

AYRSHIRE GROWTH DEAL – MAKING PROGRESS!

November 2020 witnessed the signing of the Ayrshire Growth Deal, a £251.5 million investment agreement between the three Ayrshire Councils, the UK and Scottish Governments. The Deal represents an opportunity to transform communities across Ayrshire. Its people centred approach ensures that the economic growth achieved benefits everyone.

The Deal seeks to build on the particular strengths found in Ayrshire, such as in aerospace, engineering, life sciences, manufacturing and tourism. As a result, investment from the Deal is targeted across these key sectors and at strategic locations, in order to act as a powerful catalyst which stimulates growth and increases prosperity for local people, and beyond.

www.ayrshiregrowthdeal.co.uk

Since signing the deal, significant progress has been made in developing a range of innovative and multifaceted (e.g. in the fields of aerospace, advanced manufacturing, energy, blue economy, tourism) projects throughout the region- despite the backdrop of major economic and political challenges. These challenges include cost pressures that are impacting upon the original scope and deliverability of projects.

The latest Annual Performance Report 2021-2022 (www.ayrshiregrowthdeal.co.uk/ayrshire-growth-deal-publications) provides an update on what has been achieved on each project. Progress includes the following projects delivering benefits to local businesses and communities:

The formal opening of the HALO Enterprise and Innovation Centre in Kilmarnock, has become a focus for green and digital growth through creation of high quality office space.

Through its innovative operations, HALO creates opportunities for SME's and young people to develop their businesses and skills as part of the emerging new digital green economy. In addition, HALO is now a catalyst for the development of the rest of the former 23 acre Johnnie Walker site, which includes a new Ayrshire College campus and sustainable housing. Over the past year, HALO has received several national awards for its success as a catalyst for regeneration and as a high quality workspace. www.halokilmarnock.com

The pan-Ayrshire Community Wealth Building project has formerly been launched offering diverse programmes that seek to support local businesses. At this early stage of the programme, over 500 businesses have been supported generating approx. £150,000 in investment for local business.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xWhUequLbY

Working for Healthy Economy has recently started delivering services across Ayrshire. It's a unique programme that bridges the gap between health issues and economic growth, by providing health support to both unemployed and those in employment and their employers free at source to both individuals and businesses. Around 500 unemployed people have been supported using the service, delivering significant success in reducing issues around anxiety, and depression.

www.ayrshire.salus.co.uk

Most recently, the Ayrshire Growth Deal has played its part in attracting the international satellite manufacturing company Mangata to locate to the Prestwick International Airport site. The investment by Mangata has been made possible through an innovative funding and assistance package from public sector partners, totalling over £83.7 million from Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Government, UK Government and South Ayrshire Council.

As a result, the majority of the new jobs generated will be highly paid, highly skilled technical engineering positions in product development, design, manufacture, and operating the system end-to-end.

www.mangatanetworks.com/news/mangata-networks-announces-new-space-engineering%2C-manufacturing%2C-and-operations-hub-in-prestwick

The coming years will see the Deal continue to deliver on its principal objectives of supporting jobs and leveraging additional private sector funding that provides benefits through inclusive growth.

If you would like to know more about the opportunities the Deal offer then please email the following address - info@ayrshiregrowthdeal.co.uk

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Working together for a successful, fair and inclusive Ayrshire economy