

GLASGOW CITY REGION CABINET.

Minutes of meeting held on 13th August 2019 at the City Chambers, Glasgow.

Present: Councillor Susan Aitken (Chair), Glasgow City Council; Councillor Andrew Polson, East Dunbartonshire Council; Councillor Tony Buchanan, East Renfrewshire Council; Councillor Stephen McCabe, Inverclyde Council; Councillor Allan Graham, North Lanarkshire Council; Councillor John Ross, South Lanarkshire Council; and Councillor Jonathan McColl, West Dunbartonshire Council.

Apologies: Councillors Jim Logue and Paul Kelly, North Lanarkshire Council; and Councillor Iain Nicolson, Renfrewshire Council.

Attending: N Lyttle (Clerk); A O'Donnell, K Rush, A McCrae, M McNally and P Murphy, Glasgow City Council; G Cornes, East Dunbartonshire Council; A Cahill, East Renfrewshire Council; A Fawcett, Inverclyde Council; L Noble, North Lanarkshire Council; S Black, Renfrewshire Council; L Freeland, South Lanarkshire Council; J White, West Dunbartonshire Council; D McNulty and D Waite, Commission on Economic Growth; and E Carrigan and S O'Hagan, Audit Scotland.

Chair's remarks.

1 The Chair referred to the impending retirement of Lindsay Freeland, Chief Executive of South Lanarkshire Council and on behalf of the Cabinet thanked Lindsay for his contribution to the development of the City Deal and wished him well for the future.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

2 There was submitted and approved the minutes of 4th June 2019.

Glasgow City Region Cabinet – Membership and Register of Interests 2019/20 noted.

3 With reference to the minutes of 13th June 2017 noting that the Assurance Framework specified that each member of the Cabinet was required to make a declaration of interests to be submitted annually to Cabinet, there was submitted and noted a report by the Chief Executive, Glasgow City Council, advising

- (1) of the Register of Interests for each Cabinet member and their substitutes, as detailed in an appendix to the report; and
- (2) that the register would be updated and published as further returns were received and that members would continue to be asked to update their declaration annually.

2018/19 annual audited accounts approved etc.

4 With reference to the minutes of 4th June 2019 approving the Glasgow City Region (GCR) annual unaudited accounts for year ended 31st March 2019, there was submitted the annual audit report 2018/19 by Audit Scotland, together with the Cabinet's audited annual accounts for the period ended 31st March 2019, advising

- (1) of Audit Scotland's findings from the 2018/19 audit of the GCR Cabinet, as detailed in the annual audit report; and
- (2) of the financial performance of the GCR Cabinet for the period from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019, including the income and expenditure incurred in the year relating to the provision of services to the Cabinet.

After consideration and having heard Ms E Carrigan, Audit Scotland, the Cabinet

- (a) noted
 - (i) the contents of the annual audit report 2018/19; and
 - (ii) that the independent auditor's report was clear of qualification; and
- (b) approved for signature the audited annual accounts for 2018/19.

Programme Status report noted etc.

5 There was submitted a Programme Status report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth providing information on the status and progress of projects within the Glasgow City Region - City Deal Programme, together with information on Programme Management Office activity for the Quarter 1 reporting period from 1st April to 30th June 2019.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (1) noted the report and an update regarding the timescale and process for submission of reports for Gateway Review 1, as detailed in the report; and
- (2) approved a number of infrastructure project change controls, all as detailed in the report.

Commission on Economic Growth - Inclusive growth update – Position agreed etc.

6 There was submitted a report by the Commission on Economic Growth updating the Cabinet on the Commission's inclusive growth work that had been undertaken to date and of work which had still to be progressed, advising

- (1) of the background to inclusive growth, including reference to a letter to the Commission from the Chair of this Cabinet seeking support from the Commission on what inclusive growth meant for city-region policymaking and what responses were required, as detailed in the report;
- (2) that the Commission had produced a number of pieces of work together with supporting activities which contributed to an evolving response, all as detailed in the report;
- (3) that the Commission had endeavoured to provide reviews of the research and policy area, and the perspectives of officials and politicians across the city-region, and that further to this, numerous presentations had been given on the Commission's interests and emerging work in that area, with interim updates being presented to this Cabinet; and
- (4) of 2 new pieces of work being undertaken by the Commission which related to inclusive growth, namely, how inclusive growth could be considered as part of a wider project change mechanism and the development of high level city-region indicators with some connection to inclusive growth (to inform revisions to the Assurance Framework), all as detailed in the report.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by David Waite, Commission on Economic Growth entitled "Applying inclusive growth: preliminary steps and the merits of Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIPS)", the Cabinet

- (a) approved the proposed approach in using LOIPS to provide a default local definition of inclusive growth; and
- (b) noted that a further report would be submitted to Cabinet in October 2019 in this respect, incorporating an update on the Programme Prioritisation Framework.

In-Work Progression Pilot - Project evaluation noted etc.

