

A Clean Energy Investment Prospectus for Wales

How investors can help shape clean energy
infrastructure and Wales's next chapter.

Foreword



Across our two organisations, we bring more than twenty years of experience helping companies deliver sustainable change. That experience shows that real progress only happens when nations, organisations and people match ambition with clarity, consistency and long-term commitment.

Wales is doing exactly that.

Wales' history shows a nation willing to reshape its future, from its industrial heritage to its early adoption of wellbeing-led governance. The nation is now preparing for another decisive period, bringing prosperity, purpose, resilience, and environmental responsibility into a single direction of travel, underpinned by Wales's groundbreaking *Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015*.

This prospectus sets out an ambitious but achievable route toward that shared direction. It offers a rare opportunity for investors to work with a devolved nation within the United Kingdom, whose legislation, skills base, and industrial capability all support a **cleaner, greener, and more productive economy**. Wales provides opportunities to invest in low carbon energy production (e.g. hydrogen, tidal energy) artificial intelligence, advanced manufacturing, and other sectors that together form a strong platform for long-term value creation.

Wales stands out because it draws on deep manufacturing and engineering heritage, growing digital capability, and strong environmental science expertise, all supported by universities and a government that takes skills development seriously.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ensures that every investment contributes to social, environmental, and economic resilience. Its goals of a *Prosperous Wales, a Resilient Wales, and a Globally Responsible Wales* give investors a stable framework shaped by purpose as well as practicality.

This Prospectus invites investors to help shape Wales's next chapter by pairing financial return with measurable social and environmental benefit. We believe Wales is well-positioned to lead the transition to net zero, and we invite you to join us in delivering responsible economic prosperity for its people and businesses.

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Georgina Sell
Acre Resources



A handwritten signature in black ink.

Ben Burggraaf
Net Zero Industry Wales



This document is also available in Welsh
Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

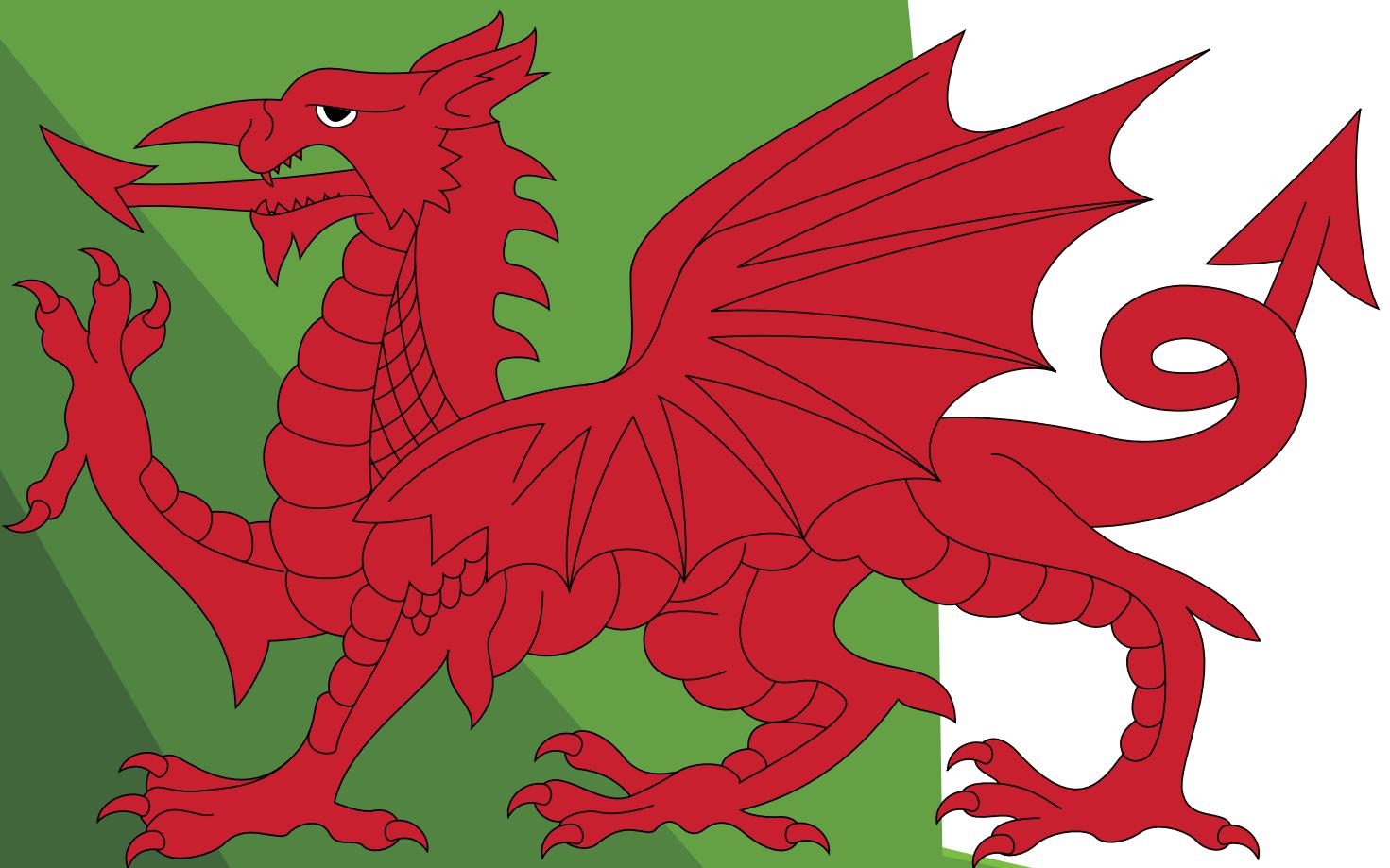
acre.com/wales-prospectus-cymru

Acre and Net Zero Industry Wales would like to **thank the contributors** that have helped shape our Clean Energy Investment Prospectus:



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Executive Summary

What comes to mind when you think of Wales?

