

Welcome...

to our exhibition on emerging proposals for the Convatec Green Manufacturing Hub.

We hope the information presented here is useful to you. Should you have any questions then please feel free to ask any member of the team.

Please give us your feedback at the end of your visit or from the comfort of home.

About Convatec

We are a global medical products and technologies company focused on solutions for the management of chronic conditions.

Our vision

Pioneering trusted medical solutions to improve the lives we touch. Our products and solutions are sold in almost **100 countries**, we employ around **10,000 people** and have nine manufacturing facilities - two of which are in the UK, both in Wales.

In 2022, 840,000 patients were treated with Welsh-manufactured Convatec dressings in the UK, whilst 3.3 million dressings were sold in Wales alone, where we routinely supply to the NHS.

Case Study - Product Advocate

"My story started on a country walk when I was bitten by an insect on my left shin. I quickly became unwell and was hospitalized with cellulitis and blood poisoning.

After treatment for the infection, I was discharged but the wound continued to deteriorate. I was re-admitted to hospital and was being prepared for surgery to carry out a skin graft. In a last-ditch attempt to avoid significant surgery, I persuaded the surgeon to try Convatec's Aquacel Ag Advantage dressing – a dressing I had helped to develop.

The wound improved overnight, and the surgery was postponed and then cancelled as the wound continued to heal."

You can give us your views by:



Completing a paper feedback form, available here today



Emailing us on: rhymneygreenhub@convatec.com



Filling-in an online feedback form available on the project website: www.convatecgroup.com/green-manufacturing-hub-rhymney



Dan Metcalf
Director

Research & Development Engineering

Deeside



Convatec in Wales

Both of our UK manufacturing operations are in Wales and currently we employ more than 800 people across our Rhymney and Deeside sites.

In the face of global uncertainty, we have an opportunity to ensure stability and growth by effectively using the natural resources around us.

By using wind and sun to produce our own green electricity this means we can reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels, which have high associated carbon emissions, and can fluctuate in price significantly.

We are committed to innovation, including recent work with Welsh Government on the first national wound healing centre - a flagship facility for clinical innovation.

