ebbw Vale. The effects of this investment are clearly visible in a region that accounts for approximately 50% of the Welsh economy.

Drawing on a proud industrial heritage, the area is home to thriving financial and professional services businesses, a diverse public sector and a number of anchor manufacturing businesses in Aerospace, Automotive and Defence. There is clear expansion and diversification of the business base as exemplified by the emerging world-class clusters in high-growth industries such as Compound Semiconductors, Creative Industries, Fintech, Cyber and Life Sciences. With four universities, a well-skilled population with over 40% of the population possessing NVQ4 or above level qualifications, a vibrant capital city renowned for excellent cultural and sporting facilities – and an enviable combination of coastline, forests, valleys and parks – the Region regularly reports high levels of wellbeing and quality of life.

Collaborative delivery

The map below outlines the South East Wales / Cardiff Capital Region, hereby referred to simply as “the Region”. The Regional Economic Framework for the Region establishes a commitment to deliver a stronger regional voice through a regionally-focused model of economic development. It promotes collaborative economic development across the Region through an agreed vision and shared priorities for delivery amongst partners. Seeing our place clearly and understanding its strengths and assets, challenges and opportunities, focuses the collective mind around the big economic and societal challenges facing the Region.

The Regional Economic Framework sets out to establish a shared set of economic priorities across the Region, providing strategic alignment and influence that brings people together and supports collaborative delivery. We stand proud of our Region; for its rich-sense of heritage and culture, awe-inspiring environments, proud communities and propensity for innovation and ingenuity, will be key to building sustainable, fair and resilient communities – that ensures no place is left behind.



Shared purpose

Despite these strengths and the success of investments made over the last 25 years, parts of the Region continue to be defined as some of the most economically deprived areas in Europe. There are established economic and social disparities between the prosperous coastal zone in and around Cardiff, Monmouthshire and the Vale of Glamorgan and the more disadvantaged inner city areas and parts of the South Wales Valleys. This juxtaposition of need and opportunity is a particular feature of the Region, together with the mutual interdependence between the capital city and its wider regional hinterland.

Whilst Cardiff built its wealth on exporting from the coalfields of the South Wales Valleys, the fortunes of the Valleys communities are now critically linked to the jobs, skills and housing markets of Cardiff and Newport. Understanding barriers to economic activity that exist for many groups within Wales is vitally important. Interventions must deliver inclusive growth for all citizens across the whole Region, enabling communities to be more self-reliant and integrated with the cities and towns of the Region. This means an approach to developing both the tradeable and foundational economies which is highly connected and embeds digitisation, sustainability and a commitment to the principles of fair work for all.

The Region can, and should, perform economically on a par with any region in the UK and internationally, albeit by focusing on its inherent strengths and unique assets and advantages. In the Region, we want to build willing coalitions; build capacity for innovation strengths and diffusion; develop our specialisms; and focus on the distinctive value and values that make our place special.

To ensure it does and to improve the economic prosperity of the whole Region, it will be important to:

- be focused on the areas of comparative strength in the Region that can compete at a UK level and internationally;
- remain open minded about good propositions where these exist – but recognise that communities that feel left behind will need additional support. This means levelling-up within our region through projects that will directly benefit communities;
- scale impact through developing and localising supply chains, including where required investing in skills and innovation to enable this;
- support entrepreneurial discovery through ‘Strength in Places’ style approaches to building clusters. This includes supporting R&D investment and growth with greater focus on commercialising applied research activity;
- create the conditions for rich ecosystems that stretch and support key sectors within the economy. This might include support for skills, investment ready sites and premises, accessibility and good connectivity and investment support;
- encourage and support entrepreneurship so that our population not only seeks employment but creates employment;
- strengthen the foundational economy to support the resilience of the Regional economy, so that it is able to play an active part in local supply chains and can respond to societal challenges such as care, ageing, mobility, decarbonisation, health and wellbeing;
- be committed to responsible investing, supporting sustainability, fair work, Real living Wage and embedding the wellbeing of future generations;
- step up actions on climate change, recognising it as a lever for large-scale growth, productivity and regional competitiveness;
- ensure the Region has a first class and connected transport, digital and energy infrastructure; and
- turn the large public sector base within the Region into an asset that adds prosperity to the Region through leveraging the Region’s public sector asset base and spend and becoming increasingly ‘mission-driven’ in our approach.