A forward-thinking nation built on a foundation of industrial excellence? A nation powered by innovation? A nation with future prosperity built into its legislative DNA? If not, then you should take a closer look. In the last year, **Wales has attracted £4.6bn of global inward investment and secured 65 Foreign Direct Investment projects** – with significant growth in AI, clean energy, and semiconductors.¹

Today, Wales offers investors a unique combination of:

- Near-abundant **natural resources for clean energy** (wind and tidal, as well as a maturing hydrogen infrastructure)
- **A supportive and aligned ecosystem** of devolved and public bodies alongside a thriving industrial cluster in South Wales
- **A longstanding industrial heritage** and heavy industry, which is integrated within local communities and provides huge opportunities via decarbonisation projects whilst having the benefit of an existing footprint and base of operations here in Wales
- **World-class infrastructure, a skilled workforce, and targeted tax incentives** via its Freeports

Underpinning Wales's economic vision is the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** — world-first legislation that makes sustainable development a legal requirement for all public bodies. The Act's seven Well-being Goals form a framework for policy, infrastructure, and investment which aims to ensure long-term stability for partners who are part of Wales' development.

This Prospectus aims to provide:

- **Awareness** of the energy infrastructure landscape, including a (non-exhaustive) list of investible projects
- **The existing support network** that can unlock and expedite investment opportunities and pathways
- **Long-term confidence** around policy stability and continuity
- **Evidence of purpose-driven investment**, aligning financial returns with measurable social and environmental outcomes

We look forward to welcoming you to Wales.

Current Capital Investment Opportunities in Wales

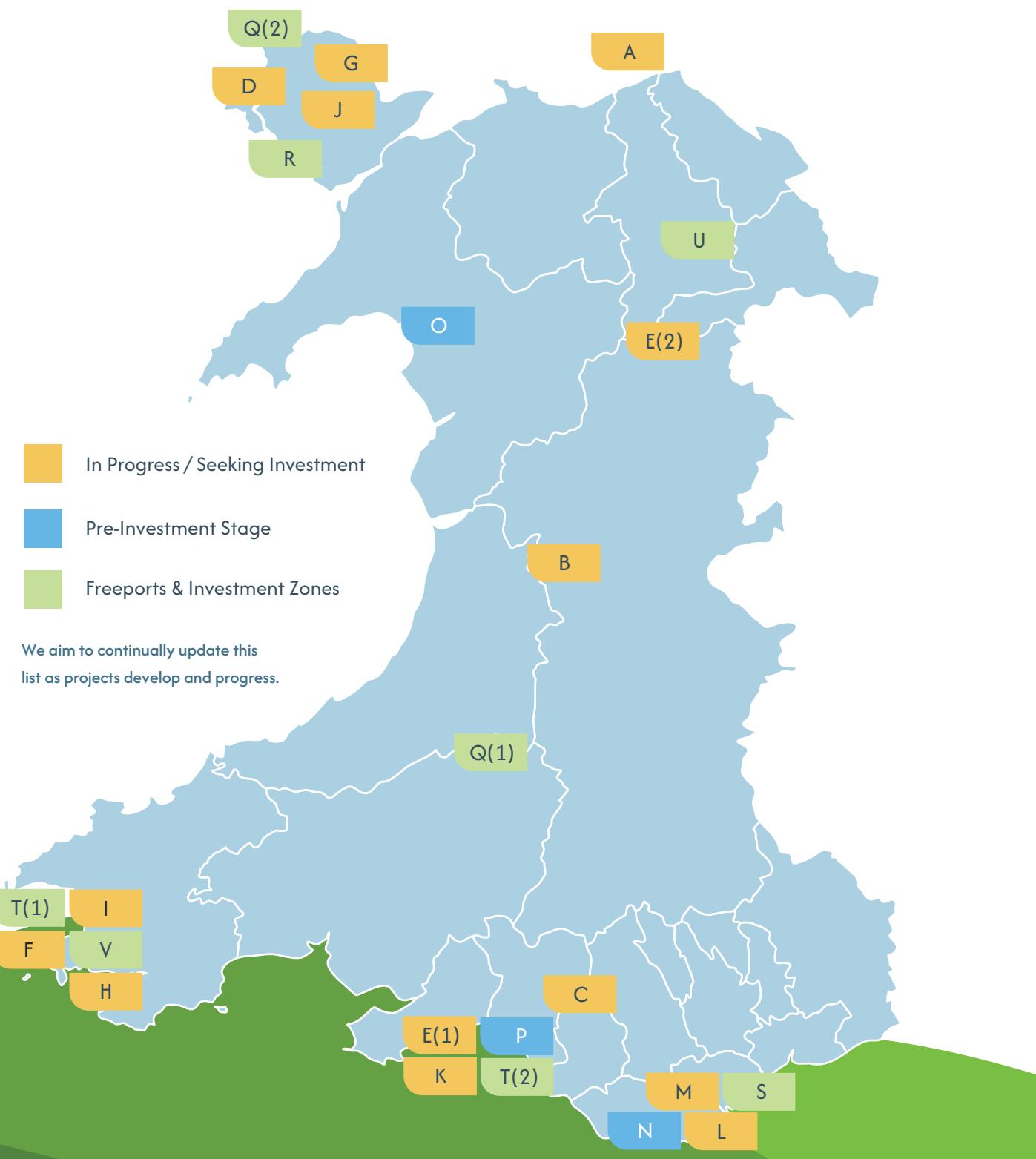
Wales at a glance

Population of Wales: 3.18 million

GVA (expected): £9 billion over the next 10 years from renewables and decarbonisation projects ²

Key sectors: CCUS, hydrogen, electrification, onshore/offshore wind, solar, tidal

Timeline for completion: Mid-2030s onwards



In Progress / Seeking Investment

These projects are open to investment support or creating opportunity for associated investment:

A

Awel y Mor - North Wales

Offshore Wind

Planned offshore wind installation located approximately 10.5km off the north Wales coast in the Irish Sea, with a maximum total area of **78km²**. The project is now fully consented, having received its Development Consent Order and necessary marine licenses in September and November 2023 respectively.

