



Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group

Date: 4th of April 2008
Time: 10:00 (refreshments available from 09:45)
Location: Management Development Centre, Bangor University
(Location Map attached)

Attendees:

Members of the Steering Group or nominated alternates

Observers

Partnership Secretariat

Guests:

Robin Beckman

DCELLS
Welsh Assembly



Ariennir a hwylusir Gweithredu dros Gymunedau Gwledig gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Rural Community Action is funded and facilitated by the Welsh Assembly Government



Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group – 4 April 2008

PART ONE: BUSINESS MATTERS

01. Apologies
02. Expressions of personal interest
03. Minutes of 23 November 2007 Steering Group (enclosed – *blue paper*):
 - Correct and confirm
 - Any matter not appearing on the programme
04. Partnership Sub-Groups - report (enclosed – *yellow paper*):
 - Llwyddo'n Lleol
 - Business Support
 - Skills
 - Rural Development
 - Community Regeneration
05. Wales European Programmes:
 - activity update (enclosed – *orange paper*)

PART TWO: STRATEGIC MATTERS - SKILLS

Background papers (enclosed – pink paper)

07. Presentation by Robin Beckman, Welsh Assembly Government – National Context
08. Presentation by Iwan Trefor Jones, Cyngor Gwynedd – North West Wales Context
09. Facilitated Break-out groups
10. Feedback
11. Any other matter
12. Date and location of next meeting

Lunch will be provided after the meeting there will also be an opportunity to have a short tour of the centre.

Minutes of 25 January 2008 Steering Group

Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group

Date: 25 January 2008
Time: 10:00 - 13:00
Location: Craflwyn Hall, Beddgelert

Present:

Private Sector Representatives

Dewi Lewis	<i>Chairman</i>	Siop Dewi
Tim Knight		Nuclear Skills Academy
Gwynedd Watkin		Farmers' Union of Wales
Evie Wyn Jones	<i>(Deputy)</i>	Busnes Eryri Cyf.
John A Morris	<i>(Deputy)</i>	J Morris

Voluntary Sector Representatives

Bethan Russell Owen	Mantell Gwynedd
Catrin Lloyd Perry	Coleg Harlech / WEA
Alex Badley	Sustainable Gwynedd

Community Sector Representatives

Llŷr Huws Gruffydd	Menter a Busnes
Father Deiniol	Yn Ein Blaenau
Dyfed Edwards	Antur Nantlle
J. Isgoed Williams	Traws-Newid
Godfrey Northam	Bethesda Community Council

Public Sector Representatives

Gwenan Jones	Bangor University
John Idris Jones	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Dorothy Hughes	Unllais Cymru
Fiona Williams	Careers Wales
Eiddwen Borland	Jobcentre Plus
June Jones	Gwynedd Council
Janet Jones	Welsh Assembly Government

Observers

None

Officers of the Secretariat (Gwynedd Council)

Sioned Williams	Head of the Economic and Regeneration Service
Dylan Griffiths	Strategic Planning and Funding Manager
Rhys Evans	Principal European Officer
Colin Morris	Principal Business Support Officer
Nia Swann	Development Officer - Getting On in Gwynedd
Sian Lloyd Roberts	Skills and Entrepreneurship Manager
Catrin Thomas	Community Regeneration Manager
Ann Owen	Policy and Performance Manager

Guests

Gary Draisey	Consultant Interfleet Technologies Ltd
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BUSINESS MATTERS

01 Apologies

It was noted that apologies had been received from Peter Clarke (Wales TUC), Ann Rubji (Welsh Assembly Government), Trefor Jones (Welsh Assembly Government), Sian Hope (Bangor University), Robert O'Regan (Parker, O'Regan, Tann & Co), Eleri Evans (Federation of Young Farmers), Catrin Roberts (Welsh Assembly Government), Anne Lloyd Jones (Mid Wales Tourism), Sian. M. Williams (Griffith Williams & Co), Rhys Davies (Camre Cymru), Huw Watkins (BIC Innovation), Menna Jones (Antur Waunfawr), Keneuoe Morgan (Deudraeth Cyf), Emyr Williams (Snowdonia National Park), Dafydd Iwan (Gwynedd Council), Ruth Bacigalupo (Welsh Assembly Government), Geraint Wyn Parry (Association of Welsh Translators), Paul Freeman (Bridge Marine Science Group), David Joyner (Bangor University), Alison Williams (Dragon Theatre) and Vivienne Pritchard (Gwynedd Council)

02. Declarations of Personal Interest

NONE

03. Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2007

Discussion:

NONE

Conclusions:

i) The minutes of the meeting 23 November 2007 were **agreed**.

Tasks:

NONE

04. The Partnership's Sub-groups

Discussion: Getting On in Gwynedd

- i) Nia Swann gave an update on the Getting on in Gwynedd bulletin which was enclosed in the members' packs. She referred specifically to what was being proposed as a change to the structure of the group. The change was to come about because a number of people were apologising from the meetings and things had become slightly one-sided. The proposal was to hold fewer meetings and to communicate *more* by means of e-mail; it would be possible to draw everyone together if a discussion was needed on any matter. The members were comfortable with what was being proposed.
- ii) The RCA application was also discussed and Nia asked the members to approve the application so that she could continue to develop it, and no objections were raised.

Discussion: Business Support

- iii) Colin Morris reported to the group that a meeting had been held on 26th November, and referred to the main matters noted in the attached bulletin. Business Week Arrangements – two local companies had been appointed to organise and co-ordinate 5 main events during the week.

- iv) He reported also on the discussion that had take place on the need for a further analysis of the data by the Assembly, and the way in which he would be reporting back in future.
- v) Colin drew attention especially to the discussion about Tourism plans, providing an overview of the work that had been done in order to develop and promote tourism in the area. Confirmation was also received that the North Wales Tourism Partnership was preparing a strategy for the area.