Challenges & Opportunities

In making future progress, understanding the Region’s key challenges and opportunities will be critical. These can be broadly grouped under three headings:

Connectivity

There is a need to improve Physical and Digital connectivity both within and beyond the Region for both people and businesses:

- **Distribution of job creation** – The Region needs a broader distribution of job creation and a focus on better jobs closer to ‘home’. The Region can develop high-value supply chains and ensure better quality jobs to drive productivity and the sense of belonging people attach to their place.
- **Digital connectivity** – Digital connectivity is variable across the region with most authorities below average UK broadband speeds. Delivery of priorities

set out in this document requires the appropriate digital infrastructure for a 21st century economy across the whole Region.

- **Better transport infrastructure** – Demand for better transport links continues to increase. The Region needs to develop the transport infrastructure that can overcome the urban, valleys and rural disconnect and open up opportunity in a way that balances the needs of a prosperous and green economy.
- **Quality, variety and affordability of housing** – House prices, development opportunities and household growth are highly variable across the Region. There is a need to invest in affordable and innovative ‘smart homes’, in flexible tenure homes and ‘lifetime’ property ladder mobility to accommodate projected growth.

Competitiveness

- **Lack of critical mass** – To maximise the opportunities within the Region, it needs to scale up the economy, working closely with all stakeholders, to ensure it is competitive with the UK’s more prosperous city-regions and conurbations.
- **Below average GVA** – Labour productivity in the Region stands at 85% of the UK average and lags behind the majority of city-regions across the UK. Work on clusters, skills and innovation-led growth will be key to changing this.
- **Skill levels** – Qualification levels vary considerably in the Region from high levels in Cardiff, the Vale of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire to parts of the Region still having relatively high levels of people without any qualifications. These deficiencies present a potential barrier to growth in key industries and must be addressed.
- **Variance in employment and pay** – Unemployment rates and wage levels vary considerably across the Region and average gross wages in the Region are lower than the UK average, with 24% of employees in the Region being paid below the living wage. A focus on high value clusters and supporting fair work and employability can address these inequalities.
- **Investment in R&D** – The Region contains a highly regarded science base through its universities and innovative businesses collaboratively providing a strong foundation for developing new technologies and applications. Despite this, investment in R&D is comparatively low in the Region, with Innovate UK expenditure in Wales measured at less than a third of the average UK per head figure placing real importance on our efforts to mobilise public investment in R&D.

Resilience

- **Economic mix & diversity** – The increasing turbulence in the wider economic world has brought a sharp focus on the Region’s resilience and highlights the importance of our capacity to adapt to longer-term structural economic transformation and change. The Region has an historic dependence on particular industrial sectors. Developing our alternate strengths in service

delivery, including financial and public services, and attention on growth industries can diversify and build adaptability in the economy.

- **The lessons from past shocks** – Given levels of deprivation in parts of the Region, economic shocks such as Brexit and the suppression of the Covid-19 virus, have a significant impact on the local economy. The lessons from previous crises indicate economic resilience demands agility and innovation yet consistent policy responses.
- **The foundational economy** – There is a strong dependence on employment in the foundational economy across the Region with some 35% of jobs in education, healthcare, hospitality, and retail. These sectors act as critical pillars for job creation and stability, and for the employment of non-migrating graduates and therefore provide considerable resilience to the regional economy whilst being heavily community and place-based, providing a powerful enabler of collective consumption and local wealth creation.
- **Demographic change** – The Region has an ageing population, with 20% of the population aged 65 years or older. This is projected to increase to 25% by 2036, increasing demand for care related services, with potential impact on the workforce available to other sectors. The Region must also maintain efforts at retaining the large numbers of school leavers and graduates, creating employment and lifestyle opportunities for young people.
- **Climate change** – The need to take action against climate change is pressing. It presents a real decarbonisation challenge to the Region's existing industrial, housing and transport infrastructure, yet it also presents an opportunity to develop a thriving green economy.
- **Community** – The Region has considerable strength in its social fabric and community spirit. This provides scope to be optimistic regarding the Region's capacity to forge a strong and distinctive identity and to cope with the various challenges that lie ahead. The Region's high quality natural environment provides a wealth of resources and opportunities for tourism, health and recreation, as does its breadth of cultural and historical heritage.

