REPORT SUMMARY SHEET

TITLE: Gateway Review – Mid-Term Report and Academic Panel Feedback

Purpose

To provide an overview of the completed Mid-Term Report as part of the Cardiff Capital Region (CCRCD) Gateway Review which will be submitted to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) by April 2024. To provide a summary of the feedback received from the Academic Panel on the Mid-Term Evidence Papers submitted.

Summary

To inform key stakeholders, principally, Regional Cabinet and also Wales and UK Governments of the progress against the Gateway Review process and, in particular, the Mid-Term Report process and associated feedback from the Academic Panel. The overview is that both the report and the feedback are positive for CCR City Deal and show string progress towards the Deal's objectives. Likewise, there is a keen interest from DLUHC and other stakeholders in the transition to the Corporate Joint Committee, as we move towards the full Gateway Review in October 2025.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Regional Cabinet notes the positive progress against the CCRCD Gateway Review process, the Mid-Term Report and the subsequent Academic Panel feedback.

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Cabinet Prifddinas Ranbarth Caerdydd | Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet

MONDAY 18th MARCH 2024

Appendix 1 to this report is exempt from publication because they contain information of the kind described in paragraphs 14 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 21 (public interest test) of parts 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

UK GOVERNMENT GATEWAY REVIEW: MID-TERM REPORT AND ACADEMIC PANEL FEEDBACK

TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF KELLIE BEIRNE, DIRECTOR

AGENDA ITEM 11

Reason for this Report

1. To provide an overview of the completed Mid-Term Report (Appendix 1), as part of the Cardiff Capital Region (CCRCD) Gateway Review which will be submitted to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) by April 2024.

2. To provide a summary of the feedback received from the Academic Panel (Appendix 2) on the Mid-Term Evidence Papers submitted.

Background

3. An integral part of City, Growth & Devolution Deals across the UK is that Areas are subject to a Gateway Review every five years. The review assesses the impact Investment Funds have made in delivering the economic growth aspirations agreed in each Deal Document.

4. From the evidence of each Gateway Review, and following the outcome of a subsequent challenge session, recommendations are made to Ministers in the Department of Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC), HM Treasury (HMT), and the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales (OSSW) to unlock CCR's next five years' funding.

5. CCRCD is currently in Gateway Review 2, the previous five-year cycle having concluded on 31 March 2021 for the CCR City Deal, which was conducted by SQW, the Gateway Review Independent Evaluator. The current cycle ends on 31 March

2026 and, per the report submitted to Regional Cabinet on 27 March 2023, CCR has completed submission of the Local Evaluation Framework and is now in process for the Mid-Term Report (per the diagram overleaf).

6. The submission of the Mid-Term Report to SQW and subsequently the Department of Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) is a significant milestone, ensuring good progress to the Final Report, and the completion of CCRCD's second Gateway Review, concluding in October 2025.

Process flow for the CCRCD Gateway Review 2

7. The scope of the evaluation related to the City Deal signed in March 2016 across the ten CCR Councils, the Welsh and UK Governments for c£1.2bn. It included the £495m Wider Investment Fund but excluded the SW Metro programme.

Further Context

8. For all interventions, varying levels of progress evaluation are used to report on the progress that interventions have made in their delivery, for example, against anticipated expenditure, delivery milestones, and in generating outputs, outcomes and impacts. The Mid-Term Report is an important interim step in preparing for the Final Report.

9. In this context, the purpose of the Mid-Term Report is to:

- Introduce the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and the socio-economic context within which the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Wider Investment Fund is operating;
- provide an update on the progress in delivery of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Wider Investment Fund, around 18 months in advance of the second Gateway Review;
- set out emerging findings from impact evaluation activity undertaken since the LEF was finalised;
- present emerging findings from the capacity development and partnership working research; and,
- identify any issues that need to be addressed in advance of the final evaluation.

10. The Mid-Term Report evidence has been prepared by CCRCD and the Independent Evaluation Panel (IEP). The IEP was commissioned by DLUHC and is led by SQW. The IEP supports 13 Areas across the UK with the evaluation of their devolved Investment Funds. As part of the process and monitor to progress, weekly calls are held between SQW and Cardiff Capital Region City Deal.