Focus: Offshore wind

Indicative investment value: Circa **£2bn**, subject to route to market

B

Bute Energy Onshore Wind

Portfolio

Currently 14 active onshore wind projects across Wales totaling including Twyn Hywel Energy Park (estimated 92.4MW) and Moel Chwa Energy Park (estimated **79.2MW**), with grid connections provided by Independent Distribution Network Operators (IDNO) Green Gen Cymru.

Connectivity: IDNO, Green Gen Cymru, to provide dedicated grid infrastructure.

Indicative investment value: Over **£600m** already committed with the potential for billions of investment up to 2030.

C

Global Centre of Rail Excellence (GCRe) - Neath Port Talbot

UK's first integrated rail innovation and testing facility.

Focus: transport infrastructure

Indicative investment value: **£150–£200m**.

Estimated **£15** for every **£1** invested.

D

Holyhead Hydrogen Hub

Partnership between Menter Môn, EDF Hynamics and the Morlais tidal energy scheme. Land and grid connection already secured.

Focus: hydrogen, tidal energy.

Indicative investment value: **£14m** capital investment across the Corporate Joint Committee (Ambition North Wales), DESNZ, Welsh Government and EDF Hynamics.

Seeking **£2.5bn** in equity.

E(1)

HyLine Cymru

A proposal to build a new 130km hydrogen pipeline across South Wales from Pembroke to Port Talbot. This pipeline will help unlock at least 4.5GW of offshore wind in the Celtic Sea by providing a route to market for clean energy producers, whilst transporting a homegrown low-carbon energy source to hard-to-decarbonise customers.

Focus: hydrogen, CCS.

Indicative investment value: **£2bn+ GVA (Aggregate)**

E(2)

HyLine Gogledd

Proposal to build a new 32km pipeline through North Wales from Deeside to Wrexham. This pipeline will allow local industries on a path to net zero to access hydrogen, at scale, to decarbonise their processes.

Focus: hydrogen, CCS.

Indicative investment value: **£2bn+ GVA (Aggregate)**

F

Milford Haven CO2 Project

A partnership between RWE and Dragon LNG, supported by Shell and Acorn, to develop carbon capture transport and storage capability and a critical CO2 shipping enabler that would act as a volume risk mitigator for all UK stores. Part of the Pembroke Net Zero Centre, which is also focusing on hydrogen combustion, battery storage and green hydrogen projects.

Focus: CCS

Indicative investment value: circa **£2bn**, subject to dispatchable power agreement

G

Morlais Tidal Stream Energy Project

Currently the largest consented project of its kind in the world, **240MW** consented with tidal developers.

Development scheduled to commence 2026-27.

Focus: tidal energy, R&D

Indicative investment value: TBC, all developers currently seeking funding.

H

Pembroke Net Zero Centre (PNZC) | Pembroke Power Station

Combined-cycle gas turbine (CCGT) station with planned carbon capture project, green hydrogen facility, and battery storage.

Focus: Carbon capture and storage, green hydrogen, battery storage.

Connectivity: Planned use of non-pipeline transport, in partnership with Acorn Cluster (Scotland).

Indicative investment value: **£41-68m** GVA per year (during construction); **£28m** GVA per year (during operation).

I

Pembroke Port Renewables Terminal

Pembroke Port, operated by the Port of Milford Haven—the UK's largest energy port and Wales' biggest port—is a designated tax site within the Celtic Freeport. Strategically located less than 45 km from the Celtic Sea Floating Offshore Wind opportunity, it offers highly sheltered, deep-water port facilities ideal for the deployment, operations and maintenance (O&M) of large-scale marine renewable energy projects.

Focus: marine renewables

Indicative Investment Value: **£500m** to create a GW-scale offshore wind deployment and O&M base

J

Wylfa Nuclear Power Station – Anglesey

Small Modular Reactor (SMR) development on former nuclear site, backed by Rolls Royce.

Focus: nuclear, AI growth zone

Indicative investment value: **£2.5 bn** invested (UK Government)

²Wales Clean Growth Map reveals £9 billion clean energy and industrial decarbonisation opportunity for Welsh regions – NZIW

³Severn-Estuary-Commission-Report-1.pdf

⁴Gross Development Value (GDV) is a financial metric used to estimate the total value of a property development project once it is fully completed and ready for sale, lease, or occupancy.

K

Port of Swansea

The Port of Swansea provides established infrastructure for renewable energy projects, including onshore wind, storage and transport. Located five nautical miles apart, Swansea complements Port Talbot's floating offshore wind capabilities, offering opportunities for the supply chain to co-locate.

Focus: Onshore wind, renewables, supply chain.

Indicative investment value: not in public domain

L

Barry Clean Growth Hub

The Barry Clean Growth Hub offers more than 100 acres of development land designed for businesses driving the transition to a low carbon economy. The site provides a flexible base for hydrogen production, handling and distribution, alongside wider clean energy technologies.

Focus: hydrogen, renewables, battery storage, low-carbon industries manufacturing

Indicative investment value: not in public domain.

