

## **Scotland Excel**

**To: Executive Sub-Committee**

**On: 21 May 2021**

**Report by:  
Chief Executive of Scotland Excel**

### **Community Benefits and Fair Work Practices Update**

#### **1. Introduction**

In line with legislative requirements and Scotland Excel's sustainable procurement duty this report will highlight the Community Benefits delivered, in the period of 1 March 2020 to 30 September 2020, as a result of the Scotland Excel framework portfolio. Additionally, an update will be provided regarding Fair Work Practices which will give an analysis of suppliers and providers' Living Wage status.

Scotland Excel continually strives to be innovative in its approach to Community Benefits. We recognise that Community Benefits have a considerable social, environmental and economic impact within local communities and we continue to encourage and grow awareness in this regard. Our approach to Community Benefit commitments has been developed to further advance the undertakings made by suppliers and to facilitate a robust process for the collection of responses. The newly developed Community Benefit menu has been favoured by procurement specialists when embarking on new procurement exercises and offers a focused approach across the Scotland Excel procurement portfolio. Furthermore, it aims to encourage suppliers and providers to deliver Community Benefits within the awarding local authority area.

#### **2. Summary**

Owing to the Coronavirus pandemic, data collation was suspended and the periods, 1 October 2019 to 31 March 2020 and 1 April 2020 to September 2020 have been collated together. Providers were requested to complete a comprehensive Community Benefits template and this information is collated to illustrate the variety and extent of Community Benefits delivered as a result of Scotland Excel frameworks. This method of collection together with ongoing contract management aims to support the delivery of the commitments made by suppliers and providers at point of tender. For the two returns through to 30 September 2020, Community Benefits have been sought from suppliers and providers who have received in excess of £50,000 spend over the preceding two quarters via a Scotland Excel framework.

Table 1 shows a summary of the social value added across the Scotland Excel procurement portfolio since 2013. The figures are complete for the 6 month period through to the end of September 2020.

	2013/ 2014	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	Apr 20- Sep 20	Total
No of Apprentices	9	92	49	18	52	34	37	2	293
No of New Jobs	78	43	29	53	146	280	249	91	969
No of Work Placements	0	5	6	17	30	107	43	10	218
Hours of Volunteering & Mentoring	95	377	1279	1570	1637	803	853	423	7037
Hours of Work Experience	5305	28214	16734	7852	2541	667	10,360	12.5	71685.5
Value of Other Community Benefits	£2,474	£16,550	£46,140	£87,814	£311,549	£437,443	£901,410	£489,245	£2,292,625

*Table 1: Summary of social value added across the collaborative portfolio*

Community Benefits delivered via Scotland Excel frameworks continue to be positive although impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Figures in terms of 'number of new jobs' for the current return period have seen further growth with Edinburgh being of particular note. These are a result of the business associated with various providers across multiple frameworks, which has resulted in 17 new full-time / part-time employees. In relation to 'hours of volunteering and mentoring', East Lothian and Inverclyde had supplier's staff conducting Covid related food and pharmacy shopping for vulnerable citizens.

As shown in Appendix 1, returns illustrate that North Lanarkshire received the most substantial amount of 'Other Community Benefits'. This is largely made up of provision of premises for use by local organisations, sponsorships, donation of equipment and provision of a sports leadership academy.

With regard to Fair Work Practices (including the Living Wage) Scotland Excel commenced formal consideration within tenders in early 2015. Since this time the respective position on bidders' work practices has been outlined within Executive

Sub Committee Contracts for Approval Reports. From a review of the data available since 2015 the overall position across Scotland Excel's portfolio is:

Of the 1034 suppliers appointed since formal consideration, 878 (85%) notified that they pay the Living Wage. This is broken down within the first four columns below:

<b>Accredited</b>	<b>Progress towards accreditation</b>	<b>Committed to gaining accreditation over the first 2 years of the framework</b>	<b>Not accredited but paying the Living Wage</b>	<b>Not accredited or paying the Living Wage but committed to doing so within 2 years</b>	<b>Neither accredited nor paying Living Wage</b>
196 (19%)	48 (4.6%)	94 (9.1%)	540 (52.2%)	33 (3.2%)	123 (11.9%)

Scotland Excel continues to ensure transparency within the tender process and focus on aspects of fair work practices deemed relevant for each framework. Scotland Excel continues to monitor and encourage the implementation of fair working practices and to work closely with suppliers to review their progress in this area.

### **3. Next Steps**

The next Community Benefits data collection, analysis and review cycle will be completed in line with the Management Information process to cover the period through to the end of 31 March 2021. The results will be reviewed with the supply base and where appropriate will be incorporated into supplier performance objectives.

### **4. Conclusion**

Committee members are requested to note the content of this report, and support the on-going practice to monitor delivery of Community Benefits for the 2021/22 financial year.

## Appendix 1 Community Benefits by Council Apr 20 to Sep 20

	Number of new apprentices	Number of new employees	Number of work placements	Hours of volunteering	Hours of work experience	Monetary value of Other Community Benefits
Aberdeen City	0	0	0	0	0	£879
Aberdeenshire	0	0.8	0	0	0	£2,250
Angus	0	0	0	0	0	£1,365
Argyll & Bute	0	0	0	0	0	£1,852
Clackmannanshire	0	0.5	0	0	0	£1,125
Dumfries & Galloway	0	0	0	0	0	£1,417
Dundee	0	0.7	2.5	7.2	0	£2,180
East Ayrshire	0	1.3	0	0	0	£3,171
East Dunbartonshire	0	0	0	0	12.5	£5,175
East Lothian	0	1	0	32	0	£3,048
East Renfrewshire	0	0	0	0	0	£6,430
Edinburgh	0	17	1	312	0	£17,376
Falkirk	2	4	0	0	0	£38,501
Fife	0	13	1.7	17	0	£6,530
Glasgow City	0.3	8.3	0	0	0	£29,976
Highland	0	0.5	0	0	0	£8,051
Inverclyde	0	0	0	47	0	£1,215
Midlothian	0	0	0	0	0	£1,045
Moray	0	0	0	0	0	£875
North Ayrshire	0	3	0	0	0	£2,131
North Lanarkshire	0	4.1	3	0	0	£87,071

Orkney	0	0	0	0	0	£1,322
Perth & Kinross	0	8.2	0	0	0	£24,520
Renfrewshire	0	9	0	0	0	£20,402
Scottish Borders	0	0	0	0	0	£875
Shetland Islands	0	0	0	0	0	£1729
South Ayrshire	0	3	0	0	0	£5,125
South Lanarkshire	0	10.2	0	8	0	£46,943
Stirling	0	0	0	0	0	£6,483
West Dunbartonshire	0	0	0	0	0	£875
West Lothian	0	6	1	0	0	£2,875
Western Isles	0	0	0	0	0	£875
Blank	0	0	1	0	0	£155,559
<b>Total</b>	2.3	90.6	10.2	423.2	12.5	£489,245