



Glasgow City Region

Cabinet

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Item 7

9th February 2021

Public Health Scotland Collaboration and Funding Bid

Purpose of Report:

To update the Cabinet on collaboration activity between the City Region Programme Management Office and Public Health Scotland and to advise of the submission of an Expression of Interest for the Economies for Healthier Lives Programme funds.

Recommendations

The Cabinet is invited to note content of this report and the submission of an Expression of Interest for a regional project, as set out within Section 4 of this report.

- 1 **Purpose** This report provides an update to the Cabinet on collaboration activity between the City Region Programme Management Office and Public Health Scotland and seeks approval to submit an Expression of Interest for the Economies for Healthier Lives Programme funds.
- 2 **Background** Public Health Scotland is a national special health board of NHS Scotland, jointly sponsored by the Scottish Government and COSLA which launched on 1 April 2020. It is Scotland's national agency for reducing health inequalities and improving health.
 - 2.2 In its first strategic plan, PHS outlines its mission to lay a solid foundation that supports long-lasting good health and wellbeing for all our communities – especially the most disadvantaged. It recognises local government is responsible for many of the foundations for community health and wellbeing and as part of its work to implement its strategic plan PHS is seeking to support national, regional and local organisations to create the economic conditions that will achieve our population health outcomes.
 - 2.3 Recognising the importance of the economy to health and wellbeing, in 2020 the City Region PMO entered into discussions with Public Health Scotland on how the Regional Partners could work collaboratively with the new agency. An initial step saw the Director of Place and Wellbeing joining the November 2020 Regional Partnership meeting. Initial joint working opportunities have emerged since then: a dedicated public health resource to be embedded with and work alongside the GCR PMO; and the development of a regional bid for Health Foundation funding to strengthen collaboration between Public Health and Economic Development.
- 3 **Dedicated Public Health Resource** Following a series of meetings in late 2020 between the GCR PMO and PHS officers, PHS have established a new full-time role for an Organisation Lead to support regional economic development. The post will be for 2 years in the first instance, to support regional economic development. The post will support the Glasgow City Region with the development and implementation of the refreshed 10-year Regional Economic Strategy.
 - 3.2 The overall aims of the role are to:
 - improve health and reduce health inequalities by facilitating more effective working arrangements with, and providing advice and support to, regional economic partnerships.
 - maximise the influence PHS can have on economic decision making, in the first instance, in Glasgow City Region, initially, to support the development of Glasgow City Region's economic strategy such that it best supports the outcomes of improved health and reduced health inequalities.
 - develop an understanding of partnership needs in this area and the added value that PHS can bring in order to help PHS develop its ways of working and work programme.

3.3 The role will be fully funded by PHS and will be based within the PHS structure and located within the GCR PMO, reporting through the GCR Strategic Management Team. The post has been advertised and the Director of Regional Economic Growth has been invited by PHS to sit in the interview panel.

3.4 The post will support GCR deliver its strategic objectives and strengthen the focus of the partnership in applying evidence-based interventions to realise the potential impact economic development in improving population health. PHS already brings a public health perspective to the GCR board, the post will provide an additional focus for the partnership between PHS and GCR PMO and support the development of shared objectives, these could include:

- Co-design and co-produce the Regional Economic Strategy to ensure it is evidence based, targeted and focused on improving health and wellbeing outcomes and reducing health inequalities
- Membership of the strategy team to ensure that implementation of the strategy and related programmes i.e. Infrastructure Investment, use of land, Green Energy Programme, Labour Market interventions etc draw on the best available evidence and are designed and implemented to support agreed outcomes
- Undertake Health Inequalities Impact Assessments of the strategy and related programmes and plans to ensure they contribute to improving health and wellbeing outcomes and don't widen health inequalities in their design and implementation
- Development of innovation in the use of digital and data to support decision making, including the development of decision-making tools and analytical capacity to support project development and delivery of the agreed outcomes
- In line with the above, contribute to the GCR Policy, Data and Intelligence hub with the regional team to support the strategy development, implementation and development of metrics to measuring progress in delivering the agreed outcomes. This could include:
 - Policy Research and Development
 - Economic Modelling
 - Wellbeing Economy Metrics and Monitoring
 - Economic and Health Intelligence and Surveillance
- Undertake and/or support commissioning of research and evaluation to enable the Regional Economic Partnership deliver its strategic priorities and the effectiveness of the collaboration between Public Health and Economic Development in improving population health outcomes across the region

