

Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority

**To: Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority
Joint Committee**

On: 11th March 2019

**Report by
Stuart Tait, Manager**

Clydeplan and Glasgow City Region Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Joint Committee on the ongoing role of Clydeplan within the portfolios and wider activities of the Glasgow City Region.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee notes this report and the approach of Clydeplan and its Core Team in relation to Glasgow City Region.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 This report is for the Joint Committee to consider a number of matters relating to the ongoing operation of Clydeplan and its Core Team in relation to Glasgow City Region activities.

4. Regional Partnership

- 4.1 The inaugural meeting of the Glasgow City Regional Partnership (GCRP) took place on 31st October 2018 in Glasgow City Chambers where it was agreed that its purpose was to drive forward the growth of the Glasgow City Region economy, prioritise inclusive growth and drive forward increased collaboration between public, private, third and academic sector.
- 4.2 Membership of the GCRP is the Local Authority Chief Executives, Scottish Enterprise, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, Skills Development Scotland, Transport Scotland and the Scottish and UK Governments.
- 4.3 The second meeting of the GCRP was held on 28th February 2019 and considered the Regional Skills Investment Plan, the Regional Strategic Assessment, the refresh of the Regional Economic Strategy and Action Plan, a research commission into regional approaches to maximising inclusive economic growth along with a presentation by SEPA on the Vacant and Derelict Land Task Force.

5. Glasgow City Region Staffing Structure

- 5.1 The Director of Regional Economic Growth met with the Local Authority Chief Executives Group on 29th November to set out a proposed organisational structure to support the Glasgow City Region related activities. It is understood the structure proposed comprises three groupings sitting under the Director of Regional Economic Growth, (i) Intelligence Hub, (ii) City Deal Programme Management Office and (iii) Regional Partnerships.
- 5.2 Interviews for the Intelligence Hub Manager have been held and an Intelligence Hub Officer has been appointed.
- 5.3 As a consequence of the delays in the Planning Bill the Chief Executives Group agreed that it would be prudent to wait until there is clarity on the Planning Bill before proceeding with any consideration of a merger between the Clydeplan and Glasgow City Region staffing structures.
- 5.4 In the meantime the Chief Executives have instructed that the Director of Economic Growth convene a 'transition group' comprising Legal, Human Resources of both Glasgow City Council (as Glasgow City Region host authority) and Renfrewshire Council (as Clydeplan host authority) along with the Strategic Development Plan Manager to start to consider the issues relating to any future Clydeplan/Glasgow City Region staffing integration. The Director of Regional Economic Growth has stated his intention to schedule the first meeting of this group in the coming weeks.

6. Clydeplan

- 6.1 Increasingly Clydeplan are involved in supporting the activities of the Glasgow City Region and related portfolios as well as the City Deal Programme Management Office. Clydeplan are now involved as an active participant in four of the eight portfolios as well as the overarching Economic Delivery Group and Economic Intelligence Working Group.
- 6.2 Budget: At its meeting held on 10th December 2018 the Clydeplan Joint Committee agreed its budget for the funding of the staffing of its Core Team, accommodation and related SDP activities to 31st March 2020.
- 6.3 This will enable the Clydeplan resource to be maintained to continue its support for the delivery of the approved SDP, the implementation of the new planning system and the work programme of the GCRP. This will also allow the Joint Committee to have time to fully consider the implications of the matters contained in this report particularly in terms of its governance and the future role of the Clydeplan Core Team.
- 6.4 Delivering Clydeplan SDP: Clydeplan will continue to focus on working with its Local Authorities and its delivery partners, in the manner set out in the SDP Action Programme, to support delivery of the SDP Vision and Spatial Development Strategy.
- 6.5 Resources: At this moment in time Clydeplan remains the only fully resourced SDPA team in Scotland. The 12 month secondment of a Clydeplan Strategic Planner to the Glasgow City Region team has been extended to 31st December 2020 aligned to the inward secondment arrangement to Clydeplan, a Senior Planner from Renfrewshire, employed on a part time basis to 31st March 2020, this date being the end of the current approved budget period for Clydeplan.

