

Notice of meeting and agenda

Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

10.00 am Friday, 4th March, 2022

Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to watch the live webcast.

The law allows the Joint Committee to consider some issues in private. Any items under "Private Business" will not be published, although the decisions will be recorded in the minute.

Contacts

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1. Order of Business

- 1.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

3. Previous Minutes

- 3.1 Minute of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee of 3 December 2021 – submitted for approval as a correct record 7 - 12

4. Forward Planning

- 4.1 Joint Committee Work Programme – report by Dr Grace Vickers, Chief Officer, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal 13 - 16

5. Items for Consideration

- 5.1 IMPACT Scotland – Dunard Centre Business Case – report by Joanna Baker, Executive Director, IMPACT Scotland 17 - 46
- 5.2 City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Implementation Plan update report – report by John Scott, Head of Delivery, Data-Driven Innovation Programme, University of Edinburgh and Senior Responsible Officer for the Benefits Realisation Plan for the City Region Deal 47 - 82

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| 5.3 | City Region Deal Progress Report – report by Dr Grace Vickers, Chief Officer, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal | 83 - 98 |
| 5.4 | Consultation on Draft National Planning Framework 4: Proposed Response – report by Craig McCorrison, Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration, West Lothian Council | 99 - 140 |
| 5.5 | Data-Driven Innovation progress update – presentation by Peter Mathieson, Principal and Vice Chancellor, University of Edinburgh and Jarmo Eskelinen, Director of Data-Driven Innovation, University of Edinburgh | Verbal Report |

Gavin King

Clerk

Membership

The City of Edinburgh Council

Councillor Adam McVey

Scottish Borders Council

Councillor Mark Rowley

East Lothian Council

Councillor Norman Hampshire

West Lothian Council

Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick

Fife Council

Councillor David Alexander

Councillor David Ross

Higher/Further Education Consortium

Prof Peter Mathieson

Midlothian Council

Councillor Russell Imrie

Regional Enterprise Council

Claire Pattullo

Garry Clark

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Jamie Macrae, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2.1, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG, Tel 0131 553 8242, email jamie.macrae@edinburgh.gov.uk.

A copy of the agenda and papers for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the main reception office, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh.

The agenda, minutes and public reports for this meeting can be viewed online by going to <https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk> .

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Minutes

Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

Microsoft Teams

10.00am, Friday 3 December 2021

Present:

Fife Council – Councillor David Alexander and Councillor David Ross

City of Edinburgh Council – Councillor Adam McVey

Midlothian Council – Councillor Russell Imrie

Scottish Borders Council – Councillor Mark Rowley

Regional Enterprise Council – Garry Clark and Claire Pattullo

In attendance:

Steve Grimmond, Chief Executive, Fife Council

Dr Grace Vickers, Chief Executive, Midlothian Council

Andy Nichol, City Region Deal Programme Manager, City of Edinburgh Council

Graeme Rigg, City Region Deal PMO, City of Edinburgh Council

Adam Dunkerley, Opportunities Fife Partnership Manager, Fife Council

Keith Winter, Executive Director Enterprise and Environment, Fife Council

David Baxter, Senior Programme Officer, City of Edinburgh Council

David Hanna, City Region Deal PMO, City of Edinburgh Council

Lisa Howden, Trainee Accountant, City of Edinburgh Council

Jamie Macrae, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council

Sat Patel, Programme Director - Edinburgh Waterfront, City of Edinburgh Council

Douglas Proudfoot, Executive Director of Place, East Lothian Council

Craig McCorrison, Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration,
West Lothian Council

Jenni Craig, Service Director Customer & Communities, Scottish Borders Council

Amy Phillips, Transport Scotland

Mokshda Bheem Singh, Transport Scotland

Tommy Lawson, Schools Technology Adviser, University of Edinburgh

Apologies

Councillor Norman Hampshire (East Lothian Council), Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick (West Lothian Council), Professor Peter Mathieson

1. Condolences

Decision

To record the Joint Committee's condolences, following the passing of Councillor Willie Innes, East Lothian Council Leader.

2. Membership

Decision

To record the Joint Committee's thanks to Councillor Shona Haslam for her contribution to the Joint Committee, following her standing down as Leader of Scottish Borders Council, and to welcome Councillor Mark Rowley as the new Leader and as a member of the Joint Committee.

3. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee 3 December 2021 as a correct record.

4. Work Programme

The Work Programme was presented and detailed the planned dates for the City Region Deal business case approvals by Joint Committee.

Decision

To note the planned dates for future business for the City Region Deal Joint Committee.

(Reference – Work Programme, submitted.)

5. Internet of Things in Schools

Dr Grace Vickers and Tommy Lawson, Schools Technology Adviser, Data-Driven Innovation Programme, gave a presentation on the Internet of Things in Schools and the Joint Committee also heard from a group of P6 pupils from Roslin Primary School. The official launch of the Internet of Things in Schools project took place at

Roslin Primary School in November. Details were provided of the Data Education in Schools Programme – it was important for young people to drive innovation around data. The aim was to enable all young people to become data citizens. Sensor data would measure temperature, CO2, humidity and other things in the classroom, and air quality in outdoor spaces. The project included 550 schools and 121,000 pupils.

Decision

To note the presentation and update.

(Reference – presentation by the Chief Executive, Midlothian Council and Schools Technology Adviser, Data-Driven Innovation Programme, submitted.)

6. A720 Sheriffhall Roundabout

An update was provided by Transport Scotland on the progress that had been made with the Sherriffhall Roundabout.

Transport Scotland had been engaging with partners to provide further technical information on the Sheriffhall scheme. Since the last update, the focus had been on engaging with objectors to the scheme. When draft orders were published in 2019, around 2,800 objections were received. As of December 2021, Transport Scotland had responded to 96% of those objections, and were currently working towards responding to the remainder.

Transport Scotland had prepared a paper which considered wider impacts of the scheme, in preparation for a public local enquiry, including how the scheme supported the objectives of the City Region Deal.

Decision

To note the update.

7. City Region Deal Progress Report

The Joint Committee considered a report that advised of progress across the City Region Deal Programme.

A RAG (Red, Amber, Green) scale was assigned to programmes and projects by the Partnership Management Office (PMO), as well as scores for inclusive growth and partnership working. In this update, the overall status was assigned as 'Green' and there were no actions for the Joint Committee.

Decision

To note the progress across the City Region Deal Programme.

(Reference – report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal, submitted.)

8. Edinburgh and South East Scotland Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) Programme update

Adam Dunkerley provided an update on the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) Programme, covering key milestones/highlights, financial progress, monitoring and evaluation, key challenges and next steps.

In terms of key highlights, there had been some important work to respond to the impact of Covid-19, supporting business to retain jobs through the employer fund, and supporting employers by advertising vacancies through the employer portal. HCI Graduates exceeded the targets of female scholars at 60%. DDI had been running live lessons on data and data insights training. The programme had been looking at green energy skills, and how to roll out as part of future skills training, which would link in with the Regional Prosperity Framework. The new Helix information management system had launched in Midlothian, but would be joined by Scottish Borders, Fife and West Lothian over the next few years. There was a range of Mobility Mapping work underway.

Decision

To note the update.

(Reference – presentation by the IRES Programme Manager, submitted.)

9. Granton Waterfront Regeneration Outline Business Case

The Outline Business Case for the Granton Waterfront Regeneration project was presented to the Joint Committee, following Stage 1 and Stage 2 approval by the City of Edinburgh Council's Policy and Sustainability Committee in February and October 2021.

Decision

- 1) To note the findings and recommendations set out within the Outline Business Case.
- 2) To note the Stage 3 activities to be carried out to produce a Final Business Case for Phase 1 'Heart of Granton', which would include procurement of a development partner and progression of the business case stages for a low carbon district heat network.
- 3) To note progress with delivering Early Action Projects within the Programme.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, City of Edinburgh Council, submitted.)

10. National Climate Summit Ambition Statement

Details were provided on the National Climate Summit Ambition Statement, which had been endorsed by more than 50 organisations and senior leaders at the Scottish Government-hosted National Climate Resilience Summit on 1 October 2021. The Joint Committee was asked to endorse the Ambition Statement.

Decision

To endorse the Ambition Statement that was set out at the National Climate Resilience Summit, organised by the Scottish Government on 1 October 2021.

(Reference – report by the Chief Officer, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal, submitted.)

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Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

10 am, Friday 4 March 2022

Work Programme for City Region Deal Joint Committee

Item number 4.1

Executive Summary

This paper outlines the planned dates for City Region Deal business case approvals by Joint Committee.

Dr Grace Vickers

Chief Officer, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal

Contact: Andy Nichol, Programme Manager, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal

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Work Programme for City Region Deal Joint Committee

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To note the planned dates for future business for the City Region Deal Joint Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1 The City Region Deal partners and Government are working towards business case approval timelines, as set out in this report. This matches with the timeline for drawing down funds from Government over the 15 years of the City Region Deal as set out in the Financial Plan agreed in summer 2018, and the grant offer letter for 2021/22.
- 2.2 In addition to the business cases, other reports that are expected to be submitted to Joint Committee are included in the work programme.

3. Main report

- 3.1 The work programme for Joint Committee meetings that partners are currently working towards is shown in Table 1. The dates are subject to business cases being approved by: The Scottish Government; the UK Government; the relevant Boards within the City Region Deal structure; and the relevant Council committees and/or Higher and Further Education Courts, prior to Joint Committee consideration.

Table 1: Work Programme for Joint Committee

Joint Committee Date	Reports for consideration
4 March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits Realisation Plan Implementation Plan update • Consultation on Draft National Planning Framework 4: Proposed Response • IMPACT Scotland – Dunard Centre Business Case • Data-Driven Innovation progress update (presentation)
24 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A720 Sheriffhall roundabout progress update (presentation)
2 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Region Deal Annual Report 2021/22 • Regional Prosperity Framework Implementation Plan • West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Plan Business Case
2 December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A720 Sheriffhall roundabout progress update (presentation) • Integrated Regional Employability and Skills Programme Update (presentation)

3.2 The A720 City Bypass grade separation of Sheriffhall Roundabout is being managed and delivered by Transport Scotland. Transport Scotland are scheduled to provide updates on progress to the Transport Appraisal Board, as well as the Executive Board and Joint Committee every six months.

4. Financial impact

4.1 There is no financial impact relating to this report. Financial cases are being set out in detail in the respective business cases. Financial contributions that are required by partner organisations for projects are being requested in separate reports to councils or courts prior to being taken to Joint Committee for approval.

5. Alignment with Sustainable, Inclusive Growth Ambitions

5.1 Inclusion and sustainability are key drivers for the City Region Deal, and strategic added value scores have been included for each project. Business cases for projects included demonstrate how they will reduce inequalities and tackle the inclusion challenges specific to the city region.

- 5.2 The [City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Plan](#) (BRP) was approved on 4 September 2020. This incorporates indicators that align with the Scottish Government's Inclusive Growth Framework. The impact on equalities, human rights and sustainability will also be measured. A BRP Implementation Plan is currently being developed, and as part of this, a viability study, to enhance the monitoring, evaluation and on-going management of the outcomes and impacts of the Deal, is being conducted. A progress update on its implementation is being taken separately to this Committee.
- 5.3 In August 2021, Scottish and UK Government have provided joint guidance for project owners on managing potential carbon emissions associated with Scottish City Region and Regional Growth Deal projects. It accords with HM Treasury Green Book requirements and supports the quantification and minimisation of whole life carbon and the identification of potential barriers to achieving net zero. A workshop with ESESCR Deal project leads took place in September 2021 to explain the guidance and agree actions required. Project leads have since categorised their projects in terms of carbon control and carbon influence. This will form an important part of regular reporting through the Benefits Realisation Plan.

6. Background reading/external references

- 6.1 [City Region Deal Document](#): August 2018

7. Appendices

None.

Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

10am, Friday 4 March 2022

IMPACT Scotland: Dunard Centre Final Business Case

Item number 5.1

Executive Summary

This paper seeks approval for the Final Business Case for Dunard Centre, a new 1000 seat concert hall and performance venue on Edinburgh's St Andrew Square. It will be home to the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, a key venue for Edinburgh International Festival and offers the ideal conditions for excellence in music making, delivering performance, educational and outreach programmes to inspire and support audiences of all ages, and for generations to come.

Joanna Baker

Executive Director | IMPACT Scotland

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IMPACT Scotland: Dunard Centre Business Case

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To approve the Summary Business Case (SBC) included as an Appendix to this report;
- 1.2 To note that this paper follows the Business Case for 'IMPACT Centre' submitted and approved by this committee in 2019 to secure £25m from the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal;
- 1.3 To note that the revisions in this report relate to the revised design scheme for the building and associated business plan for the venue; and
- 1.4 To note that City of Edinburgh Council's Development Management sub committee granted planning approval and listed building consent for the scheme in November 2021.

2. Background

- 2.1 Dunard Centre is being delivered as part of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal as the sole project in the 'Culture' theme. The programme will deliver Edinburgh's first purpose - built music venue in 100 years, with a 1000 seat auditorium, rehearsal and recording facilities and an inspiring educational and outreach programme
- 2.2 There has been a long-term unmet market need for a new mid-scale music venue in Edinburgh. These reviews include: The City of Edinburgh Council's 2006 Review of Music Provision; the 2009 Cultural Venues Study; the EKOS Music Sector Study of 2014; the 2015 Thundering Hooves 2.0 study; and, audience research by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra in 2011, 2012 and 2013 which highlighted that only 44.4% of respondents believed that current venues were of a high quality. As a result, several promoters report that many artists choose not to perform in Edinburgh due to the lack of appropriate facilities.¹

¹ Which has a knock-on effect in terms of indigenous promoters as emphasised in the EKOS report: "*Scotland is well-served in general by the range and geographical scope of music promoters - and the venue stock is generally good. The breadth of provision for audiences, however, is limited in some areas - especially the minority interests such as contemporary classical and world music and jazz - in which the lack of promoters was particularly noted*".

- 2.3 The opportunity to address this long-term need arose in 2015 with the potential availability of the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) site at St Andrew Square in the centre of Edinburgh. During 2015 and 2016 work was undertaken by the steering group of the project, known as the Project Board, to validate the key questions of affordability, site space sufficiency and operational viability. This involved the commissioning of Architects, Allies & Morrison, who produced a costed Masterplan which satisfactorily addressed the questions of affordability and site space sufficiency and set the brief for the subsequent tendering process for the appointment of an Architect led Design Team.
- 2.4 In April 2016, a charitable trust was formed – the International Music and Performing Arts Charitable Trust Scotland (known as IMPACT Scotland) – to undertake the building of the Centre and to operate it after completion.
- 2.5 In May 2017 a Design Team was appointed by the Trust led by David Chipperfield Architects with acoustic consultants, Nagata Acoustics and Turner & Townsend (as project managers and cost consultants). In 2020, this latter contract was re-visited with Turner and Townsend retained as project managers and Thompson Gray appointed as cost consultants.
- 2.6 In July 2017, Heads of Terms were signed for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal. These state that the UK and Scottish Government would each provide up to £10m of capital funding to support the delivery of a new IMPACT concert hall that will reinforce Edinburgh’s position as a pre-eminent Festival City. This commitment was reiterated in the Deal Document signed in August 2018.
- 2.7 The first iteration of the design received planning consent and listed building consents from the City of Edinburgh Council in May 2019. These decisions were the subject of a petition for judicial review from the developers of the St James Quarter. The parties engaged in a process of mediation and agreement was reached on how to address the matters at dispute in January 2020. IMPACT Scotland agreed to re-design the concert hall and submit a revised planning application. The principal change to the original design is the omission of a 200-seat studio in the basement, resulting in reduced height and basement volume.
- 2.8 The financial viability of the revised design was assessed in April/May 2021 by leading cultural experts Nick Dodds and John Mortlock of Festival and Events International (FEI) who have extensive experience of producing financial business plans for venues. Their work included the development of a flexible financial template for the venue which will be used to assess the financial impact of a range of different programme models as creative plans for the venue are developed and refined.
- 2.9 The revised design was submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council for planning determination in August 2021 and received planning consent in November 2021
- 2.10 IMPACT Scotland is led by Executive Director Joanna Baker CBE, formerly Managing Director of Edinburgh International Festival (EIF), and by a board of unremunerated trustees, chaired jointly by Fergus Linehan – Festival Director and CEO of EIF and Gavin Reid, Chief Executive of Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO)

with a board of six further trustees providing a wide range of expertise. The Board meets regularly to assess progress.

3. Main report

- 3.1 IMPACT Scotland, a Scottish registered charity (SC046904), plans to build and operate a new world-class performance venue in the heart of Edinburgh. With a 1000 seat auditorium, it will deliver a wide range of performance, education and outreach programmes. The site will be enhanced by the provision of a cafe and bar facilities.
- 3.2 Dunard Centre will be immediately adjacent to a historic building on St Andrew Square and will provide a new home for the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO), the only Edinburgh-based National Performing Arts Company. It will also provide an additional premier performance space for the Edinburgh International Festival (EIF).
- 3.3 This will be the first new facility of its kind to be built in Edinburgh for 100 years and is the culmination of a 25-year search by the City of Edinburgh Council and the SCO for a much-needed medium sized music venue in the city.
- 3.4 The Centre will rival the best in Europe for acoustics and audience experience and will host a wide range of musical performance from orchestral to jazz and folk as well as being a significant base for education, learning and outreach programmes (supporting health & wellbeing) and a welcome addition to the Edinburgh conference market.
- 3.5 The Centre will be ideally placed to take maximum advantage of the public transport system and will contribute to the opening up of the East End of the city, complementing the revival of the St James Quarter and the Register Lanes project.
- 3.6 The site on which the new venue will be built has been provided by the Royal Bank of Scotland on a 125-year lease at a peppercorn rent and will provide a direct linkage to their historic registered office, Dundas House, which includes one of the finest domed banking halls in the UK. Dunard House will serve as an occasional ceremonial entrance to the concert hall with the potential for special events in the banking hall by agreement with Royal Bank of Scotland.
- 3.7 A financial and operational business plan prepared by Nick Dodds and John Mortlock of Festival and Events International Ltd (FEI) was approved by Trustees in April 2021 and is updated regularly. The Plan draws on latest architect plans including details of floor area, seating capacity/sightlines and circulation and ancillary hospitality spaces; consultations with stakeholder and related regional/national performing arts organisations; interviews with local and national promoters and potential hirers. It is also informed by the previous Operational Business Plan and supporting financial models from an earlier version of the proposed concert hall development (2016); the previous Business Case (2018) and initial research carried out by Graham Devlin in 2016/17. Information derived from these sources have been combined with FEI's knowledge of comparable venues and cultural organisations and supplemented where necessary by additional research in order to build an integrated financial business plan. The audience and

financial assumptions in this new plan are conservative compared with previous iterations.

- 3.8 With EIF and SCO as anchor tenants, Dunard Centre aims to deliver a programme that speaks to the interests, appetites, and passions of a diverse and growing region. Partnership working will be key and our approach to shaping the programme will be developed alongside the City region and the sector.
- 3.9 In time, this will be shaped by the Chief Executive & Artistic Director role but in the next few months we will appoint a lead artistic advisor whose brief will include developing the artistic and engagement vision for Dunard Centre alongside a programme of pre-opening events and activity ahead of venue's opening. The role will also support the recruitment of a user advisory panel which reflects the region and a globally diverse creative sector as well as the hall's vision for an international and digitally enhanced programme.
- 3.10 Through the delivery of a broad educational and community programme, the Centre will develop opportunities to involve those socio-economic groups across the region, that are currently under-represented as artists and in audiences. A key aspect of this programme will be to engage people through lifelong learning, from the very youngest to the elderly, addressing the needs of all through different stages in life, including through the pre-opening programme of events and activities that will lay the groundwork of these partnerships, and designed to reach across the region.
- 3.11 Extensive engagement with a wide range of interested parties and two public consultations have taken place. Support for the project is widespread. Discussions with existing venues have confirmed that the Centre will be complementary to existing provision and will not displace any of their future planned activities.
- 3.12 The appended summary business case states that the venue is projected to attract steady state annual audience levels of around 200,000 generating a total net economic impact in the region of £111 million GVA (Gross Value Added) in its first 20 years of operation.

Outcomes

3.13 Dunard Centre will:

- be Edinburgh's first new music venue in 100 years, complementing and enhancing the Region's existing venue infrastructure with 21st Century facilities;
- rival the best facilities in Europe for acoustics and audience experience;
- be a thrilling home for all kinds of musical performance – from orchestral to jazz and folk – welcoming chamber groups, soloists, and choirs;
- provide the opportunity for a step change in how music is presented, curated and developed in the city and help to maintain Edinburgh's position as an International Festival City and leading centre for music and the performing arts;
- create innovative public service delivery, collaborative digital music opportunities with opportunities for the creation of new IP and partnerships and online streaming of performances to enhance the city's cultural

reputation nationally and internationally, as a result of state-of-the art digital facilities;

- support a sustainable tourism strategy by developing Edinburgh's year-round offer;
- be a year-round vibrant and busy focal point complementing the opening up of the East End of the New Town at the revived St. James Quarter.
- deliver an exemplar public building offering the highest standards of accessibility and sustainability, with a target of delivering a carbon net zero building by 2035 or earlier;
- embed opportunities for residents of the region for learning at every point of the construction and artistic programme;
- support a net level of 219 cultural and tourism sector jobs in the region and rest of Scotland, once fully operational;
- generate a total net economic impact in the region of £69 GVA resulting in a public sector cost benefit ratio of 1:3, (over the first ten years of operation - and accounting for risks, non-additionality and whole life carbon cost impacts);
- achieve net GVA of roughly £111 million at a CBR of 1:5, over a longer 20-year operating period (to 2045/6)

3.14 Sensitivity analysis indicates that the preferred option is sufficiently robust to any significant downside risk - over the first ten years benefits would need to fall by over 67% before the economic costs exceed economic benefits.

4. Financial impact

4.1 The total capital requirement for the project is £75m, of which £25m will come from the City Region Deal (£10m from UK Government, £10m from the Scottish Government and £5m from the City of Edinburgh Council). These funds have been agreed, subject to full business case approval by Governments and the Joint Committee

4.2 A further £35m has been pledged by the Centre's major benefactor Dunard Fund. The remaining £15m (plus a £5m contingency) will be raised from a fundraising campaign of which a significant proportion is already pledged.

4.3 In addition to a £35m pledge toward the capital cost the Dunard Fund is also committed to:

- providing its funds ahead of monies received from the public sector; and
- underwriting pre-opening operational costs and annual deficits of the centre in the first three years of trading whilst the business model and venue are being established (up to £2m in total).

4.4 Beyond this period, Dunard Centre will increase commercial revenue and/or increase fundraising from other sources to achieve a break-even budget. Benchmarked statistics on fundraising income from comparator venues demonstrate the viability of this approach. There will therefore be no further call on public funds for this project.

- 4.5 Royal Bank of Scotland has agreed to grant IMPACT Scotland a 125-year lease on the site at a nominal rent. IMPACT Scotland places a value of £15m on this arrangement, in return for which, the provisional name for the venue is ***Dunard Centre supported by the Royal Bank of Scotland.***

5. Alignment with Sustainable, Inclusive Growth Ambitions

- 5.1 All City Region Deal partners recognise the importance of ensuring that inclusive growth ambitions are embedded in their plans and respond to the particular challenges faced across the region. To address these challenges five themes were identified in the [Deal Document](#) by the partners of which two are pertinent to the current proposals namely: “a significant programme of construction”; and, “social benefit through innovation”
- 5.2 In regard to the former theme, IMPACT will (in the construction and subsequent operating phase of the Centre) use agreed City Region Deal procurement Community Benefit clauses to support inclusive employment practices and other opportunities to meet inclusive growth targets.
- 5.3 In respect of the latter theme (social benefit through innovation), consideration has been given to how the project can make a positive contribution to inclusive growth by influencing and supporting the cultural sector in building audiences that reflect the true, diverse nature of society.
- 5.4 Through the delivery of a wide ranging educational and community programme the Centre will develop opportunities - with a range of City Region Deal and other partners - to involve those socio-economic groups currently under-represented as participants and (in) audiences. A key aspect of this programme will be to engage people through lifelong learning, from the very youngest to the elderly, addressing the needs of all through different stages of life. Such activities will be run by partner performing companies (i.e. the SCO, EIF etc.) and by IMPACT through the appointment of a full-time education officer and the provision of venue inventory for educational outreach activities.
- 5.5 Dunard Centre has been designed for a low carbon future with sustainability through reduction of the use of fossil fuel and embodied carbon as key design principles. The Centre’s city centre location and excellent transport links provide maximum opportunities for public transport and minimise the need to for car usage.
- 5.6 The building itself has been designed with passive design principles embedded through enhanced building thermal performance and low building air tightness. The building’s heating and cooling source is a high efficiency revisable heat pump solution using electricity which achieves compliance with Section 6 of the Technical Standards with a Silver Active sustainability certification achieved.
- 5.7 These design and operating principles are aimed at delivering an exemplar public building offering the highest standards of accessibility and sustainability, with a target of delivering a carbon net zero building by 2035 or earlier.

6. Background reading/external references

- 6.1 [IMPACT Centre Business Case – ESESCRD Joint Committee meeting 17 December 2018](#)
- 6.2 [Application for Planning approval and listed building consent: The City of Edinburgh Council Development Management Sub Committee – 24 November 2021](#)

7. Appendices

- 7.1 The Dunard Centre – Summary Business Case (Revised 2022)

The Dunard Centre

SUMMARY OF FINAL BUSINESS CASE 2021

The creation of a new world-class performance venue in Edinburgh with a 1,000 seat auditorium delivering performance, rehearsal and recording space alongside educational and outreach programmes to inspire and support both young and old.

A showcase for music of all kinds, the Dunard Centre will be the home for the internationally acclaimed Scottish Chamber Orchestra, a world-class space for the Edinburgh International Festival and a year-round bustling arts destination for performance, audiences and the wider community.



Introduction

For the first time in 100 years, a new centre for music and performance is being created in Edinburgh. The Dunard Centre will stage every kind of music and so meet the city's long-recognised need for a purpose-built, mid-sized music and performance venue. One of the boldest ventures in the city's recent past, the hall's acoustic quality and audience experience will match the best in Europe and so will further build the city's standing as one of the world's great cultural capitals.

Situated in the heart of Edinburgh's New Town, the Centre places culture at the heart of the city's development. It will be a catalyst for new creative and educational possibilities for Edinburgh and Scotland's artistic community and audiences and performers of all ages, backgrounds and levels of ability.

Designed by architectural and acoustic design practices recognised as amongst the best in the world, the Dunard Centre will propel the city forward. Much as the Usher Hall created the possibility of a first Edinburgh Festival and all that followed it, the Centre takes Edinburgh to a new level of performance on the world stage.

This is an initiative of great imagination and boldness: it has been made possible through a remarkable funding partnership with outstanding personal philanthropy at its heart. Dunard Fund, one of the principal philanthropic benefactors of Edinburgh's cultural life in modern times, has committed an exceptionally generous gift. This has been followed by a substantial grant from the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal (ESES CRD) and the much-valued support of the Royal Bank of Scotland. A new charity, IMPACT Scotland, has been established to lead the development of the project and to operate the venue once it has opened.

A 2018 version of this Business Case was approved by the ESES CR Deal Joint Committee in 2019. That Business Case was based on a previous design for the Dunard Centre which received planning consent in the Autumn of 2019 but which was subsequently the subject of a petition for a Judicial Review by the developers of the St James Quarter. Following a mediation process IMPACT Scotland agreed to submit a revised design for the Centre. This Business Case updates the 2018 Case to reflect the revised design.