- Through the GCR PMO establish a 'whole region' approach to improve wellbeing and economic development and co-ordinated action across the authorities in the city region to ensure a more integrated approach to the Regional Economic Strategy and related programmes i.e. the Regional Education Collaborative and Spatial Planning
- Provide strategic leadership, engagement and connectivity across the GCR partners and to the national /local public health and health and social care system to maximise contribution to development of the strategy and its implementation in line with the agreed outcomes

3.5 The post will be focused on achieving health impacts and will be flexible to respond to any changing demands within the GCR. PHS and the GCR PMO will develop a partnership framework, setting out shared outcomes from the partnership and approach to evaluation of the collaboration to determine impact and learning to strengthen collaboration between public health and economic development. This partnership framework will be shared with Chief Executives' Group for consideration at a future meeting.

4 **Economies for Healthier Lives Programme Funding Bid** In late 2020, the Health Foundation, an independent charity committed to bringing about better health and health care for people in the UK, launched a call for applications for the £1.72m Economies for Healthier Lives Programme. The Programme seeks to fund projects which:

- improve the capacity and capability of economic development and public health professionals to take joint action to use economic development to improve health;
- develop a better understanding of the mechanisms through which economic development interventions affect health outcomes;
- support the development of metrics to monitor the health impacts of economic development interventions;
- build understanding of how to translate the evidence base into practical action; and
- capture learning from the programme to be used to inform and change practice across the UK through wider dissemination by the Health Foundation.

4.2 The Health Foundation is inviting Regional Economic Partnerships to apply for funding of between £300k and £500k over 3 years, to supplement existing plans or projects linked to economic development, to make enhancements that aim to improve health and reduce health inequalities. For example, by reframing programmes to build in additional elements aimed at tackling inequalities or by amending interventions to make them more likely to be health-enhancing.

4.3 The Programme will fund up to four partnerships with each including:

- **a local authority or combined authority (lead partner)**; responsible for convening and leading the development of the partnership, sub-contracting other partners and leading the application process, Glasgow City Council will act in its role as Lead Authority for the Glasgow City Region local authorities;
- **public health bodies and leaders**; Public Health Scotland will fulfil this role.
- **an academic partner**; primary focus of the academic partner is to contribute expert knowledge in supporting the partnership with implementation, metric development and evidence gathering (locally based partner likely to be advantageous in cementing long-lasting relationships. Glasgow Centre Population Health will fulfil this role.
- **a specialist partner**; can provide additional topic expertise. The Wellbeing Economy Alliance Scotland, works with partners in the region to co-create, test and lobby for alternative policies, practices and models. WEAll Scotland will fulfil the role of the specialist partner.

4.4 Following approval from the Chief Executives' Group on 28th January 2021, the GCR PMO submitted an Expression of Interest for the Funds on Friday, 29th January 2021.

4.5 The proposed project aims to identifying how the decision-making points/processes used throughout the delivery of capital investment projects could be altered to reduce the risk of creating health inequalities and to maximise positive health outcomes.

4.6 The proposed project has three key stages:

- Stage 1: Explore the decision making processes used on recent and current capital projects, including the £1.13bn Glasgow City Region City Deal Programme, identifying, through the use of an appreciative inquiry approach, what a wide range of stakeholders (including the intended beneficiaries of the projects) believe worked well/could have worked better in the decision making arrangements related to the project delivery phase to minimise risk/maximise benefits to population health. Key stakeholders will be engaged with expertise in:
 - a. infrastructure planning (transport, housing planners etc);
 - b. the commissioning, procurement and project management of capital investment projects;
 - c. the delivery of projects (mainly private sector contractors);
 - d. public health;
 - e. addressing skills shortages and gaps in the construction sector through the development of a skills pipeline leading to training and employment opportunities.
- Stage 2: Use the learning from Stage 1 to develop a bespoke capital investment integrated health impact assessment (CIHIA) approach embedded within the decision-making process for future/proposed capital

investment projects, with this approach piloted on a small number of upcoming capital projects, including for example the proposed Housing Energy Retrofit Project or the proposed Glasgow Metro project.

- Stage 3: Use the learning from the Stage 2 pilot to refine the HIA approach. Socialise the new arrangements and the benefits of their use among all stakeholders, with the new integrated decision-making arrangements embedded within all relevant governance frameworks (grant agreements, procurement and community benefit clauses etc) to ensure compliance with their application and facilitating monitoring of their impacts.

5 **Recommendations**5.1 The Cabinet is invited to note content of this report and the submission of an Expression of Interest for a regional project as set out within section 4 of this report.