

**Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority**

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

**On: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Report by  
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**Clydeplan Annual Report 2016**

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Joint Committee to consider and approve for publication its Annual Report for 2016.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee
- approve the 2016 Annual Report as set out in the Appendix; and,
  - agree that, in accordance with the practice of previous years, an enhanced version of the Annual Report be produced in order to promote the work of the Joint Committee.

**3. Context**

- 3.1 The Joint Committee's Minute of Agreement requires the preparation of an Annual Report to set out the work of Authority for the previous calendar year.
- 3.2 The Appendix sets out the 2016 Annual Report and provides a summary of the work undertaken by Clydeplan during the year under the following broad headings:
- Review of current Strategic Development Plan;
  - Clyde Marine Planning Partnership
  - Glasgow City Region and City Deal
  - Scottish Government's Review of Planning in Scotland;
  - Continuing Stakeholder Engagement
  - Personnel; and,
  - Priorities and Issues affecting the future work of Clydeplan.



# CLYDEPLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2016

### **Introduction**

The eight Clydeplan Local Authorities are committed to strategic planning and working in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders in support of the delivery of its Vision and Spatial Development Strategy as set out in the first Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley city region which was approved by Scottish Ministers on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

Many of the key elements of the Spatial Development Strategy such as Clyde Gateway, Clyde Waterfront and Ravenscraig and the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Green Network have been incorporated in the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework 3 which was published in June 2014. These strategy components provide a sound foundation upon which the city region can deliver growth for Scotland's largest city region.

The scale of work that has been undertaken during 2016 has only been made possible by the willing support that Clydeplan has gratefully received from both private and public sector partners including the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Historic Environment Scotland, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, Glasgow Airport, Visit Scotland, Transport Scotland, Forestry Commission Scotland, Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership, Clyde Marine Planning Partnership, Central Scotland Green Network Trust, Glasgow Centre for Population Health, Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership, Scottish Water, Homes for Scotland, Scottish Property Federation, University of Glasgow and Heriot Watt University.

This report sets out the work that has been undertaken by Clydeplan and its partners during 2016.

Further information on the work of Clydeplan can be found at [www.clydeplan-sdpa.gov.uk](http://www.clydeplan-sdpa.gov.uk).

### **Review of current Strategic Development Plan**

The context for the review of the current Strategic Development Plan is set out in Clydeplan's Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement 2016/17 which was published in April 2016.

Clydeplan approved the Proposed Plan at its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 and the six week consultation commenced in January 2016.

The Proposed Plan sets out the Authority's Vision and Spatial Development Strategy for the growth of the city region over the next 20 years and supports the four planning outcomes as set out in National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy, namely;

- 1) *A Low Carbon Place* (infrastructure to enable transition to low carbon economy);
- 2) *A Natural Place to Invest* (environment protection, tourism and sustainable resource management);
- 3) *A Successful, Sustainable Place* (economic growth, sustainable settlements, regeneration, green networks, health and home);
- 4) *A Connected Place* (movement of people, digital links and connectivity).

The Proposed Strategic Development Plan places a strong emphasis on placemaking and leadership and delivery, as well as key strategy components such as Glasgow City Centre, Glasgow and Clyde Valley City Deal, the River Clyde, the Forth and Clyde Canal. The Proposed Plan also includes a refreshed context for Development Management.

In total 64 responses were received which culminated in the identification of 28 issues.

The Proposed Strategic Development Plan and Clydeplan's response to the 28 issues was submitted to Scottish Ministers on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016. The Examination of the Plan by the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals commenced on 14th July 2016 following the Reporters consideration that Clydeplan had conformed to the terms of its published Participation Statement.

Six Further Information Requests were received on a range of topics including housing, heat and electricity, climate change and Glasgow Airport. A formal hearing into housing related issues was held on Wednesday 14th December 2016 in Renfrew Town Hall and it is anticipated that Plan will be approved by Scottish Ministers in Spring 2017.

### **Clyde Marine Planning Partnership**

The Clyde Marine Planning Partnership (CMPP) was formally established in February 2016 by a number of the members of the Core Group of the Firth of Clyde Forum including Clydeplan who have taken up Board membership of the Partnership.

The CMPP will take forward regional marine planning in the Clyde and prepare a Clyde Regional Marine Plan. Once adopted by Scottish Ministers the Clyde Regional Marine Plan will be statutory in nature making the CMPP a statutory consultee in all relevant license applications and Plan related developments.

As part of the planning process CMPP staff have completed the final draft of the 'Assessment of the Condition of the Clyde Marine Region' identifying significant pressures and main issues to be dealt with in the marine plan. The CMPP is also developing its approach to public and stakeholder input which is core to its activities.

Clydeplan will continue to actively support development of the emerging Clyde Regional Marine Plan and related activities.