M

Ports of Cardiff & Newport

The Port of Newport is the UK's largest steel handling port and plays a central role in supporting the transition to low carbon steelmaking in Wales. The port's scale and connectivity position supports clean energy supply chains and long term industrial decarbonisation.

The Port of Cardiff provides established multimodal connectivity and flexible facilities for cargo handling, storage and distribution, supporting a broad mix of industries and contributing to low carbon growth.

Focus: tidal energy, R&D

Indicative investment value: TBC, all developers currently seeking funding.

Pre-Investment Stage Projects

These projects are pre-development and seeking initial investment.

N

Aberthaw Clean Energy & Innovation Park – Vale of Glamorgan

Transformation of the former coal-fired station into a clean-energy ecosystem including site of first-of-a-kind commercial demonstration lagoon, as recommended in Severn Estuary tidal commission report.³

Focus: Renewables & Circular Economy, hydrogen hub, eco-industry cluster, biodiversity park.

O

ARTHUR Programme - Trawsfynydd, North Wales

Hybrid nuclear-research and life-sciences campus. High-value R&D and clean-energy employment.

Focus: nuclear, life sciences, jobs and employment.

Indicative investment value: ≈ £450m

P

WBE Nature Positive Data Centre

Proposed data centre in Margam aiming to support biodiversity and utilise a local sustainable forestry-waste biomass energy source.

Focus: AI, biodiversity, biomass, nature-based solutions

Indicative investment value: Currently seeking investors

Freeports and Investment Zones

Wales is home to a number of Freeports and Investment Zones which drive investment and growth.

Q

AI Growth Zones in South + North Wales

AI Growth Zones will be central to the growth of innovation in AI, including data centres, energy provision via SMRs at Wylfa, business and supply chain. Potential for **8,400** new jobs in the area.

Focus: Data centres, energy infrastructure, supply chain.

Connectivity: various options being explored.

Indicative investment value: £100bn projected investment (North Wales); £24.25bn in private investment committed (South Wales)

R

Anglesey Freeport – Holyhead & Menai Corridor

North Wales's gateway to Ireland and the Atlantic, focusing on offshore wind, marine energy, and advanced manufacturing.

Focus: Deep-water port, direct rail links, skills pipeline via Bangor University and Grŵp Llandrillo Menai.

S

Cardiff & Newport Investment Zone

Jointly designated innovation corridor focused on semiconductors, compound materials, cyber, and fintech. Incentives include enhanced capital allowances and R&D tax credits.

Anchor Institutions: Cardiff University Innovation Campus and CSA Catapult (Newport).

Connectivity: Immediate links to London and the North West.

Indicative investment value: Over £1.2bn private investment leveraged since 2020.

T

Celtic Freeport – Milford Haven & Port Talbot

Spanning two deep-water ports, the Celtic Freeport is central to the UK's floating-offshore-wind and hydrogen economy.

11,500 jobs expected. Tax reliefs, customs benefits, and streamlined planning within a net-zero industrial cluster.

Port Talbot port offers the scale and capability required to support floating offshore wind, from component import and marshalling to full assembly, integration and commissioning.

Focus: Green energy manufacturing and delivery, energy and carbon storage,

U

Flintshire & Wrexham Investment Zone

An industrial heartland transitioning toward advanced manufacturing and net-zero supply chains. **10,000** new jobs projected.

Focus: Aerospace, automotive electrification, and hydrogen manufacturing.

V

Marine Energy Test Area (META)

The Marine Energy Test Area (META) is Wales' national test centre for marine renewable energy technologies, operated by Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum CIC. Located within the Milford Haven Waterway, META offers eight pre-consented, fully characterised real-sea sites for testing. It enables rapid, low-risk, and cost-effective testing of wave, tidal and floating offshore wind components, helping to de-risk innovation and accelerate technology development.

Focus: Marine/Tidal

Indicative investment value: Since 2021 META has delivered 14 deployments, attracting >£10m of R&D spend to Wales.

Strategic Vision

Our vision is clear: to create a prosperous, low carbon, and globally connected economy that delivers value for investors while improving lives and protecting the planet.

This vision is guided by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 — landmark legislation that makes Wales the first nation in the world legally required to consider the long-term impact of decisions on future generations. The Act places a duty on all public bodies to work toward seven national Well-being Goals:

- **A Prosperous Wales**
- **A Resilient Wales**
- **A Healthier Wales**
- **A More Equal Wales**
- **A Wales of Cohesive Communities**
- **A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language**
- **A Globally Responsible Wales.**

These goals provide an enduring strategic framework that links economic policy, infrastructure, education, health, and climate action. They require every major investment and development decision in Wales to consider its impact on prosperity, equality, and environmental resilience over the long term.

This distinctive legislative foundation differentiates Wales from other UK nations: while others pursue sustainability on its own terms, Wales sees it as part of an investment in our nation's future wellbeing and success.



For investors seeking long-term, stable, and ethical growth environments, this is a decisive advantage. The Welsh Government is looking to back these projects because:

- they meet the goals Wales has set for itself; and
- they will provide commercial advantages and returns for Welsh industry, business, and leaders

What is Devolution?

Core elements of energy and industrial policy sit at UK Government level. The UK Government has produced comprehensive frameworks for investment and development across industry and the IS-8:

- [The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy](#)
- [Clean Energy Jobs Plan](#)
- [Carbon Budget and Growth Delivery Plan](#)

In 1999, Wales (along with Scotland and Northern Ireland) received significant self-governing powers and the Welsh Assembly was created. This gave Wales its own budget for so-called 'devolved' policy areas and created the First Minister of Wales, who would be the foremost politician in the country and leader of the governing party. Further devolutionary powers were passed to Wales through the Government of Wales Act 2006 and the Wales Act 2017.

