<u>Over £1.5m investment in Port Talbot</u> <u>landmark to support town centre</u> <u>regeneration</u>

Rebecca Evans, Minister for Housing and Regeneration, announced the funding to create high-spec office space in the listed building, through the Welsh Government's £110m Building for the Future Fund.

Rebecca Evans said:

"Our investment, together with the support from Neath Port Talbot local authority will transform the former Magistrate's Court to create the Terminus. The building will provide modern, flexible office accommodation to attract further economic investment.

"The development will also provide training and employment opportunities to disadvantaged groups by linking with employability projects such as Workways+ and Communities for Work, which are also being backed by EU and Welsh Government funding.

"This part of Port Talbot is benefiting from significant redevelopment and regeneration, with improved transport links thanks to the new integrated transport hub and the development of Harbourside, part of the Port Talbot Enterprise Zone.

"There is a real demand for good quality office space to help local businesses grow and develop and I believe this investment will be a springboard for business success from the town."

Funding for the Terminus development includes around £500,000 from the Welsh Government and £1m of EU funds.

Building for the Future is regenerating town centres and surrounding areas in Wales by refurbishing or redeveloping derelict or under-used land and buildings and bringing them back to life.

The multi-million pound Fund, supported by £38m of EU funding and £16m from the Welsh Government is supporting schemes to drive business growth, create employment and increase footfall in town centres. Schemes supported through Building for the Future are being match funded from a range of public, third and private sector sources.