

**GLASGOW CITY REGION CABINET'S MINUTES.**

Glasgow, 2nd June 2020.

**Glasgow City Region Cabinet.**

**Present:** Councillor Susan Aitken (Chair), Glasgow City Council; Councillor Vaughan Moody, East Dunbartonshire Council; Councillor Tony Buchanan, East Renfrewshire Council; Councillor Stephen McCabe, Inverclyde Council; Councillor Allan Graham, North Lanarkshire Council; Councillor Iain Nicolson, Renfrewshire Council; Councillor John Ross, South Lanarkshire Council; and Councillor Caroline McAllister, West Dunbartonshire Council.

**Apologies:** Councillor Jim Logue, North Lanarkshire Council; and Councillor Jonathan McColl, West Dunbartonshire Council.

**Attending:** N Lyttle (Clerk); J Thompson and P Murphy, Glasgow City Council; G Cornes, East Dunbartonshire Council; L McMillan, East Renfrewshire Council; A Fawcett, Inverclyde Council; K Bryson, North Lanarkshire Council; B Walker, Renfrewshire Council; M McGlynn, South Lanarkshire Council; R Cairns, West Dunbartonshire Council; and S Tait, Clydeplan.

**Minutes of previous meeting approved.**

**1** There was submitted and approved the minutes of 11th February 2020.

**Programme Status report noted etc.**

**2** 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 Quarter 4, the period from 1st January to 31st March 2020.

After consideration, the Cabinet

(1) approved the change controls submitted in the period, as detailed in the report; and

(2) noted

(a) the significant increase in the number of project elements reporting at Amber due to Covid-19 impacts;

- (b) the increase in the benefits realised by projects within the previous quarter and the significant improvement in community benefit performance in 2019/20; and
- (c) the receipt of the letter from the UK and Scottish Governments confirming that the Glasgow City Region City Deal had successfully passed Gateway 1 assessment .

**Proposal for City Deal flexibility and partnership actions to mitigate COVID-19 impacts – Action agreed.**

**3** There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth regarding a proposed joint response to the UK and Scottish Governments on the challenges in delivering the City Deal projects as a result of COVID-19, advising that

- (1) on 30th April 2020 the Scottish and UK Governments wrote to the Glasgow City Region Programme Management Office (PMO) recognising that COVID-19 had created unprecedented pressures and was impacting on priorities at this time and communicating their ongoing support for the GCR City Deal and commitment to working in partnership with the Region to ensure that the Deal funding delivered maximum economic impact, both in the immediate future and as we moved into the recovery phase of this crisis;
- (2) a joint response to the UK and Scottish Governments, developed in consultation with all 8 member authorities, was communicated on a teleconference with officers from all of Scotland's City Deal and Growth Deal PMOs on 21st May 2020, with that response outlining:
  - (a) the challenges faced in the delivery of the City Deal projects;
  - (b) what flexibility might be required to usual arrangements and practices;
  - (c) what changes might be required to existing plans; and
  - (d) what actions could be taken together in partnership with both Governments;
- (3) during the call the Governments had outlined the following key messages:-
  - (a) there was an expectation that across Scotland most projects that had already been approved would still progress, although they might require to be tailored to fit with any changes resulting from COVID-19 impacts;
  - (b) there was no plan to expand Deal funding at this stage; and
  - (c) there was recognition from both Governments that in many cases Deals would require priority input from Government agencies, such as

Transport Scotland, Scottish Enterprise etc, to address slippage that had occurred; and

- (4) the Chief Executives' Group had agreed that the response, detailed at Appendix 1 to the report, should be submitted to the Governments for consideration at the Scottish City Region Deal Delivery Board meeting on 28th May 2020, with the proviso that the response would be subject to further amendment following discussion at this meeting.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (i) noted
  - (A) the PMO's participation in the call with the UK and Scottish Government representatives on 21st May 2020; and
  - (B) that Appendix 1 to the report had been submitted to the UK and Scottish Governments as a draft response ahead of the Scottish City Deals Delivery Board meeting on 28th May 2020;
- (ii) instructed the PMO to draft an amendment to section D of the response to ask the Scottish Government to consider additional powers being given to the Glasgow City Region Economic Partnership and to this Cabinet to give them revenue raising powers around areas such as land values and other such areas, with the draft amendment to be circulated to Cabinet members for comment and approval prior to it being submitted to the Governments; and
- (iii) agreed that South Lanarkshire Council be asked to collaborate with Renfrewshire Council to draft a communication from City Region Leaders to be sent to Rolls Royce regarding the effect on the regional economy of global redundancies within the company.