Currently, policy areas that are devolved to Wales are:

- Health and social care
- Education and training
- Local Government (including planning & consenting)
- Agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- Transport
- Some taxation
- Sports and the arts
- Economic development
- Environment
- Housing
- Energy (partial responsibilities)

All other powers are 'reserved' i.e. they remain under the control of the UK Government.⁵

For this reason, many energy infrastructure projects will contain elements of both UK and Welsh Government policy and engagement.

⁵ <https://senedd.wales/how-we-work/our-role/powers>

Why Invest in Wales?

Wales is a highly investible jurisdiction with a number of advantageous qualities. With abundant natural resources, established industrial capability and a clear pipeline of priority projects, it offers investors both scale and real-world impact alongside commercial returns.

Serious Leadership

With good natural resources, strong policy support, and active public-private partnerships, Wales is on track to become a leader in clean energy, industrial decarbonisation and establish itself as a centre for advanced technology development – with a potential **£9bn** annual GVA from industrial decarbonisation ‘anchor’ projects.

A supportive regulatory environment

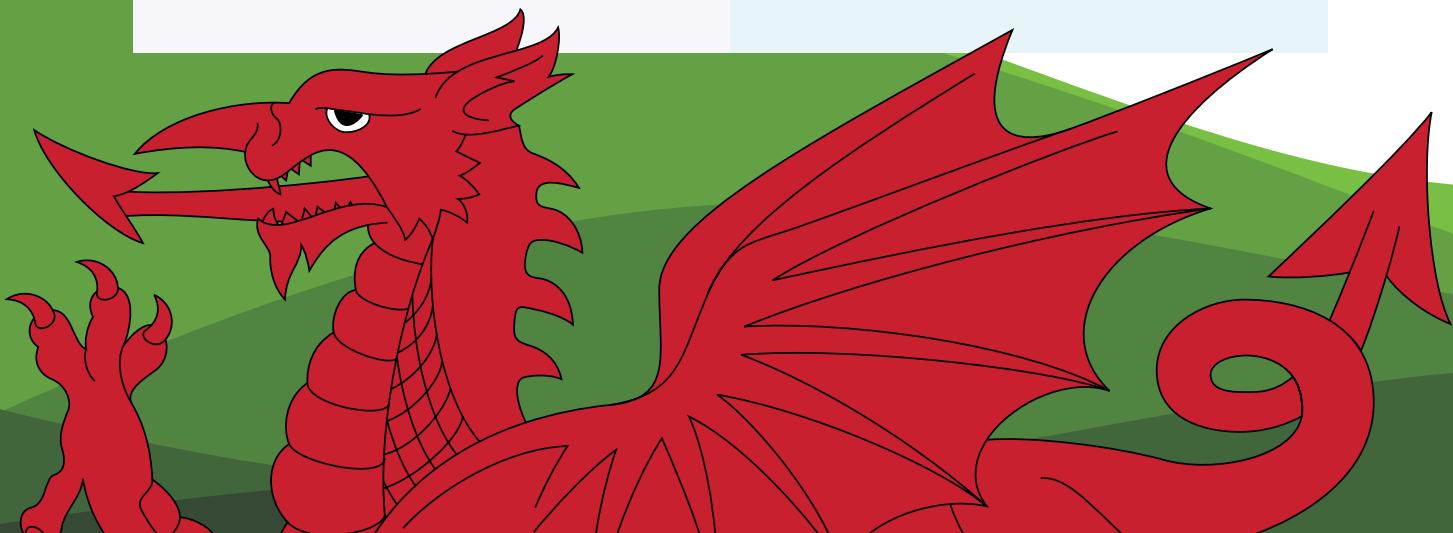
Ofgem is seeking to promote a diverse energy environment and the UK Government’s GB Energy has recently supported £billion investments into new energy infrastructure – including a **£2.5bn** investment into small modular reactors (SMR) in North Wales, backed by Rolls Royce.

A collaborative ecosystem

Government, academia, and industry work closely together by way of the Industrial Clusters and third sector bodies to ensure seamless support for investors — from setup to scaling. This ecosystem provides an attractive environment for clean energy development.

A government-endorsed pipeline

These projects are curated and de-risked for institutional capital, with a collaborative, can-do business culture – demonstrated by a recent investment by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners of **£600m** into Bute Energy’s renewable energy portfolio.



A highly skilled workforce with training incentives for employers

Home to leading universities and research institutions, Wales offers a steady pipeline of talent that is being trained in engineering, digital, and environmental sciences and can pivot towards new opportunities. The Welsh Government is also traditionally more interventionist in terms of education and training support, offering its Flexible Skills Programme (FSP) with funding to cover up to **50%** of accredited training costs. Wales is increasingly becoming a prime destination for international businesses – with **25,000** green jobs in Wales projected by 2030.

Good quality of life

Wales combines economic opportunity with exceptional natural beauty, rich culture, and community — making it an ideal location to live, work, and innovate. Industry jobs in Wales also have a highly competitive average salary comparative to cost of living and housing – and we are just over two hours away from London on the train.

Clear planning and incentive frameworks

These are supported by UK and Welsh Government, including through the four Industrial Strategy Zones with regards to renewables and CCS, as well as Freeports and Investment Zones to crowd in investment on projects that are of strategic interest to the UK and Wales – with £billions of UK government funding pledged to date.

A prime location for AI and data centre growth

AI and data-centre load growth is accelerating rapidly and will be a major consumer of clean energy in the UK. Wales' combination of renewable resources, emerging hydrogen infrastructure and potential firm power from SMRs positions the nation to host sustainable, next-generation digital infrastructure.

