

Minutes

Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Elected Member Oversight Committee

Microsoft Teams

10.00am, Friday 4 August 2023

Present:

Scottish Borders Council – Councillors Euan Robson (in the Chair) and Elaine Thornton-Nicol

City of Edinburgh Council – Councillor Cammy Day

East Lothian Council – Councillor Norman Hampshire and John McMilla

Midlothian Council – Councillors Russell Imrie

Fife Council – Councillors David Alexander and Altany Craik

West Lothian Council – Councillors Tom Conn and Kirsteen Sullivan

Higher/Further Education Consortium – Pete Smith

Regional Enterprise Council – n/a

In attendance:

Andrew Kerr, Chief Executive, City of Edinburgh Council

Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place, City of Edinburgh Council

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

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

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

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

Daniel Stevens, City Region Deal PMO, City of Edinburgh Council

Lisa Howden, Accountant, City of Edinburgh Council

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

Gordon Mole, Head of Business and Employability, Fife Council

Ken Gourlay, Executive Director of Enterprise and Environment, Fife Council

Kevin Anderson, Executive Director, Place, Midlothian Council
Andrew Stewart , Project Manager, East Lothian Council
Craig McCorriston, Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration,
West Lothian Council
Anne Ashton, Team Leader South of Scotland Economy, Scottish Government
Rui Cardoso, Head of Data Insight, Smart Data Foundry
Professor Sean Smith, University of Edinburgh
Jamie Macrae, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council

Apologies:

Robert Carr (Regional Enterprise Council)

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Elected Member Oversight Committee of 28 April 2023 as a correct record.

2. Regional Net Zero Accelerator Hub - Overview

Simon Earp and Sean Smith provided an overview of the Regional Net Zero Accelerator Hub. Details were provided of the context behind the drive for net zero. Scotland was to be net zero by 2045 and as part of this, gas boilers would be banned from new-build homes and other buildings seeking a building warrant from April 2024. Over the next 20 years the combined net zero retrofit building works and net zero new build housing delivery was valued at over £45 billion. The Net Zero Accelerator Hub would leverage existing initiatives/infrastructure/funding/provision. It had a central core offer which could be own labelled for specific sectors construction, adv manufacturing or sustainability/green skills and hydrogen. It maximised collaboration to achieve maximum efficiencies colleges/universities and private training providers. Key outputs were as follows;

- a) report for each local authority area of future net zero skills demands
- b) combined summary report for the ESES area for net zero skills demands
- c) conceptual design of the modular NZAH training facilities
- d) feasibility study to help secure future investment to create the Hub

The funding was £112,650 in total, divided equally between the 6 Local Authority partners - £18,775 each.

Decision

- 1) To note the update.
- 2) To request that the slides be circulated.
- 3) To request a written update on the issues surrounding hydrogen.

3. Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan - Progress Update and Four Key Programme Updates

An update was provided on the Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan. Details were provided of four key strategic moves:

- Green Regeneration of the Forth Estuary
- Embedding and extending the impact of Data-Driven Innovation investment in the regional and national economy.
- The renewal of our world class Cultural offer and Visitor Economy
- Soft and hard infrastructure – transport and skills for the future

Decision

To note the update on the Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan.

4. Strategic Policy Alignment Presentation

A presentation was given on Strategic Policy Alignment in relation to the Regional Prosperity Framework. Details were provided of the RPF Vision and the four key strategic moves. The presentation also showed the various activities being taken forward by the Scottish Government, Scotland Office and Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, and highlighted the overlapping workstreams being taken forward.

A detailed timeline of these activities was provided, which included activities as part of the RPF Delivery Programme, and strategic alignment with UK Government, Scottish Government and the Scotland Office.

Decision

To note the update.

5. Date of next meeting

Decision

To be confirmed.