

**27 August 2020 at 2 pm.**

A Remote Meeting of the **ENTERPRISE AND GROWTH COMMITTEE**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Graham, Convener; Councillor Carson, Vice-Convener; Councillors Anderson, Baird, Cameron, Carragher, Curran, Di Mascio, Duffy, Feeney, Fisher, Gallacher, Gourlay, Hume, Kelly, Lennon, Masterton, McPake, Roarty and Watson.

**CHAIR**

Councillor Graham (Convener) presided.

**ALSO PRESENT**

In accordance with Standing Order 64(A), Councillor Jones attended as a substitute for Councillor Brannan-McVey.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Head of Planning and Regeneration; Employability Resources Manager; Enterprise Manager; Enterprise Projects Manager; Senior Projects Manager, and Democratic Services Manager.

**APOLOGIES**

Councillors D. Ashraf, Brannan-McVey and Stephen.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000**

1. Councillor Cameron, by virtue of being a member of Business Gateway, declared an interest in paragraph 6 and left the meeting during consideration of the item.

Councillor Curran, by virtue of being a member of Routes to Work, declared an interest in paragraphs 9 and 10, and left the meeting during consideration of the items.

Councillors Graham and Kelly, by virtue of being substitute members of the Glasgow City Region Cabinet, both declared an interest in paragraph 2, and further declared that they believed that the interest was sufficiently remote that it did not preclude their participation in the consideration of the item.

Councillor Watson, by virtue of being a Board Member of Fusion Assets, declared an interest in paragraph 8 and left the meeting during consideration of the item of business.

**Councillors Graham and Kelly, prior to consideration of the following item of business, having declared an interest by virtue of being substitute members of the Glasgow City Region Cabinet, had further declared that they believed that the interest was so sufficiently remote that it did not preclude their participation in consideration of this item of business.**

**CITY DEAL PROGRAMME UPDATE**

2. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) detailing the current status of the North Lanarkshire City Deal Infrastructure Sub-Projects; (2) advising of the progress

made within the labour market and the innovation strand for the MediCity Project and the Working Matters Successor Programme; (3) informing that the Council withdrew the progression of the Invitation to Tender stage of the Muir Street works due to unforeseen programme issues, and is now in an improved position to recommence procurement activity following the award of the Motherwell Railway Station Contract; (4) seeking approval to progress the use of the third party SCAPE Civils Scotland, Civil Engineering and Infrastructure Framework, for the Muir Street procurement to commence a feasibility exercise, enabling the Council to engage with Balfour Beatty to better understand costs and methodology, without any agreement being entered into or costs incurred by the Council; (5) setting out the background to the stages of procurement for the project at East Airdrie Link Road; (6) highlighting that initial market testing for the required ground investigation works, necessary to support project development, for East Airdrie Link Road was currently being undertaken; (7) intimating that the current professional services commission includes preparation of the scope and contract, and assisting in the procurement of the group investigation works, together with management and reporting, and (8) stating that both the UK and Scottish Governments had confirmed that the Glasgow City Region City Deal had successfully passed its first five year gateway approval which unlocked the release of a further £250m of capital funding for the region.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the progress of the North Lanarkshire City Deal Infrastructure Sub-Projects, alongside the current MediCity and Working Matters Successor performance position, be noted;
- (2) that the utilisation of a third party framework, SCAPE Civils Scotland, Civil Engineering and Infrastructure Framework, for the Muir Street procurement, subject to the conclusion of resourcing methodology, be approved;
- (3) that the intention to procure site investigation works to progress the development of the East Airdrie Rail Link sub project, be noted;
- (4) that the recommencement of procurement for professional services associated with the development of the East Airdrie Link Road up to the increased value of £5m be approved, and
- (5) that, it be noted that, following confirmation from the UK and Scottish Governments, the Glasgow City Region City Deal had successfully passed its first five year gateway approval, with the associated release of a further £250m of capital funding for the region.