Alignment with net zero and Wales' well-being goals

Wales has committed to deliver socially and environmentally responsible returns alongside growth and infrastructure development within a timeline set out in national and devolved legislation – in alignment with the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.

Wales' Freeports Programme: a joint initiative between the Welsh and UK Governments — is driving large-scale regeneration and investment, projected to attract **£8.4 billion** in investment and create over **11,500** jobs across renewable energy, hydrogen, and advanced manufacturing

Grid enhancements and reform: National regulator Ofgem has recently committed £28 billion of investment to develop and secure the grid, upgrading and expanding capacity to meet growing demands. They have also confirmed a change in the way connections are approved, moving from a first-come-first-served model to a system of prioritisation that aligns with Government and industry objectives.

AI Growth Plan for Wales: The Welsh Government has shown a commitment to harnessing AI as a springboard for economic growth, citing data centres and a sustainable energy base to power AI infrastructure: [AI Cymru: Shaping a Smarter, Fairer, More Prosperous Wales \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#)

Further Links:

- [AI Growth Zones to create thousands of jobs and unlock up to £100 billion in investment, as new site confirmed for North Wales - GOV.UK](#)
- [AI to power national renewal as government announces billions of additional investment and new plans to boost UK businesses, jobs and innovation - GOV.UK](#)

For further information, explore the full range of projects in the [Wales Capital Investment Prospectus](#)

Support for Investors

Wales benefits from a powerful and integrated network of public finance institutions and investment programmes, designed to attract and scale both domestic and international capital. Together, they ensure investors can access the tools, funding and partnerships needed to deliver sustainable growth in line with the UK's transition to net zero.

Financial Support (National & UK Level)



Great British Energy (GBE)

The UK's publicly owned energy company, investing across the energy value chain — from generation to supply chain development. With over £8.3 billion committed this Parliament, GBE supports projects in offshore wind, hydrogen, solar, and community energy. In Wales, this includes renewable clusters in coastal and industrial regions.

Contact: partnerships@gbe.gov.uk



Office for Investment (OFI)

A joint unit of HM Treasury, the Department for Business and Trade (DBT), and Number 10. The OFI sources and secure transformational investment to drive growth, job creation, and increased productivity across the UK. 200 staff and teams on the ground in 25 priority markets.

Contact: [Office for Investment - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-for-investment)



National Wealth Fund (NWF)

The UK's sovereign investment vehicle with £27.8 billion capitalisation, providing equity, debt, and guarantees for capital-intensive projects that meet its investment principles. Priority sectors include clean energy, advanced manufacturing, transport, and digital and technology. Welsh opportunities may include hydrogen, carbon capture, and port logistics upgrades.

Contact: nationalwealthfund.org.uk/contact-us



British Business Bank (BBB)

Supporting scale-ups and innovators with a £4 billion Industrial Strategy Growth Capital programme, leveraging £12 billion private finance. Includes the Investment Fund for Wales, which is a £130 million commitment of new funding for the nation. Focus on venture and growth capital for SMEs in net-zero technologies.

Contact: breakthrough@british-business-bank.co.uk



Development Bank of Wales (Banc)

Established by the Welsh Government to support the economy of Wales by making it easier for businesses to get the finance needed to start up, strengthen and grow. Banc offers flexible business loans ranging from £1k to £10m over terms of up to 15 years.

Contact: <https://developmentbank.wales/contact-us>



UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)

Provides grant funding to early stage startups in the clean tech and innovation space, through its Innovate UK subsidiary. Provides grant funding rounds of up to £25 million for regional business through the Launchpad programme.

Contact: support@iuk.ukri.org



Crown Estate

An independent business sitting between the public and private sectors, acting and investing in the national interest. Over the last decade, the Crown Estate has generated £5 billion for the nation's finances; its £15 billion portfolio includes rural land, the seabed and urban centres.

Contact: <https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/contact-us/managing-agents>

Public-Private Financing Models

UK government partnership models increasingly use blended finance — combining public and private capital to de-risk emerging technologies and crowd in large-scale investment. Examples include:

- **Contracts for Difference (CfD)** for renewable energy – a private law contract where funding is indexed to inflation, ensuring predictability on return on investment. AR7 results were published on 14 January 2026, securing 8.4 GW of new offshore wind capacity. These Contracts for Difference have historically ensured significant and rapid reductions in the cost of offshore wind projects and have helped to secure capacity.
- Targeted **Clean Energy Supply Chain** funding – with £300 million already allocated to offshore wind, and a £544 million Clean Industry Bonus which could leverage up to £9 billion of private investment into sustainable supply chains. This complements £5.8 billion committed by the UK National Wealth Fund for CCUS, hydrogen, ports, gigafactories and green steel.
- **Regulated Asset Base (RAB)** model – being developed for the first-of-a-kind commercial demonstration lagoon in the Severn, taking account of uniquely long lifetime of tidal range schemes (>12 years) which are more comparable to large infrastructure projects rather than to renewable schemes.

This helps to secure CapEx for large infrastructure and clean energy projects, making Wales a favourable jurisdiction to invest within the UK with the support of its national investment framework.

Planning & Consenting

The Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA) is a longstanding Act of Parliament which governs town and country planning and is often referred to when considering planning & consenting applications.

More information: [Town and Country Planning Act 1990](#)

Consenting Bodies

- **Planning Inspectorate (PI)**

Deals with planning appeals, national infrastructure planning applications, examinations of local plans and other planning-related and specialist casework in England.

More information: [Planning Inspectorate - GOV.UK](#)

- **Planning & Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW)**

Manages casework relating to the development and use of land in the public interest. They deal with: planning and enforcement appeals; applications for Developments of National Significance (DNS); Strategic and Local Development Plans (SDPs and LDPs); major infrastructure projects; environmental appeals; compulsory purchase orders; sustainable drainage systems; common land; rights of way; stop and remediation services; and advice and training.