SUMMARY

IMPACT Scotland, a Scottish registered charity, plans to build and operate a new world-class performance venue in the heart of Edinburgh comprising a 1,000 seat auditorium delivering a wide range of performance, education and outreach programmes alongside digital and broadcasting facilities, leading to extensive public engagement. The Dunard Centre, supported by Royal Bank of Scotland, will be the new home for the internationally acclaimed Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO) and provide an additional premier performance space for the Edinburgh International Festival (EIF).

This will be the first new facility of its kind to be built in Edinburgh for 100 years and is the culmination of a 25-year search by the City of Edinburgh Council and the SCO for a much needed mid-sized music venue in the City. Two decades of diligent search, involving the public, private and voluntary sectors, had failed to find a site that was available, deliverable and able to be funded. The site at St Andrew Square adjacent to the Royal Bank of Scotland headquarters at Dundas House meets all of these criteria. It is an opportunity unlikely ever to be replicated.

The Dunard Centre will rival the best in Europe for acoustics and audience experience, enhancing Edinburgh's international cultural reputation, offering new opportunities for audience engagement and inclusive growth and providing a new platform for Scottish, UK and international artists. It will host a wide range of musical performance from orchestral to jazz, contemporary and folk as well as being a significant base for education, learning and outreach programmes and a welcome addition to the Edinburgh conference market.

The Dunard Centre complements the Region's existing venue infrastructure, with 21st century facilities which connect artists and audiences in new and exciting ways and supports a sustainable tourism strategy objective to develop Edinburgh's year-round offer.

Sited in St Andrew Square the Dunard Centre is ideally placed to take maximum advantage of the public transport system and will contribute to the opening up of the East End of the City complementing the revival of the St James Quarter and the Register Lanes project.

Following extensive preliminary viability studies, completed in 2016, a design team led by David Chipperfield Architects was appointed alongside world renowned acousticians, Nagata Acoustics, led by Dr Toyota.

Project managers Turner & Townsend and Cost Managers Thomson Gray have also been appointed to advise the Trustees of IMPACT Scotland. There are eight Trustees providing a wide range of expertise and experience, led by Co-Chairs Fergus Linehan (Director of the Edinburgh International Festival) and Gavin Reid (Chief Executive of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra). A small executive team brings many years of experience of cultural leadership, fundraising and cultural capital project delivery.

The site on which the new venue will be built has been provided by the Royal Bank of Scotland on a 125-year lease and will provide a linkage to their historic registered office, Dundas House, which includes one of the finest domed banking halls in the UK.

The Dunard Centre is being designed to offer the highest standards of accessibility and sustainability, with a target of delivering a carbon net zero building by 2035 or earlier.

The total capital funding requirement for the project is £75m of which £25m will come from the ESES City Region Deal and a further £35m has been pledged by the Centre's major benefactor, Dunard Fund. The remaining £15m will be raised from a fund-raising campaign which has already achieved significant progress towards this target. Two-thirds of the cost of construction of the Dunard Centre will therefore be met by private funding – an exceptionally high percentage for a major new public building.

In addition, Dunard Fund has provided its funds ahead of City Deal support and has committed up to £2million to underwrite any annual deficits of the Centre in the year before opening and the first three years of trading. Thereafter the Centre is projected to break even through fundraising and other earned income. There will, therefore, be no further call on public funds for this project.

A revised financial and operational business plan prepared by Nick Dodds and John Mortlock of Festival and Events International Ltd (FEI) was approved by IMPACT Scotland Trustees in April 2021 and updated in Nov 2021. The Plan draws on latest architect plans for the revised design and provides a financial template through which different programming and operational options can be tested as detailed plans for the venue are developed.

Extensive engagement with a wide range of interested parties and two public consultations have taken place. Support for the project is widespread. Discussions with existing venues have confirmed that the Centre will be complementary to and enhance existing provision, offering new opportunities for live music-making and city-wide collaborations. Partnership working will be key in delivering the artistic and outreach programme; the approach to shaping it will be developed alongside the city region and the sector.

As outlined in the original ESECR Deal document a project group formed of IMPACT Scotland and the key stakeholders (CEC and the Scottish and UK Governments) has met regularly to monitor the progress of the capital development and ensure that the project is delivered according to the business plan following sign off of the City Region Deal. The group will evolve into a Board whose remit will be to expand to review the focus for collaborative opportunities across the city region that the Dunard Centre creates, and to oversee the cultural planning for music throughout the city region to ensure that music provision is delivered to reach existing and new audiences across all musical genres.

Partnership discussions are also underway with the Royal High School Preservation Trust, which is developing the old Royal High School on Calton Hill as the National Centre for Music. Likely areas of collaboration include music education and outreach and workshops for music school and wider community participants provided by Dunard Centre visiting artists.

Once fully operational the Centre will support a net level of 219 cultural and tourism sector jobs in the Region and rest of Scotland.

Over the first ten years of operation - and accounting for risks, non additionality and whole life carbon cost impacts - the Centre will generate a total net economic impact in the region of £69 GVA resulting in a public sector cost benefit ratio of 1:3.

Development of Business Case

Significant work was undertaken in progressing the Centre proposals with various plans and background studies provided to City of Edinburgh Council and respective Scottish and UK Government representatives for the previous design of the scheme in 2018. This work has subsequently been updated, summarising the rationale - and implementation and operational

plans - for the Dunard Centre and the resultant wider economic and social benefits that will be generated.

Strategic Context

As reflected in previous reviews of cultural provision in the City, and wider City Region, there has been a long-term unmet market need for a new mid-scale music venue in Edinburgh. These reviews include: The City of Edinburgh Council's 2006 Review of Music Provision; the 2009 Cultural Venues Study; the EKOS Music Sector Study of 2014; the 2015 Thundering Hooves 2.0 study; and, audience research by SCO in 2011, 2012 and 2013 which highlighted that only 44.4% of respondents believed that current venues were of a high quality. As a result, several promoters reported that many artists choose not to perform in Edinburgh due to the lack of appropriate facilities.

Organisational Context

The opportunity to address this long term need arose in 2015 with the potential availability of the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) site at St Andrew Square in the centre of Edinburgh. During 2015 and 2016 work was undertaken by the steering group of the project, known as the Project Board, to validate the key questions of affordability, site space sufficiency and operational viability. This involved the commissioning of Architects, Allies & Morrison, who produced a costed Masterplan which satisfactorily addressed the questions of affordability and site space sufficiency and set the brief for the subsequent tendering process for the appointment of an Architect led Design Team.

In April 2016, a charitable trust was formed: the International Music and Performing Arts Charitable Trust Scotland (known as IMPACT Scotland) to undertake the building of the Centre and to operate it after completion.

In May 2017 a Design Team was appointed by the Trust led by David Chipperfield Architects with acoustic consultants, Nagata Acoustics and Turner & Townsend (as project managers and cost consultants). In 2020 this latter contract was re-visited with Turner and Townsend retained as project managers and Thompson Gray appointed as cost consultants.

In parallel to the above and to assess further the viability of the Centre at the St Andrew Square site two public consultations were held the first on 7th November 2017 and the second on 15th March 2018. Each event attracted over one hundred attendees and evidenced – through questionnaires – widespread support for the Centre proposals. Further consultation was undertaken as the revised design was developed in 2020/21. A highly experienced arts consultant, Graham Devlin, was also commissioned to research the rationale and demand for the Centre.

The first iteration of the design received planning consent and listed building consents from the City of Edinburgh Council in May 2019. These decisions were the subject of a petition for judicial review from the developers of the St James Quarter. The parties engaged in a process of mediation and agreement was reached on how to address the matters at dispute in January 2020. IMPACT Scotland agreed to re-design the concert hall and submit a revised planning application. The principal change to the original design is the omission of a 200 seat studio in the basement, resulting in reduced height and basement volume.

The financial viability of the new design was assessed in April/May 2021 by leading cultural experts Nick Dodds and John Mortlock of Festival and Events International (FEI) who have extensive experience of producing financial business plans for venues. Their work included the development of a flexible financial template for the venue which will be used to assess the financial impact of a range of different programme models as creative plans for the venue are developed and refined.

The revised design was submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council for planning determination in August 2021 and received planning consent in November 2021.

The revised project retains the seating capacity and the world class acoustic quality and audience experience which is at the heart of the project, whilst delivering a highly efficient and flexible venue which allows for a wide range of different uses and rapid turn-arounds. The redesign process has enabled IMPACT to devise new ways of operating, and when compared to the initial proposed design enables more intensive and efficient use of the spaces created and innovative integration with outreach activities throughout the city and beyond, both physically and digitally. The redesign of the auditorium delivers more seats with excellent sightlines whilst the building itself, being reduced in scale, will be more efficient in both construction and operation.

Current Proposals

The Dunard Centre will be built on the site immediately to the rear of and adjacent to the registered office of RBS, Dundas House at 36 St Andrew Square. RBS has agreed to grant IMPACT Scotland a 125 year ground lease at a nominal rent. In addition Dunard Fund has purchased the building at 35 St Andrew Square and will lease it to IMPACT Scotland to house the administration of IMPACT and the SCO and as well as providing facilities for other arts organisations. The use of number 35 as administration offices means that there is no need to include such offices within the new building thereby utilising all space in that building for performance purposes.

The current proposals for the new building envisage the creation of a 1,000-seat concert hall for public performances, rehearsal and the delivery of a wide range of education programmes and a resource for extensive public engagement. As a result the Centre will:

- be Edinburgh's first new performance venue in 100 years, complementing and enhancing the Region's existing venue infrastructure with 21st century facilities;
- rival the best facilities in Europe for acoustics and audience experience;
- be a thrilling home for all kinds of musical performance – from orchestral to jazz and folk – welcoming chamber groups, soloists, and choirs;
- help to maintain Edinburgh's position as an International Festival City and leading centre for music and the performing arts;
- support a sustainable tourism strategy by developing Edinburgh's year-round offer;
- deliver an exemplar public building offering the highest standards of accessibility and sustainability, with an aspirational target date of 2030 for delivering a carbon net zero building;
- be an exceptionally well-located venue with (in): easy walking distance from Waverley Station; immediate access to local and national bus services and adjacent to tram stops which connect to Edinburgh's international airport; and, excellent access for audiences from both the City of Edinburgh and surrounding regions; and,
- on the basis of the above, have the potential to attract (and sustainably operate at) audience and visitor levels for performances, conferences and other events of approximately 200,000 a year.

Over the remaining period of the Deal (until 2033) the current proposals will generate around £69million GVA at a resulting public sector cost benefit ratio of 1:3.

Consequently, the Centre will provide:

- an exciting new home for the SCO, one of the Scottish Government's national performing companies, with the opportunity for the SCO to reach out and build new audiences across the City Region and beyond;
- a much-needed high quality, mid-sized performance venue which will attract artists and touring companies, many of whom do not currently include Edinburgh in their plans due to a lack of suitable facilities;
- a principal, all-day performance venue each August for the Edinburgh International Festival (EIF): the world's leading arts festival;
- educational facilities and digital technology that will all be transformational for artists and audiences;
- creative learning and participatory opportunities, releasing individual potential and enabling residents, as well as visitors, to share in the City's remarkable artistic achievements;
- an excellent opportunity to build new audiences and enhance health and wellbeing across age groups, programming a wide range of music as well as other forms of entertainment;
- improved performance space for arts companies from Edinburgh and further afield; and,
- a year-round vibrant and busy focal point complementing the opening up of the East End of the New Town at the revived St. James Quarter.

Alignment with Inclusive Growth Policy

All of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal partners recognise the importance of ensuring that inclusive growth ambitions are embedded in their plans and respond to the particular challenges faced across the region. To address these challenges five themes were identified in the Deal Document¹ by the partners, of which two are pertinent to the current proposals namely: "*a significant programme of construction*"; and, "*social benefit through innovation*".

In regard to the former theme the Trust will (in the construction and subsequent operating phase of the Centre) use (agreed) City Deal procurement Community Benefit clauses (to support inclusive employment practices and other opportunities to meet inclusive growth targets).²

In respect of the latter theme (social benefit through innovation³) consideration – throughout the development of the Centre proposals - has been given to how the project can make a

¹ Namely: "***Accelerating Inclusive Growth, Removing the Physical Barriers to Growth, A significant programme of Construction, Targeted skills interventions; and, Social benefit through innovation***".

² i.e. "Delivering community benefits through procurement by integrating partner approaches to supplier engagement and procurement in order to increase the value achieved from Deal investments."
<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s25995/5.3%20Benefits%20Realisation%20Plan%20with%20appendices.pdf>

³ "Recognising the potential presented by a significant investment in DDI, opportunities to drive out challenged-based social benefit across the region, over the medium and long term, will be explored".

positive contribution to inclusive growth by influencing and supporting the cultural sector in building audiences that reflect the true, diverse nature of society.

Through the delivery of a wide ranging educational and community programme the Centre will develop opportunities - with a range of City Deal and other partners - to involve those socio-economic groups currently under-represented as participants and (in) audiences. A key aspect of this programme will be to engage people through lifelong learning, from the very youngest to the elderly, addressing the needs of all through different stages of life. A pre-opening creative programme of events and activities will lay the groundwork for these partnerships.

The award of the tender to redevelop the Old Royal High School site into a National Centre for Music opens up further opportunities for engagement with young people with both organisations committed to developing a meaningful partnership; the close geographic proximity of the two venues enhances these opportunities.

The important ambitions outlined above - for education, learning, inclusiveness and outreach - are, to a large extent, exemplified by the experience of the RSNO in Glasgow that moved in 2015 to a new custom built rehearsal hall. Similar to the Dunard Centre these new facilities allowed the RSNO to embark on a series of initiatives - which had not been possible in their previous accommodation - resulting in their new venue attracting some 30,000 additional people per year many of whom had not been engaged previously with the RSNO. In addition, new digital facilities have also greatly increased the RSNO's ability to reach out to wider audiences and retain contact with further flung communities in Scotland.

It is envisaged that such initiatives will be replicated and enhanced by the creation of the Dunard Centre. Activities will be run by performing companies (i.e., the SCO, EIF etc.) supported by IMPACT through the appointment of a full-time education officer and the provision of space for educational outreach activities.

There is significant potential for digital content creation and distribution opportunities at Dunard Centre. The required infrastructure is being designed in to ensure that this is a 21st century hall which can support live recording and broadcast. As a sector we have an understanding of opportunities to increase reach and develop audiences that digital content offers, and the shift to online that COVID and lockdowns necessitated has fast-tracked the availability of audience insight. Opportunities will be developed in three key areas; i) recording and distribution ii) live recording and broadcast iii) creative commercial partnerships and IP creation. The Trust will work with partners, including at SCO and EIF, and also in the commercial sectors, to deliver innovative practice in its approach to this area of work.

Project Benefits

The creation of a world class performance venue in the heart of Edinburgh – attracting around 200,000 attendees per year when the venue is fully operational - will generate a range of benefits to the City Region including:

- the Centre will support a net level of 219 cultural and tourism sector jobs in the Region and rest of Scotland;
- performer spend within the City Region economy through the attraction of new UK and international touring companies;
- additional knock on employment gains to the City Region transport, hotel and tourism sectors;
- low cost usage of the venue for educational purposes;

- the inclusion of state-of-the-art digital facilities to allow innovative public service delivery, collaborative digital music opportunities, recordings, and online streaming of performances nationally and internationally;
- a premium new venue for conferencing and business events; and
- a programme and associated educational and community activities which engage with people from the very youngest to the elderly, addressing the needs of all through different stages of life, supporting individual and community resilience and delivering significant health and wellbeing benefits.

Constraints

This business case has been prepared under various key constraints:

- the potential funding profile and envelope likely to be set through any final City Region Deal Heads of Terms;
- the location and size of existing site facilities and lack of any potential (under planning regulations) to expand the current footprint; and
- a requirement that the Dunard Centre becomes self-financing over the longer term to satisfy both funder requirements and charitable obligations to seek to maintain appropriate reserves.

Dependencies

The future success of the Centre will depend on:

- engaging with promoters and attracting performers to the Centre;
- creative partnerships with SCO and EIF programme and associated marketing programme;
- attracting and maintaining audience levels at a financially sustainable level; and,
- City Deal centralised programme-level support for delivery of schools and other relevant outreach activities.

Theory of Change

A Theory of Change was developed - as set out in Figure One overleaf - to determine the range of potential impacts that might be realised from building and operating the Dunard Centre and the “success factors” (in terms of inputs, activities and market interactions with potential beneficiaries) required to deliver these impacts.

As illustrated, the proposed activities at the Dunard Centre will deliver a range of economic and social benefits, including:

- **Sustained employment** at the venue given: a year round music programme; a new home for the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO); an additional venue for the Edinburgh International Festival; and, state of the art digital activities (allowing for multi-location collaborations and distribution);
- **Additional promoter spend** in the Region and Scotland as a result of the Centre attracting artists that currently chose not to perform in Edinburgh due to the lack of appropriate facilities;

- **Uplift in visitors** who, while attending Centre performances, will generate off site expenditure that will benefit the local and regional tourism and culture sectors;
- **Uplift in conference and event attendees** who will also generate off site expenditure which, in turn, will benefit the same sectors as above; and
- **Increased educational and well-being outcomes** through a range of engagement and outreach programmes at the Centre and in regional education and community settings.

Figure 1: Dunard Centre Theory of Change

Strategic Context	Inputs	Activities	Beneficiaries	Short Term Impacts (Pre-Opening)	Medium Term Impacts (first two/three Years)	Long Term Impacts (Post three years)
<p>Situation</p> <p>The availability of RBS St Andrew Square site offers the opportunity to create a sustainable city centre cultural facility which will:</p> <p>Meet the identified long term need for mid -scale music venue in Edinburgh;</p> <p>Attract promoters and (non-classical) artists that currently chose not to perform in Edinburgh due to lack of appropriate facilities;</p> <p>Provide a competitive 21st Century venue with built in digital infrastructure (tailored to the music and wider events sector needs);</p> <p>Ensure the SCO has an appropriate base.</p> <p>Alignment</p> <p>EIF needs a world class venue to present artists and repertoire and maintain a competitive position</p> <p>Sustainable tourism strategy objective to develop Edinburgh's year round cultural offer</p>	<p>Investment</p> <p>Dunard Fund</p> <p>ESES City Regional Deal</p> <p>Funding support from major philanthropists (secured and on-going)</p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Scottish Chamber Orchestra</p> <p>Edinburgh International Festival</p> <p>RBS</p> <p>Programming partners</p> <p>ESES CRD Region Education & other outreach partners</p>	<p>Year round music programme and new home for SCO/ venue for EIF with digital activities allowing for multi-location collaborations and distribution</p>	<p>DUNARD</p> <p>Direct: DUNARD Staff.</p> <p>Indirect : DUNARD Supply chain and other beneficiaries effects identified below</p>	<p>Construction employment & apprenticeship opportunities and wider community benefits</p> <p>Pre-opening programme of staffing & events</p> <p>Additional donations</p>	<p>Direct creative, technical and Front of House employment at venue</p> <p>Transformational new programming strands for SCO & EIF</p> <p>Additional world - class performances in Edinburgh</p>	<p>Long term sustained employment</p> <p>East End of Edinburgh established as new cultural quarter</p>
		<p>Above will attract new promoters and performers to Edinburgh, the Region and potentially Scotland that in turn will generate further knock on economic and cultural benefits</p>	<p>PROMOTERS</p> <p>Promoters and artists (and knock on regional benefits to culture and tourism sectors)</p>	<p>Developed partnerships with creative sector/ music- through awareness raising & programme development & a tested and refined artistic proposition</p>	<p>Dunard established offer for live performance/ experience</p>	<p>Leading artists, across all genres, see Edinburgh as an important destination to perform.</p>
		<p>Uplift in audiences will also generate off site expenditure (from domestic visitors and foreign tourists) that will benefit the local and regional tourism and culture sectors</p>	<p>PERFORMANCE AUDIENCES</p> <p>New audiences to Edinburgh and ESES Region (and consequently the wider tourism and cultural sector)</p>	<p>Developed relationships with audiences (residents and tourists) through awareness raising and audience development</p>	<p>Additional high quality / high value tourism to the City Region</p>	<p>Increase in high quality/high value tourism (recreational) to City Region</p>
		<p>Uplift in conference and event attendees will also generate off site expenditure (from domestic and foreign business tourists) that will benefit the above sectors</p>	<p>CONFERENCEE AND EVENT ATTENDEES</p> <p>New attendees to Edinburgh and ESES Region (and consequently the wider tourism and cultural sector)</p>	<p>Developed partnerships with others working in digital events sector/ conference sector</p>	<p>Dunard established offer for integrated digital and live events/ conference experience</p>	<p>ESESCR established as centre for innovative digital events and conferences increasing business tourism to City Region</p>

<p>Development of National Centre for Music at the Old Royal High School offers education and programming partnership opportunities</p> <p>Economic, environmental, social and cultural benefits</p>		<p>Range of partnerships to secure wider engagement and outreach programmes at the Centre and in regional education and community settings</p>	<p>EDUCATION SECTOR AND COMMUNITY GROUPS</p> <p>New engagement off and on site with associated cultural and well-being uplifts</p>	<p>Developed partnerships with local education providers and community groups through ESES CRD partners</p>	<p>A positive contribution to inclusive growth by influencing and supporting the culture sector in building audiences that reflect the diverse society in which we live</p>	<p>More people from more diverse backgrounds engaging and participating in cultural activities in Edinburgh and Scotland</p>
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As a result of the above, it is anticipated that the Dunard Centre proposals will generate a range of direct and indirect economic impacts in relation to:

- **Centre operations:** through the Gross Value Added (GVA) generated from the employment of on-site Centre staff - in delivering the all year round programme of music, conference, events and outreach activities proposed - and associated indirect and multiplier effects across the Region and Scotland as a whole;
- **Promoter activities:** through the engagement of Regional and Scottish suppliers, will also result in the creation of additional GVA and Scottish tourism and cultural sector staff posts;
- **Visitor expenditure:** it is anticipated that, because of the Centre, more domestic visitors and foreign tourists are likely to be attracted to Edinburgh with the consequent GVA and employment benefits to the City and beyond of their (off-Centre) expenditure on accommodation, meals and other related activities; and,
- **Conference attendee expenditure:** as per the visitors above, it also is anticipated that more domestic and foreign business visitors will come to Edinburgh to attend Centre Conferences which again will generate off site GVA and employment benefits.

In addition to the above it is important to recognise the various community, education and well-being impacts that are also likely to be generated by the construction and operation of the Centre.

In the former case – as reflected by the ESES City Regional Deal Benefits Realisation Plan – the Dunard Centre management will work with ESESCRD Partners (including the Capital Centre Partnership⁴) to maximise Community Benefits during the Centre’s construction.

In the latter (operational phase) the Centre will deliver a wide range of educational and community programmes – again with a range of City Deal and other partners - to involve those socio-economic groups currently under-represented as participants and (in) audiences.

City Region Partners concluded Heads of Terms with the UK and Scottish Governments for an overall City Region Deal in July 2017 and signed a full “Deal Document” in August 2018. Both documents provided financial parameters within which the capital development of the Dunard Centre could be progressed by setting the City Regional Deal contribution at a total of £25 million. An additional investment of £35 million has been secured from the Dunard Fund and a further £15 million will be secured through an on-going fundraising campaign. The total capital available to take forward the Centre will therefore be £75 million.

Preferred Option

As summarised, in Table two below, based on the analysis undertaken – of long listing, short listing and appraising the economic costs, benefits, risks and carbon costs of each short listed options – the recommended option (to taking forward and delivering the strategic objectives of investing in the Dunard Centre) is the current proposed approach.

⁴ Who have set up an **online community benefits portal** : *“matching communities and good causes with suppliers and business in the ESES City Region Deal area”* at [Homepage \(esescommunities.org\)](http://Homepage(esescommunities.org))

Figure 2: Summary of Appraisal Results

Results	Smaller Auditorium	Alternative Rehearsal Space	Current Proposals
Qualitative Short-Listing	2 nd	3 rd	1 st
NPV Public Sector Costs	£23.28m	£23.28m	£23.28m
NPV Benefits	£48.91m	£75.91m	£70.51m
BCR	2.1	3.26	3.03
Risk adjusted BCR	1.58	2.54	3.03
Carbon Cost adjusted GVA	£33.96m	£54.03m	£68.81m
Carbon adjusted BCR	1.46	2.32	2.96
Overall Ranking	3 rd	2 nd	1 st

Once fully operational the Centre will support a net level of 219 cultural and tourism sector jobs in the Region and rest of Scotland.

Over the first ten years of operation - and accounting for risks, non-additionality and whole life carbon cost impacts - the Centre will generate a total net economic impact in the region of £69 GVA resulting in a public sector cost benefit ratio of 1:3.

Over a longer 20-year operating period (to 2045/6) net GVA is likely to be in the region of £111 million at a CBR of 1:5.

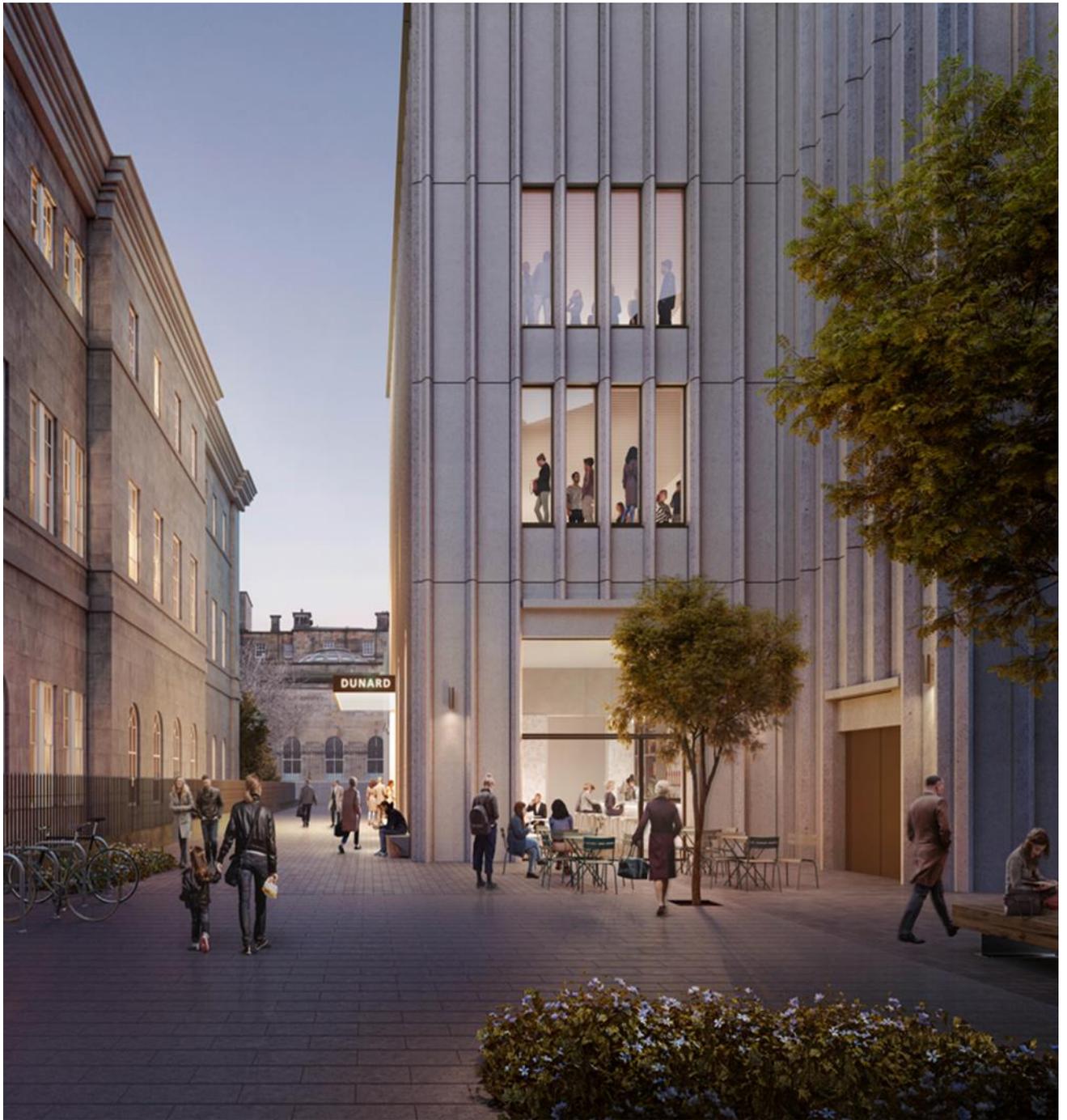
Sensitivity analysis indicates that the preferred option is sufficiently robust to any significant downside risk - over the first ten years benefits would need to fall by over 67% before the economic costs exceed economic benefits.

