# RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

# MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE JOBS & THE ECONOMY THEMATIC BOARD HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2014

# **PRESENT**

Councillor Glen, M Crearie, Lead Officer and Director of Development and Housing (both Renfrewshire Council); S Clocherty, Health Improvement Lead - Mental Health and Addictions and H Cunningham, Health Improvement and Inequalities Manager (both Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership); J Binning, Principal Policy Officer (Strathclyde Partnership for Transport); A Loveday, Business Networks & Communications (Scottish Enterprise); A Dick, Community Planning Liaison Manager (West College Scotland); and I Miller, Area Manager (Skills Development Scotland).

Councillor Glen presided.

# IN ATTENDANCE

G Turnbull, General Manager of Operations (Intu Braehead); Gordon McGuiness, Head of Industries & Enterprise Networks (Skills Development Scotland); C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer; and Y Farquhar, Policy Officer (both Renfrewshire Council).

# **APOLOGIES**

F Carlin, Head of Planning & Development (Renfrewshire Council); B Davidson, Chief Executive (Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce); F Rowan, Stakeholder Manager (University of West of Scotland); R Nimmo, Planning & Development Manager (Glasgow Airport Limited); Kerry Sharp, Head of the Scottish Investment Bank (Scottish Enterprise); J Dee, Customer Service Operations Manager (DWP Jobcentre Plus); J Ferrie, Delivery Operations Manager (Engage Renfrewshire); and I McLean, Forum Representative (Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering our Communities).

The meeting was opened by Gary Turnbull, General Manager of Operations who welcomed everyone to Braehead 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 Turnbull for the presentation and his hospitality.

# **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chair intimated that Item 10(b) had been withdrawn from the agenda and would be submitted to a future meeting of the Board.

1.   MINUTE OF THE PREVIOUS MEET
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There was submitted the Minute of the Jobs & Economy Thematic Board held on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2014.

**<u>DECIDED</u>**: That the Minute be approved.

**Noted** 

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2.	ROLLING ACTION LOG	
	The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.	
	J&E.21.08.13 – Key Statistics for Renfrewshire	
	A Loveday advised that a new format for presenting the information was being developed and would be available in the new year.	
	<b>DECIDED</b> : That the Rolling Action Log be noted.	Noted
3.	ACTION PLAN UPDATE	
	There was submitted a report by the Lead Officer which updated partners on the progress of the action plan for Jobs and the Economy Thematic Board.	
	Each partner gave a brief summary of progress to date and M Crearie thanked them for their input.	
	<b>DECIDED</b> : That the update be noted.	Noted
4.	STRATEGIC SUB GROUP	
	Allan Dick gave a verbal update relative to the new strategic sub group that was set up to look at local provision, unemployment trends and issues/barriers.	
	He advised that the group had their first meeting in June and were due to meet again in September. They were currently looking at gather information for the SDS Syllabus which would be available on 24 <sup>th</sup> September, 2014.	
	<b>DECIDED</b> : That the position be noted.	Noted
5.	EXPO PARTNERSHIP SUB GROUP	
	There was submitted a report by A Loveday and B Davidson relative to the New Expo Partnership Sub Group which was set up to discuss the ExpoRen event and the next steps.	
	A Loveday advised that she met with B Davidson, Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce, SDI, Smart Exporter, Business Gateway & the Invest Team in July. Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce have been asked to prepare information for the Invest website showing local businesses what support was available relating to all matters export/international trade. This would be actioned by Chamber of Commerce and an update would be given to the Board in due course. She advised that all follow ups from the day had been actioned ie. companies with questions, seeking more info etc.	
	<b>DECIDED</b> : That the position be noted.	Noted
6.	CITY DEAL	

M Crearie gave a presentation on City Deal, a strategic investment programme for Glasgow and the Clyde Valley which would bring together Renfrewshire and the other Clyde Valley Councils as well as the UK and Scottish Governments to establish a £1.13bn Glasgow and Clyde Valley Infrastructure Fund which would support continued growth in the city region by enhancing transport infrastructure, unlocking new sites for housing and employment and enhancing public transport over the next 10 to 15 years.

The presentation noted that the infrastructure fund would be complemented by a range of life science, business support and labour market schemes which would support business growth, enhance the life science sector and tackle unemployment. It was predicted that the City Deal would deliver an increase of around 29,000 jobs and lever in an estimated £3.3bn of private sector investment into the area on top of the public sector investments.

A total of 20 projects had been identified for implementation at a cost of £1.13bn and three projects within Renfrewshire were identified as key elements of the infrastructure investment across the City Region: the Clyde Waterfront/Renfrew Riverside Project; Glasgow Airport Investment Zone; and the Glasgow Airport Rail Link.

Discussion took place on the implications of the projects and the impact on the action plan. It was agreed that a development session would be held at the next meeting of the Board to look at the targets and prioritisation of outcomes.

# **DECIDED**:

(a) That the presentation be noted; and

(b) That a development session be held at the next meeting of the Board to look at targets and prioritisation of outcomes.

#### Noted

Lead Officer/Clerk

# 7. 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 July 2014.

The newsletter illustrated the Renfrewshire labour market position and advised how Renfrewshire fared in comparison to the rest of the country. It also included a brief summary of the progress made to date by the Council's Invest in Renfrewshire programme and Business Gateway Programme and provided information on wider economic development activity across Renfrewshire.

**<u>DECIDED</u>**: That the newsletter be noted.

# Noted

# 8. SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE LOCAL ACTIVITY REPORT FOR RENFREWSHIRE 2013-2014

A report was submitted by Scottish Enterprise outlining the five strategic priorities for Scottish Enterprise and detailing performance data in relation to growth; business practice; international activity; business support; carbon projects; rural enterprises; and co-operative development.

A Loveday advised that the bi-annual update would be available at the end

of October and she would circulate the information when it became available. **DECIDED**: SE/Clerk (a) That a copy of the bi-annual report by circulated to members when it became available: and **Noted** (b) That the report be noted. 8. PARTNER UPDATE (a) **Renfrewshire Local Employability Partnership Meeting** A report was submitted by I Miller which provided an update on the Local Employability Partnership Meeting held on 15th May, 2014. I Miller advised that a number of apologies had been received at the last meeting and she was concerned that if key partners were missing then there was the potential for information to be missed. Noted **DECIDED**: That the LEP Minute be noted. (b)(i) **Community Transport** J Binning advised that the Greener Thematic Board Transport Sub-Group had its first meeting in August and part of the discussion centered around Community Transport. He advised that a feasibility study would have to be completed and partners were looking for available funding. He intimated that a couple of buses would be made available by SPT with appropriate monies for maintenance and running costs. The caveat was that the project would not be able to be run by business and had to be organised by the community. Further updates would available at a future meeting. **DECIDED**: That the information be noted **Noted** (b)(ii) Scottish Government CJS Programme I Miller advised that In relation to Community Jobs Scotland the latest tranche of opportunities for the third sector had now been allocated. In Renfrewshire 42 posts had been offered to 17 organisations and final details were still being firmed up with the recipient organisation. **DECIDED**: That the information be noted Noted