More information: [What we do: Planning and Environment Decisions Wales | GOV.WALES](#)

- **Natural Resources Wales (NRW)**

Established to “pursue sustainable management of natural resources” and “apply the principles of sustainable management of natural resources” as stated in the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. They act as principal adviser to Welsh Government on these matters, and adviser to industry, the wider public, and voluntary sector about issues relating to the environment and its natural resources.

More information: [Natural Resources Wales](#)

- **Local Planning Authorities (LPA)**

Prepare development plans, consider planning applications, and give planning advice at a local level. The local planning authority is usually the local authority i.e. council.

Relevant Documents

- Planning Policy Wales: [Planning Policy Wales - Edition 12](#)

- NRW Commercial Strategy 2021-26: [Natural Resources Wales / Commercial strategy 2021-2026](#)

Infrastructure

- **National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)**

Owns and maintains the high-voltage electricity transmission network in England and Wales.

Takes electricity generated directly from energy sources i.e. wind farms, gas turbines etc. before transferring it to the distribution network.

More information: [National Grid Electricity Transmission | National Grid](#)

- **National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED)**

The regional electricity distribution division of National Grid. Formerly known as Western Power Distribution, it is the UK's largest electricity distribution network and serves nearly 8 million customers including all of South Wales.

More information: [National Grid Electricity Distribution | National Grid](#)

- **SP Energy Networks (SPEN)**

A Distribution and Transmission Network Operator, responsible for the grid network across North Wales as well as Merseyside, Cheshire and North Shropshire.

More information: [About Us - SP Energy Networks](#)

- **National Energy Systems Operator (NESO)**

Created in 2024 to give independent advice on how to plan and run the energy system. NESO pursues a whole-systems approach which aims to produce a nationwide strategy for the UK's energy system, particularly the grid network.

More information: [National Energy System Operator \(NESO\) | National Energy System Operator](#)

- **National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority (NISTA)**

Aims to strengthen the institutional framework for infrastructure strategy and delivery and sits alongside the development of a 10-year infrastructure strategy to set a long-term vision, and the introduction of the Planning and Infrastructure Bill to overcome planning obstacles.

More information: [About us - National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority](#)

Relevant Documents

- NGET RIIO-T3 Business Plan: [Homepage | RIIO-T3](#)

- NESO Strategic Priorities: [Introducing NESO - Our Strategic Priorities](#)

- UK Infrastructure: a 10 Year Strategy : [UK Infrastructure: A 10 Year Strategy - GOV.UK](#)

Potential Challenges for Investors

As with any jurisdiction, there are potential challenges which would need to be met. They are:

- Changes in the political/legislative environment
- Infrastructure and grid capacity
- Supply chain resilience and competition for resources
- Higher energy costs than in other markets
- Planning and consenting
- Skills gap and workforce
- Public engagement and social acceptance

Organisations for Addressing and Mitigating Investment Challenges in Wales

Wales has a number of third sector bodies which have been created and developed to help support and boost the business and investment landscape in Wales. They are:

- **Net Zero Industry Wales (NZIW)**

An independent organisation backed by Welsh Government, providing guidance and support to Welsh industries on their transition to delivering net zero. Working to enhance engagement between industry, SMEs, and the public sector and supporting de-risking of planning and consenting alongside advocating for Wales as a leading clean energy transition hub and a cornerstone of the UK industrial base.

Website: nziw.wales

- **SWITCH**

Switch Net Zero Wales is a collaborative network accelerating Wales' transition to a Net Zero future. Switch is connecting industry with over a decade of Net Zero expertise across Welsh Universities, delivering practical research and innovation solutions, skills for a Net Zero workforce, and collaborative funded activity.

Website: SWITCH - Net Zero Wales

- **Confederation of British Industry (CBI):**

UK-wide network with a dedicated Wales arm, advocating for businesses. Its key policy areas include a modern industrial strategy, reducing business costs, and building strong links with trading partners abroad.

Website: Find out about the CBI | CBI

- **Federation of Small Business (FSB)**

Works with its members, the Welsh Government, elected representatives, councils and many other decision-makers across the country to support small businesses and the self-employed.

Website: FSB Wales | Local Contacts, Events & Business News

- **Welsh Chambers of Commerce**

Promote, connect, support and inform businesses across Wales via events, networking, advocacy, and training:

- Chambers Wales South East, South West, Mid:

[Business Support for SMEs- Chamber of Commerce- Driving trade](#)

- West Cheshire & North Wales Chamber of Commerce:

[West Cheshire & North Wales Chamber of Commerce](#)

- **MakeUK**

National advocacy group for manufacturers; championing growth and innovation. Not-for-profit that pursues campaigning, sector expertise, business services, apprenticeship training and networks to support companies across the UK.

Website: [About us | Make UK](#)

- **CS Connected**

The collective brand for a growing number of advanced semiconductor related activities in Wales, home to a unique community of academic institutions, prototyping facilities and global, high-volume manufacturing capabilities that collaborate across a range of research and innovation programs.

Backed by UK government funding through UKRI.

Website: [CS Connected](#)

- **Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs):**

Regional corporate bodies in Wales established to enhance collaboration between local authorities and improve regional governance. Corporate Joint Committees were introduced in Wales by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. They serve as a mechanism for local authorities to work together on regional issues, promoting strategic planning and economic well-being within their areas.

