

GLASGOW AND THE CLYDE VALLEY STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY JOINT COMMITTEE

To: Joint Committee

On: 10 June 2024

Report by: The Treasurer and the Head of Economy and Development

Heading: ClydePlan Governance: Next Steps

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report seeks to update members on the next steps regarding the winding up of the current ClydePlan Joint Committee.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee:
- i) notes the decisions taken by the member authorities to formally withdraw from the Clydeplan Joint Committee;
 - ii) notes the next steps required to be completed before the Joint Committee is fully wound up;
 - iii) approves the use of reserve balances to cover any costs in 2025/26 in the event that the Joint Committee is not wound up by 1 April 2025; and
 - iv) agrees to waive the two-year notice period to dissolve the ClydePlan Joint Committee.
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3. Formal approval to withdraw

- 3.1 Following recommendation by the Joint Committee, decisions have now been taken by each of the ClydePlan member authorities at their respective Councils to formally withdraw from the Clydeplan Joint Committee, with a view to transferring remit for the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and associated work to a new Regional Planning Sub-Committee, which will report into the Glasgow City Region Cabinet.
- 3.2 It has also been agreed that representation on the new Sub-Committee will replicate arrangements for the existing Clydeplan Joint Committee, being two

councillors from each of the member authorities, selected by the individual authorities.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 The first priority relates to the employees of ClydePlan and the Green Network Partnership (GNP) who are currently employed by Renfrewshire Council as lead authority. Discussions have commenced with the staff regarding their potential transfer to the employment of Glasgow City Council in cognisance of the TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment)) Regulations 2006.
- 4.2 The conclusion of this process will inform the creation of a budget by the new Sub-Committee, and therefore the costing that will allow requisitions to be calculated by Glasgow City Region and agreed with the eight constituent authorities.
- 4.3 A further action is the requirement for Glasgow City Region to establish the appropriate scheme of delegation for the new sub-committee and update the existing remit of the Glasgow City Region Cabinet to accommodate regional planning.
- 4.4 Once these steps are concluded, a final set of accounts will be drawn up indicating the balance of reserves remaining for distribution. Reserves will be distributed on the same proportions as the gross requisition for ClydePlan and GNP respectively.
- 4.5 For clarity, this can only be done once all of the final costs and income items have been paid and received, including the recovery of any aged debt, which could take time. There is no requirement to wait for a full financial year before preparing the accounts, but they will require to be audited. Should the winding up of the Joint Committee continue beyond 1 April 2025, it is recommended that any future costs would be drawn from reserve balances.
- 4.6 The annual accounts for 2023/24 are presented to the Joint Committee today and the audited accounts will require to be approved by the Joint Committee in September 2024.

5. Notice Period

- 5.1 Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority ("GCVSPDA") is governed by a Minute of Agreement which was most recently agreed in June 2013 by the 8 member Councils. It currently states the following in relation to withdrawal from the existing structure:

Withdrawal may be made from the Agreement on Thirty first March in any year by any of the Member Councils serving upon the Joint Committee not less than two years notice to be served in like manner as a notice served under Section 190 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. Such withdrawal shall not affect the obligation of the party or parties withdrawing to pay their share of the costs due under this Minute of Agreement, including without prejudice to the foregoing generality, their allocation of the costs of the Core Team, any seconded staff and their contributions to the budgets of the Joint Committee for the next two financial years following the date of service of Notice.

- 5.2 Following recent agreement to wind up the ClydePlan Joint Committee, it is recommend that the two-year notice period be waived to allow the process to be concluded as efficiently as possible.