11. The role of the IEP is to support Areas in the design of evaluation research in line with the National Evaluation Framework; oversee and guide its implementation in

each Area; and review and synthesise the evidence generated to inform the Gateway Review.

12. Conducting evaluation research is the responsibility of Cardiff Capital Region City Deal. At this Mid Term stage, research has been conducted by Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, a Senior Economist and SQW.

13. CCRCD will collect monitoring data and evaluation research evidence to the IEP through a series of Evidence Papers. The Mid-Term Report draws on the following strands of evidence:

- Contextual Economic Forecasting Evidence Paper;
- Impact Evaluation methodology outline for Compound Semiconductor Cluster;
- Progress Plus methodology outline for Venture Graduate Scheme;
- Progress Evidence Paper:
  - monitoring data on planned and actual expenditure, and planned and actual outputs and outcomes for each of the interventions within the scope of the evaluation;
  - consultations four with project managers of interventions in scope of the evaluation;
- Capacity Development and Partnership Working Evidence Paper:
  - Consultations with senior-level stakeholders for the capacity development and partnership workstream;
  - an e-survey with number responses from local economic development stakeholders for the capacity development and partnership workstream.

Mid-Term Report Summary of Findings

Key Messages on Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Progress to Date

14. Feedback received as part of Stakeholder Consultations and E-Surveys undertaken to inform the Capacity Development and Partnership Working Evidence Paper highlighted the following areas:

Strategic Level Benefits

- The Wider Investment Fund has been important in increasing local economic development capacity
- Good investment decisions have been made to date to deliver economic development projects
- Key learnings have been applied to current experiences and investments, helping to evolve CCRCD's approaches
- There was some feedback that CCRCD's appetite for risk could be increased

Partnership Working

- The deployment of the WIF has led to improved partnership working between Local Authorities
- A high-level vision for investment has been set for the region
- There is a good balance between commercial viability and the drive for inclusive and sustainable growth

- Positive engagement with political leadership remains a feature of CCRCD, even though there have been significant changes in political representation since the previous Gateway Review

Stakeholder Engagement

- The WIF has driven improved engagement with wider stakeholders - for example, the private sector and academia. Both groups who were interviewed stated they were keen to continue this engagement.
- The focus on sustainable finance and 'evergreen' principle was welcomed
- There was a collective view that some more work needed to be done regarding closer work with education providers, the business community and local communities

Governance

- The evolution to Corporate Joint Committee is widely welcomed amongst key stakeholders
- CCRCD's overall governance is noted as robust, although there was feedback to look at accelerating decision-making

Evidence Collection

- The process that supports CCRCD's decision-making process is viewed as positive and largely based on agreed principles, priorities and evidence
- There was a clear evidence based utilised for the identification of CCRCD's priority clusters
- In this area, suggested improvements highlighted CCRCD to draw on the use of international comparator evidence (specifically on clusters)

Anticipated Cumulative Effects and Alignment

- The WIF has a rationale and a set of priorities that provide a link between different types of investments
- There is scope and opportunity for additional cross-sector activity
- CCRCD's relationship with Welsh Government is viewed as evolving amongst those stakeholders consulting and surveyed

Academic Panel Feedback

Overview

15. The Academic Panel met on 19th February 2024 to discuss the draft Mid Term Report on the evaluation of CCRCD's WIF.

16. The Academic Panel was attended by:

    - Professor Ron Martin, Cambridge University
    - Professor Pete Tyler, Cambridge University
    - Professor Philip McCann, Sheffield University

- Professor Iain Docherty, Stirling University
- Professor Cecelia Wong, University of Manchester

17. The Academic Panel's feedback was positive. There was some discussion and interest shown of the institutional context for the City Deal, particularly the specific circumstances of devolution – the upcoming, unique transition to the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC).

18. Further work should be undertaken at Final Report stage to ensure the involvement and role of Welsh Government and the regional development context is fully explained, highlighting the practical implications and opportunities of the CJC.

19. In relation to recent economic data and forecasts, the Panel noted CCR's relatively positive performance in terms of productivity and GVA growth.

