

Minute of Meeting Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 12 March 2015	10:00	Thermo Fisher Scientific, 3 Fountain Drive, Inchinnan, PA4 9RF,

PRESENT

L Hammell (DWP Jobcentre Plus); R Nimmo (Glasgow Airport Limited); B Davidson (Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce); Councillor Glen, F Carlin and R Cooper (all Renfrewshire Council); H Cunningham (Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership); A Loveday and Kerry Sharp (both Scottish Enterprise); I Miller (Skills Development Scotland); J Binning (Strathclyde Partnership for Transport); and A Dick (West College Scotland).

CHAIR

Councillor Glen.

IN ATTENDANCE

J Carswell (Life Technologies); and C MacDonald and Y Farquhar (both Renfrewshire Council).

APOLOGIES

S Graham (Engage Renfrewshire); S Clocherty (Renfrewshire CHP); Councillor Andy Doig and M Crearie (Renfrewshire Council); I McLean (Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering our Communities); and G Hunt (University of West of Scotland).

The meeting was opened by Jim Carswell, Operations Director & Site Director who welcomed everyone to Life Technologies and gave a presentation outlining the history, the vision of the company, and what they hoped to achieve in the future. After the presentation and discussion Councillor Glen thanked Mr Carswell for the presentation and his hospitality.

1 MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There was submitted the Minute of the Jobs & Economy Thematic Board held on 5 September, 2014.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 ROLLING ACTION LOG

The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.

J&E.27.03.13(2.3III) & J&E.09.01.14(6)

The Board were advised that Peter MacLeod, Director of Children's Services had taken over as Lead Officer for the Children & Young People Thematic Board and a meeting would be organised in due course to discuss overlapping actions.

J&E.09.01.14(7) – DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

A paper was tabled relative to the development of community transport. It advised that Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) was currently in discussions with a third sector organisation in Renfrewshire regarding taking on management of a 16-seater bus resourced from SPT as a community transport asset.

J&E.29.05.14(3C(I AND II)) – STRATEGIC SUB GROUPS

(i) Alan Dick advised that a progress report relative to local job market provision, unemployment trends and issues/barriers would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.

(ii) Alison Loveday tabled an update report relating to a pilot project whereby small teams of UWS international marketing students would carry out research for local Renfrewshire firms seeking to grow their business overseas. Students would work in groups of 3-4 and have the support of a Mentor (a representative from one of the Partners) as well as their Course Leader at UWS.

DECIDED:

(a) That a progress report on the local job market provision, unemployment trends and issues/barriers be submitted to the next meeting of the Board; and

(b) That the Rolling Action Log be noted.

3 **JOBS AND THE ECONOMY THEMATIC BOARD - YEAR 1 PROGRESS REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services relative to an update on Year 1 progress report.

The report intimated that the Jobs and Economy Thematic Board reported its progress to Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Board on 4th February, 2015. It was noted that significant progress had been made in meeting and in most cases exceeding the targets established however this had meant that there was a need to review the targets and outcome measures.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the progress report made to the CPP Board be noted;
- (b) That it be agreed that further consideration be given to the Performance targets.

4 **DEVELOPMENT SESSION - 19 DECEMBER, 2014**

F Carlin gave a verbal update relative to the development session which was held on 19th December, 2014. The workshop took place to start the process of establishing a revised action plan in the light of new initiatives.

It was noted that work was currently underway to develop the timeline created at the workshop and a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.

DECIDED: That a report on the development session be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.

5 **EU FUNDING FOR RENFREWSHIRE 2015/20 - AGREEMENT ON FUNDING PROPOSALS FOR THE RENFREWSHIRE CPP AREA**

A presentation was given by Ruth Cooper and Alan Dick relative to the EU funding proposals for the Renfrewshire CPP Area. The presentation highlighted the approach to funding; the priority gaps; the support in place to unemployed people in Renfrewshire; the programmes to be targeted; the available funding; and the progress of the online application.

DECIDED:

- (a) That it be agreed that the Jobs and the Economy Thematic Board support the range of employability proposals and activities;
- (b) That it be agreed that Renfrewshire Council proceed to submit the relevant applications to the Scottish Government on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership; and
- (c) That it be noted that further updates on the activities to be delivered by West College Scotland would be developed and brought to a future meeting of the Thematic Board.

6 INVEST IN RENFREWSHIRE: CELEBRATING EVEN MORE SUCCESS AWARDS 2015

There was submitted a report by Development & Housing Services relative to the Celebrating Even More Success Awards 2015. The report advised that the award ceremony would take place on Wednesday 17th June, 2015 with the annual Employability Conference taking place on Thursday 18th June, 2015.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

7 PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ON IIQ (GLASGOW AIRPORT INVESTMENT ZONE)

A presentation was given by R Nimmo and A Loveday relative to the development of the International Investment Quarter (IIQ) located around Glasgow Airport. The presentation advised that the high level vision was for the IIQ to become an internationally recognised business location building on its winning combination of people, infrastructure and opportunity. It emphasised the opportunities to be gained; the priorities; and the next steps.

DECIDED:

(a) That it be agreed that the Jobs and the Economy Thematic Board support the development of the International Investment Quarter Initiative; and

(b) That it be agreed that a sub-group of officers progress the activities required to ensure that the wider economic potential from the IIQ is realised.

8 MONTHLY UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

There was submitted a newsletter by Economic Development which provided an overview of employment activity and economic development in Renfrewshire at the end of January 2015.

DECIDED: That the newsletter be noted.

9 LEP MEETING - FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY, 2015

A report was submitted by I Miller which provided an update on the Local Employability Partnership Meeting held on 27th February, 2015.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

10 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS FOR THE JOBS & THE ECONOMY THEMATIC BOARD - AUGUST 2015 TO NOVEMBER 2016

There was submitted a proposed timetable for meetings of the Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board for the period August 2015 to November 2016.

DECIDED: That the timetable of meetings until November 2016 be approved.

VALEDICTION

On behalf of the Board, Councillor Glen extended his thanks to Isobel Miller, Skills Development Scotland for the significant contribution she had made to the Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board and for the advice and assistance she had provided and wished her well for the future. These sentiments were echoed by all members present.