



## MID WALES GROWTH DEAL

Guidelines for Procurement by Project Sponsors

[www.growingmid.wales](http://www.growingmid.wales)

## Background

Growing Mid Wales is a regional partnership which seeks to represent the economic interests and priorities for improvements across the local authority areas of Ceredigion and Powys.

The Partnership has secured funding from both UK and Welsh governments to provide a Mid Wales Growth Deal – a long-term investment providing capital funding to support regionally significant economic infrastructure that drives private sector investment and stimulates growth.

Any award of funding from the Mid Wales Growth Deal is made from public money and therefore, public procurement rules, as specified by the Growing Mid Wales Partnership, must be followed as a condition of funding.

If beneficiary organisations have their own policies and procedures, then these must adhere to or be adapted to comply with those of Growing Mid Wales – for the purposes of the Growth Deal funded project.

## Expectations

The purpose of the commercial dimension of the business case is to demonstrate that the preferred option will result in a viable procurement and a well-structured Deal between the public sector and its service providers.

Demonstrating a viable procurement requires an understanding of the marketplace, knowledge of what is realistically achievable by the supply side and research into procurement routes that will deliver best value to both parties.

There are some underpinning principles to your procurement approach that project sponsors should apply:

**Support Mid Wales\* Businesses** – where possible we would like to see Mid Wales businesses compete for and win contracts, whilst maintaining compliance with procurement rules.

**Creating Opportunities for Employment and Jobs in Mid Wales\*** – where possible even if not using Mid Wales businesses we would like to see people who live in Mid Wales employed on contracts. Contracts awarded to businesses in Mid Wales would be expected to employ people who live in Mid Wales by preference.

**Mitigating the Impact of Climate Change and Reducing Carbon Emissions** – as part of the Welsh Government's Net Zero Wales Policy the Mid Wales Growth Deal is specifically tasked with addressing climate change objectives, including decarbonisation. Procurement activity must be aligned with this strategy.

**Follow the Wales Public Procurement Statement Principles** including embedding the Well-being of Future Generations Act into all activities – see [Wales Procurement Policy Statement \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales) for the ten principles.

## Procurement Principles applied

The Accountable Body for the MWGD is Ceredigion County Council, although Powys County Council has been designated the lead authority on Commercial and Procurement matters. For the sake of clarity, any direct procurement activity undertaken under the programme will be in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules of the specific authority undertaking the procurement, e.g. either Ceredigion County Council or Powys County Council.

In the event a Project Sponsor needs to undertake procurement activity under their specific project then that activity will be undertaken in accordance with the principles of the guidance herein.

These principles are aligned with Ceredigion County Council's Contract Procedure Rules – Document G of the Constitution. [ceredigion-county-council-constitution.pdf](#)

## Assessment Process

For each project, we expect procurement strategies to be outlined at the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) stage and developed further at the Outline Business Case (OBC) and Full Business Case (FBC) stages. The Sponsor's procurement strategy will be assessed as part of these stages.

Project Sponsors may already have extensive procurement policies and procedures in place that may have commonality with what's expected. We will not be assessing Project Sponsor organisation's existing policies but the proposed procurement strategy for the specific project. To achieve this, you might have to make relatively minor amendments to existing policies/procedures through to completely rewriting or writing policies/procedures. We encourage Project Sponsors to engage and work with us to ensure compliance.

Business Cases will be assessed on the following questions:

- ***Has the procurement strategy been considered?***
- ***Is it appropriate?***
- ***Does the strategy align to Mid Wales procurement strategy?***
- ***Does the Commercial case identify the procurement approach, and ensure alignment with legislation (Public Contracts Regulation and Subsidy Control)?***
- ***Has any consideration been given to the capacity of the supply side to deliver the required services?***
- ***Does the procurement strategy consider climate change targets and wider Social Value Aims?***
- ***Does the procurement strategy set out clear contract management activities to ensure benefits realisation including social value benefits.***

## Post Approval

Should the project proposal be approved for Growth Deal funding, then the monitoring process will be inclusive of ensuring the approved procurement strategy is being implemented in practice. Failure to comply could lead to withdrawal or clawback of funding.

## Applicable Grow Mid Wales Thresholds

- Contracts up to 4,999 – sufficient number of quotations to demonstrate best value.
- £5,000-£24,999 - minimum of 4 quotations to be sought and at least 2 received.
- £25,000-£99,999 - minimum of 5 quotations to be sought and at least 3 received.
- £100,000 and above - A minimum of 5 formal tenders invited through an open call for competition and at least 3 received..

## Further Information

For further information contact the Portfolio Management Office:  
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