Priorities

The Region has made a great start in addressing many of these challenges and opportunities. To build on this work the Region will focus on the following priority areas to guide our economic development:

Key Clusters

The Region will support the development of a strong economic and innovation ecosystem to develop clusters of excellence.

Building on our competitive advantage and opportunity within the economy we will strategically target these sectors to facilitate clusters that provide resilient and

sustainable growth for future generations and where the Region can compete effectively on a national and international basis.

The Region will work to create the conditions clusters need to thrive across the whole area, both for the more established clusters such as the Cyber Security and the Compound Semiconductor cluster, and to support emerging industries, such as Fintech, AI and Data.

Climate Change, Sustainability and Resilience

The Welsh Government declared climate emergency and the increasing impact of extreme weather events highlight the importance of action against climate change. Progressive carbon-reduction targets provide opportunities for innovative economic activity, but will also challenge many firms. A greener economy is integral to a low carbon society. By investing in low-carbon and climate resilient infrastructure, nature-based solutions, renewable energy projects and sustainable homes the Region can add economic value, creating jobs and skills opportunities in new industries from renewables to repair.

A resilient economy will be a low carbon economy. The activity delivered within this framework needs to consider energy efficiency and sustainability at all levels. Beyond that it will focus broadly on two areas - the support to increase the efficiency of businesses in the Region and a specific focus on projects and businesses that can make a significant impact on decarbonising South East Wales. For example, Bridgend is engaged in trials with the Energy Systems Catapult to explore district heating innovations, the Valleys topography has encouraged investment in wind farms and other local authorities are exploring investing in low carbon energy sources that can provide reliable and cheap power and heating to citizens and businesses. Through our strength in compound semiconductors we have the capability to produce higher efficient solar power and lower the consumption of many energy systems.

The Region should consider the supply chain sustainability, business and personal resilience. This could look at export support, fair work, digital and flexible ways of working, infrastructure, skills and employability, digitalisation and create vibrant local business networks and supply chains.

Place and Connectivity

Places matter and we will seek to make real our ambition of delivering better jobs closer to home. We want to deliver a Prosperous Wales and we understand that for the people of the Region to benefit from this prosperity, for us to deliver better outcomes and improve peoples' lives, we must address the geographic inequality that exists. We will work with key partners to develop projects that inspire growth, spread prosperity, and create vibrant communities. This includes focusing on the health and vibrancy of our town and city centres and exploiting the benefits of geographically targeted programmes.

The region requires significant investment into strategic sites and premises that can support foundational growth, local supply chains and sector-specific developments. In

addition, we need to unlock sites for domestic housing development to improve the quality, variety, and sustainability of local housing. This investment in the quality and sustainability of new and existing housing stock should seek to maximise its impact on local supply chains, creating opportunity to support the foundational economy and vital skills in the Region.

Connectivity is critical – both digital and physical. We need a reliable infrastructure that connects the Region, both within and wider afield, to boost productivity and prosperity. This includes transport systems to enable people to move around the Region and beyond; appropriate business premises to allow the flexibility and space for companies to thrive; a digital infrastructure to make the Region one of the most digitally advanced in the UK; and an energy system that can respond to the needs of a modern, sustainable economy.

The Metro plans are a significant step in this direction and we will bring forward further proposals to maximise and unlock future potential offered by its development. We will ensure that we have road, rail, ports and air, as well as the energy and digital infrastructure (fixed and mobile) to connect us to the world to support a thriving modern economy across the Region.

Innovation, Research and Competitiveness

We have the opportunity to create an innovation led economy within our Region, by investing in the skills required and a placing a greater focus on R&D and innovation.

The Region must build on recognised strengths such as those in Compound Semiconductors as well as continue to support emerging innovation in key Tech strengths, including Fintech, AI/Data and Cyber Security.

Much of this relies on strong business and academic partners, so the Region must continue to work with business and academia to increase the number of enterprises that are innovating and adopting new ideas to open up new markets, improve productivity and promote increased knowledge transfer.

