

GLASGOW CITY REGION CABINET.

Item 1
8th November 2022

Minutes of meeting held on 30th August 2022 by video conference.

- Present:** Councillor Susan Aitken (Chair), Glasgow City Council; Councillor Gordan Low, East Dunbartonshire Council; Councillor Owen O'Donnell, East Renfrewshire Council; Councillor Stephen McCabe, Inverclyde Council; Councillor Jim Logue, North Lanarkshire Council; Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Renfrewshire Council (substitute for Councillor Iain Nicolson); Councillor Joe Fagan, South Lanarkshire Council; and Councillor Martin Rooney, West Dunbartonshire Council.
- Apologies:** G Cornes, East Dunbartonshire Council; L Long, Inverclyde Council; D Murray, North Lanarkshire Council; Councillor I Nicolson and A Russell, Renfrewshire Council; C Sneddon, South Lanarkshire Council; and P Hessem, West Dunbartonshire Council.
- Attending:** M Hughes (Clerk); H Holland, East Dunbartonshire Council (substitute for G Cornes); L McMillan, East Renfrewshire Council; A O'Donnell, C Edgar and C Keaveny, Glasgow City Council; K Rush, M McNally, J Allen and P Kilby, Glasgow City Region; S Jamieson, Inverclyde Council (substitute for L Long); P Humphries (substitute for D Murray) and L Noble, North Lanarkshire Council; B Walker, Renfrewshire Council (substitute for A Russell); P Manning, South Lanarkshire Council (substitute for C Sneddon); R Cairns, West Dunbartonshire Council (substitute for P Hessem); and M Hislop, Director of the Clyde Climate Forest.

Minutes of previous meeting approved etc.

- 1** There was submitted the minutes of 16th June 2022.

Having heard Kevin Rush provide an update on the private sector led lobbying strategy and the wide political support for the Clyde Green Freeport bid, the Cabinet approved the minutes of 16th June 2022.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan – Position agreed.

- 2** There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth providing an update on the development of the Glasgow City Region (GCR) Investment Plan, which was detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), advising

- (1) that following a request from the GCR, the UK Government (UKG) had approved an extension to the submission timescale of the GCR UKSPF Investment Plan to 1st September 2022;

- (2) of a summary of the UKSPF budget allocation by year and Member Authority (MA), an indication of the UKSPF budget, split by thematic priority and a range of potential outputs and outcomes from the UKSPF investment that would be further refined over the duration of the programme, all as detailed in the report;
- (3) that MAs had sought committee approval, or had delegated authority, for their contributions to the UKSPF Investment Plan, and Appendix 1 of the report had been circulated to the Regional Partnership, together with all MPs and MSPs from across the GCR;
- (4) that the UKSPF Prospectus enabled MAs to use up to 4% of their allocation for management and administration and all 8 MAs had indicated that they intended to use the 4% allocation;
- (5) that in addition to the management and administration undertaken at MA level, GCR would provide programme management, governance and evaluation support;
- (6) of a number of key benefits from the GCR approach to management of the overall programme, including the GCR Intelligence Hub carrying out programme level evaluation, rather than having to be done by an individual MA, all as detailed in the report;
- (7) that the flexibility provided by the UKSPF programme and the change control request process would also enable the use of any underspend within the programme, with an internal change control process being developed and should a MA identify an underspend, that budget could be reallocated across the programme to be used prior to 31st March 2025, the suggested process of which would be presented to a future meeting of the Chief Executives' Group for consideration;
- (8) that the UKSPF grant would be transferred to GCR and MAs in 3 tranches, as detailed in the report;
- (9) that the UKG had confirmed that the GCR was the only region in Scotland that would submit an initial Regional Investment Plan for UKSPF; and
- (10) of engagement with other City Regions that had been undertaken and of the proposed next steps and timescales, all as detailed in the report.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by M McNally, Head of Shared Prosperity Fund, the Cabinet

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) agreed that the final GCR Investment Plan for the UKSPF, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report be submitted to the UKG.

Quarterly performance report noted etc - Change control requests approved.

3 There was submitted a performance report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth for Quarter 1 2022/23 providing updates on the progress of the City Region Portfolio Groups, the City Region Intelligence Hub and the City Deal Programme.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (1) noted the report;
- (2) approved the change control requests in respect of the following Infrastructure Programme projects, all as detailed in the report:-
 - (a) North Lanarkshire Council – Eurocentral Sub-Project;
 - (b) North Lanarkshire Council – Pan Lanarkshire Orbital Transport Corridor: East Airdrie Link Road; and
 - (c) Inverclyde Council – Ocean Terminal: Terminal Building; and
- (3) agreed that the Grant Thornton UK LLP Home Energy Retrofit Programme report which had been considered by this Cabinet on 5th October 2021, be circulated to Cabinet Members for information.

Infrastructure Programme – North Lanarkshire Council – A8/M8 Corridor Access Improvements - Outline Business Case approved etc – Declaration of interest.

