

Maximising Community Benefits – Cenefits extension – Position agreed etc.

5 With reference to the minutes of 2nd June 2020 noting the progress of the evaluation of the 2-year pilot IT system (Cenefits) to manage and maximise the delivery of community benefits secured through City Deal contracts, there was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth seeking agreement to extend the use of the Cenefits system to monitor and manage community benefits up to 30th April 2023, advising

- (1) that the agreement with Wildcat Applications (WCA) offered the option of an extension for the use of Cenefits system for a further 24 months beyond the pilot end date of 30th April 2021, by providing notice in writing to WCA to allow for delivery of Cenefits for this extended period;
- (2) that an evaluation of the Cenefits system had been carried out by the Glasgow City Region Intelligence Hub, with the key findings being positive and highlighting a number of opportunities for future development of the system;
- (3) that 2 contract review meetings had taken place between WCA, representatives of the Community Benefit Support Group and the PMO, and the PMO had engaged with Member Authorities (MAs) to identify which of them currently planned to use Cenefits for their business as usual (non-City Deal) procurement activity, with the position being as detailed in the report;
- (4) that the use of Cenefits to report and monitor community benefit performance had improved the accuracy and reliability of data, making the collation and analysis of data a much easier exercise; and
- (5) of a proposal to seek approval for an additional £14,000 (£9,600 for 2 years subscription cost and £4,400 development budget cost), which would extend the use of Cenefits beyond the first phase and allow the system to be used by all MAs for a further 2-year period to the end of April 2023.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (a) agreed that, given the positive review of the Cenefits system to date, an alternative solution should not be sought at this stage; and
- (b) noted that a future report would be brought to this Cabinet in April 2021 seeking approval to extend the use of the Cenefits system for a further 24 months beyond the pilot end date of 30th April 2021, subject to ongoing positive reviews of the Cenefits system in the intervening period.