**RAVENS CRAIG ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE**

3. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on the proposals for the strategic infrastructure required to support the development and regeneration of the Ravenscraig Access Infrastructure project; (2) reminding the Committee that the core objective of the project is to provide the strategic transport infrastructure required to unlock the development potential at Ravenscraig; (3) detailing that the cost of delivering the strategic infrastructure is forecast at £127.2m, an increase from the initial estimate of £101m; (4) setting out the reasons for the increase in the estimate; (5) advising of the economic impact of the project and the development at Ravenscraig; (6) summarising the proposed phased approach for delivering the project, and (7) seeking approval for the submission of the Ravenscraig Access Infrastructure Outline Business Case for consideration by the Glasgow City Region City Deal Cabinet as detailed within the report.

Arising from discussion thereon, it was requested by Councillor Gallacher, that local Members be kept up to date on the responses to any consultations involving local residents surrounding the Ravenscraig Development.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the proposed works comprising the Ravenscraig Access Infrastructure Project be noted;
- (2) that the revised forecast costs and the approach to mitigation be noted;
- (3) that the assessment of the economic impact of the project and of development at Ravenscraig, be noted;
- (4) that the phased approach to delivery of the works be noted, and
- (5) that the submission of the Ravenscraig Access Infrastructure Outline Business Case, for consideration by the Glasgow City Region City Deal Cabinet, be approved.

**CORONAVIRUS ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN**

4. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on the Council's response to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic; (2) reminding Members that the Council approved its Economic Regeneration Delivery Plan (ERDP) Action Plan 2019-2023 in August 2019 to co-ordinate the physical and economic regeneration of North Lanarkshire; (3) advising that there is a requirement to review the current ERDP priorities and the actions to develop an Economic Recovery Plan for North Lanarkshire, in partnership with national government and regional partners, to assist in mitigating the economic impact of coronavirus and build a sustainable, inclusive economy.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the actions taken to respond to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic and support local businesses and residents be noted;
- (2) that the proposals outlined within the report, to develop an Economic Recovery Plan, aligned to an updated ERDP, to help mitigate the economic impact of coronavirus and help build a sustainable, inclusive economy be noted, and
- (3) that the final Economic Recovery Plan be reported to a future meeting of the Committee, for approval.

**ADVANCING MANUFACTURING CHALLENGE FUND BID UPDATE**

5. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee, held on 29 August 2019, there was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) advising that the Council's funding bid to the Advancing Manufacturing Challenge Fund to develop a North Lanarkshire Manufacturing Innovation Hub, based at New College, Lanarkshire, Motherwell, had been successful; (2) informing that the hub will provide practical and industry specific business support to help advance North Lanarkshire's Manufacturing Small to Medium Enterprises (SME's); (3) highlighting that, due to the impact of coronavirus, progress with the implementation of the project has been delayed, and (4) detailing that a revised project plan is currently being developed with New College Lanarkshire to ensure that the outcomes from the project can still be delivered.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the successful outcome of the bid to the Advancing Manufacturing Challenge Fund be noted, and
  - (2) that the plans to develop a manufacturing innovation hub in partnership with New College Lanarkshire be noted.
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**Councillor Cameron, prior to consideration of the following item of business, having declared an interest by virtue of being a Member of Business Gateway, left the meeting for its duration.**