Benefits to the community

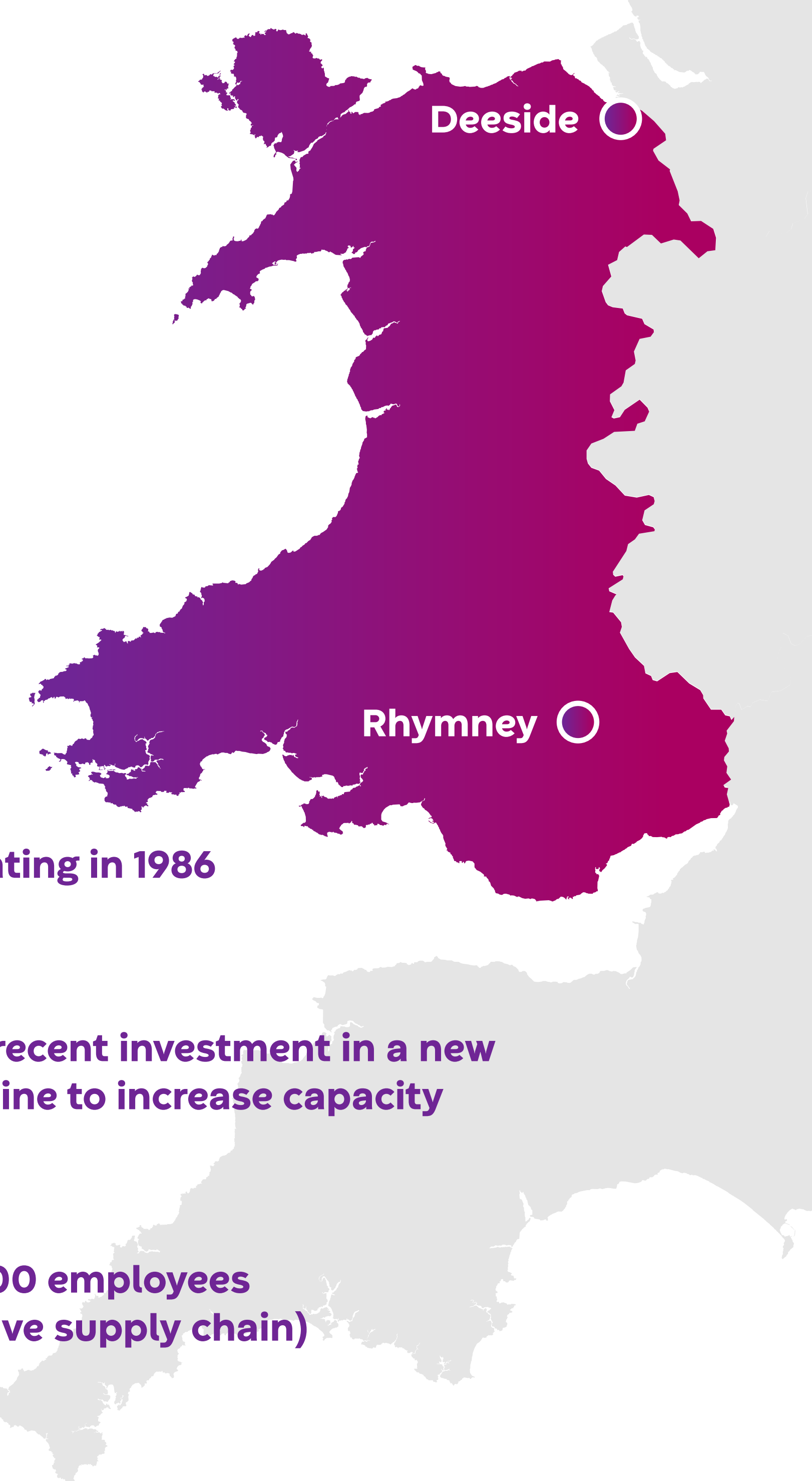
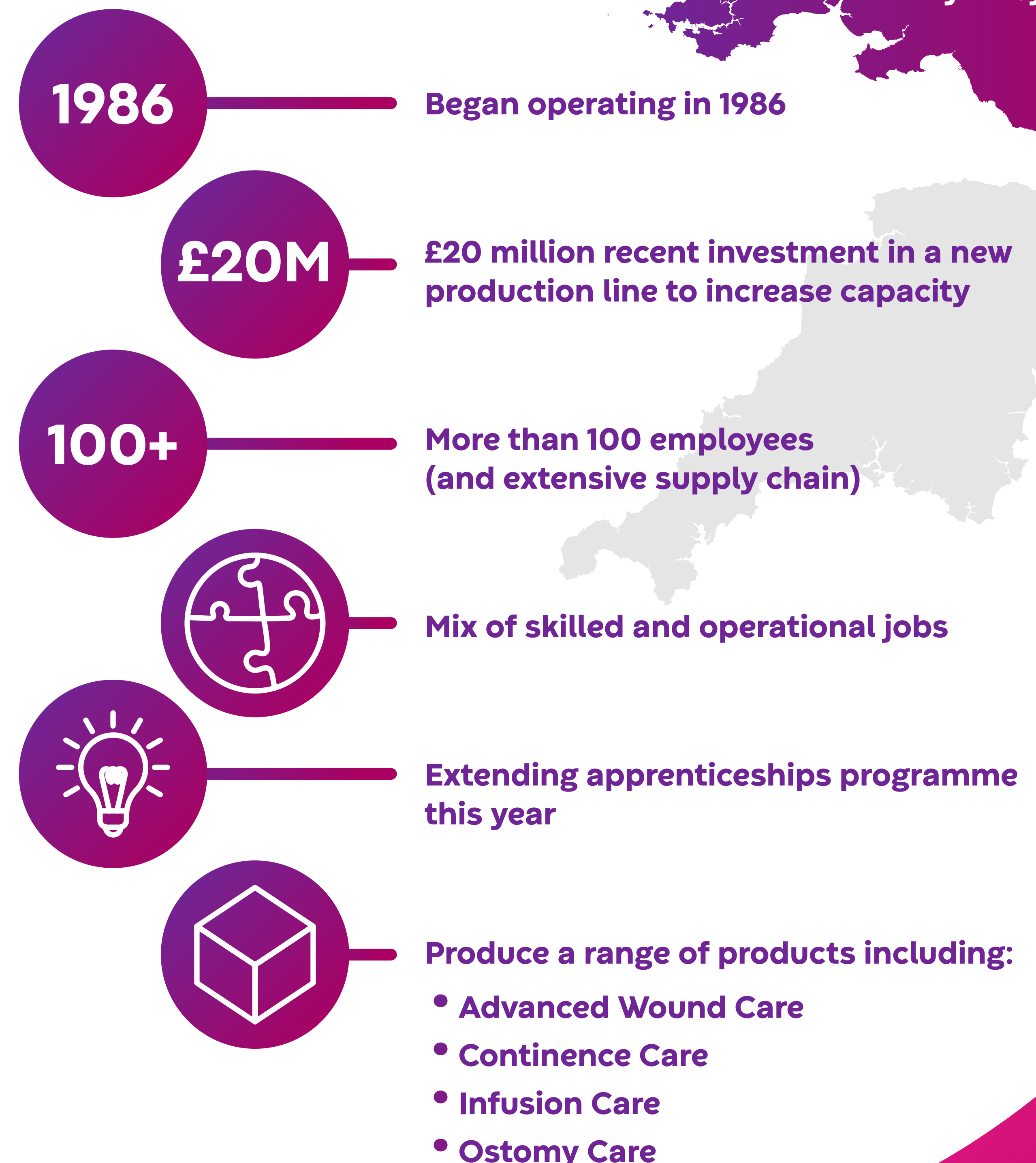
We want this to be a project that brings benefit to the whole Rhymney community.