### **Glasgow City Region and City Deal**

During 2016 Clydeplan has become increasingly involved in the development of work streams within the partnership of the eight authorities around the Glasgow City Deal Programme.

Clydeplan has actively participated in the development of the emerging City Region Economic Strategy and is involved in a number of the portfolio discussions that have been established including Housing and Inequalities; Land Use and Sustainability and Infrastructure and Assets. Additionally, Clydeplan has contributed to the discussions around the establishment of a Research and Intelligence Hub which if established, will provide an important city region resource.

Clydeplan's involvement with the City Region activities is likely to continue to grow and develop during 2017 and beyond, particularly given the general direction of the national planning review and the economies of scale and general benefits that can be gained through city region scale joint partnership working.

### **Scottish Government's Review of Planning in Scotland**

In September 2015, Alex Neil MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights announced that he had appointed an independent panel to undertake a review of the Scottish planning system. The panel was chaired by Crawford Beveridge, and also included Petra Biberbach and John Hamilton.

Earlier in 2016, the Strategic Development Plan Managers and the Convenors and Vice Convenors of the four Scottish Strategic Development Planning Authorities provided oral evidence to the panel. The Manager and Assistant Manager were invited to take part in workshops in October to discuss with the Scottish Government and other stakeholders the review recommendations.

The panel published its recommendations on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016 and focussed on 6 key issues, namely,

- Development planning;
- Housing delivery;
- Planning for infrastructure;
- Further improvements to development management;
- Leadership, resourcing and skills; and,
- Community engagement.

Following a change in Ministerial responsibilities in May 2016 the new Minister leading the Review is Kevin Stewart, MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Housing.

Scottish Ministers published their initial response to the report's recommendations on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016 and have recently published a consultation on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 with a view to a Planning Bill either in late 2017 or early 2018.

The scope of the consultation seeks views on proposals for:

- a reconfigured system of development plans. This will link with proposals to extend the role and scope of the National Planning Framework and Scottish Planning Policy;
- new tools to assist housing delivery and diversification of types of housing;
- an approach to infrastructure delivery which recognises the development planning process;
- changes to the development management process to improve efficiency and transparency;
- a renewed approach to performance improvement which links with an enhanced fee structure and more innovative resourcing solutions;
- more meaningful and inclusive community engagement; and,
- embedding IT and innovation to achieve a digitally transformed planning system.

One of the key recommendations is Recommendation 2 which states strategic development plans should be replaced by an enhanced National Planning Framework and that strategic development planning authorities should be repurposed to pioneer a different way of working where planners proactively co-ordinate development with infrastructure delivery at the city-region scale and be given a statutory duty to co-operate with the Scottish Government in producing the National Planning Framework. This recommendation has potentially significant implications for the work, governance and resources of Clydeplan.

Further information on the Review can be found at

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/planning-architecture/a-consultation-on-the-future-of-planning/>

### **Continuing Stakeholder Engagement**

Effective stakeholder engagement is an ongoing feature of Clydeplan's day to day activities in its endeavours to influence the activities of others around delivery of the Clydeplan Vision and Spatial Development Strategy.

In April Clydeplan presented to Homes for Scotland Strathclyde Committee and throughout the year, took part in a number of meetings to assist mutual understanding of the issues impacting on delivery of homes in the Glasgow city region and to assist Homes for Scotland's in responding to the Proposed Plan. A Concordat on the approach to Housing Land Audits between Homes for Scotland and the Clydeplan local authorities was refreshed in May to support efficiency within the process.

In addition, Clydeplan has instigated discussions and exchanges with key infrastructure providers including Scottish Water, Scottish Power Energy Networks and BT Openreach to develop a shared understanding of the investment requirements needed to achieve the aims set out in Clydeplan.

Clydeplan has also been liaising with SEPA on flooding mapping for the city region.

### **Personnel**

A number of personnel changes took place in 2016 involving staff secondments. One member of the team took a temporary position with the National Records of Scotland assisting with enhancing statistical skills particularly in relation to population and household statistics. Whilst in that post, a member of North Lanarkshire's planning team was seconded in bringing new skills and experience to the Clydeplan team particular around housing data analysis and Habitat Regulations Appraisal.

Another member of Clydeplan has provided support and training in the development of Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Local Development Plan.

### **Priorities and Issues affecting the future work of Clydeplan**

The priorities for the future work of Clydeplan will be influenced, amongst other things, by

- the Scottish Ministers decision letter on the Proposed Strategic Development Plan;
- continued joint working with key stakeholders in support of the delivery of the Spatial Development Strategy and Action Programme;
- the Scottish Government's consultation on the Review of Planning in Scotland published on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017;
- publication of the Scottish Government's Planning Delivery Advice;
- the outcome of the Local Government elections in May 2017;
- ongoing developments around Glasgow City Region governance and City Deal; and,
- continuing challenges of delivery in the context of reduced financial and staff resources in both the public and private sectors.