Discussion: Skills Group

- vi) A report was given by Sian Lloyd Roberts, who noted that no meeting had been held since the last meeting of the GEP steering group.
- vii) She drew that attention of members to three important documents that were currently undergoing consultation;
- viii) Webb Report – A report by the Welsh Assembly Government on education, the main recommendations included the establishment of a 14-19 consortia system, to re-focus post-19 on employers and the need to look at the higher education system. Copies of the report were available from the Secretariat.
- ix) Skills and Employment Strategy – Part of the Assembly’s response to the Webb Report, a vision for skills and employment in Wales leading to strengthening the voice of employers. There is a role for the skills councils, but a need to establish strong links. A prioritisation fund is to be established which will provide training in the workplace. It was noted that the consultation would continue until April 2008. See the link for the report:
<http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/4038232/403829/Consultations/1901302/skills-for-wales-cons-e.pdf?lang=en>
- x) Skills and Learning Measure 2008 – Sets down options for young people in a key stage – additional pressure on schools, certainly a very radical proposal. See the link for the document;
<http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/4038232/403829/Consultations/1901302/Proposals for a Learning an1.pdf?lang=en>
- xi) The group will meet at the end of February to respond to the above. Noted also was the work taking place on the Gwynedd and Anglesey Skills Strategy – the vision and objectives of the area, growth sectors and the management structure, the report is being prepared by the Hoshin company of consultants.
- xii) Sian noted that a Project Information Form to be placed on the WEFO website was currently being prepared for the Meirion-Dwyfor Vocational Skills Centre.
- xiii) Thanks were expressed for the update and it was noted that the skills field would be placed on the work programme of the Steering Group as soon as possible.

Discussion: The Rural Development Plan

- xiv) Dylan Rhys Griffiths gave a short report following submission of the application on 30th November 2007. No feedback had been received so far. He noted that no meeting of the Sub-group had been held since the application had been submitted, and that a meeting had been scheduled for February.

Discussion: Community Regeneration

- xv) An update was given on the work in the County by Catrin Thomas, who noted that no formal group existed, but that it was important the members received an update on what was being carried out in Gwynedd

Conclusions:

- xvi) That the reports **be received**.

Tasks:

- a) **To circulate the RCA Getting On in Gwynedd report**
Secretariat asap
- b) **To programme discussions on the Skills field on the steering group as soon as possible**
Secretariat Next Meeting
- c) **To circulate links to the consultations in the report of the skills group**
Secretariat asap

05. Annual Report on the Membership of the Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group

Discussion:

- i) Dylan Rhys Griffiths noted that it was proposed to review and confirm the membership of the steering group to full members and deputies. The members and deputies had been elected for a period of three years and it would be useful now to confirm the situation by means of a short recording form.

Conclusions:

- ii) **Agreed** that the review be carried out by means of a monitoring form

Tasks:

- ch) **A form confirming the membership to be circulated to full members and deputies**
Secretariat asap

06. PEG Programme of Work 2008

Discussion:

- i) Dylan Rhys Griffiths discussed the intention to develop a work programme for the year, and that the themes would be strategic in

nature. He noted that the business matters in all meetings would continue. He showed a slide of the draft programme as an example

- ii) Sioned Williams noted that there was a need to look in detail at the role and function of the partnership on the basis of the fate of the Rural Development Plan. Should the application be a success, it would be the PEG's responsibility to distribute the finance, and should it not be a success, then the future of the partnership would need to be reconsidered.

Conclusions:

- iii) The idea was **agreed** and support given for the drawing up of a programme

Tasks:

- d) **To draw up the work programme of the steering group for 2008**
Secretariat asap

STRATEGIC MATTERS

07. An update on the Socio-Economic Policy of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

Discussion:

- i) A presentation was given by John Idris Jones, Head of Socio-Economic Development in North Wales for Magnox North. He explained his new role and referred specifically to social development matters.
- ii) He noted that developments were taking place now in terms of policy and that the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority's draft business plan described how it would adjust its direction following its early years of operation; the link below refers to the relevant document;
<http://www.nda.gov.uk/documents/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&pageid=17338>
- iii) The authority was looking at the effects of decommissioning on an area, and it was noted that this was a secondary matter, with reducing danger receiving priority.
- iv) John noted that there was £10m over the next three years to support the work in the field over 20 sites, with most of these being in West Cumbria. The priorities of the funding would be employment, education and skills and economic regeneration. The application process would include an application form and development of a detailed business plan, and it would be necessary to show that there was funding forthcoming from other sources too. He noted that the picture was not a particularly promising one, but that it was necessary to work hard to ensure the best benefit.

Conclusions:

- v) That the presentation be **received**.

Tasks:

dd) **To circulate a link to the report to members**

Secretariat

asap

08. Spatial Matters

Discussion:

- i) Dylan Rhys Griffiths gave a verbal report on matters involving the Wales Spatial Plan. He referred specifically to the national Consultation that was to commence on 28th January until 8th April (a period of 12 weeks). The National Assembly would then be invited to formally adopt the scheme. He noted that input had already been received during the writing period. He referred to the workshops that had been organised, and that invitation would be circulated in due course through the Secretariat.
- ii) He referred to the work of identifying key settlements for the Mid Wales area, and stated that the study had been completed but that there was no agreement to formally adopt it. It was hoped that the work would have given Meirionnydd a direction, but it appeared that there was none, and a piece of work specific to the area would be produced – the brief was currently being prepared.
- iii) A summary of work in the North West was distributed as an additional paper. The process of re-drafting had taken place, and it was considered as a basis for further consultation. He referred specifically to two additional pieces of work, including study of a model for transferring growth to rural areas and a demographic study.
- iv) A discussion ensued, during which specific attention was drawn towards ensuring input to the process, especially from the voluntary sector.

09. Wales European Programmes

Discussion:

- i) Sioned Williams gave a brief summary and referred in particular to the fact that there was post-care Objective 1 work continuing at present, but that this would draw to a close at the end of June, with the transfer to the Technical Support work of the Convergence Programme commencing at the beginning of July.
- ii) She drew the attention of members to the fact that no Development Officer had been appointed as yet to work on the Wales / Ireland Territorial Co-operation Programme. She noted that this shortcoming had adversely affected the process of developing applications here in Gwynedd but that the Secretariat had provided initial support for applicants.
- iii) Reference was made to the development of the Spatial European Teams (SET), and that they were by now a step nearer confirmation. She noted that the South West spatial area was leading on the application nationally and that representatives of Gwynedd's Europe team would be members of the SETs.

out with Traws-Newid, and what were being proposed as developments for the future.

