

## -New Indoor Snow Centre Planned for Swansea

A NEW multi-million leisure resort including Wales' first indoor snow centre could be created in Swansea.

A sports leisure company wants to develop the resort on the site of the former outdoor ski slope at Morfa which closed several years ago.

The new resort would include an indoor snow centre with a ski area, ice rink, health and fitness spa, restaurants and shops.

The resort will use a revolutionary snow-making process, the first of its kind in the world, which recycles and purifies rainwater and turns it into snow flakes which can provide fresh snow for the slope each day.

Multi Sports Resorts LLP, the private-sector partnership behind the plans, also wants to build two hotels and a conference centre to the east side of Nantong Way and develop the nearby Pluck Lake for rowing, canoeing and fishing.

The proposed development could create more than 460 jobs.

If given the go-ahead, the work will be phased over three years with the snow centre included in the first stage.

The eco-friendly resort would use solar panels and a wind turbine for energy generation and recycled rainwater in the snow centre.

The proposals will go before Swansea Council's Cabinet next Thursday (June 7) when councillors will be asked to enter into a development agreement with the company. The partnership has acquired the existing lease for the former outdoor ski slope site and would purchase further land which is currently owned by the Council.

Chris Holley, Swansea Council, Leader, said, "These proposals are very exciting and would have a massive impact on Swansea and its tourism industry.

"The proposed resort would include Wales' first indoor snow centre which would potentially attract visitors from across Wales and the South West of England.

"It would bring a huge economic boost to the whole of Swansea, while further regenerating the Morfa area which in recent years has benefited from the opening of the Liberty Stadium, nearby retail centre and the on-going re-development of the Addis site.

"The Council has been working with the partnership and the site owner for many months. We are now in a position to take the next step which is to outline the basic principles for a legal agreement to take this proposal forward.

"There is still a great deal of work to be done if this proposal is to become a reality, but we will do everything we can to make this work."

Alistair Johns, a partner in Multi Sports Resorts LLP, said, "We are excited about this opportunity in Swansea, which is a wonderful city with so many natural resources.

"We are planning to use world-leading technology and eco-friendly methods to create this resort. The snow centre will be the first of its kind in the world, creating snow flakes which can replenish the slope every day.

"Unlike other indoor ski centres which need very low temperatures, the technology we use will enable skiers to ski in shirt sleeves, while maintaining snow on the slope."

Multi Sports Resorts LLP was formed for this specific project, bringing together Edglade Properties Ltd and Snowmakers UK Ltd. Edglade has been involved in numerous major development schemes in England, while Snowmakers specialises in the design and construction of plant and equipment for snow centres in the UK.