#### **CORONAVIRUS BUSINESS RECOVERY FUND**

6. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) informing of the background to the small grants scheme available to local businesses within North Lanarkshire; (2) advising that not all local business have received support from schemes launched by the Scottish Government or Scottish Enterprise during the coronavirus pandemic; (3) setting out key findings from a survey issued to local businesses to help inform the development of a potential recovery fund; (4) detailing that one source of Council monies that may be used for a potential recovery fund is to withdraw legacy funding retained by Business Loans Scotland following a transfer of funds from the West of Scotland Loan Fund; (5) proposing that the Council establish the Coronavirus Business Recovery Fund (CBRF) with a budget of approximately £1.5m, excluding any potential European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funding, which can be obtained for financial year 2020/21; (6) intimating that two grant schemes be offered within the CBRF to ensure support to as many businesses and a variety of projects as possible, namely (a) a Back to Business Grant Fund, and (b) a Covid Recovery Grant Scheme as outlined within the report, and (7) outlining within the report, the criteria, guidelines and conditions for eligibility to apply for the scheme.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the withdrawal of surplus funds from Business Loan Scotland be approved;
- (2) that the establishment of a Coronavirus Business Recovery Fund – Back to Business Grant, as outlined within the report, be approved, and
- (3) that the development and delivery of a Covid Recovery Grant Scheme, following confirmation of the availability of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), be approved.

#### **SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

7. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on the success of the Supplier Development Programme (SDP); (2) outlining the SDP provides free and accessible advice, support and information to assist Scottish Micro, and Small to Medium Sized Enterprises (SME's) grow by winning more contracts with the public sector; (3) informing that the scale of procurement spend by the Council, to drive forward ongoing service requirements and the ambitious growth plans are key components in supporting the local economic recovery from Covid-19, and (4) intimating that measures are in place to ensure these organisations have the skills and capacity to bid for contracts directly or as part of the supply chain, which is considered critical to sustain and grow the North Lanarkshire Business Base and to safeguard and create local employment opportunities.

**Decided:** that the report be noted.

**Councillor Watson, prior to consideration of the following item of business having declared an interest by virtue of being a Board Member of Fusion Assets, left the meeting for its duration.**

#### **VACANT AND DERELICT LAND FUND REGENERATION AND CAPITAL GRANT FUND UPDATE**

8. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) explaining that the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund (VDLF) and Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) are Scottish Government Capital Grant Fund Programmes, established to support area based community, physical and economic regeneration activities; (2) informing that funding for both schemes is submitted annually; (3) advising that the Council's 2020/21 VDLF Local Delivery Plan had been approved by the

Scottish Government on 19 June, as outlined within Appendix 1 to the report; (4) summarising that the Chief Executive, under delegated authority, had granted approval to scope out four potential Stage 1 Applications to the 2021/22 RCGF Programme, as outlined within Appendix 2 to the report, and (5) seeking approval to submit any successful Stage 1 Applications to Stage 2 of the RCGF Programme.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the approval of projects, included in North Lanarkshire's 2020/21 VDLF Local Delivery Plan submission to the Scottish Government, be noted;
- (2) that the submission of four Stage 1 Applications to the Scottish Government's 2021/22 RCGF Programme be noted, and
- (3) that the submission of any successful Stage 1 RCGF Applications to Stage 2 of the RCGF Programme be approved.

**Councillor Curran, prior to consideration of the following two items of business, having declared an interest by virtue of being a Members of Routes to Work, left the meeting for its duration.**

**DWP HEALTH AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT**

9. There was submitted a report by the Head of Communities (1) advising that the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) was in the process of procuring a new national framework to support the delivery of the UK Government's Strategic Objectives over the next five years; (2) highlighting that the Commercial Agreement for the provision of Employment and Health Related Services by (CAEHRS) framework is designed to facilitate the provision of employment and health related services to the Government and other contracting bodies across England, Wales and Scotland; (3) informing of the steps taken for the Council and Routes to Work to become a delivery partner; (4) detailing information on the tender process, and (5) proposing that the identity of the prime contractor be reported to a future meeting of the Committee.

**Decided:** that the report be noted.

**ROUTES TO WORK 2018-19 AND 2019-20 PERFORMANCE**

10. There was submitted a report by the Head of Communities (1) outlining the performance of Routes to Work Limited (RTW) against its charitable objectives and Council priorities for 2018/19 and 2019/20 as well as its financial performance for 2019/20, and (2) advising that its overall financial standing will be reported to the next meeting of the Committee with six monthly updates provided thereafter.

**Decided:** that Routes to Work's operational performance for 2018/19 and 2019/20, along with wider achievements during that period, be noted.