20. When discussing the Fund level delivery progress, a panel member commented that: "*I get a sense that there is good management going on"* in terms of control of spend and delivery, and that funds are being deployed in accordance with strategy.

Proposed Evaluation Approaches

21. The panel made some suggestions to help shape CCRCD's approach to the Impact evaluation on the Compound Semiconductor Clusters, alongside the Progress Plus evaluation of the Venture Graduate Scheme which will be finalised as part of the Final Report.

22. Further work will be undertaken by CCRCD Officers to build a comprehensive resource plan, to include comprehensive input from academia to help best inform CCRCD's evaluation approaches.

Next Steps

23. CCR Officers to further develop the resource plan to ensure the next year of activity is appropriately resourced and deadlines are met, and to best inform CCRCD's Final Report.

24. CCR Officers continue work with internal stakeholders – leveraging the PMO and Senior Economist expertise to ensure continuity and build on the momentum achieved to date.

25. Ensure communication with both SQW and DLUHC throughout the preparation period in the lead up to Final Report.

26. Preparatory work for the Final Report has begun, with a view to the significant effort required to deliver this by October 2025.

Financial Implications

27. CCRCD has allocated revenue funding of £30,000 per annum for the work required in relation to the Gateway Review process. This is set aside within an earmarked reserve to enable drawdown of funding in line with requirements over the 5-year review period.

28. Discussions are currently ongoing to understand the work (and costs) that will be required over the next two financial years and how these are to be funded. Any requirement for ongoing resources and any additional financial implications as a result of the review work will be brought to relevant Governance Boards and to the CJC Board for approval as part of the regular monitoring and reporting updates.

Legal Implications

29. Under the Heads of Terms for the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, funding is released to CCRCD by the UK and Welsh Governments in five-year tranches. In order to unlock funding for the following five financial years, CCRCD is required to pass an outcome-based Gateway Review which evaluates the economic benefits and economic impact of the investments made under the scheme, including whether the projects have been delivered on time and to budget.

30. CCRCD successfully passed its first Gateway Review in 2021 and this report updates Regional Cabinet on progress against CCRCD's second Gateway Review, due to be completed in 2026.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

31. 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.

    (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 CJC 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 SEW CJC must take account of the impact of their decisions on people living their lives in Wales in the future. In doing so, CJC 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.

32. CJC Cabinet must be satisfied that the proposed decision accords with the principles above. To assist CJC Cabinet to consider the duties under the Act in respect of the decision sought, an assessment has been undertaken, which is attached at Appendix 3.

Equality Act 2010

33. 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 CJC 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

34. It is recommended that Regional Cabinet:

(1) Notes the positive progress against the CCRCD Gateway Review process, the Mid-Term Report and the subsequent Academic Panel feedback.

Kellie Beirne, Director, Cardiff Capital Region City Deal
18th March 2023

Appendices

Appendix 1 EXEMPT Mid-Term Report
Appendix 2 Academic Panel Feedback
Appendix 3 Well-being of Future Generations Assessment

February 2024

Evaluation of the Cardiff Capital Region Wider investment Fund: Mid Term Report

Comments from the Academic Panel

The Academic Panel met on 19 February 2024 to discuss the draft Mid Term Report on the evaluation of Cardiff Capital Region's Wider Investment Fund. This note provides a summary of the feedback and suggested next steps.

The Academic Panel was attended by:

- Professor Ron Martin, Cambridge University
- Professor Pete Tyler, Cambridge University
- Professor Philip McCann, Sheffield University
- Professor Iain Docherty, Stirling University
- Professor Cecelia Wong, University of Manchester

Pete Tyler and Philip McCann were the principal reviewers of the MTR.

General comments

Overall, the Panel's feedback was positive. It was noted that the comments made by the Panel on the draft LEF had been reflected in the MTR (especially the approach to impact evaluation), and this was welcomed.

Chapter 2: Introduction to Cardiff Capital Region

It was considered that this gave a fair overview of the region.

There was some discussion of the institutional context for the City Deal, in particular the specific circumstances of devolution and the advent of the Corporate Joint Committee. The Panel wondered whether it would be worth explaining more the involvement of the Welsh Government in the City Deal and the regional development process, as this could provide useful context (it was noted that even though there might be less direct Welsh Government involvement in the Wider Investment Fund, its leading role in the Metro is relevant to the City Deal as a whole).