- ii) He referred specifically to the following:
- An outline of an intention to develop a detailed feasibility study.
 - Traws-Newid's desire to develop a scheme along the railway between Blaenau Ffestiniog and Trawsfynydd.
 - A scheme with the potential to include Driving Experience Courses, Heritage Tours and the development of a small Museum in time.
 - Comparatively low establishment costs, which would possibly make the scheme more sustainable.
 - The scheme would make good use of a ready-made resource, currently being used.
 - Potential for the creation of a worthwhile tourism and community resource with the support of the community.

Conclusions:

- iii) **Thanks** were expressed for the presentation and there was an opportunity to ask informal questions of Gary Draisey.

Tasks:

- g) **To circulate a copy of the report to members and deputies**
Secretariat asap

S U M M A R Y O F T A S K S

- a) **To circulate the RCA Getting On in Gwynedd report**
Secretariat asap
- b) **To programme discussions on the Skills field in the steering group as soon as possible**
Secretariat Next Meeting
- c) **To circulate links to the consultations in the report of the skills group**
Secretariat asap
- ch) **A form confirming the membership to be circulated to full members and deputies**
Secretariat asap
- d) **To draw up the work programme of the steering group for 2008**
Secretariat asap
- dd) **To circulate a link to the report to members**
Secretariat asap
- e) **To invite members of PEG and deputies to the seminar on 26th February.**

- Secretariat asap
- f) **To organise a briefing session for Sector Co-ordinators and an additional representative**
- Secretariat asap
- ff) **To contact the Environment Directorate for an update on the 'Green Key' scheme**
- Secretariat asap
- g) **To circulate a copy of the report to members and deputies**
- Secretariat asap

Partnership Sub-Groups

Partnership Sub-Groups

MEETING:	Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group
DATE:	4 April 2008
PURPOSE:	To update Members on the activities of the Partnership's Sub-Groups.
RECOMMENDATION:	Note the contents of the report
AUTHOR:	Sioned E. Williams Head of Economy and Regeneration Service

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Five sub-groups have been designated by the members of the Steering Group to assist them in their activities. The purpose of this report is to update the members on the activities of the Sub-Groups in the period since the last meeting of the Steering Group.

2. Llwyddo'n Lleol Operational Sub-group

- 2.1 The report that is to be found in Annex 1 refers to Submitting an Application for Funding from the Rural Community Action fund, Excellence Wales Award, Convergence Application and 2007/08 Outputs against Targets.

3. Rural Development Sub-group

- 3.1 The Rural Development Sub-group continues to lead on developing the Partnerships' proposal for the Rural Development Plan. As a result of the delay in the timetable for the Rural Development Plan (see Item 5 for an update on implementation), the sub-group has not met in the period since the last meeting of the Partnership Steering Group.

4. Business Support Sub-group

- 4.1 There has not been a meeting of the Business Support Sub-group, however the members were invited to the Skills Sub-group on the 28th of February. The next meeting is planned for the 2nd of May.

5. Skills Sub-group

- 5.1 The Skills Sub-group met on the 28 of February, see Annex 2 for the report.

6. Community Regeneration Activities

- 6.1 There is no activity report this time.

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 Partnership Members to support the contents of the report



BULLETIN (April 2008)

Name of Partnership:

Gwynedd Economic Partnership (Llwyddo'n Lleol Sub Group)

Date of Meeting:

n/a

Main Action Points from meeting:

n/a

Matters for the attention of the steering group:

- 1 **Submitting an Application for Funding from the Rural Community Action fund- 2008/09**
 - 1.1 An application for funding from the Welsh Assembly Government's Rural Community Action fund, in the form of an Action Plan, has been submitted for the Llwyddo'n Lleol programme in 2008/09.
 - 1.2 The application will include the same programme of activities as 2007/08, and will look to complete the programme's trial period in 2008/09 and create a firm basis to develop the work under the Rural Development Plan and the Convergence programme.
 - 1.3 The work programme will continue with the 3 main activities:
 - The Young Entrepreneurship Scheme (modules in schools)
 - Enterprise Idea Generation Sessions
 - Llwyddo'n Lleol BursaryDue to reduced funding, the Llwyddo'n Lleol Roadshows are not part of the Action Plan, but we intend to seek additional funding for this element of the work.
 - 1.4 The programme costs in 2008/09 are as follows:
 - Development Officer £36000
 - Idea Generation Sessions £33500
 - Bursary £50500
 - Young Entrepreneurship Scheme £75730
 - Marketing / Office Costs / Meeting Costs £4270
 - 1.5 Match funding of £10,000 has been received from the Gwynedd 14-19 Network. An application for £40,000 has been submitted to the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and has been underwritten by Gwynedd Council in order to submit the main application within the timetable set by the Welsh Assembly Government.
- 2 **Excellence Wales Award**
 - 2.1 Llwyddo'n Lleol won an Excellence Wales Certificate in an awards ceremony in Cardiff in February.

3. Llwyddo'n Lleol Application – Convergence

3.1 The process of submitting an application to extend the work of Llwyddo'n Lleol across north west Wales has now begun, by submitting an Expression of Interest to WEFO, in conjunction with Anglesey County Council, Conwy County Borough Council and Denbighshire County Council.

4. 2007/08 Outputs against Targets

4.1 The programme's outputs for 2007/08 have now been collected to report back to the Welsh Assembly Government, and are as follows:

	Target	Total 07/08
Number of Training Courses Delivered	4	4
Number of Individuals Assisted	30	36
Number of Marketing and Promotional Activities Undertaken	25	28
Number of Awareness Raising Events Held	5	5
Number of Interpretive Materials Produced	2	2
Number of Individuals Engaged	650	693
Number of Communities Engaged	3	2
Number of new Individuals Trained, Gaining New Skills re-skilled	65	76
Number of Businesses Created	10	37
Number of Community Groups Assisted	8	8
Number of Jobs Created	3	6

Any matters relevant to other partnerships (note which):

none

Coordinator's Name:

Nia Swann
01286 679774

Phone Number:

Nia Swann@gwynedd.gov.uk

Email:

Person responsible for the minutes:

Nia Swann

Skills Sub-group



BWLETIN (April 2008)

Name of Partnership:

Gwynedd Economic Partnership (Skills Sub Group)

Date of Meeting:

N/a

Main Action Points from meeting:

Consultations:

Webb Report, Skills that work for Wales Strategy, Skills and Learning Measure 2008, Gwynedd and Anglesey Skills Strategy.