We are therefore committed to working with the local community to develop a scheme that can deliver meaningful long-term community benefit.

This will include:

- A community fund of around £75,000 per year – **what do you think this should be used for?**
- Surplus green electricity that may be used by other local businesses or community organisations – **what are your ideas and suggestions?**
- Support for a business centered within the local community delivering high quality jobs and long-term prosperity to the Rhymney Valley.

Convatec in Rhymney



Creating our own green energy

Using the wind and sun to power the manufacture of sustainable medical products in Rhymney.

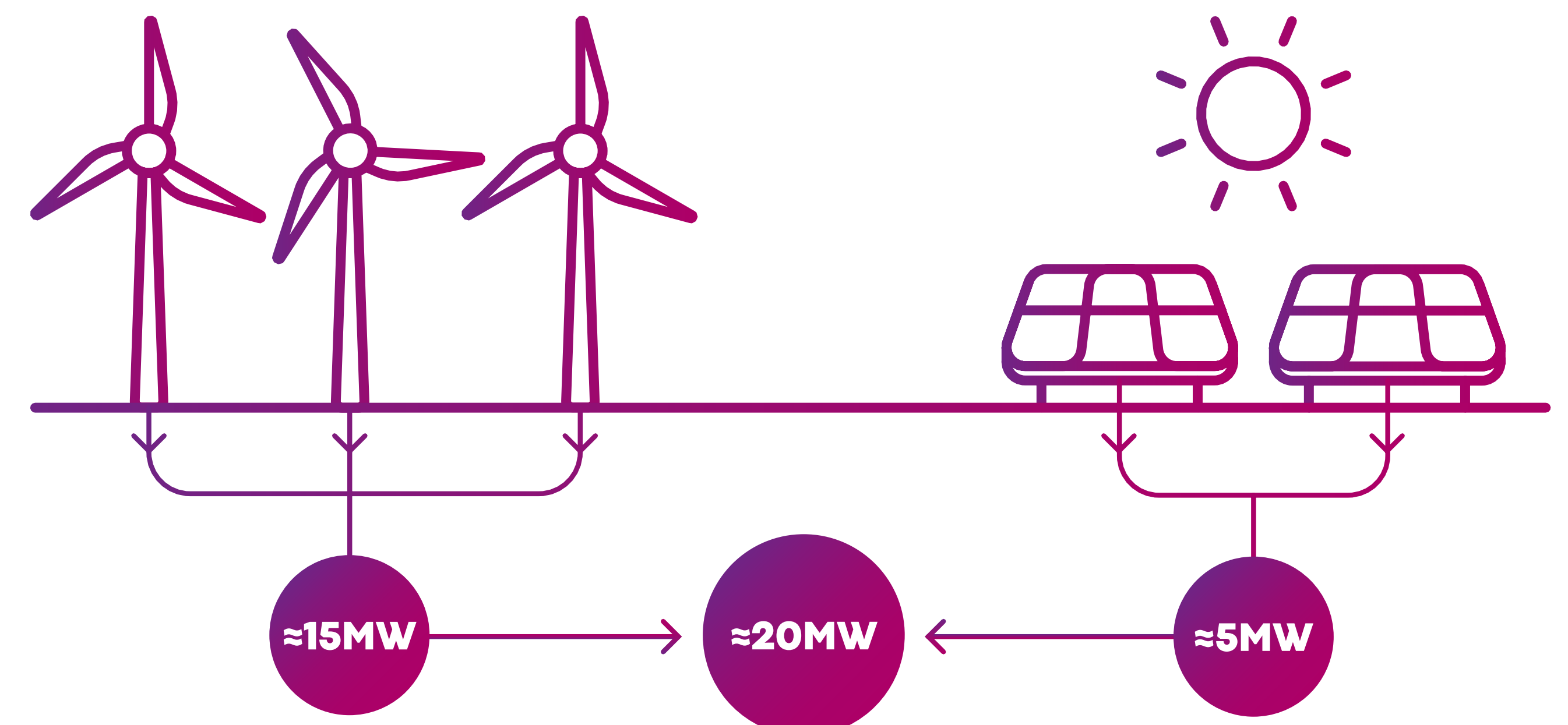
Convatec is committed to playing its part in helping tackle climate change. We want to lead the way in the green industrial revolution in Wales by demonstrating how manufacturing can be decarbonised whilst still supporting growth. By 2045 our aim is to become net zero worldwide. Our manufacturing plants use large amounts of energy, therefore, a key part of our pathway to achieving net zero is the production of our own renewable energy.

