

**4 February 2021 at 2 pm.**

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

**PRESENT**

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

**CHAIR**

Councillor Graham (Convener) presided.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Executive Director (Enterprise and Communities); Head of Planning and Regeneration; Employability Resources Manager; Enterprise Manager; Senior Projects Manager; Growth Projects Manager, and Democratic Services Manager.

**APOLOGIES**

Councillors D. Ashraf, Lennon and Watson.

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

1. Councillors Graham and Kelly, by virtue of being substitute members of the Glasgow City Region Cabinet 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 Curran, by virtue of being the Chair of Routes to Work Limited declared an interest in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6, and further declared that he believed that the interest was sufficiently remote that it did not preclude his participation in the consideration of the items.

**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.**

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE CITY DEAL PROGRAMME**

2. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing details of the current status of the North Lanarkshire City Deal Infrastructure sub-projects; (2) advising of the progress made within the labour market and innovation strand for the MediCity project and the Working Matters successor programme; (3) summarising the final performance targets achieved by the Working Matters successor programme, following the conclusion of the programme; (4) setting out the final performance results for the MediCity project now that the Council's five year revenue support had concluded; (5) informing that the first project, as part of the Ravenscraig Infrastructure Access Project, would be the construction of the bridge crossing of the West Coast Main Line Railway (WCML Crossing); (6) reporting that the Council had been working with Network Rail and their framework contractor throughout 2020 to develop proposals for this element and setting out the details of the

project, and (7) seeking approval of the commencement of the procurement of Network Rail to construct the bridge crossing of the WCML Crossing as part of the Ravenscraig Infrastructure Access Project.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the progress of the North Lanarkshire City Deal Infrastructure sub-projects be noted;
- (2) that the conclusion of the Working Matters successor programme and final performance be noted;
- (3) that the final performance results for MediCity Project, with the Council's five year revenue support now concluded, be noted, and
- (4) that the commencement of the procurement of Network Rail, to construct the bridge crossing of the West Coast Main Line Railway, as part of the Ravenscraig Infrastructure Access Project, be approved.

**ERDP UPDATE: REPORT ON THE ANNUAL REVIEW AND ERDP ACTION PLAN**

3. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on the progress made towards the implementation and delivery of North Lanarkshire's Economic Regeneration Delivery Plan (ERDP) and associated Action Plan, previously approved by the Committee in August 2019; (2) highlighting that whilst the ERDP covers the current capital programme period between 2018/19 and 2022/23, the ERDP Action Plan will be updated on an annual basis to reflect both progress made to date towards the delivery of the plan as well as the evolving priorities of the Council, and (3) enclosing, within the Appendices to the report, the Economic Regeneration Delivery Plan – 2020 Action Plan Review and the Economic Regeneration Delivery Plan – 2021/22 Action Plan.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the progress made towards the delivery of the ERDP Action Plan, previously approved by Committee in August 2019, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted;
- (2) that the updated 2021/22 Action Plan, as detailed within Appendix 2 to the report, and the key actions to be delivered, be approved, and
- (3) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Strategy Committee for noting.

**Councillor Curran, prior to consideration of the following item of business, having declared an interest by virtue of being the Chair of Routes to Work Limited (RTW), had further declared that he believed that the interest was so sufficiently remote that it did not preclude his participation in consideration of each of the three following items of business.**

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN**

4. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on the progress made with the development of North Lanarkshire's Economic Recovery Plan to help mitigate the economic impact of Coronavirus; (2) reminding the Committee that the Council had 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 the Economic Recovery Plan is subject to ongoing monitoring and review; (4) stating that an update on

progress and future actions will be reported to Committee in 12 months, and (5) enclosing within an Appendix to the report, North Lanarkshire's Economic Recovery Plan.

Arising from discussions thereon, the Convener intimated that ongoing updates and future actions may be reported to Committee in six months as opposed to 12 months, should Service commitments and priorities allow.

**Decided:**

- (1) that North Lanarkshire's Economic Recovery Plan, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved;
- (2) that it be noted that the Economic Recovery Plan be subject to ongoing monitoring and review, with an update on progress and future actions reported to this Committee in 12 months, or earlier should Service commitments and priorities allow, and
- (3) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Strategy Committee for noting.

**REAPPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS TO ROUTES TO WORK**

5. There was submitted a report by the Head of Communities (1) advising that the six Category B directors to Routes to Work Limited are reaching the three year limit on their appointment by the Council; (2) confirming that the current directors would be willing to be reappointed, and (3) seeking approval to reappoint the six Category B directors to the Board of Directors of Routes to Work Limited, as detailed within the report.

**Decided:** that the reappointment of the six Category B directors to Routes to Work Limited, be approved.

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE YOUTH GUARANTEE**

6. There was submitted a report by the Head of Communities (1) advising that the Scottish Youth Guarantee is a response by the Scottish Government to a steep increase in unemployment for 16 to 24 year olds, caused by the impact on the economy of action taken to safeguard the population from Covid-19; (2) informing that the Council had been awarded £2.1m to support its response to youth unemployment; (3) highlighting that North Lanarkshire aims to support at least 868 young people during the guarantee's implementation with progression to employment, education or further training; (4) stating that each of the delivery partners is responsible for implementation of its component, with quarterly financial performance claims submitted to the Council for evaluation of progress towards the aims and that the Council will ensure that the funding is aligned with existing priorities; (5) intimating that all initiatives are scheduled to be launched in 2020/21 and will end by March 2022, and (6) outlining details of how the funding and activities align with the Council's Workforce for the Future Strategy 2020/2023.

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

**COVID-19 BUSINESS GRANTS UPDATE**

7. There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on the Business Support Grants being administered by the Council on behalf of the Scottish Government; (2) detailing proposals for the delivery of the Discretionary Grant Scheme; (3) informing that the delivery of the Council's Coronavirus Business Recovery Fund Scheme had been postponed to Spring 2021 due to the prioritising of the delivery of the Scottish Government's Business Grant Schemes;

(4) setting out the proposed criteria for the Discretionary Grant Fund, and (5) advising that the current grant schemes are aimed to help with the survival of businesses most severely affected by the Coronavirus restrictions while the future grants are aimed at supporting businesses to adapt and diversify.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the delivery of the range of Scottish Government Grant Schemes to support local businesses be noted;
- (2) that the progress made with the development of the Council's Coronavirus Business Recovery Fund, to be launched in Spring 2021, be noted, and
- (3) that the proposed criteria for the Discretionary Grant Fund, as outlined in section 2 of the report, be approved.