

Climate change and energy security present all areas with major challenges over the coming decades. On Anglesey significant job losses, deprivation and out migration meant there was a pressing need to consider a different approach to economic, social and environmental development.

Against this backdrop the Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC), in collaboration with other key stakeholders, has developed the Energy Island Programme (EIP) with the aim of establishing the Island as a world renowned centre of excellence for producing, demonstrating and servicing low carbon energy. This will be achieved by:

- Establishing new low carbon energy production on the Island (on/off grid)
- Establishing world class facilities which demonstrate safe energy production and safe management processes
- Ensuring local companies and the workforce take advantage of the opportunities afforded by servicing all new build, decommissioning and operation activities

Due to the Island's strong tradition of low carbon energy generation, both nuclear and renewable, the energy sector is of significant importance to the local economy. Aligned with unrivalled potential and desire to capitalise on the future opportunities provided by low carbon energy generation, the Energy Island Programme offers an exceptional opportunity to contribute significantly towards the sustainable diversification and regeneration of the economic future of Anglesey and North Wales.

The high level programme provides a sound base to encourage economic diversification, to manage transition and deliver positive benefits over the long term. By integrating the economic, environmental and skills agendas we will aim to bring about a transformational change in culture and fortune to establish the Island as an exemplar for sustainable living in the Western World.

In order to realise the Energy Island concept there is a need to focus on a limited number of opportunities that can deliver the right mix of ambition, impact and profile. These can play a significant role in a more resilient, diverse and prosperous economic future for Anglesey and North Wales. The key elements of the Programme are:

Short Term: Large and small scale biomass installations and supporting energy crops, energy efficiency measures and micro generation. Initial discussion and negotiation to maximise opportunities from offshore win.

Medium to long term: New build at Wylfa up to 3.2 GW, implementation of tidal project at Skerries, offshore wind base at Holyhead Port and the replanting of existing onshore wind farms.

Long Term: Tidal power expansion and development of the hydrogen economy.

The EIP has major potential to realise economic, social and environmental gains for Anglesey and North Wales economy. There is potential to create a peak of 6000 construction jobs in the area including jobs in the supply chain. In addition the framework could also deliver a further 2500 operational and maintenance jobs on the Island and wider sub-region by 2025.

These new jobs and associated income have the potential to help make a contribution of £2.34 billion to Anglesey and the sub-region economy in the period to 2025. On average the EIP investment could add up to an additional 8.6% of Anglesey's GVA per annum over the period 2010 to 2025.