Materion i sylw'r Bwrdd Llywio:

1. The consultations for the Webb Report, Skills that work for Wales Strategy and the Skills and Learning Measure 2008 were looked at, and comments were made on the three documents. The main point can be noted as:
 - The need to ensure that employers and businesses have input to the consultation documents
2. Gwynedd and Anglesey Skills Strategy: It was noted that the reason for commissioning the strategy is to note the vision and aims for developing skills for

Any matters relevant to other partnerships (note which):

none

Coordinator's Name:

Sian Lloyd Roberts

Phone Number:

01286 679729

sianlloydroberts@gwynedd.gov.uk

Email:

Person responsible for the minutes:

Sian Lloyd Roberts

Activity Report: European Programmes in Wales

European Programmes Update

MEETING:	Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group
DATE:	4 April 2008
PURPOSE:	To update Partnership Members on the operation of 2000 – 2006 European Programmes and the Development of 2007 – 2013 European Programmes
RECOMMENDATION:	Note the contents of the report
AUTHOR:	Sioned E. Williams Head of Economy and Regeneration Service

1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Partnership's members on the implementation of 2000 – 2006 European Programmes and the development of 2007 – 2013 European Programmes, specifically:

- West Wales and the Valleys Objective One Programme 2000 - 2006
- Wales - Ireland Territorial Co-Operation Programme 2007 - 2013
- West Wales and the Valleys Convergence Programme 2007 - 2013
- Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007 - 2013

2. Objective 1 Programme

2.1 Additional Funding

It came to the Secretariat's attention recently that the programme had received additional funding as a result of the variation in the rate of exchange between the Pound and the Euro as well as changes in the spending commitments. The additional money is available across every measure with the exception of FIFG. WEFO will only consider applications for funding from projects already in existence, on a case-by-case basis. The Secretariat has already contacted a number of projects to inform them of this opportunity, and we can report that there is considerable interest. The Secretariat can be contacted directly for more information and advice.

2.2 Aftercare:

The Partnership Secretariat's role in providing advice and help to Objective 1 project managers in Gwynedd continues. The Secretariat provides assistance to scheme managers to prepare for 'Article 4' visits from the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO). Fifty-five 'Article 4' visits to local projects in Gwynedd have been held so far.

2.3 As part of the continuous aftercare service, the Secretariat contacted 47 project managers recently offering advice and support with any matters which could cause concern. Twenty meetings have been held so far and 11 other meetings have been arranged over the coming weeks. A report on the results will be submitted to the partnership after the work has been completed.

2.4 Publicity:

The Partnership continues to work in practical terms to ensure positive publicity locally for the programme. An article and advertisement on behalf of the Economic Partnership was published by the Secretariat on 26th March, referring to the successes of the Objective 1 programme in Gwynedd.

3. The Wales – Ireland Territorial Co-operation Programme

3.1 The Wales – Ireland Programme 2007 – 2013 was officially launched in Llandudno on 7th December 2007. The first call for applications closed on 18th January. It is understood that 52 expressions of interest were submitted during the first call, with 13 of these being from the North. It is foreseen that there will be a call for applications twice a year, with the next one scheduled for July.

3.2 The attention of member is drawn to the fact that a Development Officer for the programme has now been appointed by WEFO for the North West. The new officer's name is Roger Seddon, who will be working from the office in Colwyn Bay. Anyone from North Wales interested in applying is urged to contact the Officer as soon as possible.

3.3 Further information on the programme is available via the website www.irelandwales.ie that provides contact information for applicants who are developing ideas, together with the relevant documents. Members are reminded that the WIN 2 scheme (Wales – Ireland Programme) is now available to help form partnerships which would lead to the submission of applications for projects. The scheme provides financial assistance to eligible organisations in order to pay travelling and subsistence costs. An application form and guidance are available on the website as well.

4. Convergence Programme

4.1 The attention of members is drawn to the fact that the first projects to be funded through the programme were launched on 25th February and 3rd March. An ERDF project 'Transferring Information and Technology' is working to build on the Knowledge Exploitation Fund that was funded through Objective 1; this project is worth £50m. An ESF project 'Skillbuild' is working to get 20,000 unemployed people back into employment; this project is worth £60m. There has been considerable concern that these schemes have been developed without thorough consultations before hand; details of the two projects and how they will operate remain vague at the moment.

4.2 Spatial European Teams:

Discussions are continuing to secure Technical Support funding from the programme to support the work of the Spatial European Teams (SETs), which will be providing information advice and support for project applicants during the life of the programme. It is understood that the application has been submitted to WEFO, and that a decision is expected by mid April. The officers from across the North West who are likely to be involved with the SETs on 22nd January and 13th March.

4.3 Strategic Frameworks:

All ERDF Strategic Frameworks now have an 'agreed' status to them on the WEFO website, as well as all the ESF Strategic Frameworks, which also have the 'agreed' status.

4.4 Project Information Forms:

679 Project Information Forms from a variety of agencies and organisations have been recorded on the WEFO website so far. It is understood that 160 requests for an expression of interest form have been submitted to WEFO, and of these 50 have been submitted for decision. It appears that 28% of these are from the Assembly, 30% from Local Authorities, 18% from the private sector and 24% from the 3rd sector, which appears to be quite a balanced cross-section.

4.5 The Partnership expressed concerns in the past regarding the lack of information from the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) about projects being developed. By now, a large number of Project Information Forms from WAG are appearing on the website and information is being received from other sources (see below), but it is fair to note that it is still difficult to get a clear picture of their intentions.

4.6 National Schemes:

Workshops were held by the Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills Division (DCELLS) on their proposed ESF schemes at the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod on 29th and 30th January. The Secretariat was represented at the workshops, where reference was made to the following project ideas;

- Skillbuild (approved)
- Apprenticeship Scheme – MA/FMAs
- Higher level Apprenticeship Scheme – MSD
- ReAct
- Genesis Wales

4.7 By now DCELLS has 21 Project Record Forms on the WEFO website, 11 Expressions of Interest, with 6 of these having been submitted as full applications.

