

# Pwyllgor Craffu Cymunedau, Cartrefi ac Adfywio

## Dyddiad 16 Tachwedd 2022

### Y Pwnc: Strategaeth Arloesi Lleol

**GOFYNNIR I'R PWYLLGOR CRAFFU:** Adolygu ac asesu cynnwys y Strategaeth Arloesi, gan ganolbwyntio ar y pedwar Cyfle Arloesi yn y meysydd canlynol sef Digidol; Iechyd a Llesiant; Yr Economi Sylfaenol a'r Economi Gylchol a darparu unrhyw argymhellion a sylwadau i'w hystyried gan y Cabinet.

### Y Rheswm/Y Rhesymau

Bydd y strategaeth newydd hon yn cefnogi adferiad ac ailstrwythuro economi Sir Gaerfyrddin drwy arloesedd. Mae'n bwysig felly bod y pwyllgor yn adolygu'r strategaeth a bod unrhyw argymhellion a ddaw yn cael eu hystyried gan y Cabinet.

### YR AELOD CABINET SY'N GYFRIFOL AM Y PORTFFOLIO: - Y Cyngorydd Gareth John, yr Aelod Cabinet dros Adfywio, Hamdden, Diwylliant a Thwristiaeth

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Local Innovation Strategy

Cardiff University's Centre for Innovation Policy Research was commissioned by the authority to explore innovation prospects for Carmarthenshire. The general aim was to identify proposals to support the recovery and restructuring of Carmarthenshire's economy through innovation. The aims were to explore the contribution of certain key sectors, specifically: the role of the country council and the wider public sector, especially with respect to the use of public sector spending power to support innovation; and to focus in particular on the Foundational Economy; Health and Wellbeing; Digital innovation; and the impact of Climate Change and the prospects of a Green Recovery by harnessing the potential of the Circular Economy.

The commission proceeded through three stages: (a) a desktop analysis of key documents such as the Council's Business Advisory Group meeting notes, Economic Recovery and Delivery Plan and the CLES (Centre for Local Economic Strategies) report work on community wealth building and progressive procurement; (b) consultations with 50 key stakeholders in the county, the region and the nation to identify the challenges, constraints and future opportunities for innovation; and (c) the development of a strategy to promote and support innovation in Carmarthenshire.

The Strategy recommends 4 opportunities for innovation:

### Opportunity 1 – Digital

- Improved fibre and mobile connectivity
- Opportunities for next generation digital technologies
- Addressing digital skills
- Developing a rural digital innovation centre

### Opportunity 2 – Health

- Development of a dispersed living laboratory to test new medical products and services

### Opportunity 3 – Foundational Economy

- Sustainable food procurement and development of the local food supply chain

### Opportunity 4 – Circular Economy

- Leveraging an approach for the Net Zero Agenda through reducing waste and recycling.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

# IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report

Signed:

Head of Regeneration

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>

## 1. Policy

The alignment with CCC's Economic Recovery Plan is essential and this will monitor any significant changes in the economic climate and escalate as appropriate.

Consideration has been afforded to how we can apply the five ways of working as we make progress on the identified opportunities. This will be further developed as detailed plans for delivering the opportunities are taken forward.

## Finance

Funding will be required to deliver the recommendations of the Local Innovation Strategy. UK Government's Shared Prosperity fund could be a possible source of external funding for any projects emanating from the Strategy.

**Risk Management Issues**

Each intervention will be required to maintain a risk register and to mitigate the risks for the whole life period of the activity.

**Physical Assets**

Some interventions will entail investment opportunities in existing physical assets in our town centres

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO  
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

Councillor Gareth John, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Leisure, Culture & Tourism has been briefed, prior to the report being considered by Pre-Cabinet.

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

THERE ARE NONE