

# Heads of the Valleys – A Low Carbon Zone

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# Heads of the Valleys Programme

- Over 200 sq miles, 240,000 people
- Spread across 5 Local Authority Boundaries
- 15 year Holistic Regeneration Strategy
- Working across boundaries – tackling Education / Tourism / Health issues





# Areas we are working in:

- Environmental Improvements
  - Built – Towns, WHQS
  - Historic
  - Natural
- Employment – Jobmatch
- Education
- Tourism
- Health
- Perception Changing
- New Energy



# Opportunities – Global and National Green Energy Revolution

- New energy world will be vastly different from old
- Diversity all important
- Need strong private/public partnerships
- Enormous economic opportunities
- Wales £4 or £5 billion over next 5 years
- Severn Barrage – £10 billion plus
- World – \$17 trillion by 2030



# How did this translate into Regeneration

- Strategic Capital Investment Board  
– internal to WAG
- Propositions for projects working across boundaries
- Activity in the HoV has revolved around a number of Microgeneration projects.
- Utilising appropriate organisational structures within the region, in this instance Registered Social Landlords



# Main Objectives:

- Tackle fuel poverty
- Creating a new industry base in the region
- Job creation,
- Skills development
- Development of indigenous business.



# What programmes will we be doing?

- Up to 40,000 energy reduction/microgen housing refurbishments with RSLs
- Deliver exemplar refurbishment projects to showcase innovation



# Penrhiwceiber – 21st Century House



# What programmes will we be doing?

- Innovation park at Ebbw Vale to showcase affordable sustainable housing & innovation



# What will we be doing?

- Welsh Pasivhaus design competition
- Green skills academy
- Centre for R&D

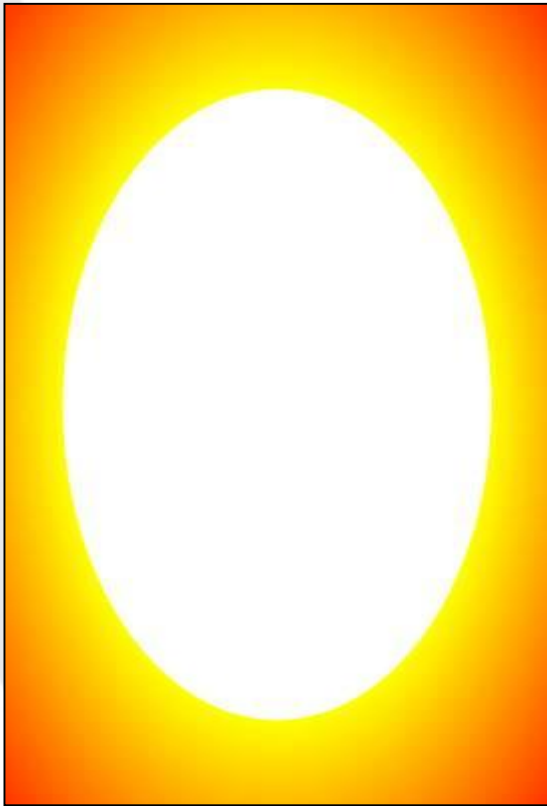


# Potential Outputs 1

- 40,000 Microgeneration units installed – or equivalent
- 65,000 homes assessed for energy efficiency measures
- 39,000 implemented energy reduction measures
- 2000 jobs created
- 1500 people trained to recognised standard



# Potential Outputs 2



- 50 new businesses created
- 2 international producers
- The largest concentration of Microgeneration in EU
- Reduced domestic energy bills of at least £1,720,000
- Reduce emissions of at least 139,200 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>/year



# Activity to date:



- To date an overall investment of £3.25 million
- This has given the following outputs:
  - 139 renewable technologies installed to social housing
  - 6 Solar Heating / Photovoltaic systems installed on Sheltered housing
  - 295 flats benefiting from renewable energy systems
  - Infrastructure works insulation of buildings and external improvements



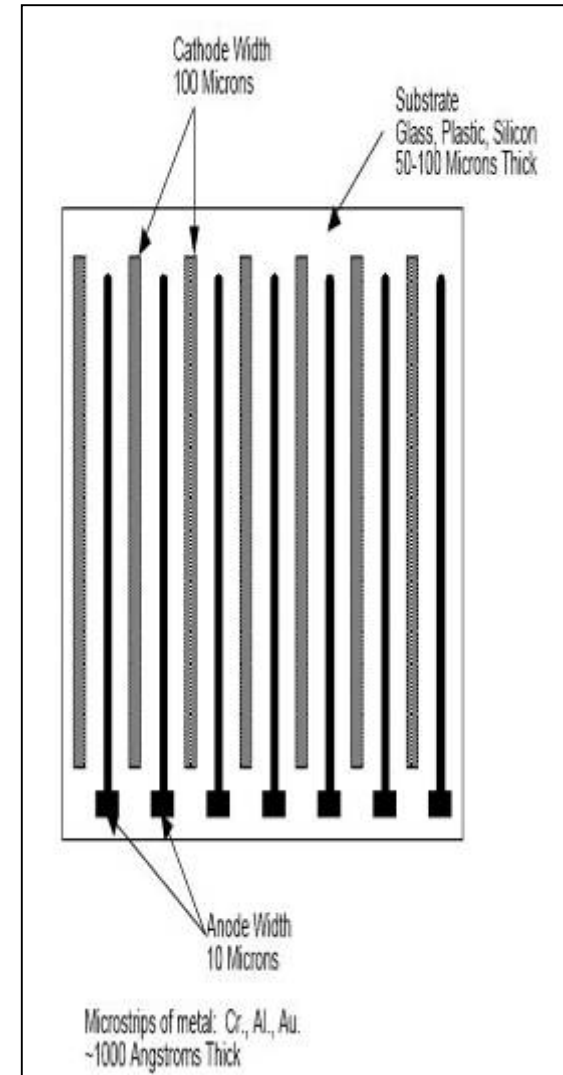
# Wider benefits

- Less money spent on fuel bills means more money available to be spent in the local economy.
- New job opportunities
- Transforming the region and local, national and international perceptions



# Added Value

- This is the key to the whole venture
- For the first time – creating an economy
- Overnight creating the demand
- Selling a real thing – not cheap labour.....



# Where to begin?

- Identify Aberdare to be the first Welsh 'Low Carbon Town'
- Target 1000 properties initially (approximately 60/70% 'off gas')
- Provide Energy Performance checks on each property to advise most suitable energy saving solutions
- Install energy saving measures (Inclusive of Microgeneration)



# Where to begin?



- Hold a ‘Community day’ to launch the scheme in Aberdare and invite all potential tenants, media and politicians to maximise awareness
- Produce an initial report that will highlight:
  - CO2 Savings that have been made
  - Impact on the ‘Fuel Poor’
  - Income enhancement through Benefits checks

# What else.....

- We're also keen to explore other areas for development
- Hydrogen Buses, Low Carbon Energy Production, Educational opportunities
- Perpetual Motion Cars.....



# Parting message....

- There is no doubt this is an ambitious programme
- If we get it right it will transform the region
- We are keen to work with those with expertise



The Heads of the Valleys was at the centre of the world's first energy revolution, which was based on fossil fuels we want to make the area at the forefront of the future energy revolution (renewable energy and low carbon housing).



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# Thank you for your time....

- For further details contact:

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