4.8 Schemes being developed through the Economy and Transport Department (DE&T) can also be seen on the website now, and these include 28 Project Information Forms, with 14 of these being thematic within the following fields:

- Innovation
- ICT
- Entrepreneurship
- Business Finance
- Climate Change
- Development of a Community Economy

4.9 Economy and Regeneration Seminar

Members will be aware, from having received an invitation, that a seminar of the Development Scrutiny Committee was held on 26th February under the title 'A Prosperous Gwynedd'. Updates were given on the Spatial Plan and the North West Wales Development Strategy, before having an opportunity to discuss

Gwynedd Strategic Priority Projects 2008 – 2013, which are noted in table form in Appendix 1. This list is a basis for further developments and sets down strategic priorities.

- 4.10 There was a good representation from the Economic Partnership at the event and in addition to this an opportunity was afforded to discuss the projects at a special briefing session for Sector Co-ordinators and another representative of the partnership on the 20th February.
- 4.11 The seminar and all the previous discussions have set down a pathway and strategic context for developing the projects. The Secretariat will work to ensure that the Partnership is updated on any developments.
- 4.12 Match Funding
It has been announced that a Match Funding Fund is available for the programme through the WAG Finance Department; the fund includes £105m over the next three years and £350m over the lifetime of the programme. A matrix has been published which identifies the priorities for the fund.
- 4.13 Considerable concern has been voiced by a number of people since this announcement; the attention of partnership members is drawn to the fact that the fund is substantially lower than what is needed as match funding over the programme period (£1,093m) and that there is a lack of clarity regarding the application process. There will be considerable pressure on the fund, bearing in mind that the budgets of the Local Authorities are exceptionally tight.

5. The Wales Rural Development Plan

- 5.1 Members are aware that Gwynedd's Business Plan and Proposed Projects were submitted for the Rural Development Plan up to 2010 in November 2007. There have been some developments in respect of the Rural Development Plan in the period since the last meeting of the Steering Group:
- The European Commission's Rural Development Committee approved the Wales Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 on 20 February 2008.
 - At the end of February, the Welsh Assembly Government announced a slippage in the timetable for implementing the Rural Development Scheme. As a result, Axis 3 and Axis 4 schemes will not commence until 01 June 2008.
 - The Welsh Assembly Government announced that they were splitting one of the Axis 3 measures (312) in two, thus separating support for farming families from support for the wider rural economy. As a result, it was necessary to split Gwynedd's scheme for the measure – the Rural Enterprise Enabling Fund – into two individual applications, in order to provide the desired support.
 - On 18 March, inquiry letters were received from the Assembly Government in respect of two of Gwynedd's six schemes, and requesting a response by 03 April 2008. We still await letters regarding the other schemes.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 That Partnership Members accept the contents of the report.

List of Gwynedd Sub-Regional and Strategic Convergence Projects

Scheme	Details	Partnership	Lead Body
<p>Llwyddo'n Lleol</p> <p>Nia Swann-Bowden (01286) 679 774</p>	<p>A scheme to develop young people's skills and confidence by raising their awareness to job opportunities and possible self-employment in their communities. This is achieved through a series of activities based on promoting enterprise, including the Young Entrepreneur Scheme in some secondary schools, Enterprise Brainstorming Sessions in the community and bursaries to realise enterprise ideas. The project will also include events to celebrate the success of young people who have ventured into the business locally. The programme will stimulate creative thinking, improve confidence amongst young people and promote interest in work and developing skills for employment.</p> <p>The project will be extended to cover Anglesey, Conwy and Denbighshire, concentrating on growth sectors in each area..</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Conwy Council Denbigh Council Welsh Assembly Government</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council</p>
<p>Skills and Enterprise Centre</p> <p>Sian Lloyd Roberts (01286) 679 729</p>	<p>A scheme to establish a Vocational Skills Centre for the Dwyfor and Meirionnydd area. The scheme is being developed with local secondary schools and Coleg Meirion Dwyfor in order to offer a wide range of opportunities to develop vocational skills and enterprise training that responds to the future requirements of employers and learners.</p> <p>The project includes the building of a new purpose built centre in the Penrhyndeudraeth area that would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer different and additional educational opportunities for 14 – 16 year olds by developing a vocational curriculum which is appropriate for the skill potential of the individual and also the needs of the economy and of the labour market. • Offer a clear road map of opportunities and choices for young people. • Raise the aspirations of young people in Meirionnydd and Dwyfor to realise their potential in education and employment or self employment; • Ensure a clear progress path to higher and further education or employment; • Commit employers to the learning derivation for work related learning. <p>The focus is on developing a series of vocational courses of interest to young people and employers which responds to the skills shortage identified in Gwynedd's economy. The scheme would emphasise the ethos of life long learning and working also with</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Welsh Assembly Government</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council</p>

	<p>individuals post 16.</p> <p>The Centre would also include small incubating units and enterprise centre for Gwynedd. The intention is to establish units for young people who would be inspired to start businesses in particular sectors.</p> <p>The scheme will be part of a wider bid for the Gwynedd and Anglesey area and it is anticipated that it would cost about £3.5m..</p>		
<p>Developing the Outdoor Activity Sector</p> <p>Llyr B Jones (01286) 679 219</p>	<p>A project to promote the Outdoor Activities sector in the North West by concentrating on the theme 'Mountains and Coast'.</p> <p>The scheme will include a package of projects to support the development of outdoor activities, to develop local skills in this field, to introduce new experiences of outdoor activities to children and young people in the area, working in particular with Gwynedd's schools, support for the development of a network of local businesses in the sector and create new enterprise opportunities and employment in the area.</p> <p>The scheme will look in particular at supporting new outdoor activity enterprises in the slate valleys, including Menter y Moelwyn in Blaenau Ffestiniog and Glyn Rhonwy in Llanberis.</p> <p>This scheme will add value to the North Wales Watersports Partnership which is applying for funds through the INTERREG programme to develop water related activities in the area.</p> <p>Discussions will continue with Visit Wales and the Assembly to consider how the bid will be presented as part of a wider regional programme.</p> <p>The project outputs will include no.of jobs created, new enterprises established, infrastructure for business developed, participants trained.</p>	To be confirmed	Gwynedd Council
<p>North Wales Sailing Academy</p>	<p>The aim of the scheme is to develop the Wales' National Sailing Academy and Events Centre in Pwllheli. It will build on previous investment and present successes to attract national and international events to the natural setting and the special sailing waters in Tremadog Bay. Aspects of the scheme include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new purpose built building with facilities such as changing rooms, competition rooms, workshops, offices, measuring space and multipurpose 	Gwynedd Council Pwllheli Sailing Club Coleg Meirion - Dwyfor North Wales Water Sports	Gwynedd Council