In addition, in the face of global uncertainty, we have an opportunity to ensure stability and growth by effectively using the natural resources around us. means we can reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels, which have high associated carbon emissions, and can fluctuate in price significantly.

Whilst decarbonising manufacturing in Wales, this in turn will help us to support long term manufacturing jobs by reducing waste and managing our operating costs carefully.

Our proposals

- Wind turbine and solar PV development to supply renewable energy for Convatec's factory in Rhymney.
- Planned to consist of three wind turbines with a combined capacity of around 15MW, and 5MW of solar PV.
- A combined installed capacity of around 20MW.
- Turbines are a height of up to 150 metres.
- Energy generated is likely to exceed the amount needed to power Convatec's operations, providing a surplus for use in our Deeside factory and potentially local suppliers and consumers.



Legend

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Why this location?

Proximity to factory

The project location is next door to our manufacturing facility in Rhymney to maximise the efficiency of the scheme. This will allow us to send the electricity generated directly from the energy hub to our plant.

Continued agricultural use and diversification of farmland

The land is classed as 'Grade 5 agricultural' and is currently used for grazing. The new proposed use will complement existing farming activity, allowing grazing to continue around the hub and enabling diversification of use by the farmer.

Rhymney past

Rhymney is built around a rich heritage of heavy industry and mining, with the establishment of the Union Ironworks in 1801 using local coking coal, iron ore and limestone. From the mid-19th century, steam coal pits were sunk to the south of the town.

Historic energy application

As there is high grade coal beneath the location, it has formerly been the subject of a planning application to extend existing surface mining activity. The site has never been worked for coal, and therefore land stability is expected to be good. This will continue to be assessed during further development activities.

This proposal will ensure that the coal remains in the ground.