4 With reference to the minutes of 18th August 2015 agreeing that North Lanarkshire Council progress with the development of a Strategic Business Case (SBC) for the A8/M8 Corridor Access Improvements project, there was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth regarding the evaluation of the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the project submitted by North Lanarkshire Council, which, following evaluation by the Programme Management Office (PMO), had been considered and recommended for approval by the Chief Executives' Group on 11th August 2022 and was now being submitted to Cabinet for approval, advising

- (1) of the executive summary of the project, detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) that the OBC had been reviewed and appraised and was considered fully compliant with HM Treasury Green Book, although it remained the case that all legal and financial risks associated with the project remained with North Lanarkshire Council;
- (3) of the current status of the project, as detailed in the report, including the scope and key milestone dates;

- (4) of the finance that was being sought for this stage of the project, as detailed in the report; and
- (5) that the OBC had identified and quantified the project outputs, as detailed in the report, and provided completed individual benefits trackers as required by the Assurance Framework.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by Lyndsay Noble, North Lanarkshire Council, the Cabinet

- (a) approved the OBC, including the funding requirement of £715,000 for further project development and enabling works; and
- (b) noted that the PMO Appraisal and Project Risk Register were available on request from the Clerk.

Councillor Jim Logue declared an interest in this item and took no part in the decision thereon.

Proposed Regional Economic Strategy Action Plan 2022/23 approved.

5 With reference to the minutes of 7th December 2021 approving the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and noting that an Action Plan would be developed, there was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth presenting the proposed RES Action Plan for 2022/23 detailed in an appendix to the report, advising

- (1) that the need for delivery of the first phase programme outlined in the RES, and detailed in the emerging Action Plan, was even greater than when the RES had been approved by Cabinet in 2021, as since then, a series of additional issues had emerged resulting in the current cost of living crisis;
- (2) that those macro factors, outlined in the report, were having material impacts on the Region's residents and the wider economy, thus making it more difficult to address the 3 Grand Challenges detailed in the RES and achieving the vision for Glasgow City Region to have the most Innovative, Inclusive and Resilient Economy in the UK by 2030;
- (3) of a summary of the Region's current performance against the 3 Grand Challenges, all as detailed in the report;
- (4) of an update on the progress that had been made on each of the initial 12 projects approved within the RES in December 2021, all as detailed in the report;
- (5) of the current list of proposed key actions for each of the 12 projects for the remainder of 2022/23, as detailed in the appendix to the report; and

- (6) that it would be essential that the delivery of the RES Action Plan was managed, monitored and reported, and of the proposed arrangements around this, as detailed in the report.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by Paul Kilby, Glasgow City Council, the Cabinet

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) approved the RES Action Plan and governance approach, as detailed in the report

Clyde Climate Forest: First Year progress report and Concordat – Position noted etc.

6 With reference to the minutes of 9th February 2021 noting and welcoming the development of the Clyde Climate Forest (CCF) initiative and agreeing to the formal launch of the CCF project in June 2021, there was submitted a report by Councillor Gordan Low, Leader of East Dunbartonshire Council and Land Use and Sustainability Lead providing an update on the progress of the CCF initiative since its launch and proposing that a CCF Glasgow City Region (GCR) Concordat be endorsed by Cabinet, advising

- (1) that the aim of the CCF was to enable and co-ordinate an approach that would deliver a major increase in tree planting across the GCR by 2032 as a response to the Climate Emergency;
- (2) that the specific objectives for the CCF were based on 3 C's, namely, Canopy, Connectivity and Carbon, as detailed in the report;
- (3) that over the next decade the CCF would facilitate and co-ordinate:-
 - (a) tree planting in urban neighbourhoods where there were few trees, and which were susceptible to the impacts of a changing climate;
 - (b) new native woodlands in target locations which joined up existing woodland habitats; and
 - (c) a doubling of the current rate of forest and woodland planting in the Region;
- (4) that a Programme Board had been established to provide oversight for the project and a Steering Group to provide direction and co-ordination for the project's programme of work;
- (5) of the progress that had been made since June 2021, including a summary of the work that had been undertaken for each of the Canopy, Connectivity and Carbon objectives, all as detailed in the report;

- (6) that over the course of its first year those actively involved in the CCF had learned that there were great opportunities that could be pursued arising from the initiative, however, there were also some barriers to realising those opportunities and in order to allow GCR Councils to fully play their role in the initiative there was a need to clarify the role of the CCF Team, and its delivery partners, and the role of the Councils, particularly in relation to the urban canopy aims of the CCF; and
- (7) of a proposal that Cabinet endorse the CCF/GCR Concordat, detailed in an Appendix to the report.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by Max Hislop, Director of the Clyde Climate Forest, the Cabinet

- (i) noted and welcomed the first-year report on progress of the CCF initiative and the development of the CCF/GCR Concordat;
- (ii) further noted that CCF would seek approval of the Concordat from the individual local authorities in order to maintain local democratic oversight; and
- (iii) endorsed the CCF/GCR Concordat.

Date of next meeting.

7 The Cabinet noted that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, 8th November 2022 at 1000 hours.