Benefits Realisation

The Dunard Centre has worked with the ESES CRD PMO over the last two years to agree the approach the Centre will undertake to monitor and evaluate the outputs and impacts detailed in this economic case.

As part of this process the Dunard Centre PMO developed, as have all ESES CRD projects, a monitoring and reporting pro forma that describes how outputs and related impacts and positive actions will be captured, by considering:

- Baseline information in regard to theme beneficiaries;
- Key impact indicators which best represent the likely benefits of theme activities and could be used in comparison to the above baselines in order to monitor progress and consequently be utilised in any future impact evaluation;
- Data Source(s); either existing or new data points that would directly or indirectly best capture the above indicators;
- Monitoring Cycle; when it is best practical to report progress given the different short, medium- and long-term time horizons relating to outcome/impact effects; and,
- Impact Approach; in terms of the type of methods that could be adopted to evaluate the net impacts generated by theme activities and outcomes.



Carbon Management

The Dunard Centre has been designed for a low carbon future with sustainability through reduction of the use of fossil fuel and embodied carbon as key design principles. The Dunard Centre's city centre location and excellent transport links provide maximum opportunities for public transport and minimise the need to for car usage. The building itself has been designed with passive design principles embedded through enhanced building thermal performance and low building air tightness. The building's heating and cooling source is a high efficiency reversible heat pump solution using electricity which achieves compliance with Section 6 of the Technical Standards with a Silver Active sustainability certification achieved. Embodied carbon is also a key consideration an analysis of embodied carbon has been undertaken through the design process to track performance and ensure that the material choices consider the carbon impact within the decision- making process.

The Dunard Centre will see an initial capital carbon increase with the potential to be net zero carbon operationally (category 3B). The intention is to move to a net zero carbon system once the technology becomes available that allows the Dunard Centre to apply an alternative system for hot water generation, likely to be an all-electric solution. Whilst this is unlikely to be achievable on opening due to the particular hot water requirements of a performance venue, the aspirational target date for delivering a net zero carbon operation is 2030, in accordance with the City of Edinburgh Council's ambitious Climate Emergency net zero target.

The current hot water strategy based on gas fired water heaters has been selected given the high peak demand for hot water during concerts in the building when a large number of the occupants will use toilets during intervals and at the start and end of performances. The solution proposed allows for this instantaneous demand to be achieved for these short periods. Potential electrified solutions for hot water have been discounted at present due to availability of additional electrical infrastructure, suitable plant space to locate equipment and their ability to react to the high peak demand. On top of this running costs for electrified hot water solutions would be detrimental to the commercial viability for running cost at this stage given that electricity is around 4 times more expensive than gas.

Although the gas based hot water solution is the right one for the project at present it is our aspiration to look to remove gas based hot water during the lifespan of the water heaters and move to an electrified solution. This solution would be based on an understanding of the actual profile of electricity usage of the building over a number of years of operation (which may result in additional electrical capacity being realised given our design at this stage is based on a worst-case scenario). The assessment of this will consider both carbon and running costs.

Operating Model

The basis of the operating model is that IMPACT will lease space in the auditorium and other areas for use by promoters/performers in addition to promoting some events directly. The balance of own promotions and external hires is aimed at minimizing risks to the Charity. It is envisaged that catering facilities will be franchised. This model reduces risk and allows greater flexibility for performances and catering requirements. The Chief Executive/Creative Programmer will oversee the letting of space and the choice of performances ensuring variety and engagement with all genres of music. Work on engaging with potential promoters/performers was undertaken by a programme consultant in 2019 and then paused; this work will re-start in 2022, well ahead of the opening date for the venue.

Learning, education and outreach programmes lie at the heart of IMPACT's ambitions and these programmes will be developed and run through a partnership between the performing

companies and IMPACT, with the financial business plan including a full time Learning and Education Manager with dedicated budget to work with the companies.

Finally, the appointment of a powerful and experienced senior management team is critical to the success of the Centre and the search for the right people will commence at least two years prior to opening with some appointments being made 18-24 months before the Centre launch.

Financial Summary



Capital:

As indicated in the table below the total funding requirement is £75m of which:

- a total of £25m is anticipated to come from the City Deal;
- a further £35m has been pledged by the Dunard Fund; and,
- the remaining £15m (of which a significant proportion is already pledged) will be raised from a fundraising campaign led by an experienced Development Director.

DUNARD CENTRE FUNDING PROFILE									
Funding provider	Total £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	
Capital									
Governments	20,000	0	3,141	5,000	6,000	3,000	2,859	0	
CEC	5,000	0	0	0		5,000	0	0	
Private sector	49,928	1,238	0	3,494	21,686	19,007	3,504	999	
Total funding	74,928	1,238	3,141	8,494	27,686	27,007	6,363	999	

Private sector = Dunard Fund and other fundraising.

In addition to a £35m pledge towards the capital cost the Dunard Fund has also:

- provided funds ahead of monies received from the public sector; and,
- committed to underwriting pre-opening operational costs and annual deficits of the Centre in the first 3 years of trading (of up to £2m in total).

RBS has agreed to grant IMPACT Scotland a 125-year lease on the site at a nominal rent in return for which, RBS has name association rights over the venue. The *provisional* name chosen for the venue is ***Dunard Centre supported by the Royal Bank of Scotland***.

A detailed programme for the whole project has been prepared by Turner & Townsend and is reviewed regularly. This programme envisages the completion of the IMPACT Centre in April 2026.

Revenue/Operational:

A financial and operational business plan prepared by Nick Dodds and John Mortlock of Festival and Events International Ltd (FEI) was approved by Trustees in April 2021 and is updated regularly. The Plan draws on latest architect plans including details of floor area, seating capacity/sightlines and circulation and ancillary hospitality spaces; consultations with stakeholder and related regional/national performing arts organisations; interviews with local and national promoters and potential hirers. It is also informed by the previous Operational Business Plan and supporting financial models from an earlier version of the proposed concert hall development (2016); the previous Business Case (2018) and initial research carried out by Graham Devlin in 2016/17. Information derived from these sources have been combined with FEI's knowledge of comparable venues and cultural organisations and supplemented where necessary by additional research in order to build an integrated financial business plan. The audience and financial assumptions in this new plan are conservative compared with previous iterations.

The Plan is based on the following high-level assumptions:

- Dunard Centre (DC) is a purpose-built concert hall with world-class acoustics and sightlines, capacity for up to 1045 and a stage able to accommodate 63 musicians and 55 choristers. The venue occupies a prestigious site at St Andrew Square, Edinburgh. DC offices are located in an adjacent building (no. 35 St Andrew Square) for which a standard rental fee is paid.
- The organisation owning, managing and operating DC is IMPACT Scotland, a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. IMPACT has a wholly-owned trading subsidiary company (IMPACT Scotland Trading Ltd) in order to benefit from tax efficiency - and focused governance - regarding non primary charitable purpose trading activities. IMPACT holds a 125-year ground lease for the venue at a nominal/peppercorn rent. IMPACT has a board of unremunerated trustees which currently includes representation from strategic partners Edinburgh International Festival (EIF) and Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO).
- The Financial Business Plan represents income and expenditure relating to the operation of DC and includes revenue costs for a 12 month period prior to opening. It does not include depreciation/amortisation of the building asset itself, which would be accounted for in a separate restricted fund in line with Charity SORP regulations.
- DC is the 'home' venue and primary rehearsal space for the SCO, and hosts EIF performances annually for a month-long residency during the Festival.
- The organisation is registered for VAT and charges VAT on ticket sales and other supplies. As a registered charity the organisation is exempt from corporation tax on profits from its charitable activities.
- DC receives full discretionary business rates relief (in line with several other prominent cultural venues in Edinburgh).
- DC employs a permanent staff of 22 FTEs and casual staff for front of house (FOH) and (as required) for additional stage technical duties. Catering activities (a café, bars and ad hoc event catering) are undertaken by an external contractor in return for a % of revenue commission paid to DC.
- DC runs its own box office, with a varying proportion of ticket inventory being passed to third parties for sale, depending on the specific promoter/partner deal.
- DC hosts education activities from SCO and EIF and has its own Education Officer and a programme budget. It seeks to expand the outreach programme over time.
- Led by a Sponsorship and Development Manager (reporting to and supported by the Commercial Director), DC actively solicits funding from individuals, corporate entities, public sector bodies, trusts and foundations, and operates a membership scheme.
- DC presents a mix of performance events, hosting chamber orchestras, classical recitals, pop/rock/jazz/world music ensembles, and spoken word events. It is also a distinguished venue for conferences, corporate events and graduation ceremonies. DC also creates and distributes digital content and IP in partnership with venue users and provides a number of low cost community hires in the auditorium as well as activities in foyers and other spaces front of house.
- DC is open 7 days a week, 52 weeks a year apart from Christmas Day. There is a full schedule of 246 public performances and private events per year in a full year (based on 2027). A foyer café is open from 10am daily until 11pm on performance days

(otherwise to 5pm). The second and third floors each include 2 FOH hospitality/event spaces which are used during the day for education events, and are available to hire as meeting venues outside performance times, as well as additional spaces for conference hires.

- Covid-19: at the time of writing it cannot be known whether the Covid-19 pandemic and its aftermath will have a medium to long term effect on audience behaviour and the way in which performance venues are permitted to operate. Accordingly it is important to understand that the financial business plan has been prepared on the basis of pre-Covid audience patterns and modes of operation. Clearly this factor will require ongoing scrutiny and oversight within the wider strategic risk management framework.
- Whilst the business model and venue are being established in the first four years of this plan, anticipated deficits are underwritten by the Dunard Fund. Beyond this Dunard Centre will seek to generate further commercial revenue and/or increase fundraising from other sources to achieve a break- even budget.

A wholly owned subsidiary of IMPACT Scotland was incorporated in January 2017 as IMPACT Scotland Trading Ltd and this subsidiary will be responsible for any non-charitable trading activities post completion of the building.

Risks

A thorough risk analysis of construction and operational risk has been carried out which underpins the robustness of the current plan. In particular extensive work has been carried out in the identification of risks to the building project and subsequent operation and measures have been identified to mitigate such risks. The risk register is reviewed and updated regularly with project risk considered once a month by the Capital sub-committee.

EDI

IMPACT Scotland will adopt Fair Work principles in all aspects of recruitment and contribute to the Living Wage actions plans and commitments within the region. It will provide access to digital job portals and support for recruitment and job matching to prioritized groups.

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Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

10am, Friday 4 March 2022

Implementation of Benefits Realisation to ESES City Region Deal

Item number 5.2

Executive Summary

In March 2021 the Smart Data Foundry (formally known as Global Open Finance Centre of Excellence (GOFCoE)) successfully applied for Scottish Government regional recovery and renewal funding to undertake a: *“feasibility study for a public/private sector data platform to assess the outcomes and impacts of the Edinburgh and South East of Scotland (ESES) City Region Deal.”*

Completed in early August 2021, one of the key recommendations of this study was the need to examine further, for the purposes of the Scottish and UK Governments Quinquennial review of the City Region Deal in 2023, what now needs to be in place and when to best report outputs and any impacts by 2023 and thereafter (particularly given that projects across the “five” City Region Deal Themes are at different stages of implementation).

The follow-on work undertaken by the Smart Data Foundry, as reflected in the appended report, addresses three questions:

1. Across each City Region Deal theme, and related projects, what outputs and impacts might be captured by 2023?
2. What is currently in place to monitor and manage outputs and impacts and what additional processes, resources and partnerships with others could be put in place now, and going forward, to enhance the monitoring of impacts?
3. Given the above what actions should the City Region Deal PMO now take in relation to monitoring and evaluation (M&E) with timescales, and responsibilities, going forward to 2023?

In relation to the first question, based on follow up consultations with CRD projects, it is apparent that by 2023:

- Only two of the City Region Deal themes (Research, Development and Innovation and Employability and Skills) will be in a position to report information concerning their outputs; and

- Only one theme (Employability and Skills) will have evidence in relation to the (intermediate) impacts of their activities.

This position is likely to change significantly by 2028, when all themes will be in a position to report outputs and evidence of impacts (except - in the latter case - Housing).

In the context of the second question (i.e. what steps might need to be taken now to enhance the monitoring and evaluation of the City Region Deal going forward), three initial steps were recommended and are in the process of being actioned by the City Region Deal Programme Management Office (PMO) namely:

- Appointing a Senior Responsible Officer to oversee benefits realisation;
- Securing a Benefits Realisation Officer within the PMO to co-ordinate CRD project and programme output and impact reporting; and,
- Developing and implementing an outputs, outcomes and impacts reporting framework across all City Region Deal projects (to complement and enhance the current output reporting already undertaken by the PMO).

Given the above, it is also recommended in terms of Question 3 (i.e. what further actions should now be taken) that:

- All the CRD projects review, and amend where appropriate, the proposed reporting framework and confirm the measurement approaches that they will adopt to capture agreed outcomes and impacts (March to June 2022);
- Based on the above, and with co-ordination and support from the Benefits Realisation Officer, all projects should review and (re)confirm the timetable against which defined outcomes and impacts will be reported pre and post 2023 (May to July 2022); and,
- Confirm with Governments their acceptance of the above and consequently agree the extent and nature of the outputs required for the Quinquennial Review (July to August 2023 and to inform the Annual Conversation).

Finally, on-going steps proposed include:

- Further engagement with the Scottish Government Data Intelligence Network team to develop specific “user cases” and requests to Governments in relation, in the first instance, to accessing Longitudinal Education Outcomes (LEO) and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) data for the future, by the Deal’s Data-Driven Innovation and Integrated Regional Employability and Skills programmes;
- Encouraging the adoption by all projects of the City Partnership Community Benefits portal and consequent capturing and reporting of these benefits;
- Ensuring that all projects are involved in on-going engagement with Scottish Government in relation to the guidance on whole-life carbon costs and incorporation into business cases, procurement and ongoing operational commitments; and
- Nomination and case study development where projects can demonstrate high Strategic Added Value (as per the original Benefits Realisation Plan).

John Scott

Head of Delivery, Data-Driven Innovation Programme, University of Edinburgh and Senior Responsible Officer for the Benefits Realisation Plan for the City Region Deal

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ESES CRD Benefits Realisation Implementation

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To approve the appended report's recommendations and their implementation by the City Region Deal PMO notably:
 - 1.1.1 To appoint as Senior Responsible Officer for the Benefits Realisation Programme by the City Region Deal Directors' Group;
 - 1.1.2 To appoint a Benefits Realisation Officer to measure and report benefits to the standard described in the Benefits Realisation Plan; and
 - 1.1.3 To develop a consistent and comparable outputs, outcomes and impacts reporting framework; prior to circulating for wider review by CRD project leads and ultimately both Governments.

2. Background

- 2.1 Over 15 years, the £1.3 billion City Region Deal funding will support a range of activities across five Programme themes (covering: Research, Development & Innovation; Skills; Culture; Transport; and Housing).
- 2.2 A key objective of the Joint Committee – as set out in the Deal Document – is: *“to monitor the impact of the City Region Deal Programme”* that will result from the delivery of outputs.
- 2.3 The [City Region Deal Document](#) specifies the importance of measuring and reporting on the benefits of the Deal projects, including their contribution towards inclusive growth for the region. It also states that an independent evaluation will take place every five years to capture the progress that has taken place.
- 2.4 Since the Deal signing, the PMO has reported on progress of projects, through progress, financial and annual reports with most reporting currently focused on outputs (e.g. milestones in business case development, planning contents, construction etc.).
- 2.5 A [Benefits Realisation Plan](#) (BRP) was agreed by the Joint Committee in September 2020, and was developed with significant input from project leads. This included: agreed principles; overall inclusive growth objectives; and suggested measures for outputs, outcomes and impacts for each project.

- 2.6 In March 2021 the Smart Data Foundry (formerly known as Global Open Finance Centre of Excellence (GOFCoE) successfully applied for Scottish Government regional recovery and renewal funding to undertake a: “feasibility study for a public/private sector data platform to assess the outcomes and impacts of the Edinburgh and South East of Scotland (ESES) City Region Deal.”
- 2.7 Completed in early August 2021, the report sets out how this objective will be delivered for the purposes of the five-year review in 2023.

3. Main report

- 3.1 The appended report covers three topics, namely:
- **Timescales (Section 2):** summarising the outputs and limited impacts that might be captured by 2023 (given that at this point the majority of City Region Deal projects will only be at the first stages of implementation);
 - **Current Position (Section 3):** indicating what additionally has been put in place since June 2021 to capture outputs and impacts (in relation, for example, to Community Benefits, carbon costs and access to Central Government data); and
 - **Recommendations and Next Steps (Section 4):** outlining what is now required to be implemented to ensure future outputs and impacts are captured in an efficient and consistent manner by 2023 and thereafter.
- 3.2 Based on the above work various steps have already been undertaken by PMO namely:
- **Additional PMO Benefits Realisation resources:** In January, the City Region Deal Executive Board approved that a dedicated Benefits Realisation Officer be recruited within the PMO and this is being progressed.
 - **Nomination of a Senior Responsible Officer to oversee the Benefits Realisation Programme:** In February, The City Region Deal Directors’ Group nominated John Scott to take this position and to oversee the ongoing implementation of all benefits Realisation Practices; and,
 - **Adoption of a consistent and comparable outcomes and impacts reporting framework;** which is now being finalised by the PMO prior to circulating for wider review by CRD project leads and ultimately both Governments.
- 3.3 Given the above the report concludes with a recommended action plan as detailed below.

Steps	Timescale	Lead Responsibility
Specific Actions		
1. Enhance Definitions & Guidance	Now to March 2022	PMO
2. Projects review of above	April to June 2022	Project Leads
3. Government review	July 2022	Governments
4. Agreed Quinquennial Outputs	August 2022	Governments

Implement M&E to support delivery of 4 above	August 2022 to August 2023	M&E SRO/Benefits Realisation Officer
Ongoing Actions		
5. Develop Data Intelligence Network user cases	Ongoing	DDI & IRES programmes
6. Use of City Partnership Portal	Ongoing	PMO
7. Whole Life Carbon Costs adoption	Ongoing	PMO
8. Strategic Added Value Case Studies	Ongoing	Benefits Realisation Officer

4. Financial impact

- 4.1 The recruitment of a Benefits Realisation Officer has been provided for within the PMO costs.

5. Alignment with Sustainable, Inclusive Growth Ambitions

- 5.1 Inclusion is a key driver for the City Region. Deal Business cases for projects demonstrate how they will reduce inequalities and tackle the inclusion challenges specific to the City Region.
- 5.2 The current report builds on the actions set out in the original Joint Committee approved the City Region Deal [Benefits Realisation Plan](#) on 4 September 2020) of applying consistent monitoring and evaluation of equalities, community benefits and social innovation across themes. In particular additional steps are recommended in relation to accessing Scottish and UK Government data sources, further use of the Capital City Partnership Communities Benefits portal and collation of Strategic Added Value case studies.
- 5.3 In August 2021, Scottish and UK Government have provided joint guidance for project owners on managing potential carbon emissions associated with Scottish City Region and Regional Growth Deal projects. It accords with HM Treasury Green Book requirements and supports the quantification and minimisation of whole life carbon and the identification of potential barriers to achieving net zero. A workshop with City Region Deal project leads took place in September 2021 to explain the guidance and agree actions required. Project leads have since categorised their projects in terms of carbon control and carbon influence. This will form an important part of regular reporting through the Benefits Realisation Plan.

6. Background reading/external references

- 6.1 ESES Community Benefit Portal: <https://www.esescommunities.org/>
- 6.2 Data Intelligence Network: <https://www.gov.scot/groups/data-and-intelligence-network/>

7. Appendices

7.1 Implementation of Benefits Realisation to ESES City Region Deal – full report



GLOBAL OPEN FINANCE

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Edinburgh and South East of Scotland (ESES) City Regional Deal (CRD) Benefits Realisation Implementation

Final Report
February 2022

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Section One: Introduction

Background

In March 2021 the Global Open Finance Centre of Excellence (GOFCoE) successfully applied for Scottish Government regional recovery and renewal funding to undertake a: *“feasibility study for a public/private sector data platform to assess the outcomes and impacts of the Edinburgh and South East of Scotland (ESES) City Region Deal.”*

Completed in early August 2021 this study identified two issues that warranted further review, namely:

- For the purposes of the Scottish and UK Governments Quinquennial review¹ of the ESES Deal in 2023 what now needs to be in place, and when, to best report outputs and any impacts by 2023 and thereafter (particularly given that projects across the “five” ESES CRD Themes are at different stages of implementation); and,
- Given the wider adoption of new or emerging benefits realisation practices identified by the previous study² what (on-going) lessons may be learnt from other CRDs/Growth Deals, and the Scottish and UK Governments, to support the ESES CRD preparation for the Quinquennial review.

In addressing these two issues this first draft report for discussion sets out:

- Across each ESES CRD theme, and related projects the likely outputs and what impacts **in principle** might be captured by 2023;
- What **in practice** is currently in place to monitor and manage outputs and impacts , prompted by this review and our previous study, what additional processes, resources and partnerships with others could be put in place now, and going forward, to enhance the monitoring of impacts; and,
- An ESES CRD PMO action plan in relation to monitoring and evaluation (M&E) with timescales, and responsibilities going forward to 2023.

Context

Our previous report identified three recommendations, namely that consideration should be given to:

- Adopting a results framework within the current PMO reporting processes in order to ensure that M&E results will be used to help manage the overall progress and direction of the CRD programme;

¹ *“at which both Governments reserve the right to halt funding in the event that outcomes and targets are not being met”*
<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s25995/5.3%20Benefits%20Realisation%20Plan%20with%20appendices.pdf>

² Based on engagement (in our first study) with the Glasgow City Deal, Skills Development Scotland, the Ayrshire Growth Deal (that leads a Scottish CRD wide M&E sub group), GOFCoE, the Scottish Government (Office of the Chief Economic Adviser, Education Analytical Services and the Communities Analysis Division and the cross (Enterprise) Agency Business Support Partnership (BSP) Data and Analytics Workstream team) and UK Government Office (the Secretary of State for Scotland Office and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government).

- Appointing a Senior Responsible Owner (SRO)³ to actively manage and oversee M&E practises (with amongst other roles ensuring the benefits of M&E to all theme teams are promoted to ensure a culture of effective M&E practise is adopted throughout all operations); and,
- A CRD M&E budget - as without such transparency it is unclear what levels of resources are available to undertake future M&E approaches (or in simple terms what budget the SRO is responsible for).

As reflected at the recent “annual conversation”⁴ (in November 2021) all these recommendations are now being taken forward in terms of:

- Confirming n SRO to oversee benefits realisation;
- Securing PMO resource to co-ordinate CRD project and programme output and impact reporting; and,
- Setting out an implementation plan as per this report (for approval by the ESES CRD Joint Committee early in March 2022) for all CRD themes to meet the requirements of the Quinquennial review and thereafter over the rest of the Deal period.

Approach

In supporting the implementation of the above, the ultimate objective of our work has been to identify what will need to be in place, and when, for all themes and projects to be able to report their outputs and future impacts and the supporting actions, timetable, resources and responsibilities for pre and post 5-year reporting of ESES CRD benefits.

In meeting the above, our approach has comprised of:

- Follow up consultations with CRD themes (whom we last engaged in June 2021) regarding any updates to their monitoring and evaluation plans, their views on the PMO role⁵ in delivering these plans and when they expect to be in a position to report outputs (and eventually) impacts to the PMO pre and post 2023;

³ “The senior responsible owner (SRO) is accountable for ensuring a programme or project meets its objectives, delivers the projected outcomes and realises the required benefits,”
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/818147/The_Role_of_the_SROc_online_version_V1.0.pdf

⁴ “Annual reports are followed up in a conversation between the Scottish city region and growth deals delivery board (SCRGDD) and the senior representatives of the deal, where progress and concerns are discussed.”
https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/uploads/docs/report/2020/nr_200116_city_deals.pdf

⁵ At the outset of this work we had initially proposed to review three options (outlined below) in relation to the responsibilities and roles to implementing the ESES CRD BRP. However as we progressed our engagement consensus from all stakeholders suggested that the only practical approach would be for the PMO to take responsibility for benefits realisation and lead the approach to meeting the requirements of the Quinquennial review.

The short listed options initially identified were: “**internal**” (i.e. combining and consolidating ESES CRD M&E approaches and resources); “**cross CRDs**” (i.e. sharing M&E approaches (and potentially resources) among all Scottish CRDs to allow greater consistency and comparability); and, “**Scottish Government**” (as emerging national data programmes may offer longer term opportunities to both access data for the purposes of testing net impacts and co-developing M&E practices).

- External consultations- with representatives from: the Data & Intelligence Network;⁶ through our team’s other engagements with the Tay Cities Regional Deal and the Ayrshire Growth Deal PMOs; and, consultations with the Department for Levelling Up, Communities and Housing (DLUCH) City Region team - to assess the additional resources and processes that might now be needed for effective ESES CRD M&E implementation; and,
- Engagement with the ESES CRD PMO to define the actions, timetabling and responsibilities for pre and post -year reporting of outputs and impacts.

Rest of the Report

Based on the steps above the rest of this report sets out:

- **Timescales (*Section Two*):** summarising the outputs and limited impacts that might be captured by 2023 (given that at this point the majority of ESES CRD projects will only be at the first stages of implementation);
- **Current Position (*Section Three*):** indicating what additionally has been put in place since our last review to capture outputs and impacts (in relation, for example, to Community Benefits, carbon costs and access to Central Government data); and,
- **Recommendations and Next Steps (*Section Four*):** outlining what we suggest is now required to be implemented to ensure future outputs and impacts are captured in an efficient and consistent manner by 2023 and thereafter.

⁶ “The Data & Intelligence Network (D&IN) was established in May 2020 to provide evidence-based, objective analysis to inform local and national decision-making in response to COVID-19 outbreaks. The D&IN is a community of data experts from the Scottish Public Sector whose membership spans Scottish Government, health boards, Public Health Scotland, health and social care partnerships, local authorities, academia and other public bodies who develop real time data and intelligence solutions to inform strategic government policy”. <https://www.gov.scot/groups/data-and-intelligence-network/>

Section Two: Timescales

Reporting timescales

Our previous report highlighted the expected output and impact measures that each theme plans to capture across the whole 15-year ESES CRD timescale. The Quinquennial review represents the opportunity to gauge after the first five years of the Deal how much progress has been achieved in delivering these outputs and impacts.

