

GLASGOW CITY REGION CABINET.

Item 1

7th December 2021

Minutes of meeting held on 5th October 2021 by video conference.

Present: Councillor Susan Aitken (Chair), Glasgow City Council; Councillor Andrew Polson, East Dunbartonshire Council; Councillor Tony Buchanan, East Renfrewshire Council; Councillor Stephen McCabe, Inverclyde Council; Councillor Jim Logue, North Lanarkshire Council; Councillor Marie McGurk, Renfrewshire Council (substitute for Councillor Iain Nicolson); Councillor John Ross, South Lanarkshire Council; and Councillor Karen Conaghan, West Dunbartonshire Council (substitute for Councillor Jonathan McColl).

Apologies: Councillor Iain Nicolson, Renfrewshire Council and Councillor Jonathan McColl, West Dunbartonshire Council.

Attending: N Lyttle (Clerk); A O'Donnell, K Rush and J Thompson, Glasgow City Council; G Cornes, East Dunbartonshire Council; L McMillan, East Renfrewshire Council; L Long, Inverclyde Council; D Murray, North Lanarkshire Council; N Yardley, Renfrewshire Council; C Sneddon, South Lanarkshire Council; R Cairns, West Dunbartonshire Council; D McNulty, Commission on Economic Growth; and A Boak and M Williams, Grant Thornton UK LLP.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

1 There was submitted and approved the minutes of 10th August 2021.

Minutes of Glasgow City Region Education Committee noted.

2 There was submitted and noted the minutes of the Glasgow City Region Education Committee of 24th August 2021.

Glasgow City Region Cabinet – Register of Interests 2021/22 noted.

3 With reference to the minutes of 13th June 2017 noting that the Assurance Framework specified that each member of the Cabinet was required to make a declaration of interests to be submitted annually to Cabinet, there was submitted and noted a report by the Chief Executive, Glasgow City Council, advising

- (1) of the Register of Interests for each Cabinet member and their substitutes, as detailed in the appendix to the report; and
- (2) that the register would be updated and published as further returns were received and that members would continue to be asked to update their declaration annually.

Home Energy Retrofit Programme Final Report – Presentation noted - Proposed areas for future development and activity agreed etc.

4 With reference to the minutes of 6th April 2021 noting an update on the development of a feasibility study for the home energy retrofit programme, there was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth providing an update on the key points within the Strategic Programme Business Case for a Glasgow City Region (GCR) approach to a home energy retrofit programme, developed by Grant Thornton, and setting out proposed areas for future development and activity, advising

- (1) of the background to the proposal and the scope of the programme feasibility study that had been led and informed by the Housing and Equalities Portfolio Group, as detailed in the report;
- (2) of the key findings of the report from Grant Thornton, which had considered the potential pathways to achieving Energy Performance Certificate C for the 428,000 properties currently under this standard, as well as taking further steps to achieve low or net zero carbon solutions for all 886,156 domestic properties in the GCR;
- (3) of a number of proposed areas to be developed in response to the Grant Thornton paper, as detailed in the report;
- (4) that the Grant Thornton report had set out a number of workstreams to progress the planning and delivery of regional retrofit work, as detailed in the report;
- (5) that it was proposed to continue to draw on the expertise of the Expert Advisory Group, albeit in smaller groups across each of the initial workstreams; and
- (6) of a proposal that the report recommendations be forwarded to the Housing and Equalities Portfolio Group for consultation and to inform discussion with the Scottish Government and other key partners, that the Portfolio Group develop the relevant workstreams required to progress the recommendations, and that the Programme Management Office report back to the Chief Executives' Group on a proposed governance structure to progress the work, following consultation with the Housing Portfolio Group and the Expert Advisory Group.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by Mark Williams, Grant Thornton UK LLP, the Cabinet

- (a) noted the report; and
- (b) agreed to endorse the areas of activity to be progressed, as detailed in the report, and to receive further updates as the retrofit programme progressed.

Draft Regional Economic Strategy approved etc.