<p>Esyllt Rhys Jones (01286) 679 513</p>	<p>lecture rooms etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Berths and associated facilities to the north of the Hafan for more specialised equipment for events, competitions, training and visiting boats. <p>The scheme will present wider and different opportunities including attracting and hosting events and competitions, attracting regional and national teams to train in the area, training facilities, giving opportunities for water sports to the community (especially for children and young people) etc. The facility will showcase special identity by promoting the Welsh language and culture and raise the area's profile. By joint provision the facility will be sustainable and will create economic value in the long term and its multi-use function will offer new opportunities to the local community.</p> <p>The projects output will include new jobs created, infrastructure for business development, number of participants trained.</p>	<p>Plas Menai Wales Sailing Association Welsh Assembly Government</p>	
<p>Interpretation Circles Project</p> <p>Aled Prys Davies (01286) 679 397</p>	<p>Establish Gwynedd as the Cultural Gateway to the North West by establishing a centre to promote a network of interpretation circles across the County.</p> <p>The purpose of the scheme is to promote co-operation between various visitor attractions, paying particular attention to themes that will reflect the strength of the Gwynedd area. It is anticipated that there will be cultural, artistic, environmental and heritage circles across Gwynedd. A number of establishments are already working together but this would be an opportunity to strengthen this relationship and to share resources and expertise.</p> <p>Work has already started to identify opportunities for a number of attractions in Caernarfon to work together with the Tourist Information Office. This project aims to build and add to this scheme to create a modern and integrated centre. Approx. 200 thousand visitors come to Caernarfon annually – there is an opportunity to target this audience and direct visitors to attractions of quality across the county.</p> <p>There are opportunities to co-operate with counties across the north west and especially with Anglesey Council to extend the scheme further.</p> <p>Outputs for this project include infrastructure for business developed, number of new jobs created, % increase in business turnover.</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Welsh Assembly Government Attractions to be confirmed</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council</p>
<p>Marine Sector Growth</p>	<p>The environmental sciences have been recognised as one of the growth sector in the</p>	<p>Bangor University</p>	<p>Bangor University</p>

	<p>North West Wales area and the marine industry is an important part of this sector.</p> <p>The Council supports 2 projects that will stimulate the growth of a cluster of businesses in this sector leading to the creation of high value employment opportunities.</p> <p>The first project, SEACAMS 'Sustainable Development of Catchments and Coastal Zones' is a scheme to strengthen the sector through R&D, creating a resource to support businesses to establish and grow in the region. It is anticipated that a £28m bid will be developed in collaboration between the Welsh Universities, that would include the development of a new centre in Menai Bridge and create 25 direct new jobs. As a result of this investment there will be additional spin-offs in the local economy including the need for additional land and premises with access to the waterfront for a cluster of businesses. The Council is in discussion with the University and the new owners of the Ferodo site to consider further development opportunities.</p> <p>The second bid is being developed by a network of small businesses within the sector to promote further development of a network of environmental and marine science businesses. Gwynedd Council has supported the Bridge Marine Group since it established in 2004 and during this period the cluster has grown from 29 to 152 SMEs. It is proposed that the network is extended across Wales and that employment opportunities within the environmental science sector is created and promoted.</p> <p>The project will create 20 new jobs in Gwynedd (155 jobs across Wales) and lead to the establishment of 20 new businesses in the area.</p>	<p>Aberystwyth University Swansea University Cardiff University Welsh Assembly Government Private Sector</p>	
Environmental Science Centre of Excellence	<p>Aberystwyth University leads on this research and development project looking at new land uses and crops and the effect of climate change on agriculture, with special reference to fuel crops. The project is developed in the context of the Wales Biomass Strategy and the new activities at IGER will be central to the development of the scheme.</p> <p>The project will stimulate new employment opportunities in the south Gwynedd area in particular and there is opportunity to add value to the cluster of innovative renewable energy businesses in the Dyfi Valley area.</p> <p>There is opportunity to build on the work of the Menterra Objective 1 scheme that came to an end in Gwynedd in September 2007.</p>	To be confirmed	Aberystwyth University
Employment Sites and	This project will develop employment infrastructure across Gwynedd. There is a		Welsh Assembly

<p>Premises</p> <p>Llyr B Jones (01286) 679 219</p>	<p>shortage of available units and serviced employment land in Gwynedd. There is a waiting list of businesses; the intention is to provide sites to be developed in partnership with the private sector. The sites identified include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pwllheli / Y Ffôr / Rhos-fawr • Cibyn • Porthmadog/Penrhyndeudraeth • Tanygrisiau • Dolgellau • Bala • Tywyn <p>This plan is being prepared in conjunction with the other counties in North West Wales but due to costs it is likely that there will need to prioritise sites further for the application.</p> <p>Consideration is also being given to extending the activity of companies such as Adwy Cyf across North West Wales due to the achievements of this community company in renovating and letting redundant buildings in the slate valleys.</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Conwy Council Denbigh Council Welsh Assembly Government Private Sector</p>	<p>Government (DE&T)</p>
<p>Business Development Package</p> <p>Colin Morris (01286) 679 677</p>	<p>This project establishes a grant and financial support package to SME's and new businesses including, but not limited to growth sectors.</p> <p>It is expected that the projects' outcomes will include increased business turnover, increased economic activity and employment, enterprises adopting equality and diversity strategies and new products and services brought to market. This will increase GVA and bring greater prosperity to local communities.</p> <p>This project will be delivered along side the Single Investment Fund project being developed by the Assembly, working to fill the gaps in its provision. This will include small grants up to £5,000 and support for businesses servicing the local market.</p> <p>It is expected that 1,500 new jobs will be created, 1,500 existing SME's supported with 800 new SME's created across the North West.</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Denbigh Council Welsh Assembly Government Private Sector</p>	<p>Anglesey Council</p>
<p>Waste Scheme</p> <p>Peter Evans (01286) 679 404</p>	<p>This project will support enterprises to reduce waste, promote recycling and treat waste on a sub regional level.</p> <p>There are two schemes under consideration, a large scheme with an incinerator in the</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Conwy Council Denbigh Council</p>	<p>Denbighshire Council/Gwynedd Council</p>