#### **National Planning Framework 4 – Glasgow City Region indicative Regional Spatial Strategy approved.**

**4** There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, East Dunbartonshire Council regarding the indicative Regional Spatial Strategy, advising

- (1) that the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 saw the removal of the statutory duty on the Glasgow City Region's local authorities to prepare a Strategic Development Plan (SDP), which was replaced with a duty to prepare a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) that would not form part of the statutory Development Plan, however the Act conferred enhanced status on the National Planning Framework (NPF) and the statutory Development Plan would now comprise of the NPF and the Local Development Plan (LDP);
- (2) that the draft NPF4 was originally due to be laid before the Scottish Parliament in September 2020 at which stage there would be formal parliamentary scrutiny along with wider public consultation, with a revised

version being brought back to Parliament for approval before being formally adopted by Scottish Ministers, however due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation the Scottish Government was currently revising its timescale for NPF4, which now would not be laid before Parliament until 2021, with the duty to prepare a formal RSS under the terms of the Act and related guidance not coming into force until NPF4 was approved, potentially in 2022;

- (3) that to assist the preparation of NPF4 the Scottish Government had asked local authorities, working together, to produce an indicative RSS; and
- (4) of the proposed Glasgow City Region indicative RSS, detailed in the Appendix to the report, which would also be presented to the Glasgow City Regional Partnership for its endorsement.

After consideration, the Cabinet approved the indicative Regional Spatial Strategy for the Glasgow City Region for submission to the Scottish Government as part of its development of NPF4.

#### **NPF4 - Clyde Mission National Development Area – Submission to Scottish Government noted.**

**5** There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, East Dunbartonshire Council regarding the submission to the Scottish Government of the Clyde Mission - Clyde Corridor as a proposed National Development as part of its development of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), advising

- (1) that as part of the development of NPF4 the Scottish Government had issued a call for National Developments, with a submission date of the 30th April 2020, and in the context of NPF4, National Developments had the potential to help deliver the aims of the long term spatial plan for Scotland and aimed to provide certainty upfront for investors, businesses, and also communities;
- (2) that at the Glasgow State of City Conference in January 2020 the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work announced the 'Clyde Mission', which was intended to give a renewed place-based approach to maximising the full potential of the River Clyde, including the identification of opportunities for business growth and jobs, and the reuse of vacant and derelict land, whilst realising the potential of the river to help address the climate change issues;
- (3) that to support the delivery of these objectives and given the national scale of the opportunity offered by the River Clyde, it was considered that the Clyde Mission should be reflected in NPF4 as a National Development; and
- (4) of the spatial priorities of the Clyde Mission, which provided an opportunity for increased partnership working between the public and private sectors and the local communities, as detailed in the report, with the submission to the Scottish Government being detailed in the appendix to the report.

After consideration, the Cabinet noted

- (a) the Clyde Mission - Clyde Corridor National Development proposal, as set out in the appendix to the report;
- (b) that the proposal had been submitted to the Scottish Government for consideration as a National Development in NPF4; and
- (c) that while the COVID-19 pandemic had caused delays, a steering group had now been formed to take the Clyde Mission forward, with the aim of forming a strategic partnership with the Scottish Government and Scottish Enterprise and the first phase being to develop a Strategic Business Case for the project and a workshop was planned in the near future, following which a further report would be submitted to this Cabinet.

