Minutes

Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

Microsoft Teams

10.00am, Friday 2 December 2022

Present:

Midlothian Council - Councillor Russell Imrie (in the Chair)

City of Edinburgh Council – Councillor Cammy Day

East Lothian Council - Councillor Norman Hampshire

Fife Council - Councillor David Ross

Scottish Borders Council - Councillor Euan Jardine

Higher/Further Education Consortium – Professor Peter Mathieson

Regional Enterprise Council – Garry Clark and Claire Pattullo

In attendance:

Dr Grace Vickers, Chief Executive, Midlothian Council
Andrew Kerr, Chief Executive, City of Edinburgh Council
Monica Patterson, Chief Executive, East Lothian Council
Steve Grimmond, Chief Executive, Fife Council
David Robertson, Acting Chief Executive, Scottish Borders Council
Andy Nichol, City Region Deal Programme Manager, City of Edinburgh Council
Jenni Craig, Director – Resilient Communities, Scottish Borders Council
Graeme Rigg, City Region Deal PMO, City of Edinburgh Council
David Baxter, City Region Deal PMO, City of Edinburgh Council
David Hanna, 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 Colin McCurley, Principal Audit Manager, City of Edinburgh Council Stuart Townley, Internal Auditor, City of Edinburgh Council Jamie Macrae, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council

Elaine Scott, Head of Housing Strategy & Development, City of Edinburgh Council

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

Kevin Anderson, Executive Director, Place, Midlothian Council

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

Adam Dunkerley, Integrated Regional Employability & Skills and Skills Development Scotland

Nicola Raine, Integrated Regional Employability & Skills Programme Connector Stuart Moffat, Project Manager, Transport Scotland

Apologies

Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick (West Lothian Council)

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee of 2 September 2022 as a correct record.

2. 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.)

3. City Region Deal Progress Report

The Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal progress report provided an indication of progress across the City Region Deal programme. In this update, the overall status was assigned as "Green". There were no actions required from 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.)

4. A720 Sheriffhall Update

An update was provided on the A720 Sheriffhall Roundabout Improvement Scheme, including details of objections to the scheme and the process for engagement with objectors to resolve the issues raised. Details were also provided in relation to the Public Local Inquiry (PLI), which was scheduled to commence on 30 January 2023 for 2 weeks. Delivery of the scheme could only commence if approved under the relevant statutory procedures, and only following completion of statutory consents could a programme be set for delivery of the proposed scheme. The format for the PLI would involve an overarching inquiry session (session 1), followed by objector-specific sessions (sessions 2, 3 and 4). The inquiry was expected to be webcast.

Comments by one of the objections, Mr Walker, were read out to the Joint Committee in full, at Mr Walker's request.

Decision

To note the presentation.

5. Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) Programme Update

The Joint Committee was provided with an update on the Integrated Regional Employability and Skills (IRES) Programme. A short film was played outlining key aspects of the programme. The film included details of the overall programme, including its aims and ambitions.

Decision

To note the update and thank the Integrated Regional Employability & Skills team for their work.

6. Regional Housing Programme Update

An update was provided on the regional housing programme, detailing key areas of regional collaboration and a recently refreshed set of work priorities. Despite pressures facing city region housing partners, affordable housing delivery remained strong. To ensure the region could continue to successfully deliver on its housing ambitions and react to the existing and future political, economic, and environmental conditions a refreshed set of five housing priorities was presented - Affordable Housing Delivery (current and future); Retrofit (EESH2); Home Demonstrator Project; Strategic Sites; and Future Town Centres and New Delivery Models.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Chair of Regional Housing Board, ESESCR Deal.
- 2) To agree the updated regional housing work priorities.

To agree for City Region partners to engage with Scottish Government on the scope, opportunity and constraints associated with the City Region Deal £50m Housing Infrastructure Fund commitment.

(Reference – report by the Chair of Regional Housing Board, ESESCR Deal, submitted.)

7. Draft Terms of Reference: City Region Deal Integrated Employer Engagement Internal Audit

At its meeting on 2 September 2022, Joint Committee agreed that it would be appropriate to conduct an audit of the Integrated Employer Engagement project within the Integrated Regional Employability and Skills Programme. The Joint Committee was asked to note and approve the scope and terms of reference for the audit of the Integrated Employer Engagement (IEE) Project, which was planned to take place between January and March 2023. The findings of the audit would be reported to Joint Committee on 2 June 2023, as well as a forward Audit Plan.

Decision

To note and approve the Terms of Reference for the audit of the Integrated Employer Engagement (IEE) Project, which was planned to take place between January and March 2023, by the City Region Deal Accountable Body's internal auditors.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, The City of Edinburgh Council (Accountable Body), submitted.)

8. Revised Draft National Planning Framework 4

Details were provided of the revised Draft National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), which would form part of the development plan for each local authority once approved. It represented a significant change to Scotland's planning system. The Joint Committee had previously considered a previous draft of NPF4. A revised draft was laid before parliament on 8 November 2022. Further changes could not be made to the draft – a decision was expected to be made before the festive break. If approved, NPF4 would be adopted by the end of January 2023.

Decision

To note the update.