Based on our follow up consultations with CRD projects we suggest, as illustrated in Figure One below, that by 2023 across the five ESES CRD themes:

- Only two themes – Research, Development and Innovation and Employability and Skills - will be in a position to report information concerning their outputs; and,
- Only one theme – Employability and Skills – will have evidence in relation to the (intermediate) impacts of their activities.

In contrast, as also highlighted in Figure One, this position is likely to change significantly by 2028 when all themes will be in a position to report outputs and evidence of impacts will be available for all themes except housing.

Figure One: Output and Impact Reporting 2023 and 2028



Quinquennial Review 2023 – Benefit Reporting	By 2023		By 2028	
	Outputs	Impacts	Outputs	Impacts
Research, Development and Innovation				
Borders Innovation Park	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Data Driven Innovation (DDI) – University of Edinburgh	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Data Driven Innovation (DDI) – Heriot Watt University	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fife Industrial Park	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Queen Margaret University Food & Drink Hub	Some pre-opening Talent and Research	No, facilities will not open until 2025	Yes	Yes
Employability & Skills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Transport	No. Earliest construction is expected 2023.	No	Yes	Yes, some related to carbon, community benefits, and well-being.
Culture	No. Centre not expected to open until 2026	No	Yes	Yes
Housing - Granton Waterfront Regeneration	No. Phase One only due to commence in 2024	No	Yes	No

Section Three: Current Position

Introduction

While expectations concerning the realisation of outputs and impacts by 2023 are relatively limited, it is important to recognise what progress has been undertaken by projects since June 2021 to:

- Put in place processes to capture outputs and impacts going forward;
- Realise community benefits from CRD and wider regional procurements;
- Respond to new Government guidance in relation to whole life carbon costs; and, as part of this work,
- Take forward engagement with other CRDs and wider Government initiatives.

Progress to date

Table One below provides a high-level overview of the current positions across the CRD themes in relation to benefits measurement and impact reporting and expectations (in this context) for the Quinquennial review.

Table One: Current Project Progress in relation to Benefits Realisation

Projects	Current Position	Quinquennial Review (2023)
Borders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially partnering with South of Scotland Enterprise to set up and utilise an economic insights team. • Focusing on inclusive growth opportunities and community benefits (via Capital City Partnership – see in next section) when engaging and attracting businesses to the Borders Innovation Park. • Initial outputs anticipated as a result of first tenant - expecting 71 jobs safeguarded and creation of 56 new jobs. • Will report progress on the above (and any other tenancies) by first quarter of 2022. 	Impacts are not expected by this time.
DDI UoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current review of hub reporting processes being undertaken to capture outputs and approaches to tracking future impacts. • Would welcome access to LEO⁷ data base for analysis of potential longer terms impacts of DDI Talent activities. • Considering a coordinated approach to measuring social impacts with IRES and recommending consideration of a consistent set and use of measures across the Deal. 	<p>Prepared to report on output measures by this time.</p> <p>Anticipate impacts will be able from 2024.</p> <p>Noted that reportable outcomes emerging from Bayes Centre Accelerator and EIDF.</p>

⁷ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/longitudinal-educational-outcomes-leo-universities-2016-17-scotland/>

DDI HW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Robotarium has a working group focused on Community Benefits and engagement with the Capital City Partnership. HW captures student data up to 15 months out from graduation but would like to access LEO data to understand impact on students, whether the programme led to new ventures, careers in robotics/AI, etc. 	<p>Will have output measures in place for the Quinquennial review.</p> <p>Will not have impacts to report until 2028 review.</p>
Fife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starting to report on outputs. Will use annual tenant surveys to capture outputs and impacts across innovation and community wealth building themes. 	Not expecting to report impacts by 2023.
Granton Waterfront Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Case recently approved with commencement of Phase One in 2024. Currently considering how to capture outputs and impacts described in the Business Case and how to best integrate Community Benefits considerations/reduced whole life carbon costing within procurement processes. 	No outputs or impacts likely to be available by 2023.
IRES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive output and outcome monitoring process designed and introduced across key project teams. A process of target setting has also been established for each output metric. In process of resolving challenges related to attribution of impacts. Would welcome access to DWP data as one mechanism to “test” attribution. 	Impact measures anticipated to be in place by mid-2022.
QMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No outputs captured at this stage but monitoring and evaluation is included in QMU implementation plan. Looking at how to measure Community Benefits KPIs, with support from Capital City Partnership. Reporting will be based on TRADE metrics adopted by the Universities of Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt. 	Plan to open by April 2025 so no impacts expected by 2023.
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration in objectives and delivery to reduced environmental impacts/improved transport benefits and how best to monitor and measure. 	Earliest construction likely to commence in 2023 hence no outputs or impacts available.
Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dunard Centre Business Case yet to be approved but approaches are being considered will be given to tracking audience profiles and wider benefits.⁸ 	Opening planned for 2026.

⁸ e.g. as stated in the current Dunard Centre Business Case: “the Dunard Centre management will work with ESESCRD Partners (including the Capital Centre Partnership) to maximise Community Benefits during the Centre’s construction. In the latter (operational phase) the Centre will deliver a wide range of educational and community programmes – again with a range of City Deal and other partners - to involve those socio-economic groups currently under-represented as participants and (in) audiences”.

Community Benefits Update

The Capital City Partnership is leading the development and release of a web-based portal to support the delivery of community benefit activities across all public sector and other relevant bodies in the ESES City Region.

The portal was officially launched in November 2021 with the stated objective of using community benefit clauses in procurement contracts to enhance connections between: *“community groups and good causes with suppliers and businesses in the ESES City Region Deal area⁹”*. Support will be provided to bodies considering such clauses, including the “traditional” routes of apprenticeships, schools outreach and local supply chains, as well as the opportunities to: *“extend support to groups focusing on recreation, wellbeing, the environment and social enterprises.¹⁰”*

Monitoring and evaluation of uses and outcomes will be applied going forward (including self-evaluation forms from anyone making requests to demonstrate impact). It is our understanding (as referenced in Table One) that various ESES CRD projects are in active engagement with the City Capital Partnership team involved. This team also confirmed that - subject to uptake, agreement with projects and clarity of data splits from the ESES CRD PMO - consideration can be given to assessing CRD related benefits for the purposes of the Quinquennial review as well as highlighting specific “case studies”.

Carbon Management

To meet Scotland’s net zero whole life carbon emissions trajectory by 2045, the Scottish Government has recently (in August 2021) provided guidance to the Scottish City Region and Regional Growth Deals, on how to manage the potential carbon emissions associated with all (circa 220) projects across these Deals.

It is our understanding, from engagement with Scottish Government, that:

- Consideration is given to assessing the emissions of all City Region and Growth Deal projects that have been implemented to date (with ESES CRD PMO successfully piloting this approach in late 2021);
- All Deal projects now seeking approval will require to assess their whole life carbon costs within the economic case section of their Business Case to assess the effect upon the value for money of a preferred project approach and, as importantly, to allow consideration of whether alternative design approaches offer better outcomes;
- Scottish-wide CRD and Growth Deals training (on the above) will be implemented from February 2022 to support individual projects finalising their Business Cases;
- For those projects that are approved, advice, guidance and support will be provided on how to include whole life carbon and circular economy considerations¹¹ as a weighted criteria within procurement (with the aim of reducing these costs further); and,

⁹ <https://esescityregiondeal.org.uk/new-blog/2021/11/10/wwwesescommunitiesorg>

¹⁰ As above

¹¹ See for example: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-03/beyond-recycling-strategy-document.pdf> and [BAMB - Buildings As Material Banks \(BAMB2020\) - BAMB](#)

- Subsequent monitoring and evaluation (within the implementation of any given CRD BRP) is likely to focus on:
 - Realisation of (reduced) emission targets agreed at procurement;
 - Future commitments to replace energy or other emission sources in line with legislative requirements/ introduction of new technologies; and,
 - Project activities that have - through wider application/adoption - reduced emissions (e.g. from the application of Agri-Tech in the UK and wider food production sector).

Other CRDs

As part of our, we have engaged with three other Deals that have also developed, or are in the process of developing, their own BRPs – the Borderland Inclusive Growth Deal (that completed their Plan in November 2021) and the Ayrshire Growth Deal and Tay Cities Region Deal (who are seeking to secure approval for their Plans in February and March 2022 respectively).

While drawing on the initial “pathfinder” ESES CRD BRP, all these Deals have adopted some additional elements within their Plans that could be of benefit to the preparation for the Quinquennial review namely:

- Adoption of a common set of definitions across projects in relation to expected outputs, outcomes and impacts as identified in approved Business Case logic models or Theories of Change (as for example Borderland at Appendix A);
- Suggested approaches to calculating or in other ways evidencing outcomes and impacts (as also reflected in Appendix A); and,
- Proposed reporting frameworks that capture annually the progression from agreed and defined project outputs to the subsequent monitoring and evaluation of outcomes and impacts (as exemplified at Appendix B)

Governments Progress

In addition to our engagements with other deals, we have also met with both Governments.

Scottish Government: Data & Intelligence Network

The Data and Intelligence Network (D&IN) serves the public and private sectors across Scotland, building collaborative partnerships and engagements related to data management and sharing to improve economic, social and environmental wellbeing across the country.

Through discussions with the D&IN team in January 2022 there are opportunities – through developing specific “user case” requirements – for the D&IN team to consider supporting the ESES CRD (and other Scottish CRDs) to provide access to and analytical support for the purposes of benefits analysis. In the short term the three areas that could be explored are:

- **Access to the LEO database;** recognising that any future ESES CRD requirements are unlikely to be “formally” requested until after the Quinquennial review and will benefit from a consolidated request from across all relevant institutions in the ESES and potentially other Deals;

- **Access to DWP data;** to test whether IRES, and similar programmes across other Deals, can evidence any differential net benefits compared to other interventions elsewhere or relative to the outcomes for similar or peer groups to IRES beneficiaries prior to reporting impacts for the Quinquennial review; and,
- **Well-Being;** as a nascent area of interest to the ESES CRD and partner organisations, such as the NHS, the Deal would benefit from advice and guidance from members of the D&IN that are also considering how best to define and capture improvements in well-being. Importantly, the D&IN would explore how this might be used to promote and ensure adoption of “positive well-being actions” across ESES and other Deals.

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) is a ministerial department set up to “support communities across the UK to thrive, making them great places to live and work.”¹²

Our initial discussions¹³, in January 2022, suggest that there is the potential for on-going engagement with the DLUHC City Deal team in shaping the implementation of ESES CRD benefits realisation plan in particular:

- Confirming “standard” CRD indicators and measures across outputs, outcomes and impacts;
- Reviewing and providing advice on “proportionate” outcome and impact measurement approaches (including the adoption of “ready reckoners”); and,
- Supporting and building connections – through DLUHC team - with other elements of the UK Government for the purposes of accessing data and relevant M&E guidance.

¹² <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-levelling-up-housing-and-communities/about>

¹³ While the Levelling Up “agenda” is still in early stages of development, with a White Paper anticipated in February 2022, our discussions with this Departments City Deal team suggest that consideration is being given by the Department more widely to standardising relevant “Levelling Up” KPIs and how best to measure outputs and outcomes going forward.

Section Four: Recommended Next Steps

Introduction

In this final section we set out our views on the steps that the ESES CRD PMO may wish to consider prior to the Quinquennial review as well as the responsibilities and actions we suggest should now be considered to implementing these steps.

Steps already taken

In our previous report we recommended that additional staff and resources should be allocated to M&E; an SRO should be nominated to oversee the ongoing implementation of all M&E practises; and, the adoption of a consistent and comparable outcomes and impacts framework¹.

As indicated in our introduction to this report the ESES CRD PMO has successfully secured approval, in January 2022, for a dedicated Benefits Realisation Officer (with the potential roles detailed at Appendix C). In addition, initial discussions with the ESES CRD Deal Directors suggest that an SRO could (and in our view should) be nominated within this group prior to this officer being in place.

Next Steps

Assuming both the above roles are in place in the next few months we recommend focus should be given to a range of specific actions prior to agreeing with Governments the scope and outputs of the Quinquennial Review as well as a series of on-going activities to support benefits realisation more widely.

The specific actions we recommend are:

- Develop a ESES CRD definitions and guidance document (drawing on the templates already in place from the Ayr, Borderland and Tay Cities Deals as well as the initial work completed in December 2020 by the PMO²);
- Consult with all CRD projects to review and amend where appropriate, this document and to confirm the measurement approaches that will be adopted to capture agreed outcomes and impacts;
- Based on the above, and with co-ordination and support from the Benefits Realisation Officer, all projects should review and (re)confirm the timetable against which outcomes and impacts will be reported (pre and post 2023); and,
- Confirm with Governments their acceptance of the above and consequently agree the extent and nature of the outputs required for the Quinquennial Review.

On-going steps we propose, apart from the actions already identified at Appendix C, include:

- Further engagement should be undertaken with the D&IN team to develop specific “user cases” and requests to Governments in relation, in the first instance, to accessing LEO and DWP data for the future M&E of ESES CRD by the DDI and IRES programmes;

- Encourage the adoption by all projects of the Capital City Partnership Community Benefits portal and consequent capturing and reporting of these benefits;
- Ensure that all projects are involved in on-going engagement with Scottish Government in relation to the guidance on Whole Life Carbon Costs and incorporation into business cases, procurement and ongoing operational commitments; and,
- Nomination and case study development where projects can demonstrate high Strategic Added Value (as per the original ESES CRD Benefits Realisation Plan).

Timetable

Finally we have outlined in Figure Two below, the suggested timescales and lead responsibilities for the above steps.

Step	Timescale	Lead Responsibility
Specific Actions		
Enhance Definitions & Guidance	Now to March 2022	ESES CRD PMO
Project Review of above	April to June 2022	Project Leads
Government review	July 2022	Governments
Agreed Quinquennial Outputs	August 2022	Governments
Implement above	August 2022 to August 2023	M&E SRO/Benefits Realisation Officer
Ongoing Actions		
Develop DIN user cases	On Going	DDI & IRERS
Use of Carbon City Partnerships Portal	On Going	ESES CRD PMO
Whole Life Carbon Costs adoption	On Going	ESES CRD PMO
SAV Case Studies	On Going	Benefits Realisation Officer

Appendices

Appendix A Borderland Definitions and M&E Guidance

Borderlands Deal Deliverables: Outputs, Outcomes and Impacts Guidance & Definitions V1 – Updated November 2021

Please Note: The following is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Additional project specific outputs, outcomes and impacts may be agreed where appropriate to demonstrate delivery against the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal aspirations

Outputs

- For the purpose of the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, Outputs are defined as: “an immediate measurable effect of a policy and are contractual targets to be delivered in return for the investment”
- Project outputs will be delivered as a direct result of the investment made.
- Outputs will be included in the Grant Funding Agreement and reported on at the end of project delivery. There will be a contractual obligation for the delivery organisation to achieve these outputs.
- Reporting Period: Outputs are to be reported during the Project Period i.e. the contractual period over which projects can make claims for expenditure.
- The following section outlines the suggested evidence required to evidence the achievement of deal specific outputs.
- Additional project specific outputs may be agreed where appropriate to demonstrate delivery against the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal aspirations

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating	Evidence
OP1	Length of newly built road	Kilometres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length of road for which works have been completed and now open for public use 	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring form signed by the applicant, confirming the metrics. • Photographic evidence of road. • From scale plans and visual inspection on completion and tender documents • Reported via highways colleagues based on the agreed business case approved for the scheme.
OP2	Number of new and/or improved routes	number of routes	Number of new and/or improved routes completed and now open for public use. These can be on or off road, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road created (New) (km) 	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of routes created • Photographic evidence of route

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating	Evidence
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road enhanced (km) Cycle Routes created (km) Cycle Routes enhanced (km) Pedestrian Routes created (km) Pedestrian Routes enhanced (km) Pedestrian/cycle bridges (New) 		
OP3	Length of new and/or improved routes	Kilometres	<p>Length of route for which works have been completed and now open for public use. These can be on or off road.</p> <p>Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road created (New) (km) Road enhanced (km) Cycle Routes created (km) Cycle Routes enhanced (km) Pedestrian Routes created (km) Pedestrian Routes enhanced (km) Pedestrian/cycle bridges (New) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length to be calculated from the start to the end of the new route Improved routes: Length of improved sections of the route for example surface, signage or access to facilities/storage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring form signed by the applicant, confirming the metrics. From scale plans and visual inspection on completion and tender documents Photographic evidence of route Reported via highways colleagues based on the agreed business case approved for the scheme. Carriageway with reduced flood risk (km).
OP4	<p>New floorspace created and/or refurbished including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available supply of commercial space (sq. m) Retail space completed (sq. m) Business space completed (sq. m) 	Meters squared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the impact site, the area and class of commercial floor space completed. Floor areas should be measured in accordance with the RICS Code of measuring practice (6th edition) 2007 A building should be classified as completed once 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area to be calculated as Gross Internal Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring form signed by the applicant, confirming the metrics. Independent report setting out floor space achieved. Photographic evidence of new floor space From scale plans and visual inspection on completion and tender documents.

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating	Evidence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Industrial space completed (sq. m) Storage of Distribution space completed (sq. m) Financial, Professional and Other Services space completed (Office) (sq. m) Day Nursery Space completed Hotels and Hostels space completed (sq. m) Assembly and Leisure space completed (sq. m) Floor space occupied (sq. m) 		it is on the non-domestic rating list.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported via post practical completion based on RICS reported figures Land with reduced flood risk (Ha) Properties with reduced flood risk
OP5	<p>Area of site reclaimed, (re)developed or assembled including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacant and Derelict Land Brought Back into Use/Removed from SVDL Register (Ha) Area of land/property unlocked for development (Ha) Total Area reclaimed, (re) 	Hectares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area of land directly improved by the project that is now suitable for commercial development where previously it was unattractive to commercial developers. Reclaimed: making the land fit for use by removing physical constraints to development or improving the land for hard end use; providing services to open it up for development, e.g. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area to be calculated as the proportion of land that has been remediated. This may or may not be the full site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site plan. Visual inspection of the site before and after completion Before and after photographic evidence

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating
	<p>developed or assembled (Ha) as a result of the project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Area of Opportunity Sites (Ha) 		provision of utilities or service roads	
OP6	Premises connected to digital infrastructure	Residential and business premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of premises with access to superfast broadband with speeds greater than 30mbps and that are also gigabit capable. 	N/A
OP7	Match funding	£m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The value of direct match funding contributions to enable the project to be delivered. In-kind contributions e.g. staff time are excluded Land value can be included where the asset is transferring to the project sponsor. 	N/A
OP8	New/improved visitor and cultural attractions and/or facilities	Count	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new or improved visitor attraction in the Borderlands area Facilities offer a service or amenity used by visitors and complement facilities that are attractions i.e. that persuade people to visit. An example is a Tourist Information Centre, which is a facility offering information on attractions and accommodation to visitors. 	N/A

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating	Evidence
OP9	<p>New/Improved Public Realm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Realm created (Ha) Public Realm enhanced (Ha) 	Hectares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Realm (New) - New public realm is a space which was previously not for public use which is transformed into, for example, pavement, road, street furniture and park area. This only applies where public realm improvements or creation are a result of Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal investment and associated match or levered spend. Includes new Green Space created; vegetated land or water within an urban area this includes, parks, gardens, playing fields, children's play areas, woods and other natural areas, grassed areas, cemeteries and allotments. (Public Realm (Enhanced) - Enhanced public realm is an enhanced space which was previously open for public use but which is transformed into, for example, pavement, road, street furniture and park area. The definition only applies where public realm improvements or creation are a result of Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal investment and associated match or levered spend. Includes local Green Space (Enhanced) Enhanced existing Green Space; vegetated land or water within an urban area this 		<p>Monitoring form signed by the project lead and SRO, confirming the metric.</p> <p>Photographic evidence of the public realm</p>

			includes, parks, gardens, playing fields, children's play areas, woods and other natural areas, grassed areas, cemeteries and allotments		
OP10	Number of full-time equivalent Construction jobs over construction period of project	Gross Fulltime Equivalent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting guidance from UKG. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting guidance from UKG. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting guidance from UKG.

Outcomes

- For the purpose of the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, Outcomes are defined as: “indicators to measure the success of the project in delivering against the Borderlands strategic aims derived from delivery of the project outputs”
- Outcomes will be monitored and reported in line with the agreed project Benefits Realisation Plan.
- Reporting Period: Outcomes are to be reported during the Impact Period i.e. the timeframe over which the Impacts of investment can be captured. This is **10 years** from the practical completion date of the project to ensure all periods are completed before 2040.
- The following section outlines the suggested evidence required to evidence the achievement of deal specific outputs.

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Evidence	Methodology for calculating
OC1a	Gross Jobs Created connected to the intervention	Gross Fulltime Equivalent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The total number of newly created permanent full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs at the facilities created/improved or on land remediated by Borderlands investment (i.e. must be claimed as an output) Employment sites include occupied newly developed commercial premises, the premises of supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline FTE provided by project sponsor prior to project commencing. The baseline will then be used to measure the additional employment at the intervention. 	<p>Examples of direct monitoring evidence may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring form signed by the applicant, confirming the job numbers created. Payroll information on the new jobs provided by the applicant. An anonymised list of the employees created or

			enterprises, and any FE space		safeguarded and their hours
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Ref Evidence	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating
			<p>directly improved or constructed by the intervention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created and safeguarded jobs exclude those created solely to deliver the intervention (e.g. construction). A job is deemed as permanent if it lasts at least a year 	<p>of work, signed by the applicant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about salary level may be provided Evidence as appropriate related to protected characteristics
OC1b	Gross Jobs Safeguarded connected to the intervention	Gross Fulltime Equivalent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The total number of safeguarded permanent fulltime equivalent (FTE) jobs at the facilities created/improved or on land remediated by Borderlands investment (i.e. must be claimed as an output) Employment sites include occupied newly developed commercial premises, the premises of supported enterprises, and any FE space directly improved or constructed by the intervention. Created and safeguarded jobs exclude those created solely to deliver the intervention (e.g. construction). A job is deemed as permanent if it lasts at least a year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline FTE provided by project sponsor prior to project commencing. The baseline will then be used to measure the additional employment at the intervention. Detailed rationale to be provided explaining why the jobs were at risk and how the Borderlands intervention has safeguarded the jobs. <p>Examples of direct monitoring evidence may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring form signed by the applicant, confirming the job numbers created. Payroll information on the new jobs provided by the applicant. An anonymised list of the employees created or safeguarded and their hours of work, signed by the applicant. Information about salary level may be provided Letter provided by senior member of staff confirming job was at risk

OC2	Increase in <u>day</u> visitor numbers	Visitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of new visitors using an attraction directly supported by Borderland investment (i.e. claimed as an output) NB this could include facilities along an improved walking/cycle route 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total number of additional day visitors to the attractions directly support by Borderlands investment, for 10 years following Project Period. Figures are to take account of additionality factors such as deadweight, displacement etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports from project sponsor detailing the number of entrance counts
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Ref Evidence	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating	
OC3	Increase in <u>day</u> visitor spend	£m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The increase in visitor spend at an attraction directly supported by Borderland investment (i.e. claimed as an output, NB this could include facilities along an improved walking/cycle route 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value of sales at tourist attractions directly support by Borderlands investment including tickets, food & drink, parking, gift shops etc. for 10 years following Project Period. Figures are to take account of additionality factors such as deadweight, displacement etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial reports from project sponsor
OC4	Learning opportunities created	No of learners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide details on the level and number of opportunities created by course/subject directly supported by Borderland investment (i.e. claimed as an output) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The anticipated number of learning opportunities created for 10 years following Project Period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed report from learning provider showing numbers of learners Provide details on the level and number of opportunities created by course/subject directly supported by Borderland investment (i.e. claimed as an output)
OC5	Businesses supported	No of businesses	Number of businesses trading in excess of 1 year at premises which Borderlands investment has been made.	<p>Business supported can be counted if the Borderlands investment has been used to directly support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> floorspace remediated land engaging in R&D supporting learners (eg work placement or apprenticeship) receiving direct financial assistance <p>A business support can only be counted once.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record of business - Name, address including post code, contact details, company registration number (CRNs) if applicable. Each enterprise should have a unique identifier at operational level during the course of the project. Support claimed through hours supported – record, electronic or paper, of support meeting the minimum threshold verified and signed by a senior member of staff in the enterprise

					<p>assisted, including time period claimed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support claimed for direct financial support - • documentation demonstrating that value meeting the minimum threshold has been provided to the business, with a unique identifier
OC6	Leverage	£m	The value of additional funding levered into the project. This could include operating costs of the facility created with Borderlands investment.	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letters of support from organisations providing the funding
OC7	Number of new tourism events supported	No of events	Number of new events associated with projects that have received Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal funding. Events that may not have taken place without investment in the associated asset.	Events count as one irrespective of duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographs • case study from organiser • news clipping • Twitter and Facebook links • Flyers • Reviews • Press release
OC8	Total Value of Works contracted to SMEs located within Borderlands	£m	Value (£) of contract/s associated with project awarded to all local companies, including SMEs and Social Enterprises, based within Borderlands. See below for definition of SMEs and Social Enterprises.	Contracting does not include the initial grant award to the project including sub-contractors including where the principal contractor is not an SME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrative to say awarded % and/or value of contract to company e.g. roads surfacing or glazing works • Company name and contact person that could be contacted.

Impacts

- Impacts are used to measure the long-term changes that are a result of the project.
- Impacts are to be assessed as part of the project evaluation process.
- Reporting Period: Impacts are to be reported during the Impact Period i.e. the timeframe over which the Impacts of investment can be captured. For the purposes of the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal this is by 2040 with project specific evaluations completed by 10 years after financial completion.
- The effect would be captured through evaluation at mid-term and end of project points undertaken independently by external appointed advisors

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating	Evidence
11	Net additional jobs created	Net Fulltime Equivalents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This must be expressed in full time equivalents These are indirect additional jobs created. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By estimating the number of additional jobs that can be sustained by the net increase in GVA using agreed GVA/job ration for supported sectors Net jobs must reflect: deadweight; displacement; leakage and multiplier effects to account for supply chain effects and expenditure by staff directly employed by supported organisations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodology used to calculate the number of net additional jobs created. This needs to clearly show how the net figure has been derived i.e. considering deadweight, displacement, leakage and multiplier effects Details of the GVA: Job ratio used
12	Net additional GVA	£m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It can be measured as gross direct new value added, minus the effects of deadweight and displacement, plus multiplier effects. This can be expressed as annual levels in £s. Net value added is the income and profits generated by project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Net GVA must reflect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o deadweight o displacement o leakage o and multiplier effects to account for supply chain effects and expenditure by staff directly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence based report as part of evaluation report.

