

Minutes

Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee

Microsoft Teams

10.00am, Friday 3 March 2023

Present:

Scottish Borders Council – Councillor Euan Jardine (in the Chair)

West Lothian Council – Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick

City of Edinburgh Council – Councillor Cammy Day

East Lothian Council – Councillor Norman Hampshire

Fife Council – Councillor David Ross

Midlothian Council – Councillor Russell Imrie

Regional Enterprise Council – Garry Clark and Claire Pattullo

In attendance:

Dr Grace Vickers, Chief Executive, Midlothian Council

Monica Patterson, Chief Executive, East Lothian Council

Steve Grimmond, Chief Executive, Fife Council

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

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

Jenni Craig, Director – Resilient Communities, Scottish Borders Council

Gavin King, Head of Democracy, Governance & Resilience, City of Edinburgh 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

Jamie Macrae, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council

Jamie Robertson, Strategic Transport Manager, 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
Jarmo Eskelinen, Executive Director, Data-Driven Innovation Initiative, The University
of Edinburgh
John Scott, DDI Programme Head of Delivery

Apologies

None.

1. Appointments

Decision

- 1) To appoint Councillor Euan Jardine as Convener.
- 2) To appoint Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick as Vice-Convener.
- 3) To appoint Councillor Euan Robson as Chair of the Elected Member Oversight Sub-Committee.

2. Minutes

Decision

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

3. 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.)

4. Updated Standing Orders for Joint Committee

Updated Standing Orders for the Joint Committee were submitted for approval, following their annual review.

Decision

To agree to adopt the updated Standing Orders.

(Reference – report by the Clerk, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Joint Committee, submitted.)

5. 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.)

6. Data-Driven Innovation Programme Annual Update

A presentation was provided as the annual update on the Data-Driven Innovation (DDI) Programme. The 15-year programme was a £661m investment and innovation initiative supported by a total of £270m capital funding from the UK and Scottish Governments. 6 DDI Hubs were expected to be ready to launch at the end of 2023. Details were provided of some DDI projects and planned next steps for 2023/24. Part of the University of Edinburgh’s Strategy 2030 was to make Edinburgh the Data Capital of Europe, deliver inclusive growth, provide data skills to at least 100,000 individuals, and create new companies and solutions for global challenges.

Decision

To note the presentation.

7. City Region Deal Programme Benefits Realisation Measurement Framework

The Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Plan, published in September 2020, outlined what, how and when benefits for each project theme will be reported in order to ensure Deal impacts are realised and maximised. The Measurement Framework was submitted to the Joint Committee, and built on the plan by outlining a framework for measuring, monitoring, reporting and communicating the benefits realised by each project.

Decision

To approve the ESES City Region Deal Benefits Realisation Measurement Framework.

(Reference – report by the Senior Responsible Officer, Benefits Realisation, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal, submitted.)

6. Regional Prosperity Delivery Framework

An update was provided on the Regional Prosperity Delivery Framework, which articulated the next phase of activity to develop the regional economy, building upon the successes of the Deal.

The framework set out an ambitious and dynamic series of four key programmes to deliver the region's ambitions:

- Green Regeneration;
- Infrastructure for Recovery and Prosperity;
- Visitor Economy and Culture; and
- Data Driven Innovation (DDI) Economy

The Delivery Plan aligned with Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET), Scotland's Regional Economic Policy Review recommendations, and UK Government's Levelling Up priorities.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan.
- 2) To note that the Delivery Plan had been considered by all six constituent Local Authorities in the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region (ESESCR).
- 3) To write to both UK and Scottish Governments to promote the Delivery Plan and seek their support to realise the ambitions of the Regional Prosperity Framework and deliver the Programmes within the Delivery Plan.

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

7. Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 – Progressing regional interventions

In December 2022, Transport Scotland finalised their second Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2). This presented a wide range of 45 transport recommendations to Scottish Government for investment over the next 20 years. STPR2 closely aligned with the Regional Prosperity Delivery Framework and key regional priorities (most notably proposals to improve; public transport and interchange, digital connectivity, active travel, demand led transport and workforce

mobility). Recommendation No.12, Edinburgh and South East Scotland Mass Transit, was the most significant proposal relevant to Edinburgh and South East Scotland. A Delivery Plan to prioritise STPR2 recommendations and inform funding decisions was expected to be published during Summer of 2023.

Decision

- 1) To note the close alignment between the Regional Prosperity Delivery Framework and STPR2.
- 2) To note that successful existing structures were already making good progress with the development of Strategic Business Cases for the Bus Partnership Fund and Granton to Bio Quarter and Beyond Tramline.
- 3) To note that the STPR2 Delivery Plan was currently being developed by Transport Scotland and this would set the immediate funding priorities.
- 4) To note that undertaking interim activities now, in partnership with the relevant local authorities and SEStran, in a more formal and visible manner (and amplifying the communications promoting the outputs of this interim work) could be significant and positively influence the STPR2 Delivery Plan (confirming Recommendation No.12 as a key priority for investment: alongside Clyde Metro).
- 5) Recognising that there was limited time to influence the STPR2 Delivery Plan, to approve the City of Edinburgh Council to coordinate an initial meeting with relevant officers across the region to further discuss Recommendation No.12 and plan next steps and activities to be undertaken.
- 6) To collectively agree that the Convener should write to the Minister for Transport seeking a meeting with the Joint Committee to highlight the strength of the regional collaboration, our readiness to deliver on the STPR2 recommendations (in particular Recommendation No.12) and to discuss key rail intervention opportunities.

(Reference – report by the Chair, Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Transport Appraisal Board, submitted.)

8. Revised Draft National Planning Framework 4

Details were provided of the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), following its approval by the Scottish Parliament on 11 January 2023, and its subsequent adoption on 13 February 2023. NPF4 made significant changes to Scottish Government's planning policy placing greater emphasis on the planning systems role in achieving net carbon zero and reversing biodiversity loss. It would promote a more compact form of development and reaffirms the importance of town centres and an infrastructure first approach to development. An overview of the revised planning

framework was provided, with a focus on its role in achieving the aspirations set out in the City Region Deal Regional Prosperity Framework.

Decision

- 1) To note the adoption of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) on 13 February 2023.
- 2) To note that on adoption of NPF4, Scottish Planning Policy (2014) and the Edinburgh & South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan (SDP) were superseded.
- 3) To note that only some of the City Regional Deal submitted comments to the consultation on the Draft NPF4 had resulted in changes to the framework.
- 4) To note that NPF4 now provided the framework for progressing a revised Regional Spatial Strategy for the region which, while not part of the statutory development plan, would inform the preparation of local development plans.

(Reference – report by the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration, West Lothian Council, submitted.)