	<p>Flint area and a smaller scale project between Gwynedd, Môn and Conwy.</p> <p>The first project offers obvious opportunities as land has been identified for this kind of development in the Flint area already. It is likely that waste would have to be carried to the site directly for any chance to complete the project within the programmes timetable. This project could cost upwards of £140m.</p> <p>The second project however develops a network of sites to recycle and manage waste in the North West that would enable Gwynedd, Môn and Conwy to improve their recycling and composting performance substantially. It is foreseen that the development of the network would enable the three counties to comply with their allowances for land-filling up to 2020.</p> <p>There are a number of outputs to this project including increased recycling, new jobs, reduction in fly tipping and a greater awareness of recycling through a network of small community recycling points..</p> <p>This project would contribute to the aims of the Strategic Framework – ‘Materials Efficiency’ which refers to reducing landfill and plugging the gaps identified as noted.</p>	<p>Welsh Assembly Government</p>	
<p>Briwet Bridge, Penrhyndeudraeth</p> <p>Esyllt Rhys Jones (01286) 679 513</p>	<p>A project to develop and upgrade strategic infrastructure of the Cardigan Bay coast</p> <p>There is a need to upgrade Briwet Bridge across the River Dwyryd – without substantial investment in this infrastructure there will be a need to close the road and divert traffic through Maentwrog and threaten the future of the Cambrian line to Porthmadog and Pwllheli. Without this link travelling times would increase significantly between the coastal communities of Meirionnydd and the employment and service centres in Dwyfor and Arfon.</p> <p>The project will build a new bridge over the River Dwyryd that would include the Cambrian railway track, a carriageway and a cycle and footpath directly adjacent to the existing structure. The present bridge would then be demolished.</p> <p>This project will improve access to remote communities; improve employment opportunities for residents in the growth centres; improve conditions for businesses to establish and invest in the area (through the development of the Llanbedr site in particular); an important tourist link to the area, especially by maintaining the Cambrian railway.</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Network Rail Welsh Assembly Government</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council</p>

	Network Rail has already committed up to £5m towards the project and the total project cost is likely to be in the region of £12m.		
Conwy Valley Railway and Blaenau Ffestiniog Regeneration Package Dylan Griffiths (01286) 679 611	<p>Through this project the Conwy Valley railway line will be developed and upgraded so that the scheme to dispose of slate waste from Blaenau Ffestiniog can be realised and other freight trains can be accommodated to carry goods more efficiently to the market, such as waste, timber and other building materials.</p> <p>The project is part of a broader strategy to connect Blaenau Ffestiniog and South Meirionnydd with the growth areas of the Spatial Plan on the North Wales coast, to create employment opportunities for the area.</p> <p>A strategic regeneration strategy for Blaenau Ffestiniog has been developed including a package of projects targeting deprivation, establishing new enterprises to create employment including a outdoor activity project by Menter y Moelwyn, a youth enterprise project in the market hall, employment premises for the private sector and an improvement scheme to target the tourists visiting the town annually on the railway.</p> <p>If the whole project is implemented, there is opportunity to create up to 120 new jobs in the area.</p>	Gwynedd Council Blaenau Ymlaen Welsh Assembly Government	To be confirmed
Urban Regeneration Llyr B Jones (01286) 679 219	<p>Following the Programme Monitoring Committee's decision to prioritise 80% of the funding within the Priority and Theme to 44 settlements throughout Wales, the funding available has to some extent been limited to Rhyl, Colwyn Bay, Holyhead, Bangor and Caernarfon in North Wales. The Assembly is now leading an application to include a package of improvements targeting these centres that would build on the Maes project in Caernarfon and the private investment in the Bangor area.</p> <p>Discussions are ongoing on how best to develop a bid for areas which are only eligible for the remaining 20% of funding.</p>	North West Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Denbigh Council Welsh Assembly Government	Welsh Assembly Government (Economy and Transport Department)
Community Regeneration Catrin Thomas (01286) 679 913	<p>A Key Fund will be developed to build the capacity of the third sector to develop enterprise across the North West.</p> <p>The project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish new social enterprises in the area • Develop and promote the growth of the existing social enterprises • Restore and renew services to the local economy by developing enterprises • Give new life to assets by enterprise and service delivery 	Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Conwy Council Denbigh Council Welsh Assembly Government WLGA and the Voluntary Councils	Menter Môn

	<p>The project will give priority to areas of need.</p> <p>Menter Môn is leading on behalf of the partnership in the North West, but the management delivery details are yet to be agreed.</p>		
<p>Skills Development Package</p> <p>Sian Lloyd Roberts (01286) 679 729</p>	<p>Welsh Assembly Government is leading on developing regional bids to develop skills. These include projects to promote modern apprenticeships, skill build for work, promoting vocational skills, learning pathways and workforce development.</p> <p>Package of regional projects have not yet been confirmed, but partnership across the North West, including 14-19 networks, have identified priorities for the area, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotation Centres • E-learning Centres of Excellence • Science Learning Pathways • Community Schools <p>Discussions will continue with the Assembly to identify opportunities to deliver the above elements within regional projects.</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Conwy Council Denbigh Council Welsh Assembly Government</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council</p>
<p>Access to Work Package</p> <p>Catrin Thomas (01286) 679 913</p>	<p>The Assembly is leading on a package of projects in response to the number of economically inactive individuals in North West Wales. This is a multi-agency package of activities to reduce / remove barriers preventing individuals from accessing training or work and building upon the experience gained in the area through the implementation of projects such as Genesis and the ILM programme during the Objective 1 period. The package will include a range of support (e.g. confidence building and basic skills courses, help to prepare for interviews, support to gain a driving license, etc) which can be tailored to individuals' circumstances. The package will also seek to develop links with employers / developers in the County to prepare individuals for the available opportunities. It is anticipated that the package will be implemented in partnership by Local Authorities, Careers Wales, the Welsh Assembly Government, the Department for Work and Pensions and organisations in the third sector and the training/education sector</p>	<p>Gwynedd Council Anglesey Council Conwy Council Denbigh Council Welsh Assembly Government</p>	<p>Welsh Assembly Government (Department for Children, Lifelong Learning and Skills Department)</p>
<p>Tourism Package</p> <p>Sian Pennant Jones (01286) 679 963</p>	<p>Development of a package of activities seeking to develop the value derived from the tourism industry and its contribution to the local economy. Particular emphasis will be placed upon seeking to develop the benefit derived from the area's unique characteristics including our language and culture, Snowdonia and the uplands,</p>	<p>North / Mid Wales Tourism Partnership Gwynedd Council</p>	<p>Anglesey Council</p>

