

## Minute of Meeting Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board

Date	Time	Venue
1 June 2016	9.30am	CMR3, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN,

### PRESENT

Councillors Glen and Lawson; S Graham, Engage Renfrewshire; R Nimmo, Glasgow Airport; M Crearie and A Morrison (both Renfrewshire Council); S Clocherty and H Cunningham (both Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership); M Gilligan, Skills Development Scotland; M Dunn, University of the West of Scotland; and A Dick, West College Scotland.

### CHAIR

Councillor Glen, Chair, presided .

### IN ATTENDANCE

B Davidson, DYW; M Moran and C MacDonald (both Renfrewshire Council).

### APOLOGIES

B Grant, Chamber of Commerce; J Burns, DWP; I McLean, Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering our Communities; J Downie, Police Scotland; R Cooper, Renfrewshire Council; N Shields, Scottish Enterprise; and J Binning, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to commencement of the meeting.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chair intimated that Item 6 – Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce Update had been deferred to the next meeting of the Board.

### **1 MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board held on 8 February 2016.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute be approved.

### **2 ROLLING ACTION LOG**

The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.

**DECIDED:** That the rolling action log be approved.

### **3 DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE (DYW) - WEST REGION**

The Programme Director of DYW gave a presentation relative to the establishment of the Developing the Young Workforce programme. He gave some background to the set up of the programme; outlined the areas covered; introduced the team and board members; highlighted some of the stakeholders; indicated the focus for DYW; detailed the initiatives being developed; drew special attention to the pitfalls and what employers were looking for; intimated what success would look like and the events that DYW had planned for the future.

**DECIDED:** That the presentation be noted.

### **4 REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - EMERGING ISSUES FOR RENFREWSHIRE**

The Head of Regeneration, Development & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council gave a presentation relative to emerging regeneration and economic development issues for Renfrewshire.

The presentation highlighted the key metrics on the economic framework; outlined Renfrewshire's key assets and initiatives; highlighted the City Deal Projects; detailed the milestones; and drew special attention to the Paisley Town Centre 10 year action plan.

**DECIDED:** That the presentation be noted.

### **5 EU REFERENDUM SCC - BUSINESS SURVEY RESULTS**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce relative to business survey results on the EU Referendum debate.

The report intimated that the Scottish Chambers of Commerce had published the results of their third survey of business opinion on the forthcoming referendum on the UK's continued

membership of the EU. In doing so, SCC had maintained its impartial stance on the outcome of the referendum, whilst ensuring that the views of Chamber members and the business community were reported. A Scotland wide survey and a localised report relevant to Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde business responses were attached as an appendix.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## **6 RENFREWSHIRE RECRUITMENT INCENTIVE**

There was submitted a report by the Economic Development Manager, Development & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council which provided information on the new Invest in Renfrewshire Recruitment Incentive Programme from 1st May 2016. It was anticipated that this programme would run until 30 June 2018, however it was noted that further amendments might be necessary should any new national programmes of support be developed.

The report advised that the new programme would build on the offer of grant to Renfrewshire Council for the new Scottish Government SERI (Scotland's Employer Recruitment Incentive) Programme. The previous programme was suspended from 4 December 2015, and the new offer of grant was available until January 2017.

**DECIDED:** That the changes to the new Renfrewshire Recruitment Incentive Programme be noted.

## **7 INVEST IN RENFREWSHIRE - CONFERENCE & AWARDS 2016 "AIMING HIGHER" UPDATE**

A verbal update was given by the Economic Development Manager, Development & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council relative to the "Aiming Higher" Conference and Employability Award Ceremony to take place on Wednesday 15 June 2016 at the Normandy Hotel. The conference aimed to build on the success of previous years and widen the scope of the event from employability to encompass wider economic development agendas. It was noted that all CPP Partners had been invited to the event.

**DECIDED:** That the verbal update be noted.

## **8 LABOUR MARKET UPDATE**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council which provided an overview of employment activity and economic development in Renfrewshire at the end of April 2016.

The newsletter intimated that from March 2016 the Nomis figures had changed and Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA) and Universal Credit (UC) were measured together in one statistic: the claimant count. It was noted that the new Claimant Count figures were relatively limited at present and provided information on key age groups but not length of unemployment or the breakdown of male/female. It was expected that this further breakdown of information would become available soon. The newsletter also illustrated the Renfrewshire labour market position and advised how Renfrewshire fared in comparison to

the rest of the country. A brief summary of the progress made to date by the Council's Invest in Renfrewshire Programme and Business Gateway Programme was included and provided information on wider economic development activity across Renfrewshire.

**DECIDED:** That the newsletter be noted.

## **9 INTERIM YEAR 3 PROGRESS REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council which provided an update on Year 3 progress against targets.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## **10 PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

Each of the partner organisations delivered an update on matters of general interest for Board members.

**DECIDED:** That the information be noted.

## **11 LEP UPDATE**

The Area Manager, SDS gave a verbal update on the progress of the Local Employability Partnership (LEP) meetings. It was noted that the group had been re-established and efforts had been made to ensure that there was appropriate representation. It was agreed that the LEP update would be included as a standing item on the Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board agenda.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That it be agreed that the LEP update would be included as a standing item on the Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board agenda;

(b) That the verbal update be noted.

## **12 KEY PRIORITIES FOR JOBS & THE ECONOMY THEMATIC BOARD**

M Crearie introduced a general discussion on the implications of new major projects and the impact upon the Board's targets and outcomes as well as priorities for discussion at future Board meetings.

**DECIDED:** That the information be noted.