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating	Evidence
			<p>support after taking account of deadweight and displacement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All net effects are the subject of evaluation, rather than regular monitoring 	<p>employed by supported organisations.</p>	
13	Increase in <u>day</u> visitor numbers	Visitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of day visitors attracted to the area as an indirect result of the intervention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline number of day visitors calculated and evidenced by project sponsor. Deadweight assumptions documented Anticipated % increase as a result of the intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor modelling tools such as STEAM
14	Increase in <u>day</u> visitor spend	£m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The associated spend of the indirect day visitors calculated at I3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using the number of visitors calculated at I3 apply a standard day visitor spend figure from a visitor modelling tool e.g. STEAM Document the average day spend per visitor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor modelling tools such as STEAM

15	Increase in <u>overnight</u> visitor numbers	Visitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of overnight visitors attracted to the area as an indirect result of the intervention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline number of overnight visitors calculated and evidenced by project sponsor. Deadweight assumptions documented Anticipated % increase as a result of the intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor modelling tools such as STEAM
16	Increase in <u>overnight</u> visitor spend	£m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The associated spend of the indirect overnight visitors calculated at 15. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using the number of visitors calculated at 13 apply a standard overnight visitor spend figure from a visitor modelling tool e.g. STEAM Document the average overnight spend per visitor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitor modelling tools such as STEAM

Ref	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Methodology for calculating Evidence	
17	Borderlands Population Benefitting	Person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of residents within the Borderlands Area that have benefitted from the intervention. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population within the local area relevant to the project. The basis on which the Population Benefitting is calculated – e.g. survey and population maps, census data.
18	Follow on investment	£m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capture the amount of public, private or third sector investment following financial completion of the project. Does not include in-kind contributions. 	Unable to calculate. To be identified through evaluation process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence based report as part of evaluation report.
19	Estimated GHG reductions	Tonnes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) is the measure that should be used to record savings of carbon associated with the delivery of an operation. CO2e covers a wide range of greenhouse gases (GHG) that have an impact on climate change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tonnes of carbon saved should be measured using BEIS Conversion Factors for calculating resulting primary energy savings. The estimate is based on the amount of CO2e saved in a given year, i.e. a projection of estimated savings of either one year following project completion or the calendar year after project completion. 	

I9a	<p>Embodied Carbon emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the embodied carbon emissions resulting from the project? (tonnes CO2e) • How have embodied carbon emissions been minimised? 	Tonnes CO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embodied carbon is the total greenhouse gas emissions (often simplified to “carbon”) generated to produce a built asset, excluding operational emissions. CO2e is shorthand for carbon dioxide equivalents, the standard unit in carbon accounting to quantify both regulated and unregulated energy uses). • A description of the techniques used to arrive at the operational carbon figure. 	•	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level of evidence detail will depend on the phase of the project. At concept stage an estimate based on major project elements (e.g. steel, concrete, floor area, etc) will suffice. As a bill of quantities develops, so will
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Eef	Indicator	Unit	Definition	Evidence	Evidence
	<p>Methodology for calculating the project? (tonnes CO2e/year)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have operational carbon emissions been minimised? 		<p>both regulated and unregulated energy uses).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A description of the techniques used to arrive at the operational carbon figure. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence could include referring to the carbon management process used (e.g. PAS 2080, RICS Whole Life Carbon Assessment for the Built Environment, BREEAM, etc). Evidence could also include the use of renewable energy technologies or low carbon heating systems.
I9c	<p>Whole Life Carbon savings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the estimated whole life carbon emissions resulting from the project over its design life? (tonnes CO2e) • What whole life carbon savings are estimated compared to a 'business as usual' approach to project design and construction? (tonnes CO2e) • How will the project become operationally net zero carbon by 2045? <p>How has the project</p>	Tonnes CO2e	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole life carbon is the sum of a project's embodied carbon and operational carbon over a specified period, e.g. its design life or 60 years • Savings can only be demonstrated against a legitimate carbon baseline, i.e. what carbon emissions would have resulted from the project had active carbon reduction measures not been in place. A net zero asset may be defined as one that achieves a level of energy performance in line with national climate change targets that does not burn fossil fuels and that is 100% powered by renewable energy. Net zero is essentially the achievement of a balance of zero greenhouse gas emissions by taking actions to remove the same quantity of greenhouse gases 	•	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence would be a calculation showing the sum of the embodied and operational carbon values. • Justification of the carbon resulting from the business as usual scenario, then a calculation showing the difference between this value and the project's whole life carbon emissions. Evidence could include an outline description of how the project will feasibly decarbonise over time, e.g. by introducing new renewable technologies or following electricity grid decarbonisation (if the asset is powered only by electricity).

	<p>contributed to a more environmentally sustainable transport network?</p>		<p>atmosphere as all of the activities under consideration generate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An important gauge in the environmental sustainability of a transport network is the carbon emissions it generates. Carbon emissions quantification usually requires traffic modelling, although this may not always be necessary, depending on the project. 		<p>Potential barriers to achieving net zero (e.g. financial, technological, skills, etc) should be highlighted here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence will be project dependent, from a qualitative description for negligible carbon impact projects, to quantification based on traffic modelling for potentially significant carbon impact projects (e.g. sizable roads projects).
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Standard Definitions

Timeframes

- Delivery Period: the time from when project expenditure starts to when it ends
- Project Period: the contractual period over which projects can make claims for expenditure
- Impact Period: the timeframe over which the Impacts of investment can be captured

Spend and Outputs should be reported during the Project Period. Outcomes and Impacts should be reported over the Impact Period.

The Business Case for each project will set out its own agreed process to capture and evaluate impact but this will be over a 10-year period and will provide an annualised estimate of impacts by year.

The overall Borderlands Impact Period is 20 years from 2020 and all project and programme evaluations should reflect the achievement

Area of Benefit

Business Cases will show impacts at the UK, and Borderlands level, plus possibly also at Scotland/England level where required

Evaluations should report impacts at the Borderlands level and at other levels required by partners which may include local authority plus national level.

In line with the aspirations to impact the whole of the Borderlands the evaluation will consider evidence of the interventions across the whole of the Borderlands.

Additionality Factors

- Deadweight refers to allowing for outcomes that would have taken place without the intervention under consideration. Deadweight will be revealed when the total outcome of an option for intervention is compared with business as usual, the (BAU).
- Leakage is the extent to which effects “leak out” of a target area into others e.g. workers commuting into other areas to take up new employment opportunities.
- Displacement is the degree to which an increase in economic activity or social welfare that is promoted by an intervention is offset by reductions elsewhere in the area under consideration or in similar areas close by. This occurs where existing businesses close and reopen in a fresh location or move into the target area from similar areas close by.
- Substitution is where one type of labour or factor of production such as capital equipment is substituted for another but there is no increase in employment or output. (If relevant)
- Multiplier: estimates of the additional benefit generated in the area via both supply and demand linkages

Small & Medium Size Enterprises (SMEs)

In the UK, sections 382 and 465 of the Companies Act 2006 define a SME for the purpose of accounting requirements. According to this a small company is one that has a turnover of not more than £6.5 million, a balance sheet total of not more than £3.26 million and not more than 50 employees. A medium-sized company has a turnover of not more than £25.9 million, a balance sheet total of not more than £12.9 million and not more than 250 employees.

Social Enterprises

Businesses driven by a social/environmental mission and reinvest profits into creating positive social change.

Appendix B Reporting Frameworks

Suggested Table One: Baseline Targets

Measure	Commitment at Deal Signing	Commitment in Approved Business Case	Variance	Comment on variance of Commitment at Deal Signing and approved Business Case (if applicable)	Agreed Final Target
Outputs					
New Jobs					
Construction Jobs					
Jobs Protected					
Etc					
Outcomes					
Increase in <u>day</u> visitor spend					
Learning opportunities created					
Number of new tourism events supported					
Etc					
Impacts					
Net additional jobs created					
Net additional GVA					
Increase in <u>day</u> visitor numbers					
etc.					

Suggested Table Two: Monitoring Outputs, Outcomes and Impacts

Measure	Agreed Final Target	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
Outputs									
New Jobs									
Construction Jobs									
Jobs Protected etc									
Outcomes									
Increase in <u>day</u> visitor spend									
Learning opportunities created									
Number of new tourism events supported									
etc									
Impacts									
Net additional jobs created									
Net additional GVA									
Increase in <u>day</u> visitor numbers									
etc.									

Appendix C Potential Roles & Responsibilities of a CRD Benefits Realisation “Officer”

- a. Working with SRO, agree and manage with theme leads, PMO, Joint Committee, Governments (and other “audiences” identified in the BRP) an evaluation and reporting programme from 2022 to 2033 to assess CRD impact performance against projected benefits.
- b. In the context of the above, the SRO with the Benefits Realisation Officer will lead, manage and maintain the collation of the benefits, outputs and outcomes associated with the Deal and be responsible for agreeing/co-ordinating Government and external consultancy inputs.
- c. Manage and co-ordinate all agreed evaluation programmes under (a) and (b) which will involve a balance between:
 - Co-ordinating and supporting where appropriate the IRES, Capital City Partnership and DDI teams in their on-going and planned approaches; and,
 - Support the evaluations for other themes/projects (particularly where there is relatively minimum M&E expertise).
- d. Set up regular impact reporting process that will include interpretation and implications for the overall CRD Programme (in terms of benefits realisation) and consequent determination with PMO, SRO, Joint Committee and Governments of “change control” approaches.
- e. Collating and communicating key impact results across the CRD themes.
- f. Engagement with other CRDs, national initiatives and both Governments to address common issues such as attribution, access to new or combined data sources and emerging best practice, common reporting protocols, data sharing and cost efficiencies.
- g. Respond to all impact enquiries and lead response to new Government requests/Deal suggestions (e.g. Carbon Costing, Well Being etc) and co-ordinate approaches across all themes.

Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

10 am, Friday 4 March 2022

City Region Deal Progress Report

Item number 5.3

Executive Summary

The Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal progress report gives an indication of progress across the City Region Deal programme.

In this update, the overall status is assigned as “Green”. There are no actions required from the Joint Committee.

Dr Grace Vickers

Chief Officer, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal

Contact: Andy Nichol, Programme Manager, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal

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City Region Deal Progress Report

1. Recommendations

1.1 To note the progress across the City Region Deal Programme.

2. Background

2.1 This progress report is being used across the City Region Deal's governance structure to monitor progress across all aspects of the City Region Deal. It is updated and shared with Government on a weekly basis and is taken to all Board meetings. A RAG (Red, Amber, Green) scale is assigned to programmes and projects by the Programme Management Office (PMO), as well as scores for inclusive growth and partnership working.

2.2 Tables and 2 show the guidelines that are used when determine RAG statuses and scores:

Table 1: RAG Status Guidelines

T: Status against **timeline** set out in business case/implementation plan;

B: Status against **budget** set out in financial plan

RAG Status	Definition - Timeline	Definition - Budget	Action Required
Green	In line with business case/implementation plan	In line with financial plan.	No management action required
Amber	Delay is considered acceptable by PMO.	Within acceptable range.	Management action is in place by senior management to address issues, and project is being closely monitored.
Red	Delay is significant.	Outwith acceptable range.	Immediate action is required by senior management and relevant Boards as appropriate to address issues. Issues must be highlighted to Government.

Table 2: Strategic Added Value Score

Score	Description
1 (Low)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are opportunities for links with one or two other CRD themes that may add value to the proposal. • Partnership working with wider stakeholders, to add value to the proposal has not been thoroughly considered, but may be possible, and should be explored. • One or two of the five “inclusive growth” measures listed in the Deal Document could be incorporated into the delivery of the project.
2 (Medium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are opportunities for links with two or three other CRD themes that may add value to the proposal. • Partnership working with wider stakeholders, to add value has been factored into the business case to some extent, but there are opportunities to enhance. • Two or three of the five “inclusive growth” measures listed in the Deal Document could be incorporated into the delivery of the project.
3 (High)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are opportunities for links with three of four other CRD themes that may add value to the proposal. • Partnership working with wider stakeholders, e.g. private/third sector is already taking place and strategic added value effects are clear. • Three, four or five “inclusive growth” measures listed in the Deal Document could be incorporated into the delivery of the project.

3. Main report

3.1 The performance report is shown in Appendix 1. The overall status of the City Region Deal is assigned as “Green”. There are no actions required from the Joint Committee.

4. Financial impact

4.1 The overall cumulative total of Grant claimed for the Deal to date (2018 – present) is £202 million. This total includes the funding issued by Transport Scotland and Scottish Government Housing. Claims are made to Government on a quarterly basis.

5. Alignment with Sustainable, Inclusive Growth Ambitions

5.1 Inclusion and sustainability are key drivers for the City Region Deal, and strategic added value scores have been included for each project. Business cases for projects included demonstrate how they will reduce inequalities and tackle the inclusion challenges specific to the city region.

5.2 The [City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Plan](#) (BRP) was approved on 4 September 2020. This incorporates indicators that align with the Scottish Government’s Inclusive Growth Framework. The impact on equalities, human rights and sustainability will also be measured. A BRP Implementation Plan is currently being developed, and as part of this, a viability study, to enhance the monitoring, evaluation and on-going management of the outcomes and impacts of the Deal, is being conducted. A progress update on its implementation is being taken separately to this Committee.

5.3 In August 2021, Scottish and UK Government have provided joint guidance for project owners on managing potential carbon emissions associated with Scottish City Region and Regional Growth Deal projects. It accords with HM Treasury Green Book requirements and supports the quantification and minimisation of whole life carbon and the identification of potential barriers to achieving net zero. A workshop with ESESCR Deal project leads took place in September 2021 to explain the guidance and agree actions required. Project leads have since categorised their projects in terms of carbon control and carbon influence. This will form an important part of regular reporting through the Benefits Realisation Plan.

6. Background reading/external references

- 6.1 [Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Document](#) (August 2018)
- 6.2 [City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Plan](#): ESESCR Deal Joint Committee report 4 September 2020

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Progress Report (February 2022).

Progress Report

Last updated: 24 February 2022

Overall Status
Last Quarter

Green

Overall Status
This Quarter

Green



CITY REGION DEAL

Edinburgh & South East Scotland

Page 1: Dashboard

Recent Achievements and Milestones

Achievement/Milestone	Date
Annual Conversation with Governments	Nov 21
Granton Strategic Waterfront Regeneration Outline Business Case to Joint Committee	Dec 21

Upcoming Joint Committee Meeting Milestones (expected)	Target Date
Dunard Centre Revised Business Case	Mar 22
Benefits Realisation Plan Implementation Update	Mar 22
Regional Prosperity Framework Implementation Plan	Sep 22
City Region Deal Annual Report 2021/22	Sep 22
West Edinburgh Transport Improvement Full Business Case	Sep 22

Financials Summary

*Funding issued by Transport Scotland and SG Housing not included in this total

Total CRD grant £000	CRD grant drawdown to date £000	21-22 CRD Grant allocation	21-22 Grant drawdown
600,000	202,331	33.72%	£57.51m*

Top 3 Risks (from PMO Risk Register)

Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Severity	Resolution Plan or Mitigating Action
External factors which the regional partners have limited control over e.g. COVID-19 pandemic, or manner of EU exit, affect the ability of projects to deliver according to their original plans.	3	4	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updating of progress report and monthly financial forecasts to ensure PMO is aware of issue(s) at an early stage and can raise with Government, Executive Board and Joint Committee as appropriate. Change Management process as set out in the Benefits Realisation Plan is being implemented Review outputs & timelines in the light of delays & consider advancement of spend as appropriate. Pivot projects proactively where possible in line with need and opportunity. Regional Prosperity Framework has "Adaptable" as one of its three themes, and includes mitigations against uncertainty and change.
Stakeholders outwith Governance structure (businesses, infrastructure providers/operators, third sector networks, politicians and general public) do not feel suitably engaged.	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> REC has cross-regional representation. They use their status as ambassadors to champion the City Region Deal, and share messaging with wider networks. Regular meetings take place with other groups, e.g.: TSI / SEN meetings (where group members sit on DDI Delivery and IRES boards) and NHS. Comms group provides tools to spread positive messaging, e.g. website, key messaging documents.
Failure to align with current Government and agency priorities, policies and initiatives.	2	4	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular calls between Govt and PMO to keep all informed of current priorities and ensure alignment. Government and agency representatives attend Executive Board and Directors' Group meetings to keep all informed of current priorities and ensure alignment. Regional Prosperity Framework is aligned to the latest Government plans and ambitions Government co-produces key documents with the PMO (e.g. Benefits Realisation Plan).

Project Stages

Stage no.	Definition
1. Define	Business case being developed, and not yet approved by Thematic Board and Joint Committee.
2. Implement	Business case has been approved by Thematic Board and Joint Committee, and is being implemented. In a capital project, this may be construction; for skills projects this may be establishing a course or system.
3. Deliver	Project is in place and benefits realisation framework to assess if it is achieving its objectives.
4. Legacy	Project has resulted in mainstreaming or improvements to business as usual (impact) that is generated beyond the funded period

Red, Amber, Green

T: Status against **timeline** set out in business case/implementation plan; **B:** Status against **budget** set out in financial plan

RAG Status	Definition - Timeline	Definition - Budget	Action Required
Green	In line with business case/implementation plan	In line with financial plan.	No management action required
Amber	Delay is considered acceptable by PMO.	Within acceptable range.	Management action is in place by senior management to address issues, and project is being closely monitored.
Red	Delay is significant.	Outwith acceptable range.	Immediate action is required by senior management and relevant Boards as appropriate to address issues. Issues must be highlighted to Government.

Strategic Added Value Score

Score	Description
1 (Low)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are opportunities for links with one or two other CRD themes that may add value to the proposal. • Partnership working with wider stakeholders, to add value to the proposal has not been thoroughly considered, but may be possible, and should be explored. • One or two of the five “inclusive growth” measures listed in the Deal Document could be incorporated into the delivery of the project.
2 (Medium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are opportunities for links with two or three other CRD themes that may add value to the proposal. • Partnership working with wider stakeholders, to add value has been factored into the business case to some extent, but there are opportunities to enhance. • Two or three of the five “inclusive growth” measures listed in the Deal Document could be incorporated into the delivery of the project.
3 (High)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are opportunities for links with three of four other CRD themes that may add value to the proposal. • Partnership working with wider stakeholders, e.g. private/third sector is already taking place and strategic added value effects are clear. • Three, four or five “inclusive growth” measures listed in the Deal Document could be incorporated into the delivery of the project.

Overall Total				Project Name	2021 - 2022					Comments
Total Budget £000	CRD Grant Total £000	CRD Grant Claimed To Date £000	CRD Grant Claimed to Date %		Grant Allocation £000	Grant Claimed to Date £000	Spend to Dec £000	Outturn £000	Outturn Variance £000	
101,047	32,545	32,545	100%	Bayes Centre	0	0	0	0	0	CRD Grant fully drawn down.
22,469	22,469	13,505	60%	National Robotarium	18,416	11,451	11,451	16,848	-1,568	Projected to be fully drawn down in 22/23.
189,297	57,920	57,920	100%	Edinburgh Futures Institute	8,021	8,021	8,021	8,021	0	Fully drawn down in Q2.
190,620	79,595	35,624	45%	Edinburgh International Data Facility	3,748	2,637	3,748	5,423	1,675	
84,610	49,205	12,676	26%	Usher Institute	9,596	6,928	9,278	14,247	4,651	
42,596	17,366	16,424	95%	Easter Bush	942	0	0	139	-802	Projected to be fully drawn down in 22/23.
30,000	10,900	385	4%	Easter Bush Link Road - A701 & A702	385	385	385	385	0	Full 21/22 allocation of grant drawn down in Q3.
52,000	30,000	0	0%	Food and Drink Innovation Campus	1,044	0	0	133	-911	
49,425	35,000	7,508	21%	Fife Industrial Innovation Investment	5,178	2,455	2,841	3,602	-1,576	
29,050	15,000	221	1%	Scottish Borders Innovation Park	2,116	21	21	2,116	0	
791,117	350,000	176,808	51%	Total Research, development and innovation	49,445	31,898	35,745	50,915	1,470	
25,000	25,000	5,476	22%	Integrated Regional Employability & Skills	4,170	2,065	2,530	3,938	-232	
25,000	25,000	5,476	22%	Total IRES	4,170	2,065	2,530	3,938	-232	
120,000	120,000	4,927	4%	Sheriffhall Roundabout*	-	477	477	-	-	SG to fund to support improvements to the A720 City Bypass for the grade separation of Sheriffhall.
36,000	20,000	120	1%	West Edinburgh Public Transport Infrastructure	263	107	171	263	-0	
156,000	140,000	5,047	4%	Total Transport	263	584	648	263	-0	
44,990	20,000	0	0%	IMPACT/Dunard Concert Hall	3,630	0	1,121	2,155	-1,475	Planning permission granted 24th Nov 21.
44,990	20,000	0	0%	Total Culture	3,630	0	1,121	2,155	-1,475	
263,000	15,000	15,000	100%	Housing Company (Edinburgh Living)**	0	0	0	0	0	CRD grant fully drawn down.
50,000	50,000	0	0%	Housing Infrastructure Fund**	0	0	0	0	0	Separate letters from SG for individual proposals. Allocation figure is based on financial plan.
313,000	65,000	15,000	23%	Total Housing	0	0	0	0	0	
1,330,107	600,000	202,331	34%	Total Programme	57,508	34,546	40,044	57,271	-237	

**Page 4: Research, Development and Innovation
Theme
Data-Driven Innovation**

Project	Stage	Last Milestone	Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
Bayes Centre	Deliver	Sep 18: Opening	N/A	G	G	3	Bayes Centre re-opened in July 2021.
National Robotarium	Implement	Jan 2021: Start on Site	April/May 2022: Complete construction	A	G	2	HWU Estates team now reporting 4-6 week delay to programme based on update from Robertsons. This is due to constraints with the supply chain and labour market.
Edinburgh Future Institute	Implement	Start on site	May 23: Complete construction	A	G	3	Construction timescale has been affected by a combination of Covid impacts and unforeseen structural issues. Global Open Finance Centre of Excellence re-named the Smart Data Foundry.
Usher Institute	Implement	Sep 21: Commence construction	Jul 22: Full DataLoch launch	A	G	2	Construction underway for completion in Summer 2023.
Easter Bush	Implement	Aug 21: Mobilise team to deliver business plan	Apr 22: Establish a Centre for Aquaculture Genetics and Health	G	G	2	DDI Agritech business case delivery now underway.
Edinburgh International Data Facility	Implement	Jul 21: Complete hardware installation	Jul 22: Launch Regional Data Haven	G	G	2	Main Phase 1 IT equipment procured and installed.

T: On Time?; B: On Budget?; SAV: Strategic Added Value score

Page 5: Research, Development and Innovation Theme

Edinburgh Innovation Park (QMU Food and Drink Innovation Hub)

Project	Stage	Last Milestone	Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
Edinburgh Innovation Park (QMU Food and Drink Hub)	Implementation	ELC and QMU approved Joint Venture structure to take forward delivery of plans in February	Procurement of the Design Team	G	G	2	

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Page 6: Research, Development and Innovation Theme
Projects in Fife and Scottish Borders

Project	Stage	LastMilestone	Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
Borders Innovation Park Page 92	Implement	Site works for Phase 1.	Build-out of Phase 1.	A	G	1	<p>The first building on Phase 1 was handed over at the end of December and is currently being fitted out by the tenant.</p> <p>A report on the way forward with Phases 2 and 3 was taken to Council on 23 September.</p> <p>Road and service infrastructure for Phase 3 has been approved.</p> <p>The delivery programme for Phases 2 and 3 is being finalised.</p>
Fife Industrial Innovation Investment (Fi3P)	Implement	<p>Q4 21/22: Completion of Site Servicing at Fife Interchange North, Dunfermline</p> <p>Q4 21/22: Lochgelly Site Servicing, project commencement</p>	Q3 22/23: Completion of business units at West Way, Dalgety Bay	G	G	2	<p>West Way, Dalgety Bay milestones achieved.</p> <p>Flemington Rd, Glenrothes: ongoing marketing of remaining units.</p> <p>Marketing underway for Dunnikier Business Park, Kirkcaldy.</p> <p>Lochgelly Site Servicing contractor to undertake grouting works from March.</p>

Project	Stage	Last Milestone	Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
IRES Programme	Implement/Deliver	IRES board on 8 th February 2022. IRES presentation at the Joint Committee on 3 rd December 2021 was well received.	Work continues on Monitoring & Evaluation and enhanced reporting; aligning project outcomes with overall IRES and City Region Deal Benefits Realisation targets. Planning for enhanced communications incl. videos.	G	A	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRES board on 8th February 2022 considered presentations on Integrated Employer Engagement, Community Wealth Building, Finance, the third quarter report & feedback from the Annual report. IRES Programme Connector is working with Project Leads to further develop monitoring and evaluation, and feed into the overall Benefits Realisation plan framework - reporting with increased automation and online tools. New quarterly reporting structure has been implemented for IRES board using PowerBI software.
Integrated Knowledge System	Implement/Deliver	Helix training programme started January 2022 with demonstration to 165 caseworkers. Legal agreement circulated to 6 Local Authority financial leads. Trial data transfer completed. Helix.scot website tender complete.	Data framework and site structure to be tested with sample data and checked by superuser group. Final data transfer to be confirmed. Training programme to complete in February 2022. Helix.scot website build to start. Digital Portal Co-ordinator to be recruited.	G	G	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training programme for Helix: 36 different training sessions; 165 attended demo kick off; over 550 sessions booked; 45+ different organisations; 200 sessions attended in January. IKS Delivery Advisory Group (DAG) demo session of new Helix system ran with positive feedback. Data sample from current Caselink system being coded for import to test data framework and check exit procedure for March 2022. http://helix.scot tender process completed - website will provide information for job-seekers, employers and overlap with IEE. Job advertised for post of Digital Portal Co-ordinator to oversee the development and ongoing management of the portal. Presentations to senior leaders in both Midlothian and Scottish Borders Councils on the IKS project and the transition to Helix. Data skills for Caseworkers pilot confirmed with DDI and running in February/March 2022.
Labour Market Analysis and Evaluation	Deliver	Regional Intelligence hub update provided to Directors' Group and agreement sought on way forward. Green Skills research dissemination plan agreed and some initial delivery of this. Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) Toolkit updated with digital skills spotlight.	Agreement reached on the next research to be commissioned in Q1 of 22/23. Dissemination of Green Skills research complete by end of Q4. Input to RPF Big Move 7 action plan.	G	G	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LMAE theme group met in January 2022 and discussed a refresh of the research plan which will drive activity over the coming years. Ideas currently being collated and assessed. Regional Intelligence Hub have also been consulted on the refresh of the research plan. Input to RPF Big Move 7 during the period. Request submitted to all Big Move Leads, seeking their views on skills needs which will support their thematic group. Dissemination of the green jobs/skills research has continued, with DYW Leads a particular focus this month. LMI presentation delivered to the Chamber of Commerce Inspiring Talent Group.

Project	Stage		Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
Integrated Employer Engagement Page 94	Implement	'Proud to Care' video editing complete. Social media advert suite complete.	Results for employer fund responses due and final project report to be completed.	G	G	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C19jobs – a full project report will be cascaded by year end to demonstrate the journey of C19jobs from inception to exit, showcasing trends and outputs. C19 will redirect to Helix once launched. An extensive distribution list has been created for Proud to Care video to ensure the final product can be cascaded as widely as possible. A Young Persons Guarantee (YPG) work placement commenced within the IEE team on 10 January and has undertaken a series of business and admin tasks supporting community benefits, including creating a regional supplier distribution list. Tracking commenced Jan 22 for all RSC (employer led) businesses on their fair work commitments. Second funding application being drafted to British Land for additional support under the IEE RSC workstream, if successful will enhance delivery for young people at Fort Kinnaird Recruitment & Skills Centre. Attendance at physical community wealth building events has increased throughout January, driving more enquiring to ESESCommunities.org Delivery & Advisory Group (DAG) scheduled for 24th February 2022.
		Employer Fund survey issued to all successful firms.	'Proud to Care' launch to the regions employability networks.				
Intensive Family Support	Implement/Deliver	Creation of supplier distribution list for ESESCommunities mail shot planned for February 22.					
		IFS Project board agreement re. recommissioning process for phase 2.	Draft of IFSS Phase One evaluation expected to be delivered in Feb 2022 and circulated to IFS board.	G	G	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 149 adults engaging with IFSS. 47 young people registered in Caselink system, receiving 1:1 support via Youth Workers. Further 253 young people and children engaging in IFSS support, mixture of 1:1 support and overall family support. 449 individuals benefitting from IFSS. 65 positive outcomes recorded, including 19 employment outcomes, 13 qualifications, and 20 re-engagements/new engagements in education and training. CoP new dates for 2022 issues and the meetings continue once monthly in rotation with various staff across IFSS. Ongoing Caselink support in place for service providers. Phase one evaluation underway, draft findings expected to be delivered by researcher in February 2022.
Initial (desk based) research findings received, phase one evaluation research interviews ongoing.	Formal plan for re-commissioning process to be drafted and put in place. Development and initial actions of process for commissioning additional service delivery in Edinburgh.	Service User Involvement development with delivery partners ahead of phase two re-commissioning process.	Community of Practice (CoP) meetings held with Robertson Trust re. relationships/holistic approach.				

