

Item 1 (b)

11th February 2020



**SCOTTISH CITY REGION DEALS DELIVERY BOARD
ANNUAL CONVERSATION 2019
Glasgow City Region Deal**

Attendees	Date	18 September 2019
Scottish Government (SG) Jon Pickstone (JP), Robert Martin (RM), Morag Watt (MW), Vicky Swann (VS) Yasmin Safder (YS) Scotland Office (SO) Rebecca Hackett (RH) Neil MacLennan (NM) Clare Paterson (CP) UK Government (UKG) Ed Wagstaff (EW), Donald Bogle (DB) Deal Authority Mandy MacDonald (MM), Annemarie O' Donnell (AD), Kevin Rush (KR), Gerry Cornes (GC), Aubrey Fawcett (AF) Lorraine McMillan (LM)	Time	0900-1030
	Location	Glasgow City Chambers
	Chairperson	Jon Pickstone
	Note Taker	Yasmin Safder

Actions and decisions

N/A

Issues Discussed

Point	Description
1	Welcome and Introductions JP welcomed Governments, Deal Authority and Chief Executives.
2	Strategic Regional Overview JP noted the importance of delivering sustainable inclusive growth in Glasgow, Scotland's largest city. SG's Programme for Government (PfG) underlines our support. Role for government in supporting and empowering continues. Notes introduction of Low Emission Zone. EW noted progress on Industrial Strategy made under PM Theresa May. No publication of the consultation on UK shared prosperity fund – focus on EU Exit first. New PM emphasis on growth. Following first July speech announced extra money for city and growth deals and 100% coverage.

	<p>RH added that the focus on net zero from May's government is a big priority for the years ahead and how that links to the industrial strategy.</p> <p>Lots of activity around, and focus on COP26.</p> <p>Spending review did not take place – a fuller spending review to take place next year will hope to see more long term security.</p> <p>Response to the National Infrastructure Funds recommendation will be announced later this year.</p> <p>Towns – reinvigoration of local growth and possibilities in supporting towns, 'left behind' places and those places who don't feel they have benefited from growth.</p> <p>Keen to support Stronger Towns funds.</p> <p>KR noted there is a focus on, and a lot of work done, moving into wider regional working.</p> <p>Regional Strategic Assessment provides an evidence base to take forward actions. Highlights key challenges and areas for investment.</p> <p>Keen for an update on the Shared Prosperity Fund from UKG.</p> <p>Challenge securing revenue funding – tourism strategy and social change projects vital for a city like Glasgow require revenue funding. Looking to the Shared Prosperity Fund to fill that requirement.</p> <p>Focus on Climate Change thanks to COP26.</p> <p>Challenge addressing the 61 recommendations made from working group.</p> <p>Big announcements from JP Morgan and Barclays and Channel 4 – tied to City Region Deal and the confidence in the city.</p> <p>AD added that COP26 presents an opportunity for Glasgow and the region. The river is a significant asset to the region and could be a key focus point for investment.</p> <p>LM noted the success of annual cross regional meeting between major infrastructure providers and councils to address the challenges of Climate Change.</p>
3	<p>Implementation Progress / Draft Annual Report Review</p> <p>Focus on the projects within local authorities where chief execs are present.</p>

MM noted the £168m spend to date contributing to a range of completed infrastructure projects and a range that are substantially underway.

Sighthill is a major contribution to the north of Glasgow.

Success of Smart Canal can be used as a shared learning opportunity across the UK.

AF, Chief Executive of Inverclyde Council highlighted the success of several projects, which, would not be material without the support of City Deal funding.

Many opportunities surrounding the development of Ocean Terminal and a benefit to the wider region - construction of a new terminal building, museum, floating pontoon, and private sector investment.

Development at Inverkip (Slip roads, a new small village with up to 600 new houses, and new commercial space) delayed subsequent to ongoing conversations with Transport Scotland.

As part of outcome improvement plan, engagement with communities is a key focus. Awareness of City Deal is increasing.

KR highlighted interest and engagement often goes up at the point of construction.

JP passes over to LM, Chief Executive, East Renfrewshire Council.

LM noted the context of East Renfrewshire having M77 as a strategic corridor and area of considerable growth. The area has some of the wealthiest and most deprived communities in the region and includes both city urban and rural areas that are currently disconnected.

Business growth rate has increased across the region despite challenges.

Next stage of projects focus on creating links between city urban and rural areas. Ongoing work with Scottish Water to capitalize the use of Dams to generate tourism business opportunities. A link road between Newton Mearns and Barrhead will open up access to the country park and there is a project to create a major link road between the M77 and the west.

Challenging working with Transport Scotland surrounding new train station.

Regarding awareness; Businesses are aware and a lot of consultation has been done with communities regarding the country park and visitor centre.

The area has some of the highest salaries for people living in the area and lowest salaries for people working in the area with the highest number of people working in the area earning under the living wage. Most of our employment

	<p>projects are focused on linking people into the jobs in the city and improving transport so people can access jobs in the city.</p> <p>RM asked about the strategy for business based projects, whether the focus was for higher value jobs or dependable companies?</p> <p>LM noted that the strategy would be expected to evolve over time. Currently looking at the significant number of business owners who operate from their own homes but have the potential for growth and have a focus on getting them into a premises.</p> <p>Looking for a balance between high value jobs and business creation and growing smaller companies.</p> <p>AF highlighted there is a role for both Governments in looking at fiscal policy and attracting inward investment. Investment in small towns is key to tackling population decline in the west of Scotland.</p> <p>GC, Chief Executive, East Dunbartonshire Council noted the area had projects focused on transport. Bringing revised business cases that address connectivity issues to cabinet for approval.</p>
4	<p>Monitoring and Evaluation</p> <p>MM highlighted current practices in place including quarterly progress reports to chief executives, programme logic model, benefits realization plan, programme evaluation plan, benefits realization management framework.</p> <p>Gateway Review is under preparation.</p> <p>Steering Group on 25th September in London.</p>
5	<p>Communications</p> <p>JP noted the frequent ministerial visits and positive engagement on all sides.</p>
6	<p>Assurance Framework</p> <p>JP thanked the PMO for the work done so far. Work in progress.</p>
7	<p>Gateway Review</p> <p>DB noted UKG is awaiting Treasury to share economic indicators, and Ministerial approval will be required for releasing the next stages of funding.</p> <p>MM noted the Deal would have a preference for Gateway 2 and 3 to be completed as a framework exercise (as opposed to procurement).</p>

	KR noted the Deal has seen initial indicators but awaiting final indicators. Request for clarity on future Gateway Reviews to allow for resource planning.
8	AOB N/A
9	Next Steps JP thanked all those who attended and outlined the next steps. The conclusions drawn from the Annual Conversation will be considered at the next quarterly Scottish City Region and Growth Deal Delivery Board meeting (27 November 2019). A letter summarizing the key actions agreed will be sent to Glasgow City Region Deal and a note of the meeting will be circulated.
10	Summary and Close