

GLASGOW CITY REGION CABINET.

Minutes of meeting held on 11th August 2020 by video conference.

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 Jonathan McColl, West Dunbartonshire Council.

Apology: Councillor Jim Logue, North Lanarkshire Council.

Attending: N Lyttle (Clerk); K Rush, S Inrig, P Kilby, C McKenzie, J Thompson and A Robertson, Glasgow City Council; T Glen, East Dunbartonshire Council; L McMillan, East Renfrewshire Council; A Fawcett, Inverclyde Council; K Bryson, North Lanarkshire Council; C Sneddon, South Lanarkshire Council; J White, West Dunbartonshire Council; and D McNulty, Commission on Economic Growth.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

1 There was submitted and approved the minutes of 2nd June 2020.

Quarterly performance report noted etc.

2 There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth regarding programme performance for Quarter 1 2020/21 providing updates on the progress of the City Region Portfolio Groups, the City Region Intelligence Hub and the City Deal Programme, including project status, benefit realisation performance, financial monitoring information, programme risks and issues, change control requests and Annual Implementation Plan actions.

After consideration and having heard Kevin Rush, Glasgow City Council, the Cabinet

(1) noted the report; and

(2) approved

- (a) the identified City Deal Priority Groups, Community Benefit Menu and use of the Benefit Outcome Evidence reports, as detailed in the report;
- (b) the change control request, as detailed in the report; and
- (c) the revised dates for the Annual Implementation Plan actions, as detailed in the report.

Proposed City Deal Scheme of Delegations approved.

3 There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth regarding proposals for further delegation from Cabinet to the Chief Executives' Group (CEG) and to the Director of Regional Economic Growth, aimed at enabling the timeous processing of approvals for the expected increase in the volume of Full Business Cases (FBCs) and Change Controls submitted to the Programme Management Office (PMO) in the next phase of City Deal Programme delivery, advising

- (1) that as the City Deal Programme progressed through Gateway One, with more projects moving through Strategic and Outline Business Case development to the procurement and delivery stages, the volume of FBCs which required to be considered and approved by the CEG was set to increase significantly, with approximately 40 of the remaining 82 FBCs due to be submitted for approval during 2020;
- (2) that in addition to an increase in the volume of FBCs, an increased level of change control requests was expected to be submitted for those projects with approved FBCs, which now required to seek approval for changes resulting from recent COVID-19 related impacts;
- (3) of the existing arrangements for PMO expenditure, business case approvals and change control request approvals;
- (4) that in order to mitigate the issues outlined above, it was proposed that
 - (a) the Director of Regional Economic Growth be granted delegated authority to approve:
 - (i) all PMO expenditure within the spend categories included within the PMO's annual budget once approved by Cabinet, ensuring that where goods and services were procured, this was undertaken in line with Glasgow City Council's (the Lead Authority) procurement requirements;
 - (ii) FBCs up to a value of £4,500,000, on the condition that where there were any changes between the information proposed within the FBC and the OBC previously approved by Cabinet, the change was minor; and
 - (iii) change control requests, where the proposed changes could be considered minor; and
 - (b) the CEG be granted delegated authority to approve change control requests where the proposed changes could be considered moderate; and
- (4) of details of what constituted a minor and moderate change, risk mitigation arrangements and the expected benefits of the proposed delegations.

After consideration and having heard Kevin Rush, Glasgow City Council, the Cabinet

- (A) noted that the proposals had been reviewed and approved by both the Financial Strategy Group and the CEG;
- (B) agreed the proposals detailed in the report; and
- (C) further noted that the Assurance Framework would be updated to reflect the new arrangements as part of its annual refresh in October 2020.

COVID 19 - Glasgow City Region Economic Recovery Plan – Position agreed etc.