**Page 9: Integrated Regional
Employability and Skills
Theme (3/3)**

Project	Stage	Last Milestone	Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
Housing and Construction Infrastructure (HCI) Skills Gateway	Implementation	Over 70 entries to the Dawn Foster Memorial Essay competition received.	FE Partner 2022-23 final funding offers to be confirmed.	G	A	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 North American exchange opportunities finalised for HCI-supported students during summer 2022. Timber TED programme now recognised as CPD by the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB). Industry Green Skills event scheduled for early March 2022.
Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) Skills Gateway	Implementation	IOT roll out support package to be made available to participating schools. Learning from neurodiversity project to be shared. BSc Data Science to be widely promoted to target audiences.	Day of Data programme to be run across the region's colleges as part of the School-College partnership. Data Skills for Work to complete development of data adoption leadership training.	G	A	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IOT pilot has kicked-off in schools across the region. Data Education in Schools project is funding teachers to develop supporting materials and deliver data related activities to pupils. Discussions are underway with ScotlandIS and DYW to explore ways to involve industry representatives in classroom based activities. A pilot data skills programme has commenced at West Lothian College working in partnership with Donaldson's Trust to upskill neurodiversity students. If successful the programme will be expanded to other areas. Data Education in Colleges commenced teacher of the Professional Development Award (PDA) in Data Science in January 2022. Queen Margaret University are developing data-related content for a number of their business programmes supported by Data Education in Universities. Work continues on developing open badging approach across the programme.
Workforce Mobility	Implementation	August 2021 IRES Board – Baseline Assessment, policy review, pilot projects. Led consultation response to Draft Regional Transport Strategy for SBC. Approved by full Council- key theme to strengthen rural perspective.	August 2022 IRES Board – Year 1 Implementation performance review. Developing discussions with Scottish Government through the Digital Intelligence Network.	G	G	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressing data analysis in the Scottish Borders for the pilot in 2022 to design bus services to match demand. Working with NHS to release data following change in staffing. Data Analyst reviewing employment zones across all 6 Local Authority boundaries to implement pilot schemes. Developed scope of service for Scottish Borders Council 2022 pilot for approval. Baseline data gathering continues across the region to support a final report at the end of March 2022. Working with SUStran to jointly review a large bike on bus investment and how it performs to help connectivity in rural areas. Input into the two SBC feasibility studies that were awarded funding in late 2021. Input into SBC Climate Change Route Map Delivery Plan under the transport theme to ensure a Just Transition. Continued involvement in the Regional Prosperity Framework delivery; various Transport Scotland activities; CEC End Poverty Network of Networks and Bus Service Improvement Partnership meeting for South East Scotland.

Project	Stage	Last Milestone	Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
A720 Sheriffhall <i>(last update provided by Transport Scotland on 7 Feb 2022)</i>	Define	Consultation on draft orders closed 31 January 2020. Transport Scotland is currently responding to representations .	Ongoing statutory process.	G	G	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Committee ratified their support for the scheme as published on 3 September 2021, following the consideration of further technical information. Engagement with objectors is underway to inform objection resolution. <i>Drafting of formal objection responses is largely complete, with 2,718 responses issued to date, and the remaining 52 responses being finalised for issue in the next two weeks. TS does not anticipate all objections being resolved through discussion, therefore following issue of the remaining objection responses, TS expect to submit a request to the DPEA for a Public Local Inquiry (PLI)</i> Background inquiry evidence preparation is underway.
West Edinburgh	Define	Initial Development of package of interventions. Delivery of Draft Reports for discussion and Finalisation (inc Case for Change, Initial Sifting and Prelim Options Appraisal Report)	Complete SBC tasks to consequently conclude Stage 1A. Transition into the next significant phase of the project (Stage 1B) to progress OBC and Design Development.	G	G	1	<p>Agreement on funding between CEC and Transport Scotland has been agreed and Stage 1a is underway. Discussions are to commence on the required approvals to proceed with Stage1B. Consultants are currently finalising Stage 1B proposal.</p> <p>Note: In April 2021, CRD partners submitted an application to Transport Scotland's Bus Partnership Fund (BPF), which cites A8/89 as a key strategic Public Transport corridor. Subsequently, Transport Scotland notified CRD Partners that our application had been successful in securing funds to develop business case works and at the meeting of the Joint Committee on 3 September 2021, the recommendation to mobilise and advance the associated Strategic Appraisal works (which includes the A89/A8) was approved. Draft Reports of Case for Change and Initial Sifting are currently being finalised. Preliminary Options Appraisal Report to be presented to Transport Scotland for discussion and subsequent finalisation.</p>

Project	Stage	Last Milestone	Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
Dunard Centre	Define	Revised Planning Application Approval	Commencement of Stage 4 Design	A	G	2	The City of Edinburgh Council's Development Management Sub Committee approved IMPACT Scotland's application to build Dunard Centre on St Andrew Square on 24 November. Full Revised business case being taken to Joint Committee for approval on 4 March.

Project	Stage	Last Milestone	Next Milestone	T	B	SAV	Comments
Affordable housing	Deliver & Define	Investment Subgroup scope under development.	Scope to be finalised end Jan. HNDA 3 to be considered by Housing Board on 25 Jan.	A	N/A	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners will work collaboratively with Scottish Government, agencies, RSLs and other stakeholders to secure more investment, innovation, commitment and partnerships to address the challenges above and deliver at scale and pace
Strategic sites	Implement & Define	Granton Waterfront Update to 3 Dec JC	Granton Waterfront OBC to be considered at Housing Board on 25 Jan.	A	A	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline Business Cases for sites are at different stages of development.
Innovation & skills	Implement	Est. pipeline of sites from across the region for 1000 homes.	HCI Skills Gateway update to Housing Board.	A	N/A	3	
Housing company	Deliver	Draw down of funds completed.	Ongoing Delivery.	G	G	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City of Edinburgh Council and Scottish Futures Trust will continue to share learning and financial models with partners, to explore regional delivery models.

Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

10am, Friday 4 March 2022

Consultation on Draft National Planning Framework 4: Proposed Response

Item number: 5.4

Executive Summary

The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 makes significant changes to the way the planning system in Scotland operates. One of the changes is the preparation of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) which, when approved, will replace strategic development plans as an element of the development plan for all parts of Scotland. As well as replacing strategic development plan NPF4 replaces Scottish Planning Policy and in doing so introduces a proposed suite of 33 new and revised national planning policies.

The Ministerial foreword to the draft NPF4 sets out how the Scottish Government's approach to planning and development will help to achieve a net zero, sustainable Scotland by 2045. It sets out that the challenges we are facing today demand a change in the way we plan our places for tomorrow and explains how partners can work together to build sustainable, liveable, productive and distinctive places for the future.

Stakeholders are invited to comment on the framework and policies through 58 questions which are set out in the consultation. The proposed response to that consultation is set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

The removal of strategic development plan and their replacement with national policy and a suite of policies which are mainly directed at local implementation through local development plans creates something of a policy void at a city region level. This 'void' can usefully be filled by non-statutory policy frameworks such as the Regional Prosperity Framework. However, it is necessary to ensure that national policy as set out in NPF4 facilitates delivery of the Shared Prosperity Framework and comments in that regard are the focus of the proposed response.

The deadline for response is 31 March 2022 and the Scottish Government expects the NPF4 to be finalised and adopted by the end of 2022.

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Consultation on Draft National Planning Framework 4: Proposed Response

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To note the publication for consultation by the Scottish Government of a proposed National Planning Framework 4;
- 1.2 To note that when approved NPF4 will replace the SESplan Strategic Development Plan, National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy;
- 1.3 To note that comments on the proposed NPF4 are invited;
- 1.4 To consider and comment on the proposed response to the consultation, attached as Appendix 2 to this report;
- 1.5 To note that the proposed response remains subject to on-going consultation with City Region Ddeal partners;
- 1.6 To agree that the Elected Member Oversight Committee be delegated to approve the final response, noting that the EMOC may also wish to delegate to a specific officer of one of the constituent councils in order to complete the response by the deadline of 31 March 2022.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Scottish Government is in the process of replacing the National Planning Framework for Scotland (NPF3) which was published in 2014.
- 2.2 Draft NPF4 differs substantively from previous iterations of the National planning Framework which were largely focused on facilitating development and economic growth. The Ministerial foreword to NPF4 signals that it has a different emphasis and that it will set out how the Scottish Government's approach to planning and development will prioritise climate action and help to achieve a net zero, sustainable Scotland by 2045.
- 2.3 NPF4 incorporates a revised suite of national planning policies which, in due course, are intended to replace those set out in Scottish Planning Policy (SPP 2014).
- 2.4 When adopted, it will replace the existing strategic development plan and form part of the development plan. Therefore, it will directly influence planning decisions. Crucially, it will inform the preparation of the next round of Local Development Plans and it is intended that it will be underpinned with a clear delivery programme.
- 2.5 Sustainability and addressing climate change are key themes which run through the entire document and it is clear that the climate emergency has been highly influential in shaping the new framework. The COVID-19 pandemic has also influenced NPF4,

exposing as it has a number of social inequalities which exist across Scotland's urban and rural areas.

- 2.6 NPF4 gives the planning system a substantive role in seeking to address these inequalities through a combination of attempting to direct investment towards disadvantaged communities and incentivising the development of brownfield sites in urban areas.
- 2.7 However, the removal of strategic development plan and their replacement with national policy and a suite of policies which are mainly directed at local implementation through local development plans creates something of a policy void at a regional partnership level. While the draft NPF4 details a number of Geographical Action Area these are greater than City Region Deal Areas in scale. This 'void' can usefully be filled by non-statutory policy frameworks such as the Regional Prosperity Framework. However, it is necessary to ensure that national policy as set out in NPF4 facilitates delivery of the prosperity framework and comments in that regard are the focus of the proposed response. Partners, particularly the six local authorities, will no doubt wish to make their own responses on the more detailed policy provisions.

3. Main report

- 3.1 City Region Deal partners agreed a response to a draft position statement on NPF4 issued by the Scottish Government in November 2021. That submission was broadly supportive of the 'direction of travel' of the emerging NPF4. The comments made by the City Region Deal appear to have been broadly taken on board in the draft to NPF4. However, as a note of caution, the framework and policies remain at a reasonably high level and the effectiveness in delivering the ambitions will be very dependent on the interpretation of the framework through the planning process. The delivery programme which will follow NPF4 and setting out how the ambitions set out will be achieved will be of critical importance, perhaps more so than NPF4 itself.
- 3.2 Nevertheless, the intentions of NPF4 appear to broadly align with the aspirations of the City Region Deal partnership as set out in the original deal agreement and the Regional Prosperity Framework which sets a social, economic and environmental vision for the city region over the next 25 years.
- 3.3 The Planning (Scotland) Act, 2019 also sets out a requirement for NPF4 to contribute to six overarching outcomes set out in the Act, namely:
 - *improving the health and wellbeing;*
 - *increasing the population of rural areas;*
 - *meeting housing needs;*
 - *improving equality and eliminating discrimination;*
 - *meeting targets for emissions of greenhouse gases; and*
 - *securing positive effects for biodiversity.*
- 3.4 To do this NPF4 is split into five sections as follows and an overview of the detail of each part is provided in the following sections:
 - Part 1 A National Spatial Strategy for Scotland
 - Part 2 National Developments
 - Part 3 National Planning Policy
 - Part 4 Delivering Our Spatial Strategy
 - Part 5 Annexes (including Housing Land requirements)

A National Spatial Strategy for Scotland

3.5 The National Spatial Strategy is intended to guide decisions on future development across Scotland and aims to produce:

- **Sustainable places**, which reduce emissions and restore biodiversity;
- **Liveable places**, where people can live better, healthier lives;
- **Productive places**, which produce a greener, fairer and more inclusive wellbeing economy; and
- **Distinctive places**, where we recognise and work with local assets.

3.6 The National Spatial Strategy is underpinned by six spatial principles – compact growth, local living, balanced development, conserving and recycling assets, urban and rural synergy and a just transition. It also recognises the different challenges and opportunities across Scotland’s regions, which are outlined in five geographic “action areas”. The action areas, which cover the whole of Scotland with some overlaps between areas, are as follows:

North and West Coastal Innovation

- Making sustainable use of our coasts and islands to sustain communities and pioneer investment in the blue economy.

Northern Revitalisation

- Growing low carbon rural communities, capitalising on digital innovation and making the most exceptional natural and cultural heritage.

North East Transition

- Actively planning a just transition from oil and gas to a net zero future.

Central Urban Transformation

- Transforming and pioneering a new era of low carbon urban living.

Southern Sustainability

- Creating connected, liveable places which benefit from further investment and innovation.

The geographical area of the Edinburgh City Regional deal sits partly in the Central Urban Transformation Area and the Southern Sustainability Area.

3.7 For the Central Urban Transformation Area the key actions are identified as:

Pioneer low-carbon resilient urban living which includes requirements to develop a network of 20 minute neighbourhoods; supporting a fine grained approach to placemaking; bring services and jobs closer to homes; investment in infrastructure and services in line with sustainable travel and investment; tackle concentrations of poor health outcomes and improve access to greenspace.

Reinvent and Future Proof City Centres includes requirements to support the social and cultural importance of cities; addressing longer term challenges in cities not least those created by Covid; making the most of heritage and cultural accesses and understanding the capacity of the city.

Accelerate urban greening includes requirements to expedite the greening of the built environment including former industrial areas; tackle and restore biodiversity loss; woodland expansion across urban areas and promotion of blue and green networks.

Rediscover urban coasts and waterfronts includes requirements for unlocking the strategic importance of coasts as resources for people and industry including at Edinburgh Waterfront; address coastal erosion; flood risk and storm surges; access for tourism and habitat protection.

Reuse Land and Buildings includes a requirement to do more to reuse empty buildings; providing support for the reuse of brownfield land and de-risking these sites through an infrastructure first approach to reduce pressure on growth where it is no longer sustainable.

Invest in net zero housing solutions includes a requirement to diversify residential and car based communities by supporting local businesses, leisure and retail uses; put a regional developer contribution framework in place to unlock cross boundary transport challenges; reduce house based emissions and invest in renewing and improving capacity in flooding, water and drainage infrastructure.

Growing a Wellbeing Economy includes a requirement to target future development in areas of significant economic disadvantage; address national, regional and localised inequality; support new models of working; achieving higher density mixed use neighbourhood; support existing town centres and adopt community wealth building approaches.

Reimagine Development on the Urban Fringe includes requirements to protect the rich and diverse rural areas around existing settlements and to consider their role in matters such as tourism and sustainable food production.

Improve Urban Accessibility includes requirements to focus on community wealth building, putting in place a mass transit system for Edinburgh through plans to extend the tram network and to improve sustainable connectivity to the rest of the UK.

3.8 For the Southern Sustainability Area, the key actions are identified as:

Create a Low Carbon Network of Towns includes requirements to consolidate settlements; capitalise on the strong sense of place; promote development close to the Borders rail line; promote a tailored response to the 20-minute neighbourhood concept; build resilience to climate change including flooding.

Support Sustainable Development includes requirements to create high quality green jobs; diversify the economy; place an emphasis on community wealth building; reduce dependency on a relatively low wage economy and build on outdoor recreation opportunities.

Innovate to Sustain and Enhance Natural Capital includes requirements to use the area's forests and woodlands to support carbon storage and sequestration and promote opportunities for renewable energy generation.

Strengthen Resilience and Decarbonise Connectivity includes requirements to progress the role of Scottish Borders as part of the Edinburgh City Region; improve public transport routes to provide an alternative to car use and secure better digital connectivity.

- 3.9 While the majority of these actions will be for local authorities to pursue there is clearly a regional consideration. On the whole the actions align with the aims set out in the City Region Deal's Regional Prosperity Framework. However, in many cases, the actions will take many years to deliver and will be expensive to achieve. The consultation identifies that a delivery programme will support NPF4 but little detail of this is given at this stage. In the absence of the detail of the delivery programme it is difficult to assess how effective the aims are likely to be. Clarity on how the aims are to be achieved is a key element of the proposed response.
- 3.10 It should be noted that reference is made to a regional developer contribution framework in the Central Urban Transformation Area. However, it is not clear how such a framework could be established given current legislative provisions and, even if it could be delivered, how effective it would be given that the majority of the strategic housing sites across the city region already benefit from planning consent. The response, therefore, calls for this reference to be removed.

National Developments

- 3.11 There are 18 national developments identified in the draft NPF4 which are identified as supporting the delivery of the National Spatial Strategy. They have been assessed and selected against the four key outcomes of climate, people, work and place.
- 3.12 While 10 of the projects which were identified in NPF3 are retained and carried over to NPF4, (including Central Scotland Green Network and a national walking, wheeling and cycling network promoting active travel), 4 have not been taken forward on the basis that the spatial priorities have changed. These includes Freight handling Capacity on the Forth and Strategic Airport Enhancements. At the same time, 8 new national developments have been added which the draft NPF4 suggest best reflect the new national development priorities and in particular will help to mitigate and adapt to climate change. These include Edinburgh Waterfront, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow Mass Transit Networks and Industrial Green Transition Zones.
- 3.13 The addition of the Edinburgh Waterfront and the Edinburgh Mass Transit Networks is welcomed in terms of the recognition of their national importance. However, there is no recognition of the importance of an extension to the Borders Rail line and it is recommended that this should be recognised as a National Development. Notwithstanding, it is not entirely clear how the recognition as a national development assists with delivery of these projects. Clarification is sought on this matter through the response to the consultation.

National Planning Policy

- 3.14 35 national planning policies are set out for the development of land which are to be applied in the preparation of LDPs; local place plans; masterplans and briefs; and for determining planning applications.

- 3.15 The policies have been arranged to support the four overarching themes of the strategy (Sustainable Places, Liveable Places, Productive Places and Distinctive Places). While some policies are entirely new and clearly arise from new priorities including the climate emergency, others have had only minor changes made to their previous iteration in SPP 2014 and some have been changed quite considerably or significantly expanded. A list of the policies and a brief summary of their nature and scope is provided as Appendix 1.
- 3.16 There is an intent to minimise development which impacts upon climate and nature and planning applications will have to demonstrate how proposals will help meet the country's targets to cut emissions to net zero by 2045 and facilitate biodiversity enhancement. Policies are unashamedly designed to reduce land take and out of town development, maximise the use of existing brownfield land and disused buildings and to adopt a more plan led approach to housing. Policies to support renewable energy, energy storage, heat networks and the move to a circular economy are also included.
- 3.17 Key objectives are to promote active and sustainable travel and achieve more local and sustainable living with a finer grain mix of uses so that people can more readily access the facilities and services they need on a daily basis. An emphasis is also placed on blue and green infrastructure, play and sport.

Delivering Our Spatial Strategy

- 3.18 This section outlines how this strategy will be delivered. It recognises that it will require collective action from public and private sectors and wider communities and a standalone delivery programme will accompany NPF4 once it has been finalised.
- 3.19 As noted elsewhere in this report, much of the policy context the proposed NPF4 is focused on implementation through individual local development plans. However, the overall strategy will be crucial in ensuring that there is close alignment between national strategy set out in NPF4 and the partnerships Regional Prosperity Framework. Both will have to align with other strategies and plans including, for example, the Strategic Transport Priorities and investment in infrastructure. The section on Delivering the Spatial Strategy makes these connections and recognises that resources will have to be aligned. However, there is little detail about how this will be achieved other than setting out that further work on delivery will be carried out.
- 3.20 It is disappointing that this further work has not been carried out in advance of publication of the draft given that an effective approach to delivering is so central to a successful approach. It is difficult to assess the likely impact of the strategy without having clarity on how the aim can be achieved. Clarification is sought on this matter through the response to the consultation.

Annexes

- 3.21 Annexes provide information on how statutory outcomes are being met, Minimum All-Tenure Housing Land Requirement (MATHLR) for each planning authority in Scotland, along with a Glossary of definitions.
- 3.22 Perhaps the most important of these is Annex B which identifies the 'Minimum All-Tenure Housing Land Requirement' (MATHLR) which each planning authority in Scotland must plan to accommodate in the next iteration of their LDP.

- 3.23 It should also be noted that the previously contentious need to maintain a minimum 5-year supply of effective housing land is replaced with a longer-term policy perspective requiring a deliverable supply pipeline of short, medium and long-term housing sites.
- 3.24 On the whole the MATHLR for each of the constituent local authorities are lower than the rates of growth identified in the previous Strategic Development Plan. This may mean that the level of new housing allocations in local development plans is modest. However, these are matters for individual local authorities. One matter to note in the housing requirements is that they are calculated only at a local authority level and there is no recognition of the regional housing market in the land requirements.

Consultation Response – The City Regional Deal’s Position

- 3.25 The 70 questions posed by the consultation, together with the council’s proposed responses, are set out in Appendix 2. On the whole the proposed responses are supportive of the aims and objectives set out in the draft framework which seem to align with the City Region Deal partnership’s aims with respect to achieving future prosperity in a sustainable and carbon neutral way and, at the same time, protecting the region’s most important natural, physical and cultural assets.
- 3.26 With respect to the policy position set out in the proposed NPF4 the proposed response reflects that these are principally matters for planning authorities to progress through local development plans. Nevertheless, the response is generally supportive of the aims and objectives of the policies which, again, mostly align with the City Region Deal’s aspirations. However, there are some contradictions in the policies and some lack clarity on how the policies will be tested and implemented. For example, they regularly use terminology such as “significant” without providing any clarity on how significance will be assessed and measured. While recognising that these are mainly matters for planning authorities to respond on, the proposed response identifies where there are contradictions and identifies how these could be addressed.
- 3.27 Draft NPF4 identifies the importance of a robust spatial strategy. Members will recall that the City Regional Deal partnership [endorsed a draft spatial strategy](#) in at the Elected Member Oversight Committee meeting in November 2021. That strategy was based on the strategy set out in Strategic Development Plan 2. While it is likely that this draft spatial strategy will continue to form the basis of the spatial strategy going forward there is now an opportunity to review the strategy to ensure that it aligns with current thinking on the following matter:
- Ensuring future ‘net zero’ places which will be more resilient to the impacts of climate change and will support the recovery of the natural environment;
 - Ensuring future places, homes and neighbourhoods which will be better, healthier and more vibrant places to live than at present;
 - Ensuring future places can attract new investment, build business confidence, stimulate entrepreneurship and facilitate future ways of working – improving economic, social and environmental wellbeing;
 - Ensuring future places which will be distinctive, safe and pleasant, easy to move around, welcoming, nature-positive and resource efficient; and
 - Ensuring future places that overall are sustainable, liveable, productive and distinctive.

3.28 The spatial principles set out in draft NPF4 enable the right choices to be made about where development should be located. The 5 spatial strategy action areas cover the whole of Scotland and would appear to identify the key opportunities in these areas. However, it is important to ensure that the actions in these areas are not mutually exclusive. For example, the North East Transition Area has a focus on actively planning a just transition from oil and gas to a net zero future. There are of course a significant level of oil and gas related facilities and businesses in the City Region and it is important that the same principles will apply to these businesses. Similarly, the Northern Revitalisation Area has actions looking at digital innovation, and making the best use of natural and cultural heritage. These are, of course, significant issues for the City Region as well.

3.29 While the selection of at least some of the 18 national developments could be considered subjective they do collectively align with the overarching key priorities of the national spatial strategy. The national developments identified for the City Region are considered to be appropriate. However, it remains unclear as to how the identification of national development assists with delivery. The proposed response seeks clarification on this point.

Conclusion

3.30 The proposed NPF4 marks a significant step change to the approach to planning in Scotland. There is a clear focus on supporting growth in the most sustainable way as Scotland moves towards net carbon zero.

3.31 The approach appears to be broadly consistent with the City Region Deal's aims and objectives as set out in the Regional Prosperity Framework. However, there is a lack of detail in some aspects and it will not be possible to say that there is full alignment until these details are known. This is particularly the case with the actions necessary to deliver the strategy where much of the detail remains to be confirmed.

3.32 Consequently, the proposed response to the consultation is broadly supportive of the terms of the proposed NPF while calling out areas where further clarity and engagement is required.

4. Financial impact

4.1 The consultation itself does not create any financial impacts. However, there will be significant capital and revenue costs associated with delivering sustainable economic growth in the region and these will have to be managed on an on-going basis.

5. Alignment with Sustainable, Inclusive Growth Ambitions

5.1 NPF4 will have a significant role in enabling sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the city region and, as such, it is imperative that there is alignment between National Planning Framework 4 and the Regional Growth Framework.

6. Background reading/external references

6.1 [National Planning Framework 4:](#)

6.2 [National Planning Framework 4: Position Statement](#)

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix 1: Summary of proposed policies (as referenced in Appendix 2).
- 7.2 Appendix 2: Proposed response to the NPF4 Consultation.

APPENDIX 1

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION: SCOTLAND'S FOURTH NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK (NPF4)

SUMMARY OF NPF4 POLICIES

Policy 1: Plan-led approach to sustainable development

Requires all local development plans to manage the use and development of land in the long-term public interest.

Policy 2: Climate emergency

Requires that "significant weight should be given to the Global Climate Emergency" when considering all development proposals.

Policy 3: Nature crisis

Requires development plans to facilitate and contribute to biodiversity enhancement. Proposals for national, major and EIA development should only be supported where it can be demonstrated that the proposal will conserve and enhance biodiversity, so that they are in a demonstrably better state than without intervention.

Policy 4: Human rights and equality

Affirms that Planning should respect, protect and fulfil human rights, seek to eliminate discrimination and promote equality.

Policy 5: Community wealth building

Requires development plans to address community wealth building priorities by reflecting a people-centred approach to local economic development. Spatial strategies should support community wealth building, address economic disadvantage and inequality and provide added social value.

Policy 6: Design, quality and place

Requires development proposals to be designed to a high quality so that the scale and nature of the development contributes positively to the character and sense of place of the area in which they are to be located. Proposals which are poorly designed should not be supported

Policy 7: Local living

Requires LDPs to support the principle of 20-minute neighbourhoods and support development proposals that are consistent with it.

Policy 8: Infrastructure First

Requires LDPs to be based on an 'infrastructure-first approach' – requiring LDPs to clearly set out infrastructure requirements, the evidence base for those requirements, and indicate required developer contributions. Proposals should mitigate their impacts on infrastructure and should not be supported unless provision is made to do so.

Policy 9: Quality homes

Requires LDP's to identify a housing target in the form of a Housing Land Requirement *and aligned to the nationally identified 10 Year Minimum All-Tenure Housing Land Requirement (MATHLR) set out in Annex B.*

Also requires a deliverable 'housing land pipeline' to be established for the Housing Land Requirement setting out short, medium- and long-term sites which can be supported by the infrastructure requirements of the spatial strategy.

