

## **North Wales Economic Ambition Board 2014-20 Proposal Discussion**

Please describe your project idea/s using the form below. This information will help us to map ideas in preparation for the workshop in September and is not part of the application process. Please try to keep this form brief, i.e. two sides of A4.

This form may be shared with other participants of the workshop and within Welsh Government. As it will be stored by WEFO with other project ideas, it will be subject to FOI legislation. If you do not wish us to share the form with attendees or require its destruction after the workshop, please state here.
<b>Working title</b>
<b>DEE – Domestic Energy Efficiency Collaboration across North and Mid Wales</b>
<b>Brief description</b>
The programme is designed to create a sustainable and replenishing loan pot through investment of ERDF capital in the domestic energy efficiency retrofit of 3,000 homes per year for a period of up to five years. This work would be delivered by Flintshire County Council across North and Mid Wales targeting the 250,000 homes in the region. Funding would also support C3W to undertake pragmatic studies and publications on the impact of the changing climate on the existing housing stock in Wales, who in partnership with the Welsh Government, Local Authorities and Housing Associations, will inform and support 1) the development of a recognised market leading housing retrofit supply chain and 2) The empowerment of homeowners and tenants to become resilient communities.
<b>Key delivery partners</b>
Flintshire County Council and other Local Authorities, Housing Associations, Credit Unions, Robert Owen Community Banking Fund, WEFO, Welsh Government and Climate Change Consortium for Wales (C3W)
<b>Geographical area of delivery</b>
North and Mid Wales (Ynys Mon, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Wrexham, Powys and Ceredigion)
<b>Type of activity – (infrastructure, research excellence, graduate start-ups, collaborative clusters...)</b>
Capital programme delivery through replenishing loan fund (carbon reduction measures in domestic buildings) Research excellence through C3W Development of market leading supply chain Targeted recruitment and training Development of resilient communities
<b>Estimated total cost and WEFO funding requirement</b>
£120million total cost broken down as: £100million WEFO contribution £20million plus matchfunding
<b>Timing</b>
2017 to 2021
<b>Existing base of activity (infrastructure, networks, partnerships)</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flintshire led Domestic Energy Efficiency Programme delivering energy efficiency measures in 1,000 homes a year in Flintshire.</li> <li>• Flintshire led Domestic Energy Efficiency low interest loan scheme to support energy efficiency programme and create a revolving fund</li> <li>• To be launched in 2014/15:</li> <li>• Flintshire led collaborative procurement initiative (pan Wales) for energy efficiency measures</li> <li>• Flintshire led scheme management of Welsh Government Arbed Eco Match funding schemes in North and Mid Wales</li> </ul>
<p><b>Economic opportunity/Unique Selling Point</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation of energy efficiency measures to 3,000 homes a year based on needs analysis rather than postcode</li> <li>• Better value for money than existing schemes, i.e. Nest, Arbed and ECO</li> <li>• Better programme management than existing schemes allowing continuity of contract opportunities which will allow businesses to grow in response.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Capital requirements: new/upgraded buildings or equipment needed</b></p>
<p>This programme is based on high volume low cost building retrofit across North and Mid Wales. Capital requirements may include establishment of supply chain/distribution centres in areas that currently do not have access to such but it is likely that these areas will be few in numbers.</p>
<p><b>What will the impact be and who will benefit? (direct impact and legacy, for supply chain, area...)</b></p>
<p>Through the development of a replenishing loan fund the delivery of capital improvements can be sustained for years to come. Whilst there is an immediate impact there is also long term potential for the supply chain to develop as they can develop longer term business plans which current market conditions prevent them from doing.</p>
<p><b>Are there any significant risks or barriers to delivery?</b></p>
<p>The availability of capital is the single biggest barrier to the region's contribution to the delivery of national carbon reduction targets, i.e. 3% year on year in devolved areas from 2011.</p>
<p><b>How will the proposal interact with other initiatives eg Welsh Government policies?</b></p>
<p>It is suggested that this programme could replace existing initiatives in the area, i.e. Arbed and Nest. Very little is known about the potential future impact of climate change on the existing Welsh housing stock and on the Welsh population and the impact this will have on national, regional and local service delivery. This programme could also be used to robustly test existing policies and the feasibility of national strategic targets for fuel poverty and carbon reduction as it represents a much more ambitious and broader programme than has previously been available.</p>