



Glasgow City Regional Partnership

Report by: Kevin Rush, Director Regional Economic Growth

Contact: andrew.robertson2@glasgow.gov.uk

Glasgow City Region Innovation Action Plan Delivery Update

Purpose of report:

This report provides the Cabinet with an update on the next steps for the delivery of the Glasgow City Region Innovation Action Plan.

Recommendations

The Cabinet is invited to approve the content of the report

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides the Cabinet with an update on the next steps for the delivery of the Glasgow City Region Innovation Action Plan ('IAP').

2. Background and Context

- 2.1 Following the success of the Innovation Accelerator programme, the [IAP](#) was developed in partnership between Innovate UK, Scottish Enterprise and GCR. It was launched at the Can-Do summit in November 2023.
- 2.2 The Plan sets out the aspiration to deliver 'An Inclusive, Sustainable, Productive and Innovative Economy'. This will be delivered via six action areas:
- Ecosystem
 - Identity
 - Skills
 - Inclusive Economy
 - Investment
 - Infrastructure
- 2.3 Strengthening support for the IAP, the GCR Chief Executives agreed in a recent workshop to focus on Innovation as a key priority for the Region alongside Skills and Place.
- 2.4 Also, the GCR Investment Zone provides a major opportunity to 'build on the strengths of the Region's current and emerging cluster specialisms' which underpinned the IAP.

3 IAP Phase 1 Delivery

- 3.1 Due to the nature of the tri-partite development process, the actions within the IAP have been kept fairly high level. As agreed amongst the partners, the next stage in the process is to:
- Provide further detail on some actions where necessary – including specifying 'what good looks like' and the outlining the steps to achieve it
 - Baseline actions which are under way to ensure delivery can be measured and monitored
 - And crucially, identify any funding required to deliver the actions
- 3.2 The target is to have a fully defined and costed action plan by August 2024. This will be used as the basis for a business case for a 'Innovation Deal' to both governments.
- 3.3 To develop the detailed plan, short-term working groups are being set up in February for each of the action areas. Each group will have a designated lead officer from the partner organisation. Further to that, partners have been asked to provide officers to for evidence gathering and to provide analysis to support the groups.
- 3.4 A detailed scope to finalise the activities for the working group will be reviewed in a meeting scheduled for the week beginning 5th February. This meeting will also agree organisational leads and resources from the partners.

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- 3.5 The proposed governance arrangements are noted below.

4. Proposed Governance Arrangements

- 4.1 The group who oversaw the development of the IAP evolved from those who have been working on the implementation of the Innovation Accelerator. This included representatives from SE, Innovate UK, GCR, Glasgow City Council, Glasgow City of Science and Innovation, Glasgow University, Strathclyde University, University West Scotland, the six Colleges and Connected Places Catapult. This group then reported into the Regional Partnership.
- 4.2 It is proposed that the workstreams report directly into the new Innovation group which is being led by John Howie MBE of Babcock under the revised Glasgow Economic Leadership group. The Innovation Group will then report progress on the IAP into the Regional Partnership.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 The Cabinet is invited to approve the content of the report

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