Overall, the policy seeks to encourage and support the delivery of high quality, sustainable homes that meet the needs of people throughout their lives.

Requires 'Statements of Community Benefit' to be prepared by developers to accompany larger applications for residential development.

Identifies a presumption in favour of proposals for public or private, permanent or temporary, Gypsy/Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites on land not identified for this use in the development plan unless there are specific reasons not to.

Strongly reinforces the point that “New homes on land not identified for housebuilding in the local development plan should not be supported”.

Policy 10: Sustainable transport

Requires LDPs to prioritise locations for future development that can be accessed by sustainable modes. Developments which would increase reliance on the private car should not be supported.

Policy 11: Heat and cooling

Requires LDP's to take account of the area's Local Heat & Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) and areas of heat network potential and any designated heat network zones (HNZ) when allocating land.

Policy 12: Blue and green infrastructure, play and sport

Requires LDP's to identify and protect blue and green infrastructure, including new or improved access to children's play and outdoor sports opportunities. Proposals which result in fragmentation or net loss of existing blue and green infrastructure and the loss of children's play provision should not be supported.

Policy 13: Flooding

Requires LDP's to strengthen community resilience to the current and future impacts of climate change, including identifying opportunities to implement natural flood risk management and blue green infrastructure.

Plans are further required to take account of the probability of flooding from all sources and new development proposals in flood risk areas, or which can impact on flood risk areas, should be avoided. Advises that a cautious approach should be taken.

Policy 14: Health and wellbeing

Requires LDPs to aim to create vibrant, healthier and safe places and should seek to tackle health inequalities particularly in places which are experiencing the most disadvantage and indicates that the provision of health and social care facilities and infrastructure to meet the needs of the community should be a key consideration.

Policy 15: Safety

Requires development proposals in the vicinity of major accident hazard sites to take account of the potential impacts of the proposal on the major-accident hazard site and also on surrounding populations and the environment. Advises that decisions should be informed by, amongst other things, the Health and Safety Executive's planning applications advice.

Policy 16: Business and Employment

Requires LDP's to set out proposals to meet requirements for employment land, infrastructure and investment in a way which supports a greener, fairer and more inclusive wellbeing economy.

Proposals for home-working, live-work units and micro-businesses should be supported where compatible with the surrounding area and there will be no unacceptable impacts on neighbouring uses.

Policy 17: Tourism

Requires LDP's to support the resilience of the tourism sector, including by identifying proposals for tourism development which reflect sector driven tourism strategies and which can contribute to the viability, sustainability and diversity of the local economy.

Policy 18: Culture and creativity

Requires LDP's to recognise and support opportunities for jobs and investment in the creative sector, culture, heritage and the arts.

Indicates that development proposals should seek to make provision for public art where they involve a significant change to, or the creation of new, public open spaces.

Policy 19: Green Energy

Includes a general statement that the planning system should support all forms of renewable energy development and energy storage, together with new and replacement transmission and distribution infrastructure. The planning system should also support new and emerging technology, including hydrogen and carbon capture utilisation and storage. It is noted that the onshore wind sector is considered likely to play the greatest role in the coming years.

Policy 20: Zero Waste

Requires LDPs to identify appropriate locations for new infrastructure to support the circular economy and meet identified needs in a way that moves waste as high up the waste hierarchy as possible. Development proposals should aim to reduce, reuse, or recycle materials in line with the waste hierarchy

Policy 21: Aquaculture

LDP's are required to guide new aquaculture development to locations that reflect industry needs and take account of environmental impact, including cumulative impacts that arise from other existing and planned aquaculture developments in the area, and wider marine planning.

Policy 22: Minerals

Requires LDP's to support the 10-year mineral landbank at all times whilst promoting sustainable resource management, safeguarding important workable mineral resources and taking steps to ensure these are not sterilised by other types of development.

Proposals for the exploration and development of fossil fuels and for unconventional oil and gas exploration (fracking) are not supported.

Policy 23: Digital Infrastructure

Requires LDP's to support the delivery of digital infrastructure, particularly in areas with gaps in connectivity and barriers to digital access.

Policy 24: Centres

Requires LDP's to support sustainable futures for city, town and local centres and identify a network of centres. This should reflect the principles of 20- minute neighbourhoods and the town centre vision, and take account of how they are connected by public transport and walking, wheeling and cycling.

Policy 25: Retail

Requires LDP's to support proposals for retail development which will generate significant footfall in town centre sites. However, development in edge-of-town centre or commercial centres should not be supported unless they are explicitly supported by the development plan. Out-of-town locations should no longer be supported.

Policy 26: Town centre first assessment

Retains the long established 'town centre first' approach to development that will generate significant footfall (or in the case of drive-throughs, a significant number of visitors) including commercial leisure uses, offices, community and cultural facilities and, where appropriate, other public buildings such as libraries, education and healthcare facilities and public spaces where people can gather.

Policy 27: Town Centre Living

Encourages and supports town centre living and requires planning authorities to seek to provide a proportion of their housing land requirements in city and town centres and be proactive in identifying opportunities.

Policy 28: Historic Assets and Places

Requires LDP's to identify, protect and enhance locally, regionally, nationally and internationally valued historic assets and places.

Policy 29: Urban edges

Recommends that LDP's should consider designating green belts where appropriate in some of the most accessible or pressured rural or peri-urban areas, where there is significant danger of unsustainable growth in car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside.

Policy 30: Vacant and Derelict Land

Requires LDP's to seek to reuse vacant and derelict land and redundant buildings as a priority including in proposals to creatively and sustainably repurpose buildings and structures.

Proposals on greenfield sites should not be supported unless the site has been allocated for development or the proposal is explicitly supported by policies in the development plan, and there are no suitable brownfield alternatives.

Policy 31: Rural places

Requires LDP's to set out proposals to support the sustainability and prosperity of rural communities and economies. Plans should identify accessible, intermediate and remote areas.

However development proposals in accessible or pressured rural areas should only be supported where they are consistent with the spatial strategy set out in the local development plan and do not lead to the unsustainable growth in long-distance car based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside.

Policy 32: Natural Places

Requires LDP's to identify and protect locally, regionally, nationally and internationally valued natural assets, landscapes, species and habitats.

Development proposals that would have an unacceptable impact on the natural environment including biodiversity objectives should not be supported.

Policy 33: Soils

Requires LDP's to protect locally, regionally, nationally and internationally valued soils. Development on peatland, carbon rich soils and priority peatland habitat should not be supported unless essential.

Policy 34: Trees, Woodland and Forestry

Requires LDP's to identify and protect existing woodland and potential for its enhancement or expansion to avoid habitat fragmentation and improve ecological connectivity, helping to support nature networks.

The spatial strategy should identify and set out proposals for the development of forestry and woodlands in their area, including their development, protection and enhancement, resilience to climate change and the expansion of woodlands of a range of types.

Policy 35: Coasts

The LDP spatial strategy should consider how to adapt coastlines to the impacts of climate change. Plans should recognise that rising sea levels and more extreme weather events resulting from climate change will potentially have a significant impact on coastal and islands areas, and that a precautionary approach to flood risk including by inundation should be taken.

APPENDIX 2

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION: SCOTLAND'S FOURTH NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK (NPF4)

DRAFT CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Q1.

Do you agree that this approach will deliver our future net zero places which will be more resilient to the impacts of climate change and support recovery of our natural environment?

The City Region Deal Partnership agrees that the approach has the potential to deliver net zero places. However, the framework itself will not deliver all of the interventions necessary to achieve this. It will require to be supported by a number of other actions to ensure that the objective is achieved.

The strategy has the potential to address and reverse the loss of biodiversity which has already occurred and to bring about other environmental and social improvements while also supporting sustainable growth. Achieving this does, however, require that the policies which aim to achieve this are applied on a consistent basis and that the policies and impact are not undermined through successful challenges, for example through planning appeals.

In the partnerships view a national energy plan is needed as there does not currently appear to be any clear alignment of policy on climate change, local heat and energy and wind. While all these interventions and policies are supported by the partnership it is not clear what the country's capacity to deliver is; what further investment is required and how this will be funded.

NPF4 needs to provide the strongest message possible that it is most definitely not 'business as usual' and that new development can and will only be acceptable where it can be demonstrated as necessary and adheres to the principle of doing no unavoidable harm.

Question 2 deals with future places but there is no clarity in the framework as to how the objectives in Q1 can be achieved for existing places. Making existing and future places net zero places will be necessary if the overall objective is to be achieved.

Q2.

Do you agree that this approach will deliver our future places, homes and neighbourhoods which will be better, healthier and more vibrant places to live?

The City Region Deal Partnership supports the outcomes which the strategy seeks to achieve and believes that the creation of more self-sufficient communities (characterised as 20-minute neighbourhoods in NPF4) is beneficial and desirable.

The City Region Deal Partnership also welcomes empowering people to shape places and is pleased to see that the link between health and housing has been made in the description of liveable places.

Nevertheless, it is recognised that these outcomes are aspirational and achieving them will be challenging. NPF4 on its own will not bring about the fundamental changes which require to be made. Achieving the outcome is likely to be more expensive than current approaches and it is not clear how the additional costs will be met. Clarity on delivery mechanisms is required either as part of NPF4, or in a delivery programme which is agreed in advance of NPF4 being finalised. The partnership is disappointed that the delivery framework has not been developed in parallel with the draft NPF4.

	<p>Fundamentally, clarity on the delivery of essential infrastructure is required. The infrastructure first approach is supported but it is not clear how this will be secured and operated in practice.</p> <p>The City Region Deal Partnership supports the intent of NPF4 to bring all matters together under the four recurring themes of <i>sustainable places</i>, <i>liveable places</i>, <i>productive places</i> and <i>distinctive places</i>. Robust local development plans will be necessary to deliver this. This will require clear, measurable, implementable policies in NPF4. However, the imprecise and often contradictory nature of the policies is likely to result in extended debates on planning proposals at the expense of quick and consistent decisions. There is an opportunity to avert, or perhaps more realistically, minimise future challenges at appeals by providing greater clarity on a number of the policies.</p>
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<p>Q3.</p>	<p>Do you agree that this approach will deliver our future places which will attract new investment, build business confidence, stimulate entrepreneurship and facilitate future ways of working – improving economic, social and environmental wellbeing?</p>
	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership agrees that the approach provides a sound basis for achieving this outcome. However, it does require investors and others to be receptive to wider environmental considerations.</p> <p>It will also be vital to ensure linkages and alignment across other strategies and frameworks including those on economic growth, climate change and transport. The NPF would be strengthened by identifying what the parallel strategies and frameworks are and how alignment will be achieved.</p> <p>The partnership notes the support for key sectors and while noting that these are not defined it does support the approach. However, this should not be at the expense of on-going support for non-key sectors which will continue to provide an important component of the ongoing economic prosperity of the region not least from a community wealth building and 20 minute neighbourhood perspective</p> <p>The City Region Deal Partnership supports the intent to incorporate community wealth building into its strategy for Productive Places but notes that community wealth building priorities will vary from time to time and place to place across the city region.</p>

<p>Q4.</p>	<p>Do you agree that this approach will deliver our future places which will be distinctive, safe and pleasant, easy to move around, welcoming, nature-positive and resource efficient?</p>
	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership supports the aspirational outcomes which NPF4 has identified to create distinctive places by focusing on 'place making' and raising design and quality of build standards. It also welcomes the recurring theme which places particular emphasis to making better use of vacant and derelict land in preference to greenfield sites. However, there is some contradiction with content elsewhere which identifies, for example, that some former industrial sites may be beneficial in greening urban areas. The supports should, therefore be caveated as 'where appropriate'</p> <p>It is particularly important that the Scottish Government actively support the delivery of placemaking as this will become increasingly important in selling the uniqueness and diversity of the city region as a place to live, work, enjoy and invest.</p>

Q5.	Do you agree that the spatial strategy will deliver future places that overall are sustainable, liveable, productive and distinctive?
	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership agrees that the approach provides a sound basis for achieving this outcome. But it requires interventions beyond the framework set out in NPF4. The spatial strategy itself will not deliver change. The policies which deliver change need to be clear, deliverable, enforceable and applied consistently if change is to be delivered.</p> <p>There are many other factors, frameworks and strategies that will have a significant determining effect and these will have to be aligned. It is not clear from the draft NPF4 how this will be achieved. There will have to be clarity and alignment around resources and financial investment across the public and private sectors and a fundamental change in attitudes and expectations. These are matters which are not set out in the draft and require further explanation and clarity if the overall spatial strategy is to be deliverable.</p> <p>While it is primarily a matter for planning authorities the partnership notes and supports the aspiration for a design led approach to achieving distinctive places. However, achieving this will require robustness in policies which require this and a commitment from all parts of government, including the Planning & Environmental Appeals Division, to ensure that high standards can be achieved through planning processes including development management.</p>

Q6.	Do you agree that these spatial principles will enable the right choices to be made about where development should be located?
	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership believes that the spatial principles provide a sound basis for ensuring the right development takes place in the right place. However, an overall policy on delivering sustainability is needed rather than a read across of a number of often non-aligned policies.</p> <p>The six overarching principles of compact growth, local living, balanced development, conserving and recycling assets, urban and rural synergy and a just transition are collectively considered to be a sound basis for determining where development should, and just as importantly, should not be located. Making the best and most productive use of available resources is an objective which the City Region Deal Partnership strongly supports. It is also important to ensure that local facilities are funded adequately and that they meet the needs and reasonable aspirations of communities.</p> <p>However, the NPF is only one of a number of related strategies and policies which influence land use. It is imperative that NPF4 recognises the link with other strategies – for example planning and delivery for strategic transportation projects – and that there is alignment and a shared purpose across all national and regional strategies, including those influencing resource allocations.</p>

Q7.	
Do you agree that these spatial strategy action areas provide a strong basis to take forward regional priority actions?	
	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership has well established regional priorities and a set of actions to achieve these. The spatial strategy action areas set out in NPF4 are broadly consistent with these.</p> <p>As referenced in the Scottish Government's Advisory Group's Report 'Towards a Robust Wellbeing Economy for Scotland' (June 2020), differences between regional geography and sectors need to be "recognised, respected and championed".</p> <p>While there is perhaps a case to be made for a finer grain of segmentation, the City Region Deal Partnership nevertheless welcomes the identification of five 'Action Areas' and is pleased that the diverse and distinctive nature of different parts of Scotland have indeed been recognised.</p> <p>Nevertheless, it is important to recognise that the actions are not unique to each action area. For example, the North East Transition Area has a focus on actively planning a just transition from oil and gas to a net zero future. There are of course a significant level of oil and gas related facilities and businesses in the City Region and it is important that the same principles will apply to these businesses. Similarly, the Northern Revitalisation Area has actions looking at digital innovation, and making the best use of natural and cultural heritage. These are, of course, significant issues for the City Region as well.</p>

Q8.	
Do you agree with this summary of challenges and opportunities for this action area?	
	<p>This question relates to North West Coastal Action Area – no response is submitted. However, as per comments elsewhere the specific challenges and opportunities identified should not be considered unique to this action area.</p>

Q9.	
What are your views on these strategic actions for this action area?	
	<p>This question relates to North West Coastal Action Area – no response is submitted. However, as per comments elsewhere the specific challenges and opportunities identified should not be considered unique to this action area.</p>

Q10.	
Do you agree with this summary of challenges and opportunities for this action area?	
	<p>This question relates to Northern Revitalisation Action Area – no response is submitted. However, as per comments elsewhere the specific challenges and opportunities identified should not be considered unique to this action area.</p>

Q11.

What are your views on these strategic actions for this action area?

This question relates to Northern Revitalisation Action Area – no response is submitted. However, as per comments elsewhere the specific challenges and opportunities identified should not be considered unique to this action area.

Q12.

Do you agree with this summary of challenges and opportunities for this action area?

This question relates to North East Transition Action Area – no response is submitted. However, as per comments elsewhere the specific challenges and opportunities identified should not be considered unique to this action area.

Q13.

What are your views on these strategic actions for this action area?

This question relates to North East Transition Action Area – no response is submitted. However, as per comments elsewhere the specific challenges and opportunities identified should not be considered unique to this action area.

Q14.

Do you agree with this summary of challenges and opportunities for this action area?

The City Region Deal Partnership broadly agrees with the challenges and opportunities set out for the Central Urban Action Area. There are, however, some matters which need clarification.

The partnership supports a move to low carbon, resilient urban living and notes the retrofitting of facilities and services into areas where they are scarce. While the principles set out here are supported it is not clear how this can be achieved. It is also potentially contradictory with other aspects of national policy which aim to support town and city centres.

The partnership also notes a commitment to tackling poor health outcomes in the west central Scotland but questions why such a commitment should not stretch more widely across the central urban area (or indeed the rest of Scotland). Of course, land use policy, is only one element of the solution and, as set out elsewhere it is imperative that planning policy aligns with other policy interventions in a holistic way at a national level, as well as a local level. It is not clear how this will be achieved. The partnership notes the intention to progress further work on delivery. However, it is difficult to provide robust comment on addressing the challenges in the absence of a clear delivery programme.

The aim of de-risking redevelopment sites through an infrastructure first approach is welcomed as is the recognition that some areas where there is development pressure are no longer sustainable. Further clarity is, however, need on how the infrastructure first approach can be achieved. The partnership recognises the commitment to carry out further work on delivery but it is strongly of the view that this work needs to be completed before NPF4 is approved.

	<p>The draft NPF4 sets out a commitment from partners to put in place a regional developer contribution framework. While City Region Deal partners are not against the principle of such an approach they cannot see how an effective and deliverable approach can be achieved given current approaches to developer contributions as set out in Planning Circular 3/2012. Clarity on what is expected and how this can be achieved is required or the reference should be removed.</p>
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Q15.

What are your views on these strategic actions for this action area?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership broadly agrees with the strategic actions identified for the Central Urban Action Area subject to the matters raised in the respond to Question 14.</p>
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Q16.

Do you agree with this summary of challenges and opportunities for this action area?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership broadly agrees with the challenges and opportunities set out for the Southern Sustainability Action Area. There are, however, some matters which need clarified.</p> <p>It is unclear how fully the interim Regional Spatial Strategy for this area has influenced the preparation of this section and reflected the relationship of this Action Area with the city region. The introductory paragraph states that the area is “linked to” the Edinburgh City Region, which underplays the fact that the Scottish Borders forms an integral part of it. This narrative might be amended to better reflect that important connection.</p> <p>The suggested “branding” for each of the areas has distilled a range of issues into a single, high-level, issue; sustainability in the case of the South of Scotland. This is arguably the least “proactive” of the five areas. The South of Scotland does not merely want to sustain itself. This label is not helpful in the wider analysis, as it implies that other issues and opportunities, such as connectivity, economy and demographic issues are of secondary importance. It may be preferable to simply refer to each area by name and allow the issues to speak for themselves.</p> <p>The narrative makes very little of the strategic importance of the region and, in particular, the links it provides to Northern Ireland to the west and England to the south, neither of which are mentioned at all. Given the influence of both, including in economic terms, locally, regionally and nationally, this seems a significant oversight.</p> <p>Economic ambitions should be given higher priority. Although they are referred to later in the section, the opening introduction should give greater significance to the South of Scotland Regional Economic Strategy, Borderland Inclusive Growth Deal and the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal and Regional Prosperity Framework, all of which are significant in catalysing economic growth. Similarly, the role of digital connectivity – and the requirement for growth and investment in it – in supporting economic growth and a means of ensuring parity between urban and rural areas should be given specific mention.</p>
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Q17.

What are your views on these strategic actions for this action area?

The City Region Deal Partnership broadly agrees that the actions are a fair summary of the key issues facing the southern region. There are, however, some matters which need clarified.

Greater attention needs to be paid to the work that has gone into preparing the indicative Regional Spatial Strategies for Edinburgh & SE Scotland (as it relates to this Action Area) and for the South of Scotland and that many of the issue, opportunities and actions set out there should be better reflected in the NPF.

Greater reference is required to the potential for the extension of the Borders Railway and the feasibility work that is already committed. This is critically important infrastructure in terms of achieving the aims of the NPF, at a local, regional and national level. There is a persuasive argument that the extension should appear as a national development in its own right. The same is true of the significant investment in the reopening of Reston station and the potentially transformative effects it will have for East Berwickshire. There are also broader concerns that there is limited recognition of the need for improvement of east-west connectivity, both in terms of routes and public transport networks.

There should be greater emphasis on the digital economy and improvements in digital connectivity, which has perhaps the greatest potential as a catalyst to make the region a more competitive place to work and live.

The Southern Action Area has made a considerable contribution to meeting renewable targets and the potential for the region to become a centre of excellence for manufacture, research and development for the industry needs to be better reflected. There is the need to ensure that the economic benefits of such development is realised at the local and community level.

Q18.

What are your overall views on this proposed national spatial strategy?

The City Region Deal Partnership is broadly supportive of the national strategy subject to the general points set out in the response to Question 7 and the more detailed points set out in the responses to Questions 14-17.

Questions – Part 2: National Developments

Q19.	<p>Do you think that any of the classes of development described in the Statements of Need should be changed or additional classes added in order to deliver the national development described?</p>
	<p>While recognising that classes of developer are principally a matter for planning authorities, the City Region Deal Partnership considers that the classes identified are appropriate.</p> <p>However, on the wider issue of national developments (which do not seem to be covered by other questions in the consultation) it is not clear from the consultation what benefits arise by having a project identified as a national development. While it is recognised that further work is to be done on delivery the City Region Deal Partnership would expect that work to identify such benefits and how they can be best achieved.</p>

Q20.	<p>Is the level of information in the Statements of Need enough for communities, applicants and planning authorities to clearly decide when a proposal should be handled as a national development?</p>
	<p>Yes</p>

Q21.	<p>Do you think there are other developments, not already considered in supporting documents, that should be considered for national development status?</p>
	<p>Yes</p> <p>The most significant omission is the lack of any reference to the extension of the Border Railway from Tweedbank to Carlisle. STPR2 published on 20th January acknowledges that the extension of Borders Railway through the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal includes up to £10m of funding, £5m from the Scottish Government and £5m from the UK Government, to develop a shared understanding of the benefits and challenges of options to extend the Edinburgh – Tweedbank Borders Railway to Carlisle. This will include the undertaking of feasibility work to further develop the business case for the reinstatement of the railway. It is noted that the Scottish Government will continue to work with Borderlands Partners on this commitment. NPF4 should set out clear support for the Borders railway extension and potential new stations. We would like to see specific mention of improvement work for the existing Borders Railway (Phase 1) i.e. more dynamic loops, more carriages and electrification.</p>

Questions – Part 3: National Planning Policy

Q22.	Do you agree that addressing climate change and nature recovery should be the primary guiding principles for all our plans and planning decisions?
	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership agrees that addressing climate change and nature recovery should be the guiding principle for plans and planning decisions.</p> <p>However, it is important that it is a guiding principle rather than an absolute direction in all plans and planning decisions. It is the partnership's position that in some very limited circumstances meeting wider community, equality and economic objectives should take equal priority.</p> <p>The partnership supports the clear focus of NPF4 on tackling issues relating to climate change, achieving net zero emissions and nature recovery. These are some of the most important and pressing matters confronting humanity and it is appropriate and necessary that they should ordinarily be at the forefront in delivering Scotland's national spatial strategy.</p>

Q23.	Policy 1: <i>Plan led approach to sustainable development</i> Do you agree with this policy approach?
	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 1 relates to the preparation of local development plans which are matters for planning authorities.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the partnership supports the overall objectives of the policy.</p>

Q24.	Policy 2: <i>Climate emergency</i> Do you agree that this policy will ensure the planning system takes account of the need to address the climate emergency?
	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 2 relates to the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with addressing the climate emergency.</p> <p>It is the partnership's view that policy itself will not achieve this aim and will require other interventions. Nevertheless, the partnership supports the overall objectives of the policy.</p> <p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and recognises that the partnership will have a role in promotion of development. It accepts that it should do so in accordance with the policy principles set out in Policy 2.</p> <p>That said it notes the use of indeterminate terminology such as "significant emissions" with no guidance given as to what would constitute a significant emission. NPF4 creates an opportunity to bring a consistent definition to matters such as this. If it does not do so there will continue to be a lack of consistency in assessing the impact of proposals.</p>

	<p>The partnership also notes that there is no reference to offsetting as a form of mitigation. While the partnership believes that developments should strive to be carbon zero it does recognise that this may not be possible in all cases. Where that is not possible offsetting should be required in order to ensure a minimum of net carbon zero is achieved in all cases.</p>
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Q25.

Policy 3: Nature crisis

Do you agree that this policy will ensure that the planning system takes account of the need to address the nature crisis?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 3 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with ensuring that the planning system takes account of the need to address the nature crisis.</p> <p>However, the policy will not be able to achieve all of these aims on its own and will require other interventions to achieve the overall aims. Nevertheless, the partnership supports the overall objectives of the policy.</p> <p>Again, the partnership notes the use of indeterminate terminology such as “facilitating biodiversity enhancements” with no guidance give as to what would constitute an enhancement. It also notes references to “impacts...on biodiversity...should be minimised” without any specification on what would constitute an acceptable impact. NPF4 creates an opportunity to bring a consistent definition to matters such as this. If it does not do so there will continue to be a lack of consistency in assessing the impact of proposals.</p>
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Q26.

Policy 4: Human rights and equality

Do you agree that this policy effectively addresses the need for planning to respect, protect and fulfil human rights, seek to eliminate discrimination and promote equality?

	<p>While the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012 already requires public bodies to develop and publish an equality outcomes and mainstreaming report every four years and to report on progress against that report every two years, the City Region Deal Partnership nevertheless welcomes the inclusion of a specific policy to tackle discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and promote good relations. It is anticipated that this will help ensure that processes are fully sensitive to the diverse needs and experiences of everyone who interacts with planning.</p>
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Q27.

Policy 5: Community wealth building

Do you agree that planning policy should support community wealth building, and does this policy deliver this?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 5 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities.</p>
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	<p>Nevertheless, the partnership promotes a community wealth building approach and supports the overall objectives of the policy. The policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, help to deliver the principles of community wealth building.</p> <p>The partnership does, however, note that the intention is that Policy 5 would only apply to National and Major developments. The City Region Deal Partnership does not agree with this restriction and suggests that the principles should also apply to local, non-householder, applications in order to secure and deliver overall community wealth building outcomes.</p>
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Q28.

Policy 6: Design, quality and place

Do you agree that this policy will enable the planning system to promote design, quality and place?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 6 relates primarily to the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the partnership supports the overall objectives of the policy and welcomes the recognition of the importance of good quality design as a component of place making.</p>
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Q29.

Policy 7: Local living

Do you agree that this policy sufficiently addresses the need to support local living?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 7 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with ensuring that the planning system provides appropriate support for local living.</p> <p>The partnership supports the principle of local living. It also supports the principle of 20-minute neighbourhoods as a means of achieving this. It notes, however, that despite references to 'retrofitting' elsewhere in the NPF there is no reference in Policy 7 to retrofitting existing neighbourhoods to make them 20-minute compliant. The policy should be amended accordingly and, importantly, guidance on how this can be achieved, including how it would be funded, should be provided.</p> <p>As with many proposed policies, Policy 7 lacks clarity about how it will be implemented Policy 7(b) sets out that development proposals which accord with the principles of 20-minute neighbourhoods should be supported. However, this definitive position disregards other policies which the development may be in conflict with.</p>
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Q30.