4 There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth to update the Cabinet on progress to develop a Glasgow City Region Economic Recovery Plan in response to the impact of COVID-19 and lockdown, and to seek approval to undertake further work on the initial list of key priority areas identified in the report to produce more detailed and costed actions and programmes of activity, advising

- (1) that in the initial weeks following the COVID-19 lockdown, Glasgow City Region Member Authorities (MAs) and partner agencies had been heavily involved in the immediate response effort within their local areas, including disbursing government grants to businesses, and over recent months, a series of economic bulletins created by the City Region Intelligence Hub had provided estimates on the scale of the challenge facing the Region, all as detailed in the report;
- (2) that by mid-May a number of MAs had started to develop local economic recovery plans and the Economic Delivery Group (EDG) on 2nd June 2020 had agreed that the Glasgow City Region Programme Management Office (PMO) would start the process of regional recovery planning in order to support the development of a Glasgow City Regional Recovery Plan, the PMO had undertaken various actions, as detailed in the report, including identification of potential key priority areas to be developed as part of the plan;
- (3) that following a discussion at the EDG meeting on 2nd June 2020, the PMO had taken a number of partner comments into account and revised the headline key priority areas which were presented in 3 tables within the report and categorised in the three themes of People, Business and Place; and
- (4) that in a number of instances progressing the proposed recommended actions would require a change in government policy or significant additional resources and the PMO would co-ordinate further work to detail and cost the key priority areas with a further update being submitted to Cabinet in October 2020.

After consideration and having heard Kevin Rush, Glasgow City Council, the Cabinet

- (i) noted the report;
- (ii) approved the key priority areas that would be the focus of the Glasgow City Region Economic Recovery Plan;
- (iii) instructed the PMO to co-ordinate the development and costing of the key priority actions to be progressed by the lead partners as detailed in the report; and
- (iv) agreed, following comments made by Councillor McCabe regarding the potential threat to public sector jobs across the Glasgow City Region, including those within local authority Arms Length External Organisations/Leisure Trusts, that the Intelligence Hub would consider this issue and report back to the next Cabinet meeting with an update.

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.

Regional Skills Investment Plan (2019 – 2024) – Annual Report – Position agreed etc.

6 There was submitted a report by Councillor John Ross, South Lanarkshire Council, City Region Skills and Employment Lead providing an update on the first year implementation of the Regional Skills Investment Plan (RSIP) for Glasgow City Region and the draft priority actions for 2020/21, advising that

- (1) the RSIP, published as a 5-year plan had been endorsed by the Glasgow City Regional Partnership in February 2019, approved by the this Cabinet in April 2019 and included a Mission, Strategic Outcomes and Priority Action Areas, all of which were outlined in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) the first year Delivery Plan had contained 26 actions, 8 of which had been fully implemented, a further 16 had made significant progress and were on track for implementation during 2020, with the remaining 2 actions currently on hold, all as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (3) in order to support the Delivery Plan and help drive progress, the Skills and Employment Portfolio Group had been expanded to include representation from the West Partnership (City Region Education Collaborative) and had also been restructured to facilitate more dedicated discussion and development of the skills element of the portfolio distinct from the employment/employability element, allowing for more specialist input from Skills Development Scotland and the Scottish Government; and
- (4) the draft Delivery Plan, as detailed in Appendix 3 of the report remained flexible in order to reflect Scottish Government priorities from both the Advisory Group on Economic Recovery and Enterprise and Skills Strategic Board reports, the City Region Economic Recovery Plan and ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (a) noted progress on the first year implementation of the RSIP;
- (b) approved the Delivery Plan for 2020/21; and

- (c) requested the City Region Lead for Skills and Employment to agree the lead partner for each action with the relevant Regional Partners.

Proposed development of Regional Capital Investment Plan – Position agreed etc.

7 There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth updating the Cabinet on the proposal to develop a Glasgow City Regional Capital Investment Plan, advising

- (1) that on 3rd June 2020, the first of three planned HubWest teleconference sessions focusing on capital investment programme recovery took place attended by representatives from across the Region, and a key message from the construction sector companies/bodies who had participated in the discussion was that the construction sector was under severe threat across Scotland;
- (2) that in order to help sustain businesses, the sector was seeking more information from the public sector on the pipeline of capital projects which was planned for the coming years, so that they could provide their investors/lenders with confidence of a future pipeline;
- (3) that the need for a region-wide overview of planned infrastructure development had been recognised within 2 commitments of the City Region Economic Action Plan, as detailed in the report, and significant progress had been made by the Infrastructure and Assets Portfolio Group to collate and map on GIS systems information on the capital investment plans of the Region's 8 Member Authorities, with this information being shared with the utilities companies as part of a series of Infrastructure Summits;
- (4) of a proposal that the City Region Programme Management Office (PMO), together with the Intelligence Hub and the Portfolio Group liaise with other agencies, as detailed in the report to collate and map investment plans, with a combined plan being created by the end of October 2020 and the mapping completed by the end of December 2020; and
- (5) that, once completed, it was intended that the information could be shared, in appropriate formats with a number of agencies/sectors, all as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Cabinet agreed

- (a) that the PMO seek to develop a Regional Capital Investment Plan, as detailed in the report; and
- (b) that Councillor Nicolson directly contact the PMO in order to address a number of issues he had raised at the meeting.