7 There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth regarding the final evaluation report for the In-Work Progression (IWP) pilot project, which had been supported by Glasgow City Council and the Department for Work and Pensions and which had concluded in December 2018, advising

- (1) that the IWP was one of 3 City Deal funded Skills and Employment projects delivering a business development approach to supporting the progression of employees within the care sector and aimed to test whether this integrated approach improved people's chances of progressing out of in-work poverty through increasing their skills and earning potential;
- (2) that the independent evaluators of the IWP, the Learning and Work Institute, had been gathering data throughout the different stages of the delivery of the project and had presented their interim evaluation to the Chief Executives' Group in November 2018, with the final evaluation report also being shared

with Member Authorities and key stakeholders at a workshop session on 4th July 2019;

- (3) of the executive summary of the IWP evaluation report, detailed in an appendix to the report; and
- (4) of a proposal that the Skills and Employment Portfolio Group be asked to consider how the lessons learned could be used to shape future approaches to delivery of regional employability programmes and how the approach that was tested within the IWP could be extended throughout Glasgow City Region and into other sectors of the economy where low pay had been identified as a concern.

After consideration and having heard Alison McCrae, Glasgow City Council, the Cabinet

- (a) noted the final evaluation report for the IWP; and
- (b) agreed that the Glasgow City Region Skills and Employment Portfolio Group consider the IWP evaluation report and provide a series of recommendations to the Chief Executives' Group and this Cabinet on how the approach could be extended to the care sector across Glasgow City Region and into other sectors of the economy where low pay had been identified as a concern.

Working Matters – Project evaluation noted etc.

8 There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth regarding the final evaluation report for the Working Matters project (WM) and proposing that the findings be used to inform the future regional approach to delivering employability services, advising

- (1) of the background to the WM project, which had been supported by the Department of Work and Pensions and the 8 Member Authorities and which had concluded on 31st March 2019;
- (2) that the independent consultants, Ekosgen, had been commissioned to carry out an ongoing evaluation of the project and had previously presented their interim finding to the Chief Executives' Group, with the final evaluation report also being shared with the WM Operational Delivery Group, who had provided feedback on the contents;
- (3) of the executive summary of the WM project evaluation, which had included a number of conclusions and recommendations, detailed in an appendix to the report; and
- (4) of a proposal that the Skills and Employment Portfolio Group be asked to consider the findings of the evaluation report and how the lessons learned from WM could shape the future regional approach to the delivery of employability services.

After consideration and having heard a presentation on the project by Mike McNally, Glasgow City Council, the Cabinet

- (a) noted the conclusions and recommendations of the WM final evaluation report; and
- (b) agreed that the Glasgow City Region Skills and Employment Portfolio Group consider the WM evaluation report and how the lessons learned from WM could shape the future regional approach to the delivery of employability services.

Infrastructure Programme – South Lanarkshire Council – Larkhall Community Growth Area project – Augmented Outline Business Case approved etc – Declaration of interest.

9 With reference to the minutes of 14th February 2017 approving the Outline Business Case (OBC) in respect of the Larkhall Community Growth Area (CGA) project, there was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth intimating that South Lanarkshire Council had submitted an augmented OBC in respect of that project to reflect the comments of the initial review of OBCs to ensure Green Book compliance, which, following evaluation by the Programme Management Office, had been considered and approved by the Chief Executives' Group on 23rd April 2019 and was now being submitted to Cabinet for approval, advising

- (1) that the augmented OBC had been reviewed and appraised and was considered fully compliant with HM Treasury Green Book;
- (2) of a number of updates to the content of the augmented OBC, as detailed in the report;
- (3) that the OBC was not seeking any further funding at this stage; and
- (4) of the relevant financial and benefits realisation differences between the initial and augmented OBC, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (a) approved
 - (i) the updates to the content of the Business Case made during the augmentation of the Larkhall CGA project OBC, as detailed in the report; and
 - (ii) the augmented OBC for the Larkhall CGA project which, following appraisal, was considered to be compliant with HM Treasury Green Book; and

(b) noted that no additional funding was required for this project.

Councillor Ross declared an interest in this item and took no part in the decision thereon.

Business cases dealt with by Chief Executives' Group noted.

10 With reference to the minutes of 11th October 2017 agreeing a revision to the Assurance Framework in relation to the approvals required for business cases, there was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth advising that the Chief Executives' Group had approved, under delegated authority,

- (1) the Full Business Case (FBC) element and funding requirement of £1.151m for Glasgow City Council's Collegelands Calton Barras – Meat Market Site Remediation project;
- (2) the FBC element and funding requirement of £2.187m for Glasgow City Council's Collegelands Calton Barras – Junction Improvements project; and
- (3) the FBC element and funding requirement of £0.077m for Glasgow City Council's Clyde Waterfront and West End Innovation Quarter – Central Govan Action Plan Commercial Floorspace Development Deficit Funding project 2.

Date of next meeting.

11 The Cabinet noted that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, 8th October 2019 at 1000 hours in the City Chambers, Glasgow.