The Panel noted the transition from a City Deal to a City Region. This was noted as positive and interesting. The Panel also strongly welcomed the focus within the Operating Plan and the REIP on investing a small number of strategic projects, rather than a large number of scattered initiatives.

In relation to recent economic data and forecasts, the Panel noted CCR's relatively positive performance in productivity and GVA growth. It might be helpful to explore the reasons for this more fully.

Chapter 3: Fund level delivery progress

There were relatively few comments on this chapter, which is mostly factual and self-explanatory. A Panel member commented that: *"I get a sense that there is good management going on"* in terms of control of spend and delivery, and that funds are being deployed in accordance with strategy.

However:

- Although progress proformas have not been completed for three interventions in scope (as they are at an early stage), these ought to be assessed where funds have been spent.
- In determining whether expenditure is 'on budget', the guideline of spend to date being within 95%-105% of planned spend should be used.

There was also a query about the difference between 'private sector investment' and 'leverage', although this is made clear in CCR's output definitions and can be added as a footnote.

Chapter 4: Impact evaluation approach

The Panel recognised that comments made previously had been taken on board and that this has 'moved on' from the LEF. The involvement of Max Munday was welcomed, as he is seen as very credible. It was also recognised that it will be impossible to construct a true counterfactual (as observed by the Academic Panel at their previous meeting), and the approach taken focused on contribution analysis was considered appropriate and reasonable.

Several helpful suggestions were made:

- Recognising the nature of the intervention, it would be helpful to set out the risks associated with investment in the cluster, demonstrating how these were considered at business case stage. In this context, explaining the involvement of UK and Welsh Government, and of institutions such as UKRI would be useful.
- **Doing justice to the complexity of cluster evaluation might need significant resources**, given the number of interviews to carry out, the depth of international comparator work, etc. It is important that this is properly factored in.
- Thought should be given to the **impact on industrial development beyond the CS sector itself**. In other words, success isn't *just* in the scale of the CS sector and those companies that form part of it or its direct supply chain, but also the spillover effects: the extent to which firms

in South Wales take up related technologies and how this changes the wider technological and knowledge profile of the region.

- Currently, investment in the cluster is somewhere between delivering 'activities' and realising 'outputs' on the logic model. We are not at *outcomes* at this stage, and it would be unrealistic to expect the evaluation to evidence these. However, **it would be helpful to set out more clearly the relationship between activities, outputs and expected outcomes:** currently, the logic model sets out a 'menu' but doesn't explain the transmission mechanisms in detail. These could be thought through further as the methodology is firmed up.

Chapter 5: Progress plus evaluation approach

There was support for redefining the Venture Graduates Scheme as an impact evaluation.

Of the others, it was noted that **there is quite a lot to do, but the timetable is quite broad.** This was seen as a potential risk and a more granular timetable would be helpful, noting the lead-in time for the final GR2 report.

Chapter 6: Capacity development and partnership working

As noted above, **the Panel was interested in the transition to the CJC**. This is a distinctive feature of the CCR, and the evolution from a City Deal 'programme' to a broader strategy and mechanism for regional development was seen as very important. Further explanation and analysis of this interrelationship will be helpful in the GR2 final report, especially as the transition will obviously be complete by then.

The process review case studies were seen as useful. The Panel noted that most city regions had not provided these at MTR stage, and it was welcome that CCR had done so.

As set out in the report itself, it was noted that interventions need to be selected for 'project-up' case studies. These don't need to be reported until GR2, but ought to be identified in the near future.

Next steps

There are no fundamental changes required to the draft MTR. Next steps are therefore:

- SQW will revise the current draft to take account of minor errors (missing footnotes, etc.) and comments made by the Central Team that can be accommodated easily (including ensuring that the expenditure 'on track' categories are consistent with the 95%-105% definition). This will then be shared with CCR and submitted to DLUHC. It is not anticipated that there will be any further comments from DLUHC at this stage.
- CCR should further consider the timetable and resourcing for the CS cluster evaluation, and the programme for the progress plus evaluations. It was suggested at the Panel that a date for confirmation of the approach should be set - potentially May 2023. Subsequent to the Panel meeting, it is also noted that CCR may bring forward some other impact evaluations: there is

no need to amend the MTR to reference this, but this could be set out in an 'update' note alongside the approach to impact/ progress plus evaluation in May.

