

# BIOPHILIC LIVING, SWANSEA CASE STUDY



## CLIENT

Pobl Group  
Dev. Bank of Wales  
Swansea Council  
Welsh Government

## VALUE

£21m

## PROCUREMENT

JCT D&B

## SECTOR

Social Residence

## ROLE

Employers Agent  
Fund Monitor

## DESCRIPTION

Biophilic Living on the Kingsway in Swansea is a pioneering approach to urban living, bringing together affordable homes, workspaces, and a community urban farm in the heart of the city. The project is designed to reconnect residents with nature while fostering social cohesion, wellbeing, and sustainable lifestyles.

Designed by Powell Dobson Architects, the development introduces a first-of-its-kind “living tower” in Swansea. Rising 12 stories, the building features retail and commercial spaces, eight floors of apartments dedicated to social housing, rooftop gardens and greenhouses, and a variety of community spaces. It incorporates innovative technologies, including rainwater harvesting, heat storage using sprinkler tanks, rooftop greenhouses, and advanced heat transfer systems, all aimed at reducing environmental impact and promoting sustainable living.

The vision of Biophilic Living is to enable residents to live closer to nature while fostering a cohesive community. Residents will have the opportunity to help run an urban farm as a social enterprise, producing food for local consumption and sale. Research shows that regular contact with nature improves wellbeing and strengthens social bonds, addressing issues such as social exclusion and loneliness in urban environments.

RPA is proud to support the delivery of this ambitious scheme, representing the main funding partners. The project has been developed through extensive collaboration with local organizations, including Swansea University, the Active Building Centre, Public Health Wales, Swansea Community Farm, and Sero Homes Ltd.

Once completed, Biophilic Living will stand as one of Swansea’s tallest buildings, setting a new benchmark for sustainable, community-focused urban living.