Policy 8: Infrastructure First

Do you agree that this policy ensures that we make best use of existing infrastructure and take an infrastructure first approach to planning?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 8 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities.

Nevertheless, the partnership strongly supports the principle of the 'infrastructure first' approach and considers it to be vital in achieving the overall aims of sustainable economic growth in the city region. The policy sets out that local development plans should align with the Infrastructure Investment Plan, the National Transport Strategy, the Strategic Transport Project Review and the National Marine Plan. The partnership believes that alignment is absolutely crucial but it should take place firstly at a national level rather than trying to retrofit alignment at a regional level.

It is the partnerships view that the alignment should be set out in the NPF itself rather than expecting local development plans to ensure that alignment. That approach has not been successful in the past and there is no evidence it will be successful in the future in the absence of alignment at a national level.

A key-function of NPF4 is to shape the geographic distribution of development and infrastructure across Scotland and it is vital that the growth it promotes is meaningfully aligned with infrastructure investment. For example, the NPF sets Minimum All Tenure Housing Land Requirements for each local authority area. However, in setting those requirements there is no recognition of the infrastructure which will be necessary to support that level of growth or a commitment to ensure that the necessary infrastructure will be provide to allow development to take place. It is this approach which has proven problematic in the past and despite the terms of draft NPF4 there is no evidence to suggest that a more joined up approach will actually occur in the future.

The City Region Deal Partnership would wish to see a more explicit and robust over-arching element to the policy which makes it absolutely clear that development will not be supported unless (a) funding (including any contributions from developer obligations) for necessary infrastructure is fully committed and that infrastructure is capable of being delivered; or (b) phasing to manage demand on infrastructure has been agreed; or (c) in advance of all necessary infrastructure requirements being fully addressed, sufficient infrastructure is available in the interim to accommodate the development.

The City Region Deal Partnership also has concerns at the continuation of the requirement for planning obligations and other legal agreements to satisfy the relevant 'tests' in Planning Circular 3/2012 in relation to the securing of infrastructure.

Experience has demonstrated that the 'tests', particularly those concerning the relevance of infrastructure to the development to be permitted, can be difficult to satisfy. If it is the Scottish Government's aspiration to put infrastructure considerations at the heart of place making as stated then it is suggested that a review of Circular 3/2012 will be required. The partnership notes an intention to review the approach to developer obligations but considers that this review needs to be carried out in parallel with the preparation of NPF4 rather than after NPF4 has been approved.

Finally, in response to this question the partnership reiterates its concern about delivery of cross boundary developer contribution framework as referenced in the response to Question 14.

Q31.

Policy 9: Quality homes

Do you agree that this policy meets the aims of supporting the delivery of high quality, sustainable homes that meet the needs of people throughout their lives?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 9 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, support the delivery of high quality and sustainable homes.

The City Region Deal Partnership considers that it is imperative that a robust methodology for assessing housing need and providing the land necessary to meet that need, including a range of tenures and house types to provide for choice, is a core requirement of a successful city region. It considers that the proposed approach should achieve this. The partnership welcomes the move away from a 5 year land supply approach to a longer term pipeline approach.

Part (i) of the policy references the preparation of a *delivery programme* to accompany the finalised iteration of NPF4. While it is acknowledged that the delivery programme has been deferred until NPF4 is finalised it does mean that there is currently insufficient detail to enable any meaningful comment to be made at this time. As referenced elsewhere it is the partnership view that the delivery programme should be consulted upon and confirmed prior to approval of NPF4.

Finally, the City Region Deal Partnership welcomes the reinforcement this policy provides to the primacy of the development planning system in explicitly and unequivocally stating that 'New homes on land not identified for housebuilding in the local development plan should not be supported'.

Q32.

Policy 10: Sustainable transport

Do you agree that this policy will reduce the need to travel unsustainably, decarbonise our transport system and promote active travel choices?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 10 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities.

Nevertheless, the City Region Deal Partnership agrees with the intentions of this policy. It supports better integration of transport and land use planning. The City Region Deal Partnership notes, however, that NPF4 omits to reference Regional Transport Strategies and Local Transport Strategies and their respective roles and would suggest that this should be remedied to ensure integration and alignment of land use and transportation policies at a national, regional and local level.

In reference to the South-East of Scotland it is the case that the SEStran Regional Transport Partnership has draft a new Regional Transport Strategy which is now nearing completion. It will provide a strategic framework for transport management and investment for the partnership area and has been developed upon an evidence base which reflects the latest understanding of problems and issues in the region, responds to climate change and reflects travel behaviour changes arising from the pandemic. It has two overarching themes, Theme 1 - Reducing car-km and car mode share and Theme 2 - Better connecting communities affected by deprivation to a wider range of opportunities. It would, therefore, be remiss not to afford important policies and strategies such as this the recognition they merit.

	<p>The partnership notes that, as with many other proposed policies, Policy 10 uses terms such as “significant travel generating use” and “proposals that have the potential to affect” without providing any guidance as to what the triggers for these measures are. While the partnership recognises that the trigger may vary for different proposals it believes that a measure could be applied which will ensure clarity and consistency for regulators and developers alike.</p> <p>The City Region Deal Partnership welcomes the more explicit requirement for new local development plans to be suitably informed by an appropriate and effective transport appraisal as this will expectantly address one of the key deficiencies identified in relation to the abortive and ultimately unsuccessful SESplan2. It is however questionable whether Transport Scotland’s ageing Development Planning and Management Transport Appraisal Guidance (DPMTAG) should continue to be promoted as a relevant benchmark document in this respect.</p> <p>Transport has justifiably been identified as one of the highest sources of carbon emission, particularly from private cars, and it is therefore important that much greater efforts are directed towards directing new development to locations that reduce the need to travel and which are capable of being better served by sustainable transport options.</p>
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Q33.

Policy 11: Heat and cooling

Do you agree that this policy will help us achieve zero emissions from heating and cooling our buildings and adapt to changing temperatures?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 11 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that the policy will help with achieving zero emissions from heating and cooling of buildings.</p> <p>While the City Region Deal Partnership supports the broad principle of heat networks it is at the same time alert to the fact that they are not always practical or indeed desirable to develop in lower density suburban areas and suggests that this should be reflected and explicitly recognised in NPF4. In these circumstances provision should instead be made to promote and adopt alternative technologies and solutions.</p> <p>The partnership notes the requirement that national and major developments which generate waste or surplus heat should be co-located in areas of heat demand. While recognising the benefit of doing so the partnership notes that it may be impractical in some circumstances or add significant cost in others. Given this, it considers that requirements should be specifically referenced against each national development in the relevant section of NPF4</p>
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Q34.

Policy 12: Blue and green infrastructure, play and sport

Do you agree that this policy will help to make our places greener, healthier, and more resilient to climate change by supporting and enhancing blue and green infrastructure and providing good quality local opportunities for play and sport?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 12 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does however agree that the policy will help to make our places greener, healthier and more resilient to climate change.</p>
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	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership welcomes the identification and enhanced prominence which the policy gives to natural blue and green infrastructure and it endorses the development of more strategically planned green and blue networks across Scotland. Retaining and enhancing biodiversity-rich natural features such as hedgerows, copses, woodlands and natural grasslands and linking them with water assets, including pools, and water courses, in addition to semi-natural spaces such as parks and private gardens, will have a particularly substantive impact, particularly in the context of an urban and semi-urban environment.</p> <p>The partnership notes that the policy uses language including ‘wherever possible’ and ‘wherever this is necessary’ both of which create a lack of clarity and certainty and the wording should be amended accordingly.</p>
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Q35.

Policy 13: Sustainable flood risk and water management

Do you agree that this policy will help to ensure places are resilient to future flood risk and make efficient and sustainable use of water resources?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 13 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that the policy will help to ensure that places are resilient to future flood risk.</p> <p>The City Region Deal Partnership welcomes that the policy retains a strong direction that a cautious approach should be taken to the calculated probability of flooding and that it recognises that it is not an exact science.</p> <p>It does, however, note a significant change between SPP, which reads as more forcefully opposed to development on the flood plain, and NPF4 with the new position appearing to be that an exception can be made if there is an <i>existing or committed</i> flood protection scheme. The merits of this approach should be further considered given that there can be no guarantee that a committed scheme will progress to implementation.</p>
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Q36.

Policies 14 and 15: Health, wellbeing and Safety

Do you agree that this policy will ensure places support health, wellbeing and safety, and strengthen the resilience of communities?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policies 14 and 15 set a policy framework for the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that these policies will help to ensure that places support health, wellbeing and safety and support resilience of communities.</p> <p>As with comments elsewhere, this proposed policy references “significant adverse effects” and “unacceptable levels” without defining how these will be measured and quantified and this needs to be addressed to make the policies implementable.</p>
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Q37.

Policy 16: Land and premises for business and employment

Do you agree that this policy ensures places support new and expanded businesses and investment, stimulate entrepreneurship and promote alternative ways of working in order to achieve a green recovery and build a wellbeing economy?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 16 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that the policy will help to ensure that places support new and expanded business and investment, stimulate entrepreneurship and promote alternative ways of working in order to achieve a green recovery and build a wellbeing economy.

The aims of this policy are central to the partnerships approach to ensuring prosperity as part of a wellbeing economy across all parts of the city region. While supporting the aim and objectives of the policy the partnership recognising that achieving the desired outcomes requires more than just robust policies in local development plans. It requires alignment of land use, economic, transport and investment strategies at all levels. While supporting the policy the partnership reiterates its concerns about a lack of detail about alignment and investment in NPF4.

Q38.

Policy 17: Sustainable tourism

Do you agree that this policy will help to inspire people to visit Scotland, and support sustainable tourism which benefits local people and is consistent with our net zero and nature commitments?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 17 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that the policy will help to inspire people to visit Scotland, and support sustainable tourism which benefits local people and is consistent with our net zero and nature commitments.

The partnership recognises to economic, cultural and social benefits which arise from sustainable tourism and supporting a recovery in tourism is a key aim for the City Region Deal partnership but it recognises that it should not be at the expensive of wider environmental considerations.

Q39.

Policy 18: Culture and creativity

Do you agree that this policy supports our places to reflect and facilitate enjoyment of, and investment in, our collective culture and creativity?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 18 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that this policy supports our places to reflect and facilitate enjoyment of, and investment in, our collective culture and creativity.

The City Region Deal Partnership welcomes the recognition this policy affords to a more diverse and expansive creative and cultural sector and is particularly pleased to see explicit support for requiring the provision for public art allied with new developments.

	<p>It does, nevertheless, remain the case that it is very difficult for the planning system to secure public art given its inherently 'non-essential' nature and at the same time satisfy the relevant 'tests' prescribed in Planning Circular 4/1998: The Use of Conditions in Planning Permissions and Planning Circular 3/2012 (Revised 2020) (Planning Obligations and Good Neighbour Agreements) as explained in responses elsewhere in this consultation.</p>
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Q40.

Policy 19: Green energy

Do you agree that this policy will ensure our places support continued expansion of low-carbon and net zero energy technologies as a key contributor to net zero emissions by 2045?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 19 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that this policy will ensure our places support continued expansion of low-carbon and net zero energy technologies as a key contributor to net zero emissions by 2045.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the City Region Deal Partnership has some concern with the wording of Policy 19 which it regards as overly permissive. It is suggested that support for renewable energy and low carbon fuels requires to be more meaningfully caveated through, for example, reference to the protection of local natural and landscape designations or wider aims and objectives including sustainable tourism and access to the countryside which could be impacted by renewable energy proposals.</p> <p>The City Region Deal Partnership would suggest that there is a requirement for comprehensive guidance to be provided on the interpretation of this important.</p>
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Q41.

Policy 20: Zero waste

Do you agree that this policy will help our places to be more resource efficient, and to be supported by services and facilities that help to achieve a circular economy?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 20 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that this policy will help our places to be more resource efficient, and to be supported by services and facilities that help to achieve a circular economy.</p> <p>However, it is disappointing that phrases like 'aim to reduce', 'aim to use' and 'minimise emissions as far as possible' have been employed. This suggest that the policy is not as ambitious as it should and needs to be and the concern is that it may not provide the degree of direction and certainty which decision makers will require. A re-wording is therefore required if the aims are to be achieved.</p>
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Q42.

Policy 21: Aquaculture

Do you agree that this policy will support investment in aquaculture and minimise its potential impacts on the environment?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 21 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that this policy will support investment in aquaculture and minimise its potential impacts on the environment.

While aquaculture is not a form of development which is significant city region it could be in the future, although it is noted that salmon and trout fish farms will not be supported on the east coast of Scotland. If development is to be supported in the future it will be necessary to achieve the balance between environmental protection and the needs of the industry. It is not entirely clear how this balance will be assessed and ultimately achieved.

Q43.

Policy 22: Minerals

Do you agree that this policy will support the sustainable management of resources and minimise the impacts of extraction of minerals on communities and the environment?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 22 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, agree that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, support the sustainable management of resources and minimise the impacts of extraction of minerals on communities and the environment.

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that minerals are an important feature of the national economy and the region, through its geological characteristics, is an area that possesses a wide range of minerals, including secondary aggregates. Given this it is necessary to be open to the prospect of there being minerals operations within the city region.

However, the policy should reflect both the contribution that minerals can make to the economy, but also to the environmental and social implications which can arise. The policy appears to strike the correct balance but effective implementation will be necessary to ensure that the economic benefits are obtained in balance with appropriate protection for the environment and communities.

It is also suggested that a more prescriptive approach is taken to the extremely important issues of monitoring, restoration and aftercare. Language is important and phrases like 'a high standard of aftercare' are imprecise and unenforceable.

Q44.

Policy 23: Digital infrastructure

Do you agree that this policy ensures all of our places will be digitally connected?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 23 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy will, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with all of our places becoming digitally connected but will not, in itself, achieve that overall aim.

	<p>The policy in itself will not ensure that all places will be digitally connected as it deals only with development proposals. That ignores the need to invest to ensure digital connectivity and it is not clear from NPF4 how such connectivity will be funded. A development lead approach, including where appropriate developer contributions / obligations, will assist but will not, in itself achieve the overall aim.</p> <p>The City Region Deal partnership recognises the importance of digital connectivity both in terms of connecting citizens but also in a data driven innovation context which has wider economic benefits for the region. Policy 23(c) could be read as supporting data driven innovation but the policy would be strengthened by making this explicit.</p>
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Q45.

Policies 24 to 27: Distinctive places

Do you agree that these policies will ensure Scotland’s places will support low carbon urban living?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policies 24 to 27 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with ensure Scotland’s places will support low carbon urban living.</p> <p>The City Region Deal Partnership welcomes the retention and re-enforcement of the long established ‘town centre first’ principle. It is an enduring concept and one which is entirely consistent with the principles of sustainability. However, in doing so it recognises some contradictions in the policy provision. including support for cities and neighbourhood centres. Provision of facilities at a city, town and neighbourhood level could act against one another. The policy requires to be clearer on what level of provision is appropriate in each part of the retailing hierarchy.</p> <p>It also welcomes the renewed focus on and explicit support for town centre living and housing, particularly in a post-pandemic period. Low carbon urban living is also considered to be a positive intervention to help address issues of vacant, underused and derelict land and the repurposing of buildings, particularly the re-use of town centre upper/vacant/under-utilised properties, and a timeous opportunity to address and rebalance the physical consequences of a dynamic and rapidly changing retail sector.</p> <p>The City Region Deal Partnership does not see how parts (c) and (d) can be implemented without, for example, identifying ‘disadvantaged’ areas in local development plans and that would likely be contentious.</p> <p>The partnership also supports the principle of providing for housing development in city and town centres but is concerned about a specific duty to make a proportion of the land supply in this way. It may simply not be possible to do so in some town centres. Similar, as with comments elsewhere the use of terminology such as “should seek to provide a proportion’ is vague, unclear and will simply lead to conflict in terms of compliance and implantation of that part of the policy.</p>
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Q46.

Policy 28: *Historic assets and places*

Do you agree that this policy will protect and enhance our historic environment, and support the reuse of redundant or neglected historic buildings?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 28 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with the protect and enhance our historic environment, and support the reuse of redundant or neglected historic buildings.

The historic assets and places across many parts of the region form a core component of all that is good about the city region in historical, cultural, tourism and economic terms and should be afforded the greatest level of protection. The partnership acknowledges that the policy sets a framework for achieving this. However again it notes the use of terms such as 'significant impact' without these terms been defined or quantified. This needs to be addressed if the policy is to be robust, effective and implementable

Q47.

Policy 29: *Urban edges and the green belt*

Do you agree that this policy will increase the density of our settlements, restore nature and promote local living by limiting urban expansion and using the land around our towns and cities wisely?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 29 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with increasing the density of our settlements, restoring nature and promoting local living by limiting urban expansion and using the land around our towns and cities wisely. However, the policy will not be able to achieve all of these aims on its own and will require other interventions to achieve the overall aims.

The City Region Deal Partnership supports the principle of green belt designations to help regulate development outside urban centres but questions the need to have a greenbelt designation as the only means of preventing inappropriate urban spread. Such an approach would require greenbelts around every urban and rural settlement which would appear to be contrary to the overarching GreenBelt principles.

For the avoidance of doubt the partnership supports the aims but considers that it could similarly be achieved by other designations such as countryside belts.

Q48.

Policy 30: *Vacant and derelict land*

Do you agree that this policy will help to proactively enable the reuse of vacant and derelict land and buildings?

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 30 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, help to proactively enable the reuse of vacant and derelict land and buildings.

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership is supportive of the principle of the development of brownfield land ahead of greenfield sites. However, it notes the recognition elsewhere in draft NPF4 that some vacant sites, including brownfield sites, have naturally regenerated and full an important role in greening the urban area and providing wildlife corridors. As a consequence, the partnership argues that the requirement to reuse brownfield land as a priority must be caveated against other policy provisions proposed in NPF4.</p> <p>IT is often argued that reusing brownfield land, particularly where the land has to be cleaned up prior to reuse is more expensive that using greenfield sites. There is therefore an opportunity for Scottish Government to make this a more attractive proposition by putting in place an element of finance, particularly in situations where it can be demonstrated that this would give rise to multiple environmental and social benefits.</p> <p>The policy should make a distinction between urban and rural brownfield sites with a recognition that the expectation is that rural brownfield sites, particularly where they are in unsustainable locations should be restored rather than redeveloped.</p>
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Q49.

Policy 31: Rural places

Do you agree that this policy will ensure that rural places can be vibrant and sustainable?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 31 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, help to ensure that rural places can be vibrant and sustainable.</p> <p>The partnership is not entirely clear what constitutes a rural place and notes that there is no definition in the glossary. This should be addressed to ensure clarity of purpose with respect to the policy.</p> <p>For the purposes of this response the partnership interprets a rural place as being a community and it supports the concept of supporting such communities to thrive. However, it notes that there is reasonably wide ranging support for development proposals where they reflect development pressures, contribute to sustainability and contribute to viability. While not against the principle of this approach the partnership notes that such approaches may in themselves not be sustainable and being in conflict with the wider objectives of NPF4. It is therefore suggested that the permissive nature of the policy is caveated as being subject to compliance with the wider aims and objectives of NPF4.</p>
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Q50.

Policy 32: Natural places

Do you agree that this policy will protect and restore natural places?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 32 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with protecting and restoring natural places. However, the policy will not be able to achieve all of these aims on its own and will require other interventions to achieve the overall aims.</p>
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	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership would have preferred part (g) of this policy to have been framed in such away as it presumed against development proposals that affect a site designated as a Local Nature Conservation site or a Local Landscape Area unless the conditions which it goes on to list could be satisfied. As currently drafted it reads as qualified support which unfortunately serves to diminish the importance of these local designations.</p> <p>The partnership also notes references to “unacceptable impacts” with any clarification of interpretation or quantification as to what constitutes an “unacceptable impact”. If the policy is to be effective and implementable the level of acceptable impact should be defined.</p> <p>Finally, it is not clear how restoration of natural places which are not the subject of development interest will be restored. If restoration is only to be achieved on a development led basis it is clear that restoration of many areas which are in need of being restored will not be addressed. NPF4 should set out a pro-active approach to such restoration including detailing who should be responsible and how it will be funded.</p>
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Q51.

Policy 33: Peat and carbon rich soils

Do you agree that this policy protects carbon rich soils and supports the preservation and restoration of peatlands?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 33 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with protecting carbon rich soils and supporting the preservation and restoration of peatlands. However, the policy will not be able to achieve all of these aims on its own and will require other interventions to achieve the overall aims.</p> <p>As with the response to Question 50 the partnership questions how restoration of peatlands which are not the subject of development interest will be restored. If restoration is only to be achieved on a development led basis it is clear that restoration of many areas which are in need of being restored will not be addressed. NPF4 should set out a pro-active approach to such restoration including detailing who should be responsible and how it will be funded</p>
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Q52.

Policy 34: Trees, woodland and forestry

Do you agree that this policy will expand woodland cover and protect existing woodland?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 34 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented and subject to the comments below, assist with expanding woodland cover and protecting existing woodland.</p> <p>The partnership agrees that expanding woodland cover and protecting existing woodland are important for all the reasons stated in the policy and particularly as part of the approach to combat climate change and the decline of ecosystems and a proactive approach to protecting and expanding woodland is essential. However, as with the response to Questions 50 and 51 the partnership questions how this policy can or will ensure woodlands are sustainably managed.</p>
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	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises the scope and benefits of local carbon offsetting and supports the management of land assets in a way that contributes to the path to net-zero. It would however wish to see more active encouragement in the policy for parties (public and private) to work collaboratively on progressing woodland creation and management, alongside habitat restoration and utilising external grant funding to allow the continuation of a programme of new woodlands and forests and carbon sequestration.</p>
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Q53.

Policy 35: Coasts

Do you agree that this policy will help our coastal areas adapt to climate change and support the sustainable development of coastal communities?

	<p>The City Region Deal Partnership recognises that Policy 35 relates to the preparation of local development plans and the assessment of development proposals which are matters for planning authorities. It does, however, note that this policy should, if effectively implemented, help our coastal areas adapt to climate change and support the sustainable development of coastal communities.</p>
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Questions – Part 4: Delivering Our Spatial Strategy

Q54.	Do you agree with our proposed priorities for the delivery of the spatial strategy?
	<p>Deliverability is, in the view of the City Region Deal Partnership at the core of any effective strategy. The partnership supports the principles set out. It also strongly supports the delivery mechanisms which are set out – namely aligning resources; infrastructure first, national developments and regional spatial strategies.</p> <p>However, the partnership is concerned that clarity on delivery against each of these delivery mechanisms has not been progressed in advance of, or in parallel with, the draft NPF. The partnership is concerned, in particular, that Part 4 of NPF4 sets out a commitment only to “explore opportunities to align existing or public sector investment to support delivery of the spatial strategy”. The partnership argues strongly that alignment is fundamental to effective delivery and that it is already too late to “explore” this approach.</p> <p>With respect to Infrastructure First the partnership is similarly concerned with the suggestion that planning has to “regain confidence in the delivery of infrastructure”. It is the partnerships position that planning has never lost that confidence but rather its confidence has been frustrated by a lack of alignment in funding commitments across land use, transportation and economic strategies.</p> <p>Similarly, the partnership notes that further work is to be taken forward to support an infrastructure first approach and that new guidance to support innovation to build a more delivery-focused approach to planning. While the partnership welcomes this commitment, it would have been much more helpful had that further work and guidance been in place prior to the publication of NPF4.</p> <p>Similarly, the partnership welcomes the commitment to review the approach to developer contributions. It is hoped that the review will address a number of the issues which the partnership has raised in its response to draft NPF4. However, again, it is of concern that the review, given its significance to the delivery of the aims and objectives of NPF4, has not been carried out in advance of, or at least in parallel with, progressing NPF4</p> <p>It is clear from Part 4 of NPF4 that much work remains to be done to ensure that NPF4 is aligned to other strategies, and that its policies are effective in achieving the overall aims. The City Region Deal Partnership would welcome the opportunity to engage in this further work.</p>

Q55.	Do you have any other comments on the delivery of the spatial strategy?
	No

Questions – Part 5: Annexes

Q56.
Do you agree that the development measures identified will contribute to each of the outcomes identified in Section 3A(3)(c) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997?
Yes

Q57.
Do you agree with the Minimum All-Tenure Housing Land Requirement (MATHLR) numbers identified above?
Yes.

Q58.
Do you agree with the definitions set out above? Are there any other terms it would be useful to include in the glossary?
<p>The City Region Deal Partnership considers that adding the following definitions to the glossary would be of assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ community wealth building▪ Scottish Government Investment Hierarchy▪ national decarbonisation pathways▪ small-scale renewable▪ low carbon fuels▪ green jobs▪ housing land pipeline▪ universal digital infrastructure▪ future proofed digital infrastructure

Questions – Integrate Impact Assessments

Environmental Report

Q59.

What are your views on the accuracy and scope of the environmental baseline set out in the environmental report?

It is understood that the purpose of the Integrated Impact Assessment Environmental Report which accompanies draft NPF4 is to identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant environmental effects of the draft NPF4 and the reasonable alternatives and is therefore in essence an Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

The City Region Deal Partnership recognises this as a complex and substantial undertaking, particularly in light of its crosscutting nature embracing a wide range of Scottish Government portfolios, and it is noted that it has drawn on the advice of the statutory Consultation Authorities and resources of a number of agencies including Public Health Scotland. It appears to have had regard to a panoply of environmental considerations including Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and Human Health, Climatic Factors, Air, Water, Soil, Landscape and Geodiversity and also Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment.

It is acknowledged that the SEA has been undertaken by the Scottish Government's experienced Environmental Assessment Team and the City Region Deal Partnership has confidence in the scope of the document and in the process of the SEA itself.

Q60.

What are your views on the predicted environmental effects of the draft NPF4 as set out in the environmental report? Please give details of any additional relevant sources.

No response is submitted.

Q61.

What are your views on the potential health effects of the proposed national developments as set out in the environmental report?

No response is submitted.

Q62.

What are your views on the assessment of alternatives as set out in the environmental report?

No response is submitted.

Q63.

What are your views on the proposals for mitigation, enhancement and monitoring of the environmental effects set out in the environmental report?

No response is submitted.

Society and Equalities Impact Assessment

Q64.

What are your views on the evidence and information to inform the society and equalities impact assessment?

No response is submitted.

Q65.

Do you have any comments on the findings of the equalities impact assessment?

No response is submitted.

Q66.

Do you have any comments on the findings of the children's rights and wellbeing impact assessment?

No response is submitted.

Q67.

Do you have any comments on the fairer Scotland duty and the draft NPF4?

No response is submitted.

Q68.

Do you have any comments on the consideration of human rights and the draft NPF4?

No response is submitted.

Q69.

Do you have any comments on the islands impact assessment?

No response is submitted.

Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment

Q70.

Do you have any comments on the partial business and regulatory impact assessment?

It is understood that the Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA) looks at the likely costs, benefits and risks of any proposed primary or secondary legislation, which in this instance is draft National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) with the objective of using evidence to identify options that best achieve policy objectives while minimising costs and burdens as much as possible.

The City Region Deal Partnership recognise that NPF4 is a high-level document and will somewhat inevitably have an impact on the business sector across Scotland but especially those sectors who most require to engage with the planning system. While the enormity of such a task is recognised task to try and comprehensively identify and meaningfully quantify in conventional terms costs and benefits, Appendix 2 to the assessment does appear to have a number of gaps. In particular, NPF4 will have a significant impact of planning resources in terms of the additional staff and skill sets which will be required. It is not clear that the skills and human resources necessary to deliver NPF4 are available.