SQW

February 2024

Future Generations Assessment Evaluation
(includes Equalities and Sustainability Impact Assessments)

Appendix 2

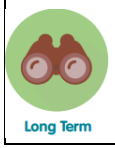
Name of the Officer completing the evaluation: Colan Mehaffey **Phone no:** 07929 713583 **E-mail:** colan.mehaffey@cardiff.gov.uk	**Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal: to set out the outcomes and implications of the UK Government-led Gateway Review of the CCRCD and submission of the Mid Term Report, alongside the Academic Panel feedback.**
Proposal: Overview of the Mid-Term report findings and summary of Academic Panel feedback received.	**Date Future Generations Evaluation form completed:** 6 March 2024

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?**
A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs	The work relates to good governance and monitoring which is an underpinning factor in respect of the aim for wealth creation and inclusive growth.	New governance and monitoring approach and establishment of CCR Policy Function to ensure focus on evaluative impact.
A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)	Good monitoring and evaluation will ensure there is better data and detail to demonstrate how objectives are being met. Part of the evaluation references Metro Plus which comprises the ULEV scheme.	As above – new processes and procedures to demonstrate impact and ensure the programme is open to appropriate stakeholder challenge. This will be particularly important in the light of wider regional energy strategy developments and delivery.
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	The proposal relates to governance and monitoring and so underpins efforts to maximize programme impact.	Wellbeing metrics and introducing alternative ways of measuring success are one of the objectives to improve monitoring. This will be picked up as part of the Economic Intelligence Unit.

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 Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	What gets measured gets done – so the saying goes – having a focus on impact evaluation in the scale-up and delivery years will ensure more real-time and ongoing capture of information.	Introduction of portfolio lead accountability, highlight reports and new programme level reporting to Cabinet.
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	The Gateway Review process provides alignment with other Cohort 2 regions across the UK. The growing focus on Climate Change and the CCR Energy Plan will ensure this is front and centre of efforts to globally address climate change.	Development of Implementation priorities work. Development of challenge-fund approach with focus on joined-up working and delivery around climate goals.
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	As above.	
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.	The investment strategy for CCR embraces 'levelling-up' and the need to tackle economic and societal disparities within the region and across UK-regions.

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?
 Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future	The proposal relates only to UKG review of CCR performance at this stage. Therefore it needs to be read in conjunction with business plan for next 5 years which sets out 5 ways to plan for now and the future at the same time –climate, building a region clusters, R&D and delivering the CCRCD programme.	Governance and reporting will need to be constantly adapted and updated in order to remain relevant and fit for an evolving future.

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?
Working together with other partners to deliver objectives	The governance provides a framework for how 3 layers of government, partners and stakeholders will work together.	The move to a CJC will help reinforce some of the partnership momentum generated through the first Gateway period.
Involving those with an interest and seeking their views	The work has been informed by a wide range of views and perspectives with regard to expert evidence and data.	More work is now needed on the citizen focus and angle and ensuring co-branding as per the requirement set out in the Gateway report from UKG.
Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse	The governance space is busy. Moving to a more structured and systematic approach through future evolution to CJCs will help re-align and consolidate.	
Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies		Wellbeing metrics will be key to informing future work.

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 Gateway Review report is the conclusion of a process and not a proposal. It will however reinforce all the factors that are key to good programme governance, which should put protected characteristics at its heart – Responsible Investing, ESG, risk and diversity and inclusion.	The proposals relate to governance and ensuring the right balance of stakeholder views, being open inclusive and transparent are principles, which extend to all aspects of the programme.	The 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.

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?
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.
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		
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?

Current workings, new projects and proposals and best practice on programme monitoring. UKG Gateway documents, SQW reports and the evaluation of IIF and Audit Wales work.

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:	As per the new phases of the National Evaluation Framework for which we are awaiting confirmation.