

Glasgow City Region Regional Spatial Planning Sub-committee

Glasgow, 8th December 2025.

Present: Councillor Paul Edlin, East Renfrewshire Council; Councillor Ken Andrew and Councillor Ruairi Kelly, Glasgow City Council; Councillor Tommy McVey and Councillor David Wilson, Inverclyde Council; Councillor David Robb and Councillor Nicky Shevlin, North Lanarkshire Council; Councillor John McNaughtan and Councillor Ben Smith, Renfrewshire Council; Councillor Robert Brown, South Lanarkshire Council and Councillor Lawrence O'Neill, West Dunbartonshire Council.

Apologies: Councillor Alan Moir, East Dunbartonshire Council; Councillor Richard Nelson, South Lanarkshire Council and Councillor Gurpreet Singh Johal, West Dunbartonshire Council.

Attending: D Brand (Clerk); H Claridge and R Nimmo, Glasgow City Region, H Holland, East Dunbartonshire Council, M McGuckin, East Renfrewshire Council, S Taylor, Glasgow City Council, N Mcilvanney, Inverclyde Council, G Laing, North Lanarkshire Council, A Morrison, Renfrewshire Council, F Carlin, South Lanarkshire Council and C Laurenson, West Dunbartonshire Council

Welcome and apologies noted.

1 Members were welcomed to the meeting and apologies noted.

Appointment of Convener and Vice-Convener approved.

2 Donna Brand, Clerk to the Sub-Committee, advised Members of the procedure for the appointment of the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Regional Spatial Planning Sub-Committee.

After consideration, the Sub-Committee appointed Councillor David Wilson as Convener and Councillor David Robb as Vice-Convener.

Glasgow City Region presentation noted.

3 There was heard and noted a presentation by Ross Nimmo, Head of Place, Glasgow City Region, providing an overview of the journey from City Deal from 2013-2022 to City Region from 2022 onwards, advising of the

(1) investment project examples from different member authorities undertaken during the period from 2013-2022;

- (2) visions and missions that the City Region aims to achieve by 2030, which had identified action area priorities and first phase programmes to be undertaken and the progress that had been made on major projects and securement of essential funding; and
- (3) next steps to be taken following the First Minister's announcement of plans in late November 2025 to introduce enabling legislation in the next Parliament to allow Regional partnerships to seek legal status, unlock new powers, and design delivery models tailored to local priorities.

Glasgow City Region Place presentation noted.

4 There was heard a presentation by Ross Nimmo, Head of Place, Glasgow City Region (GCR) providing an overview of the structure of the GCR Place Team, of its purpose, culture, functions and governance, which had been set up to work jointly with all Member Authorities.

After consideration, the committee

- (1) noted the presentation; and
- (2) noted the opportunity to learn from previous regional spatial planning activities.

Regional Spatial Strategy – Position noted etc.

5 There was submitted a report by the Group Manager, Strategic Spatial Planning providing an overview of Regional Spatial Strategies, and outlining the position of Glasgow City Region's (GCR) spatial strategy and initial steps being taken to begin scoping the strategy for the Region,

- (1) advising
 - (a) that Section 5 of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 set out the requirement for local authorities to prepare a Regional Spatial Strategy and that prior to adoption, authorities must have published a draft strategy, a summary of the information used to prepare it and a statement inviting representations;
 - (b) that in 2025 Glasgow City Region's Place Team had taken on the responsibility for leading the development of a new Regional Spatial Strategy, and had worked jointly with the 8 planning authorities;
 - (c) that the Strategy would set out a long-term, vision-led spatial investment framework for the region and was expected to guide future delivery programmes, regional priorities and the next generation of Local Development Plans as well as inform the National Planning Framework 5;

- (d) that the decision to commence work on the Strategy had been taken to ensure its development progressed in parallel with other major national programmes and to allow adoption ahead of work starting on National Planning Framework 5 which was anticipated towards the end of the decade;
 - (e) of the progress the team had made since its establishment in engaging with the chief planners of the 8 local authorities to explore the broad scope and purpose of the Strategy, and also with Scottish Government planning officers to outline the emerging approach to the Strategy and to provide assurance of alignment with any future national guidance which that would enable Glasgow City Region's approach to inform guidance where appropriate; and
 - (f) of the key activities planned over the next 3 months that would lead to the development of a draft Strategy and would detail key steps, consultation requirements and milestones leading to the final adoption; and
- (2) detailing in the appendix to the report, the requirements for a Regional Spatial Strategy as set out in Section 5 of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019.

After consideration, and having heard a presentation by Heather Claridge, Group Manager, Strategic Spatial Planning, the committee noted

- (i) the report, including the legislative context for Regional Spatial Strategies;
- (ii) the initial steps taken by Glasgow City Region to begin scoping its Regional Spatial Strategy; and
- (iii) that further updates would be brought to the sub-committee as the development of the Spatial Strategy progressed.