Businesses, the Regional Skills Partnership, FE and skills providers will be central to identifying and developing the skills to drive innovation and competitiveness in the Region. We will work with stakeholders to ensure skills requirements and delivery priorities of businesses are understood and that we have an inclusive approach to skills provision which enables more people to meet their full potential and raise skills levels to meet employer needs, drive productivity and create more resilient communities.

Future Generations Assessment Evaluation

(includes Equalities and Sustainability Impact Assessments)

<p>Name of the Officer completing the evaluation:</p> <p>Kellie Beirne</p> <p>Phone no: 07826 919286 E-mail: kellie.beirne@cardiff.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal: to set out work to date on production of a draft Regional Economic Framework (REF)</p>
<p>Proposal: CCR & WG Draft REF</p>	<p>Date Future Generations Evaluation form completed: 13 December 2021</p>

1. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal.

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>The work relates to developing a shared vision and priorities for Economic SE Wales.</p>	<p>The policy environment is continually developing and so future work will continue until Spring 2022, in order to capture maximum value of the work</p>
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>The WEF seeks to set up the region to deliver most effectively against its objectives for a Connected, Competitive, Resilient and Inclusive (CCRI) region. It is therefore key that it operates optimally.</p>	
<p>A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood</p>	<p>Inclusion is a core theme of the approach and balancing a focus on levelling up the region with other regions in the UK.</p>	
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected</p>	<p>The joint approach is key to ensuring 'no place gets left behind'.</p>	<p>References within the work to new Funds such as Valleys Transformation which will help target communities most requiring support and investment</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	The principles look outward and focus on the FDI and international opportunities, which will be particularly important post-EU exit.	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	The framework is able building a Connected, Competitive, Inclusive and Resilient 'uniquely Welsh' region. Many of the proposals it will give rise to – especially around sectors such as Creative will help embed the Welsh language and culture.	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	The approach focuses on economic inclusion, levelling-up and a mission-driven approach capable of not just tackling economic problems – but societal ones too.	

2. How has your proposal embedded and prioritized the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p> <p><small>Long Term</small></p>	<p>The draft REF speaks to a long-term approach. It will not stand still and thus, self-evaluation is a tool to help manage a constant state of transition and evolution.</p>	<p>The work will need to be constantly adapted and updated in order to remain relevant and fit for an evolving future.</p>
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p><small>Collaboration</small></p>	<p>The draft REF will need to be endorsed by all ten LAs and is aimed at a collaborative not competitive approach and consulted upon/reported to PB, REGP, RBC and wider partners.</p>	
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p><small>Involvement</small></p>	<p>To feature in the ongoing programme of work</p>	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p>	<p>The mission-driven/ challenge-led approach embedded will be a key means of experimenting in the prevention space</p>	
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	<p>Outcome focused reporting and accountability will be key to this. Work done for CCR to revise the Investment Framework on outcome statement on Competitive, Connected and Resilient will underpin this</p>	<p>Wellbeing metrics will be key to informing future work.</p>

3. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Not relevant in this context since the principles, approach and ways of working apply to all prospective interests and stakeholders		A full ESG agenda and diversity and inclusion reviews into partnerships and groups will help ensure this agenda is embedding in ways of working and the culture that is created.
Disability	As above	As above	As above.
Gender reassignment	As above	As above	As above.
Marriage or civil partnership	As above	As above	As above.
Pregnancy or maternity	As above	As above	As above.
Race	As above	As above	As above.
Religion or Belief	As above	As above	As above.
Sex	As above	As above	As above.
Sexual Orientation	As above	As above	As above.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Welsh Language	As above	As above	As above.

4. Safeguarding & Corporate Parenting. Are your proposals going to affect either of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Not directly relevant –however, building the future economy should have a profoundly positive impact on ability to safeguard the future of our residents		This is dependent upon the brief for regional education consortia and whether or not, it is intended to be grouped within CJsCs.
Corporate Parenting	Not directly relevant – however building strength in the economy should create opportunities for all of the young people entrusted in our care and makes a direct contribution to wellbeing.		

5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

As above.

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

As above, the main implications will be in the delivery of this work.

7. MONITORING: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.

The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated on: Spring 2022