5 With reference to the minutes of 10th August 2021 noting progress on the development of the Regional Economic Strategy (RES), there was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth providing the Cabinet with the draft of the new RES, as detailed in an appendix to the report, confirming the next steps for finalising the RES and outlining the process for completing the detailed action plan, advising

- (1) of the background work undertaken by the Glasgow City Region team, in consultation with wider partners in respect of the strategy development process, as detailed in the report;
- (2) that at the last meeting of this Cabinet, the vision had been agreed as set out in the strategy, with the strategy now being split into 4 sections, all as detailed in the report, and also included a high-level action plan which had been agreed by the Chief Executives' Group on 23rd September 2021;
- (3) that the action plan was intentionally high-level as there needed to be significantly more engagement with partners and funders before it could be finalised, however, encouragingly, initial indications had predicted that it aligned with emerging work on the National Economic Transformation Strategy and the Shared Prosperity Fund prospectus;
- (4) that the action plan would be worked on over the next 6 months and would be ready for the next financial year, with the aim of having the programmes scaled, owners assigned and funding identified, together with input from partner representatives from the various portfolio groups; and
- (5) that it was proposed to refer the strategy to the Regional Partnership on 27th October 2021 for sign-off, followed by a proposed formal launch event at the next meeting of this Cabinet on 7th December 2021.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by Kevin Rush, Director of Regional Economic Growth, the Cabinet

- (a) approved the new RES; and
- (b) agreed that regular progress reports be submitted to Cabinet as the RES action plan developed.

Interim performance report noted.

6 There was submitted an interim performance report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth for the period to 28th September 2021 providing updates on the progress of the City Deal Programme, including key performance indicators for the Infrastructure Fund programme and an overview of progress for City Region Portfolio Groups and the City Region Intelligence Hub.

After consideration, the Cabinet noted

- (1) the report and that the Housing and Equalities Portfolio Group was preparing a regional response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Energy Performance Certificates and that this would be signed-off and submitted by the Chair of the Group, as detailed in the report;
- (2) the business cases and Change Control Request approved in the period by the Chief Executives' Group and the Director of Regional Economic Growth under their respective delegated authorities, as detailed in the report; and
- (3) that the Tontine and Medicity City Deal projects had concluded their period of benefits realisation and that the revised annual monitoring and reporting arrangements for the ICE project had also been agreed, with the Assurance Framework being updated to reflect those changes, as detailed in the report.

Fourth Glasgow City Region Infrastructure summit 2021 - Position noted etc.

7 There was submitted a report by Councillor Tony Buchanan, Leader of East Renfrewshire Council and Portfolio Lead for Infrastructure and Assets regarding the outcome of the fourth Glasgow City Region Infrastructure summit held with the major utility companies and infrastructure providers on 3rd September 2021, advising

- (1) of the background to the fourth summit, a list of the attendees and the goals of the partnership working with the utility companies, as detailed in the report;
- (2) that prior to the summit, an information pack had been circulated and highlighted the main projects currently under development in the city region;
- (3) that the summit attendees had been updated on the successful conclusion of the City Deal project and infrastructure provider investment mapping project, as well as progress to date on the 'Internet of Things';
- (4) that the summit had heard presentations on the Glasgow Metro and Clyde Mission proposals that highlighted opportunities for targeted collaboration with partners as well as wider engagement and the Director of Regional Economic Growth had outlined the ambition to build on both the mapping exercise and emerging significant strategic investment proposals across the region to develop a comprehensive Regional Capital Investment Plan;
- (5) that it had been suggested that the recently launched Construction Pipeline Forecast Tool by Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) could be the most efficient and appropriate vehicle for collating and mapping regional investment data and all partners, including Member Authorities, had agreed:-
 - (a) that where possible, individual organisations would share committed capital spend data to a Regional Capital Investment Plan; and

- (b) SFT would engage with the utility partners to demonstrate the Construction Pipeline Forecast Tool and explore the sharing of data to further enable alignment of strategic capital investment across the city region; and
- (6) of a discussion which had taken place regarding climate change and how partners might identify how their organisations would contribute towards achieving net zero targets, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (i) noted
 - (A) the success of the fourth Glasgow City Region Infrastructure summit;
 - (B) the community and financial benefits achieved as a result of the ongoing collaborative working; and
 - (C) the evolution of aligning strategic investment to the emerging Regional Capital Investment Plan; and
- (ii) agreed to support the ongoing development of the SFT Construction Pipeline Forecast Tool through the submission of updated capital investment data from Member Authorities and partners.

Date of next meeting noted.

8 The Cabinet noted that the next meeting would take place on Thursday, 7th December 2021 at 10.00am.