Location future

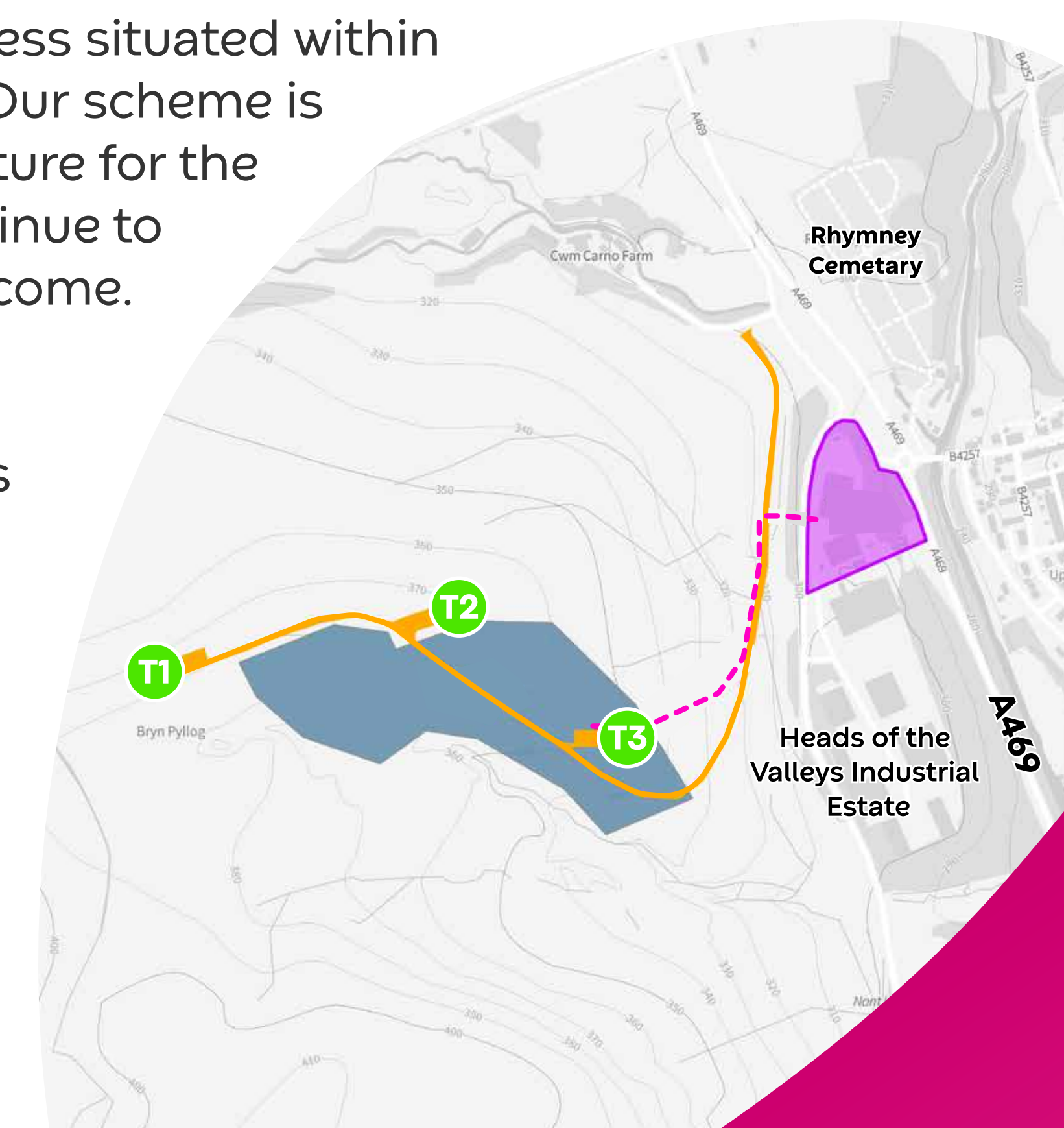
Convatec wants to be part of the delivery of a greener future for the Rhymney Valley, that focuses on the use of renewable energy and innovation to secure local jobs in sustainable manufacturing and technology. The establishment of the Convatec green manufacturing hub is step towards this positive re-industrialisation of the area.

How is this scheme different to other local energy projects?

We are aware that there are a number of other local renewables energy schemes in progress that will need to be considered in relation to our plans and potential cumulative impact. But this project is different to those being brought forward by energy developers.

Convatec is a long-standing local business situated within the heart of the Rhymney community. Our scheme is all about ensuring a long-term green future for the Convatec facility, where we plan to continue to employ many local people for years to come.