**Internal audit review of compliance with Assurance Framework regarding submission and appraisal of business cases noted – Instruction to Head of Audit and Inspection.**

**6** There was submitted a report by the Head of Audit and Inspection, Glasgow City Council, advising of the findings of a review of compliance with the Assurance Framework regarding the submission and appraisal of business cases.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (1) noted the contents of the report; and
- (2) instructed the Head of Audit and Inspection to submit further reports on the progress towards achievement of the recommendations within the action plan.

**Internal audit follow-up report noted.**

**7** There was submitted a report by the Head of Audit and Inspection, Glasgow City Council, providing an update on follow-up audits on action taken to implement audit recommendations, which had previously been agreed following the findings of reviews of member authority grant claim eligibility and of Programme Management Office governance and operations.

After consideration, the Cabinet noted the report and that the Head of Audit and Inspection would provide further reports on the implementation of outstanding recommendations.

**Internal Audit Annual Report and Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 noted etc.**

**8** There was submitted a report by the Head of Audit and Inspection, Glasgow City Council regarding the Glasgow City Region Cabinet Internal Audit Annual Report and Annual Governance Statement 2019/20, advising that

- (1) the Annual Report provided a review of the performance of Internal Audit for 2019/20 and gave an opinion on the adequacy of the Glasgow City Region Cabinet system of internal control; and
- (2) the Annual Governance Statement, detailed in an appendix to the report, outlined
  - (a) the appropriate governance arrangements of the Cabinet in accordance with the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014; and
  - (b) updates on significant governance issues as well as those issues that had previously been reported on.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (i) noted the Annual Report; and
- (ii) approved the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20.

**Infrastructure grant allocations 2020/21 approved.**

**9** There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth detailing the proposed initial allocation of Infrastructure Grant to each Member Authority for 2020/21.

After consideration, the Cabinet approved the initial 2020/21 allocation of Infrastructure grant to each member authority, as detailed in the appendix to the report.

**Glasgow City Region Cabinet – 2019/20 unaudited annual accounts approved.**

**10** There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Finance, Glasgow City Council regarding the Glasgow City Region Cabinet unaudited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020, advising of the financial performance of the Cabinet for the year ended 31st March 2020.

After consideration, the Cabinet approved the income and expenditure statement, balance sheet and the relevant supportive notes for the unaudited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020.

## **Annual Implementation Plan 2020/21 approved etc.**

**11** There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth regarding the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) 2020/21, advising that

- (1) the AIP was a requirement of the Assurance Framework and provided a statement of the intentions and details of planned activity for the coming year; and
- (2) owing to the exceptional circumstances being experienced as a result of COVID-19, the planned actions and the intended dates would be subject to review and revision throughout the course of the year.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (a) approved the AIP 2020/21; and;
- (b) agreed to it being submitted to the Scottish and UK Governments as a record of the key actions, which were planned to be undertaken by the Glasgow City Region City Deal during 2020/21, noting that these might be subject to alteration owing to COVID-19 impacts.

## **Cenefits pilot evaluation – Findings from stakeholder interviews noted.**

**12** With reference to the minutes of 12th February 2019 approving a funding allocation of up to £36,000 from within the existing PMO budget to implement a proposed 2-year pilot IT system, Cenefits, to manage and maximise the delivery of community benefits secured through City Deal contracts, subject to the conclusion of discussions to finalise the legal, procurement and IT requirements for the system, there was submitted and noted a report by the Intelligence Hub Manager regarding the evaluation of the pilot project, advising

- (1) that the PMO had requested the assistance of the Intelligence Hub with the evaluation of the Cenefits pilot project, with the review to be completed by 30th June 2020;
- (2) that as part of the review it was agreed that one-to-one interviews would be completed by the independent staff with the City Region Intelligence Hub, with interviews being carried out with 12 key stakeholders, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report;
- (3) of the findings of the analysis of stakeholders' views, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, structured under the following 3 key areas:-
  - (a) delivery of community benefits prior to Cenefits;
  - (b) Cenefits pilot project expectations and delivery to date; and

- (c) areas for development for:
  - (i) community benefit policy;
  - (ii) resource use; and
  - (iii) the Cenefits software system.

**Date of next meeting.**

**13** The Cabinet noted that the next meeting was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 11th August 2020 at 1000 hours.