- 6.6 Office Accommodation: The lease of the Clydeplan offices expires on 26th October 2019. A dilapidations report, was commissioned through Renfrewshire Council's Property Services to prepare a 'Terminal Schedule of Dilapidations' to identify the potential costs which would likely be incurred at the termination of the lease based on the offices current condition. The cost identified was in the region of £28,500 + VAT. This cost can be met from Clydeplan's earmarked balances.
- 6.7 A decision on the future of the Clydeplan and its Core Team and any related accommodation needs will again be dependent on the outcome of the Planning Bill and Glasgow City Region structures considerations.
- 6.8 The lease of the Clydeplan offices at Lower Ground Floor, 125 West Regent expires on 26th October 2019. Discussions have been initiated between the Clydeplan and the Director of Regional Economic Growth about the potential for the Clydeplan staff, and possibly the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network and Climate Ready Clyde staff, being relocated to the offices of Glasgow City Region at Exchange House, 231 George Street, Glasgow. A further report on this matter will be brought back to future meeting of the Joint Committee for their consideration.
- 6.9 Processes and Governance: Future governance arrangements for Clydeplan will be shaped by the terms of the amendment in relation to strategic planning set out in the Planning (Scotland) Bill and also by the emerging governance and related structures for the GCRP.
- 6.10 National Planning Framework: Discussions are ongoing with the Scottish Government regarding the future direction, timescale and technical/evidential requirements for the new National Planning Framework. Work is scheduled to begin on NPF4 following the Planning Bill receiving Royal Assent which will probably in summer 2019.
- 6.11 It is still anticipated that NPF4 will be approved in 2020 though the new Planning Bill does allow this to be 2024 and given the delays to the Bill the 2020 timeline looks increasingly challenging.
- 6.12 These considerations will be important in determining what role Clydeplan can play in supporting the development of NPF4 through its regional partnership working role. The SDP Manager is maintaining ongoing contact with the Scottish Government however in all likelihood there will remain a lack of clarity around the requirements for and implications of NPF4 until after the publication of the Bill which will not be until the summer of 2019 at the earliest.

7. Clydeplan - Work Plan

- 7.1 The key elements of the current Core Team work plan consists of the following:
- Land Supplies (housing land, vacant and derelict land and industrial and business land) and related monitoring and online mapping (AGOL) updating;
 - Employment and Business Land Review;
 - Mapping/data support for Glasgow City Region City Deal PMO Business cases;
 - Support for Glasgow City Region Partnership Portfolios
 - Land Use and Sustainability;
 - Infrastructure and Assets;

- Transport and Connectivity;
- Housing and Equalities;
- Economic Delivery Group;
- Support for the Glasgow City Region Economic Intelligence Working Group, including the Regional Strategic Assessment;
- Development of Strategic Active Travel Strategy and Action Plan;
- Forestry and Woodland Strategy;
- Heat mapping;
- HNDA 3/Housing Market Partnership;
- Development Management Forum;
- Flood risk mapping updating;
- Scottish Government liaison - Planning Review/HNDA3/NPF4; and,
- Ongoing wider stakeholder engagement including Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Development Plan, Central Scotland Green Network Trust, Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network, Climate Ready Clyde, Clyde Marine Planning Partnership, Homes for Scotland, Scottish Water, Sustrans, Glasgow Airport and SPT.

8. Observations

- 8.1 Clydeplan continues to remain a funded resource through to the end of March 2020 which can help support
- the delivery of the approved SDP Vision and Spatial Development Strategy through partnership working with local authorities, the Key Agencies and wider stakeholders;
 - the development of the Local Authority Local Development Plans;
 - land supply data collection and monitoring and the consideration of issues arising from this monitoring;
 - the Glasgow City Region local authority led portfolios with regard to the delivery of a number of the actions contained within the Glasgow City Region Economic Strategy Action Plan;
 - the refresh of the Glasgow City Region Economic Strategy; and,
 - the ongoing review of the Scottish planning system.
- 8.2 It is increasingly likely that the delay to the timetable for the Planning (Scotland) Bill will have knock on consequences for the preparation of NPF4 preparation activities.
- 8.3 Such delays in both the Bill and NPF4 continue to be unhelpful particularly in giving a degree of clarity and certainly around the future role of strategic planning in the new planning system for Scotland. Similarly, the consequences for Clydeplan, of the proposed organisational changes within the Glasgow City Region continue to remain unclear.