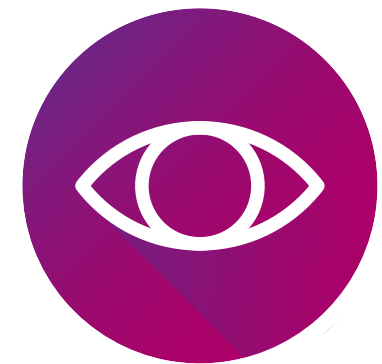
The excess energy produced by the Convatec Green Manufacturing Hub has the potential to offer a real and unique additional benefit for the community of Rhymney and we are eager to identify opportunities for, and build into our plans, a strong community aspect to the project.



Caring for the environment

Caring for our environment will be a key consideration as we develop plans for the Convatec Green Manufacturing Hub.

We will need to undertake a range of environmental studies to ensure we have identified any potential impacts and put in place appropriate mitigation measures.



**Visual
impact**



**Shadow
flicker**



**Transport and
access**



**Ground
conditions**



Heritage



Noise



Ecology

Early studies have already been completed that indicate this is an appropriate site for renewables development, including full consideration of birds and bats. An initial scoping opinion for the Environmental Impact Assessment is being undertaken by Pure Energy Professionals (PEP) and other specialist advisers, reporting to Convatec.

Ecology

Initial field survey work and analysis has been carried out to assess the site for potential impacts on ecology.

No significant ornithology (birds) or ecology (habitats and species) issues have been identified during initial fieldwork surveys carried out to date.

Though activity of some locally noteworthy species have been identified, such as red kite and merlin, these species are typical for the area and both wander widely during their non-breeding season. Red kites nest in mature trees and Merlin are a moorland nesting species, so suitable breeding habitat for both species is not present here.

Further and more detailed habitat surveys are planned to be undertaken alongside detailed design process.

Planning process

Due to the size and nature of the project, it will be considered a Development of National Significance (DNS) by the Welsh Government.

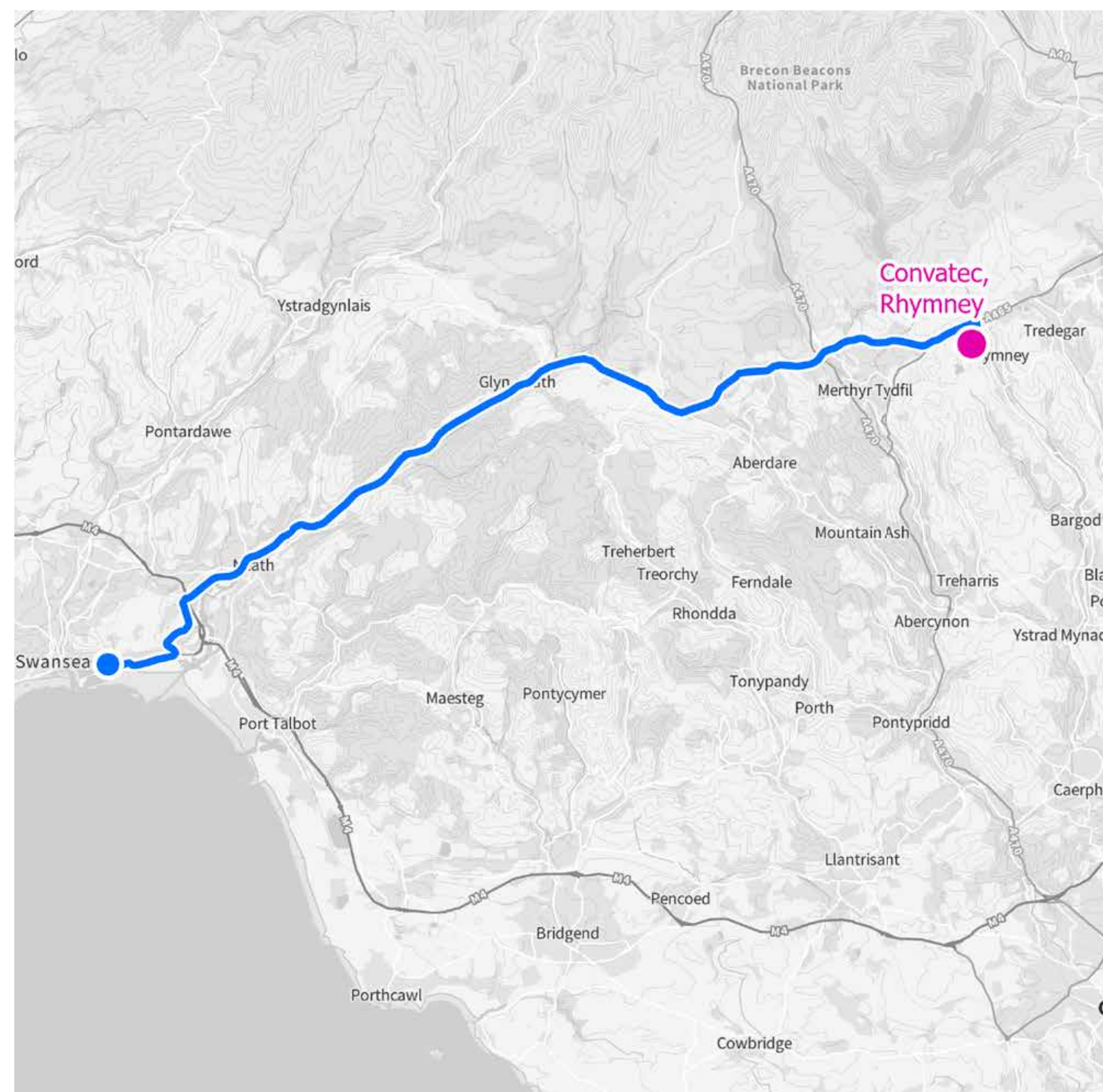
Therefore, the planning application will need to be submitted to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW), that will make recommendations to the Welsh Government about whether to give our plans the go ahead. A decision will then be made by Welsh Ministers.