- Cardiff Capital Region: [Cardiff Capital Region - Re-energising our Region, Reshaping our Future](#)

- Swansea Bay City Deal: [Home | Swansea Bay City Deal](#)

- Growing Mid Wales: [Growing Mid Wales - English - Growing Mid Wales](#)

- Ambition North Wales: [Ambition North Wales | Home](#)

- **Regional Skills Partnerships (RSPs):**

Collaborative initiatives aimed at addressing local and regional skills needs, driving investment in skills development, and supporting economic growth. Regional Skills Partnerships were established to respond to the specific skills requirements of different regions in Wales. They play a crucial role in providing labor market intelligence to the Welsh Government, which helps inform policy development and the allocation of skills funding.

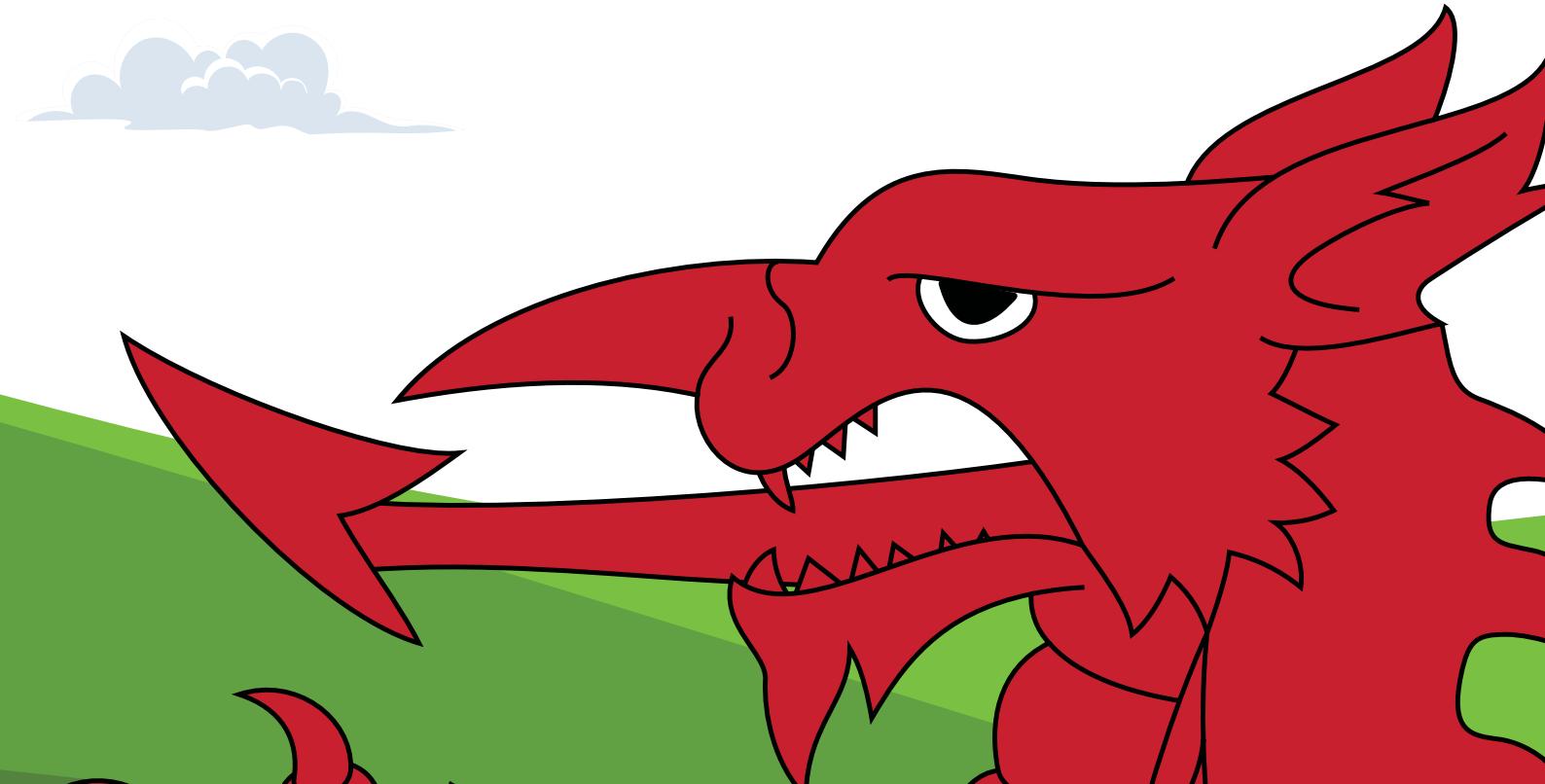
Website: [Regional Skills Partnerships | Business Wales](#)

- **Trade Bodies (e.g. RenewableUK Cymru, CCSA)**

In Wales, there are a significant number of trade associations and professional bodies across various sectors, including the renewables industry, carbon capture and storage, hydrogen, and others advocating for businesses and employers in their sectors.

Welcome to Wales.

Let's shape the future of Clean Energy together.



Acre is a global executive search organisation committed to placing the leaders who will accelerate the transition to net zero. For over two decades, we've helped organisations bridge the gap between sustainability ambition and delivery — identifying senior talent with the vision, capability and influence to decarbonise complex systems and drive meaningful climate action.

By supporting businesses across industry, finance, energy and the built environment, we strengthen the leadership capacity required to build resilient, future-focused teams. We enable organisations to scale low-carbon solutions, improve accountability, and ensure progress is backed by the right expertise.

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Net Zero Industry Wales provides guidance and support to Welsh industries on their transition to delivering net zero. We bridge the gap between industry and regulators — accelerating the delivery of low-carbon projects through co-creation with key planning and permitting partners.

By supporting a growing membership of industry, academia, and public sector organisations, we aim to drive the uptake of low carbon technologies and aid the creation of high value products and well-paid jobs in Wales — making our nation a leading clean energy transition hub and helping it to remain a cornerstone of the UK industrial base.

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