

For immediate release

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Welcoming the announcement by Welsh Government of a new approach to attracting business events to Wales, Ian Edwards, Chief Executive of the International Convention Centre Wales at the Celtic Manor Resort (ICC Wales), said:

"I'm delighted that the Welsh Government is backing business events for Wales so significantly. There's real drive, enthusiasm and confidence emerging in the region for hosting events, with ICC Wales at the heart of that ambition. We look forward to our continued partnership with government and congratulate everyone involved in putting Wales front and centre of the global business events stage".

The pan-Wales initiative will include a small dedicated team aiming to attract events aligned with Wales's key sectors and growth regions being targeted for inward investment, FDI and economic development plus academic, scientific or medical excellence. The initiative intends to spread the impact of business events across Wales's economy whilst also benefitting from the momentum provided by ICC Wales at the Celtic Manor Resort.

Opening in 2019, the ICC Wales is located within the grounds of the Celtic Manor Resort in Newport just two minutes from the M4. The new-build 26,000sqm venue will accommodate 5,000 delegates and includes a 4,000sqm pillar-free main hall, a 1,500 seated auditorium, 12 flexible meeting rooms, a double-height glass atrium and a 2,500sqm outdoor plaza for outside events and teambuilding.

The ICC Wales is a joint venture between the owners of the Celtic Manor Resort and Welsh Government and is managed by Celtic Manor's expert leadership team responsible for the successful delivery of the 2014 NATO Summit and the 2010 Ryder Cup.

iccwales.com @ICCWales

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