Managing local impacts

Access and transport

The likely route for the transportation of wind turbines and solar panels will be from the port of Swansea via the A465 and A469 to the project location, entering site close to the Convatec facility at the Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate.



Shadow flicker and Noise

We recognise that along with visual impacts, the potential shadow and noise impacts of wind turbines tend to be the issues of greatest concern to local residents.

Detailed assessment work is being carried out to design the site in such a way that minimises the chance of either of these being an issue for Rhymney, and its surrounding communities.

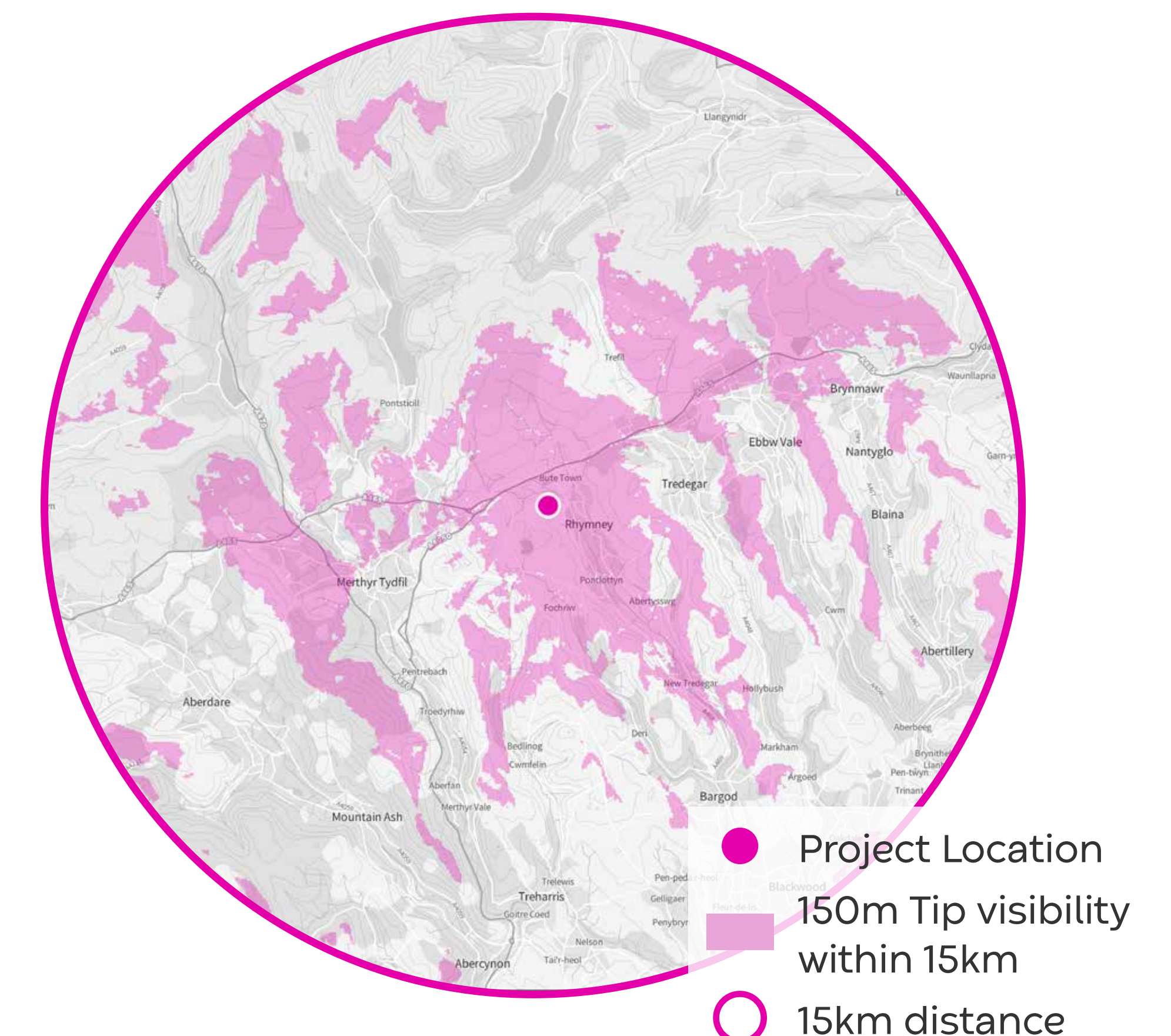
Shadowing is most problematic when a phenomenon known as shadow flicker occurs. This is where blade shadows pass over a small opening, such as a window, and cause a flickering effect inside. Modern turbines can be fitted with a system that monitors and predicts this problem and shuts the turbine down ahead of any impact being experienced if necessary.

Nuisance noise is generally avoided by siting turbines an adequate distance away from local residents. However, in the event of a negative impacts, which can sometimes occur in certain wind directions or wind speeds, turbines can be turned down, or off entirely, to manage this.

Visual impact and landscape

During this early engagement we will collect feedback regarding the proposed position of the turbines and solar panels.

Following a review of the feedback received we will re-assess the plans and produce photomontages of how the project will look from certain viewpoints around the locality. These photomontages will be ready to be shared with the community later in the year, during the statutory consultation.





Case studies – employees in Wales

“I joined as an Operator nearly 5 years ago. I had my first secondment working in the Quality Control lab and second in the CI department, where I was offered a permanent role. Last year I was offered a further opportunity to develop with the role of Validation Engineer.”

Community Benefits

The dual benefits of surplus energy and a Community Benefits Fund makes our project unique, and we are looking for innovative ideas on how these elements could be used for the greater community good in Rhymney.

We are keen to hear your ideas on how the fund of around £75,000 a year could be used. Your experience of other community benefit schemes would also be of value with regards to what you feel works and what doesn't. Please share your thoughts with us here today, or via the feedback form.

Next steps

Following this early engagement, we will review and evaluate the feedback received on the proposed project, the Community Benefit and opportunities identified to use surplus electricity.

This feedback will help shape our proposals moving forward, enabling us to draw up our detailed plans ready to present to the community in a second phase of consultation later in the year.

Contact Us

You can get in touch with the project team by:



01685 701254



rhymneygreenhub@convatec.com



**Freepost GRASSHOPPER CONSULT
(no stamp or further address required)**

Please submit your early engagement comments by 16 July.

These contact details will put you in touch with Grasshopper, who are managing the consultation with the team at Convatec.

**Thank you for your time today.
We look forward to hearing from you.**

Timeline

Early engagement on emerging proposals

DNS application submitted to PEDW

JUNE 2023

JUNE AND JULY 2023

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2023

NOVEMBER 2023

Project goes live

Statutory consultation