

**MSW**

Mid South West  
Economic Engine

# Overview

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MSW REGION PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

# MID SOUTH WEST

OPPORTUNITY | INVESTMENT | GROWTH

A unique collaboration between **Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Mid Ulster District Council**

The Mid South West Region:

- Accounts for almost half of Northern Ireland's land mass – 75% rural
- Has the largest proportion of the Border Corridor (51%) enjoying a unique natural co-dependency in trade, investment, tourism and labour
- Is strategically located on a North/South/East/West axis
- Has sectoral strengths in advanced manufacturing, engineering, agri-food, health and life sciences, tourism and construction

**1/4**

of NI population

Home to  
**1/3**

of NI businesses

Accounts for more than  
**1/3**

of all production (manufacturing) and construction business in NI

Accounts for  
**1/4**

of NI economy

Accounts for  
**34%**

of NI exports

Contributes  
**£10bn**

of GVA (2020 and doesn't include supply chain contribution)

**40%**

of Northern Ireland's manufacturing GVA

**70%**

more employment in advanced manufacturing compared to the UK average / manufacturing of basic pharmaceutical products is nearly three times larger than the NI average and 15 times the UK average

**90%**

of local jobs taken by residents

**26.2%**  
**(224,000)**

of all NI workplace-based jobs



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OPPORTUNITY | INVESTMENT | GROWTH



## MSW ECONOMIC GROWTH CHALLENGES

- Wages remain below NI average by 9%.
- Real GVA average growth rate is forecast to be 1.5% below the NI average (1.6%)
- MSW's productivity levels are 2% lower than the rest of Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland's productivity level is 19% below the UK average and 40% below the Republic of Ireland average.
- Industrial land deficit
- 2% of private investment in innovative businesses.
- Need sustained Tourism investment to achieve more dispersed attractions across NI
- Underdeveloped road infrastructure and devoid of rail infrastructure.
- 12% of regional Super Output Areas (SOAs) fall within the top 10% most deprived areas of NI.



# MID SOUTH WEST

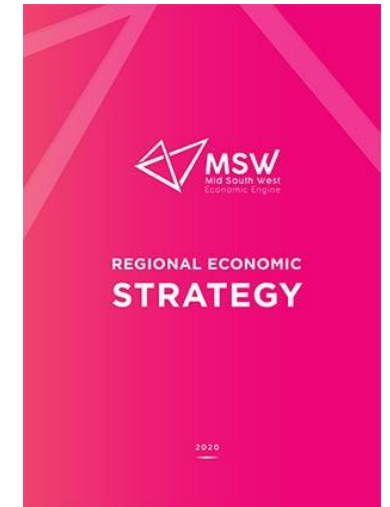
OPPORTUNITY | INVESTMENT | GROWTH



## VISION FOR THE MID SOUTH WEST REGION GROWTH DEAL

‘Helping to deliver on the MSW Regional Economic Strategy’

- Enabling Infrastructure
- Tourism and Regeneration
- Innovating business sector
- Green Growth



**Future-  
proofing the  
skills base**



**Enabling  
Infrastructure**



**Boosting  
innovation and  
digital capacity**



**Building a high-  
performing visitor/  
tourist economy**

## MID SOUTH WEST REGION GROWTH DEAL INVESTMENT PACKAGE

- Northern Ireland Executive and UK Government **£252m**
- Additional Government Funding **£18**
- Mid South West Region Councils (minimum) **£8m+**
  
- Private Sector (potential for significant investment) - to be secured at the next stage.
- Further funding will be committed/sourced to deliver some of the proposed projects in full.
- Total Funding Package when fully secured – **over £335m**

## 12 PROJECTS ACROSS 2 KEY PILLARS

INVESTMENT PILLAR	
(1) BOOSTING INNOVATION & DIGITAL CAPACITY	(2) ENABLING INFRASTRUCTURE, REGENERATION & TOURISM
Robotics, Automation & Packaging Innovation Centre (RAPIC)	<b>A4 Enniskillen Southern Bypass</b>
Agri-Bio innovation Centre (ABiC)	A29 Cookstown Bypass
Green Energy District	Armagh Gaol
Desertcreat Green Innovation Park	<b>Ulster American Folk Park</b>
<b>Green Hydrogen Distribution Network</b>	<b>Cuilcagh Lakelands Landscape Project</b>
<b>Concrete Sustainability Innovation Centre</b>	
<b>Green Innovation Challenge Fund</b>	
Future Proofing the Skills Base	

# PROJECTS

## ENABLING INFRASTRUCTURE

- **A4 Enniskillen Southern Bypass**
- **A29 Cookstown Bypass**

## REGENERATION AND TOURISM

- **Armagh Gaol**
- **Ulster American Folk Park**
- **Cuilcagh Lakelands Landscape Project**



# PROJECTS

## INNOVATION & DIGITAL

### Agri-Food

- **Robotics, Automation & Packaging Innovation Centre (RAPIC)**
- **Agri-Bio innovation Centre (ABiC)**

### Decarbonisation

- **Green Energy District**
- **Desertcreat Green Innovation Park**
- **Green Hydrogen Distribution Network**
- **Concrete Sustainability Centre**
- **Green Innovation Challenge Fund**

# WHATS NEXT

- **Development of Outline Business Cases for Prioritised Projects**
- **Collaboration**
- **New opportunities**