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# £3m road delivered three months ahead of schedule

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**A STRATEGIC road that will benefit business and residents has opened off Fabian Way at a cost of £3 million.**

The second and final stage of Ffordd Amazon has been completed on budget and three months ahead of schedule.

It will form part of the Fabian Way corridor and has been constructed to serve industrial land between online retail giant Amazon and the former Visteon plant.

Neath Port Talbot Council says it will advance its work to develop a location that includes Bay Studios and Swansea University's second campus.

It will open up 35 acres of land for potential development. Future bus services between Neath and Swansea will utilise the route and serve the proposed 4,000 homes and businesses planned as part of the Coed Darcy urban village. The road was funded by the Welsh Government, with more than £1.5 million coming from the European Regional Development Fund along with £1.1 million from Coed Darcy and university campus developers St Modwen.

Neath Port Talbot supported the project by making a compulsory purchase order for land that was previously home to industrial premises, a tinsplate works and railway sidings. Council leader Ali Thomas said: "This is a fantastic example of the partnership working which is needed to meet the economic challenges that face us."

Business Minister Edwina Hart said the new road would open up new investment

and job creation opportunities. Employment sites adjacent to the new road, that were previously landlocked, have been opened up and now have the potential to attract new investment and new jobs, which is good news," she added.

"In addition it supports the ongoing development of Coed Darcy, a new sustainable community with extensive commercial development land that will

create new job opportunities."

St Modwen residential land director Ben Cook described it as a significant improvement for the region and the local economy. "It will improve the local area and enable linkages to be made with the proposed new science and innovation campus, which will be built on our 65-acre site and where we have now agreed terms to develop the £150 million first phase of development with Swansea University," he said.

"This is a major milestone for our Coed Darcy development, where the first properties developed by Persimmon have been launched to market last month with positive response. More than 10,000 residents will eventually benefit from this road connecting the Coed Darcy community with the Swansea Bay region as well as those working at the established business park."



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**VITAL LINK** Neath Port Talbot Council Leader Ali Thomas; Business Minister, Edwina Hart; Neath Port Talbot director of environment John Flower and residential land director for St Modwen in South Wales Ben Cook.

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