Development of a Glasgow City Region Sustainable Procurement Strategy agreed etc.

8 With reference to the minutes of

- (1) 12th May 2015 approving the Procurement Strategy, putting in place a shared approach the procurement of City Deal projects across the Member Authorities (MAs); and
- (2) 20th October 2015 approving the Community Benefits Strategy, which set out a consistent approach to securing and delivering community benefits from the City Deal funded projects,

there was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth seeking approval to develop a single Glasgow City Region Sustainable Procurement Strategy (GCRSPS), advising

- (a) that given that the 5-year period of both the Procurement Strategy and the Community Benefits Strategy expired in 2020, the Glasgow City Region Programme Management Office (PMO) had begun a review of the performance against the objectives and aims of both documents, which would entail a short desk based review with the outcome being discussed with both the Procurement Support Group and Community Benefits Support Group as required;
- (b) that as part of a wider review, the PMO had asked the Intelligence Hub to undertake a short review of the wider policy landscape, taking into account the existing national, regional and local policy positions, as detailed in the report;
- (c) that the proposal to develop a single GCRSPS would build upon the progress made by the MAs over the first 5 years of the City Deal, take into account the local procurement strategies that were already in place, and emphasise the areas where value could be maximised by regional collaboration;
- (d) that it was proposed that because of the existing partnership relationships between the 8 MAs, that the first phase of developing the GCRSPS would focus on aligning the approaches and activities of the 8 MAs, however a second phase would also incorporate the wider regional partners who would be invited to sign up to a shared regional approach to sustainable procurement, as detailed in the report; and
- (e) of a draft timescale for the development of the GCRSPS, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Cabinet agreed that the PMO would start to develop a GCRSPS, as detailed in the report.

Glasgow City Region Intelligence Hub economic analytics tools – Update noted.

9 There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth providing a brief summary of the increased capacity of the Intelligence Hub to provide economic analysis across the Regional Partnership at a broad regional level, by industry and within industries, advising

- (1) that the Intelligence Hub had recently worked alongside the Fraser of Allander Institute (FAI) to build an economic model known as a Computable General Equilibrium model (CGE), the purpose of which was to allow the region to understand the possible scale of economic impacts (Output, Employees and GVA) of different shocks to the economy;
- (2) that the first version of the model was due to be completed next month, however, in developing the model, a couple of tools, Supply Use Tables (SUT) and Input/Out Models (I/O), had been created, which could be used to analyse how the economy functioned at different scales and over the past 6 weeks the Intelligence Hub had been using the SUT and I/O tables to help better understand what was happening to the regional economy as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown; and
- (3) the Intelligence Hub was keen to raise awareness of the type of analysis which were now available to the Regional Partnership and would hold sessions with both Economic Delivery Group and Lead Officers' Group members in the first instance in order that they were aware of how they and their teams could be supported.

“Green Recovery” – Submission to the Scottish Parliament’s Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee noted.

10 There was submitted and noted a report by the Chief Executive, East Dunbartonshire Council, inviting the Cabinet to note the submission, developed by Climate Ready Clyde on behalf of Glasgow City Region, to the Scottish Parliament’s Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee, which had issued a call for evidence in relation to a ‘Green Recovery’, advising

- (1) that the Committee had issued a call for evidence on the 26th June 2020 as part of its inquiry to establish the principles that should underpin a green recovery, to identify key actions for change, immediate priorities, potential barriers to implementation and the governance arrangements needed to deliver this;
- (2) that the response had been prepared by Climate Ready Clyde, in consultation with the Glasgow City Region Programme Management Office (PMO) and the Portfolio Lead for Land Use and Sustainability;
- (3) of the response as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report which reflected the key questions that the Committee had asked to be addressed; and

- (4) that the report had been approved by the Regional Partnership on 30th July 2020 and had been submitted to the consultation by the deadline of 7th August 2020.

Date of next meeting.

- 11** The Cabinet noted that its next meeting would take place on Tuesday, 6th October 2020 at 1000 hours.