	wildlife, the area's history and heritage and our outstanding coastline. In addition to developing the use and interpretation of our assets the scheme will emphasise the need to integrate the tourism industry with the wider local economy thus maximising the benefit to local residents. It is anticipated that the activities will primarily be supported by means of regional projects currently under development by the Countryside Council for Wales, CADW and Visit Wales.	Anglesey Council Conwy Council Denbigh Council Welsh Assembly Government Private Sector	
Miscellaneous	<p>It is intended that a number of project ideas will be built upon by a number of services in the council. Negotiations are in progress on developing partnerships and cementing the ideas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Schemes • Green Public Services • Coastal improvements • IT Plans • Flood Control 	To be confirmed	To be confirmed

Background Paper 'Skills'

Strategic Discussion 'Skills'

MEETING:	Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group
DATE:	4 April 2008
PURPOSE:	Set the context for the presentations and the discussions that will follow.
RECOMMENDATION:	Note the contents of the report
AUTHOR:	Sioned E. Williams Head of Economy and Regeneration Service

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Members will be aware that the second half of the Steering Group meeting has been designated for a strategic discussion on 'Skills'. The purpose of this paper is to set the context for the presentations and the discussions that will follow.

2. Challenges and Main Skills Issues in Gwynedd

- 2.1 Recent research has showed that there are signs of a widening mismatch between the skills that employers are demanding and what young people are learning at school and college. Meeting the present and future skills needs of the economy is vital, research shows that;
- Over 1/3 of Gwynedd's employers are facing recruitment problems.
 - Over 1/5 of employers are noted that skills gaps do affect their business performance.
 - High rate of economic inactivity within the 20-24 age range.
 - The challenge that faces the County is the demographic change and its effect. The fact that we have an ageing population and high levels of depopulation has an obvious effect on our skills base locally.
 - Learners aged 14-19 do not have a full choice of learning opportunities and this leads to a large number of young people and adults not in education, employment or training.
 - Perceived need that we need to prepare young people for the type of opportunities available in the local labour market by establishing the right type of educational and training programmes for the sectors that are likely to grow in the future.
 - There is also a need for a Skills Strategy that sets the main priorities for Skills Development in Gwynedd.

3. Main Projects

- 3.1 In response to the main aims and objectives and also the needs identified by a number of National and Local reports, the following projects were identified as what could respond;

Local

- Gwynedd Vocational Skills Centre 14-16
- Project addressing NEETS for young people between 14-19
- Llwyddo'n Lleol Project – Promoting Entrepreneurship within young people
- Learning Pathways/ to work
- Growth Key Sectors

National

- Skill Build
- Workforce Development Programme – targeting sectors
- Genesis
- YALO
- Strategic Infrastructure

4. Local Structure

- 4.1 Members' attention is drawn to the fact that a number of groups are involved with skills development locally including;

- Gwynedd and Anglesey Strategic Group (Commissioners) – Education, Skills and Training – Members include Directors for LEA, Careers Wales and DCELLS. This group discuss main issues for skills, education and training in Gwynedd and Anglesey including the pathfinder and Skills Strategy.
- Gwynedd and Anglesey Skills Group – Members include Gwynedd & Anglesey Council; Colleges, University, DCELLS, DE&T and local employers. Issues discussed include information regarding local skills gaps in the labour market and how this should be addressed.
- Gwynedd Council's Skills Committee – An internal scrutiny group that include elected members. This group is responsible for scrutinising education, skills and training matters relevant to Gwynedd including the pathfinder and Gwynedd Training.
- 14-19 Learning Network – Group responsible for all issues regarding learning, education and skills for the 14-19 age group. This network also has a many sub-group including employers forum, e-learning forum and NEETS forums.

5. Main Relevant Strategies

- 5.1 Members's attention is drawn to the main National and Local Strategies, these are the basis for the presentations, a brief outline follows;

National Strategies

- **Webb Review: Promise & Performance**

This is an independent review of the Mission and purpose of Further Education in Wales in the context of the Learning Country: Vision into Action. Webb has identified seven primary drivers of change which include:

- Hwl Dysgwr
- Dylanwad cyflogwr
- Sgiliau
- Ansawdd
- Cyllid

This review is currently out for consultation and the closing date for comments are June 2008.

- **Sgiliau that Work for Wales: A Skills and Employment Strategy**

This document consults on a skills and employment strategy to raise the skills levels and increase the economic activity rate in Wales. The Strategy will supersede the Skills and Employment Action Plan 2005 and provides both a response to the Leitch Review of Skills in the UK and a preliminary response to the independent review on the mission and purpose of further education (promise and performance). The emphasis of the strategy is on the role of employers and the development of their businesses by addressing skills development.

Responses to the consultation document are sought by the 29th of April 2008

- **Proposals for A Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2008**

This consultation document presents the Welsh Assembly Government's draft proposals for an Assembly Measure for Learning and Skills. The proposed Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2008 will underpin the Welsh Assembly Government's policy for 14-19 provision.

Local Strategies

- **Gwynedd and Anglesey Skills Strategy**

Gwynedd & Anglesey local authorities on behalf of the Gwynedd & Anglesey Education, Training and Skills Group identified the need to prepare a Skills Strategy that would inform and give a strategic steer to the work of many groups locally such as the 14-19 Learning Network, and will identify key projects and interventions that should be undertaken locally, and identify key growth sectors.

5.2 The discussions in the breakout groups will be a part of the preparation process, and an opportunity for Partnership members to have input into the process.

6. Recommendation

6.1 To be used as context for the strategic discussion on 'Skills'