

Minute of Meeting Scotland Excel Joint Committee

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 07 December 2018	10:45	City Chambers, Glasgow City Council, 80 George Square, Glasgow, G2 1DU

Present

Councillor Alan Donnelly and Councillor John Reynolds (both Aberdeen City Council); Provost Bill Howatson (Aberdeenshire Council); Councillor Ellen Morton (substitute for Councillor Rory Colville) (Argyll and Bute Council); Provost Norman Macdonald (Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar); Councillor Stephen Thompson (Dumfries & Galloway Council); Councillor John Jamieson (East Dunbartonshire Council); Councillor Gary Bouse (Falkirk Council); Councillor Altany Craik and Councillor Ross Vettraino (both Falkirk Council); Bailie Norman MacLeod and Councillor Martin McElroy (both Glasgow City Council); Councillor Aaron McLean (Moray Council); Councillor Paul Di Mascio (North Lanarkshire Council); Councillor Barbara Foulkes (Orkney Council); Councillor John Shaw (Renfrewshire Council); Councillor Simon Mountford (Scottish Borders Council); Councillor Amanda Hawick (Shetland Islands Council); Councillor Collette Stevenson (South Lanarkshire Council); and Councillor John McGinty (West Lothian Council).

Chair

Councillor Shaw, Convener, presided.

In Attendance

J Welsh, Director, S Brannagan, Head of Customer & Business Services, H Carr, Head of Strategic Procurement (all Scotland Excel); A MacArthur, Head of Finance; M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager, K Crawford, Senior Accountant, E Currie, Senior Committee Services Officer and N O'Brien, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Renfrewshire Council).

Apologies

Councillor Angus Macmillan Douglas (Angus Council); Councillor Rory Colville (Argyll and Bute Council); Councillor Graham Hutchison and Councillor Alasdair Rankin (both City of Edinburgh Council); Councillor Phil Fairlie (Clackmannanshire Council); Baillie Willie Sawers (Dundee City Council); Councillor Gordon Jenkins (East Ayrshire Council); Councillor Tony Buchanan (East Renfrewshire Council); Councillor Alister Mackinnon and Councillor Matthew Reiss (both Highland Council); Councillor Jim Clocherty (Inverclyde Council); Councillor Colin Stewart (Perth & Kinross Council); and Councillor Peter Henderson (South Ayrshire Council).

Declarations of Interest

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

Sederunt

Councillor Jamieson and Councillor McElroy entered the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

1 Minute of Joint Committee

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on 29 June 2018.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 Minutes of Executive Sub-committee

There were submitted the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Sub-committee held on 29 June, 25 August, 28 September, 26 October and 23 November 2018.

DECIDED: That the Minutes be noted.

Sederunt

Councillor Dickson entered the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

3 Directors Update

The Director of Scotland Excel gave a presentation to members providing an overview of what Scotland Excel was delivering for member councils; an update on Scottish Government and other projects; and an update on income streams and the funding position.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.

4 Revenue Estimates 2019/2020

There was submitted a joint report by the Treasurer and the Director of Scotland Excel relative to the revenue estimates for Scotland Excel including the requisition of the constituent authorities for financial year 2019/20 and indicative planning figures for 2020/21 and 2021/22.

An amended Appendix 1 had been issued to members which detailed the revenue estimates for 2019/20 and Appendix 2 to the report detailed the member authority requisition levels.

The report provided information on the assumptions that the budget had been based on; a financial overview for Scotland Excel; the Scotland Excel funding model; and member authority requisitions for 2019/20.

It was proposed that the Director of Scotland Excel provide meet with Councillor Vettraino to discuss the budget assumption that there would be an increase in ICT costs due to the migration to a cloud-based environment, the introduction of virtual servers and the move to Microsoft Office 365. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) That the revenue estimates of Scotland Excel for the financial year 2019/20, as detailed in the amended Appendix 1 issued to members, be agreed;

(b) That the requisitions from constituent authorities, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, be agreed;

(c) That the indicative estimates for 2020/21 and 2021/22 be noted;

(d) That the update to the funding model outlined in section 6 of the report be noted; and

(e) That the Director of Scotland Excel meet with Councillor Vettraino to discuss the budget assumption that there would be an increase in ICT costs due to the migration to a cloud-based environment, the introduction of virtual servers and the move to Microsoft Office 365.

5 Update on Contract Delivery Plan

There was submitted a report by the Director of Scotland Excel relative to the progress against the 2018/19 contract delivery plan.

The report intimated that the contract delivery plan comprised framework renewals, new developments, framework extensions and frameworks with ongoing contract management only and appendices 1 to 3 to the report provided further details.

The report highlighted that contract delivery remained active with 63 current frameworks in the Scotland Excel contract portfolio, six of which were to be renewed before 31 March 2019; a further three new frameworks would be added to the contract portfolio by 31 March 2019; and a further ten frameworks on the current portfolio had extension options that were likely to be exercised in 2018/19, eight of which had already been approved.

Scotland Excel was exploring the benefits of further collaborative procurement across high spend, critical service areas of adult social care and construction; had finalised the procurement strategy for care and support services; would deliver a new sourcing strategy for care home services for older people; working in partnership with the Digital Office had released a prior information notice (PIN) for market engagement across a range of projects to drive digital transformation across Scotland; and had released a further prior information notice (PIN) to notify the market place regarding a replacement Social Work Case Care Management System.

It was noted that overall, efficiencies delivered to date were 4.4% which was above the 2% to 4% forecast savings range.

It was proposed that the Director of Scotland Excel provide information to members on the percentage uptake by councils in relation to the 63 contracts in the Scotland Excel portfolio. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) That the progress made to date be noted; and

(b) That the Director of Scotland Excel provide information to members on the percentage uptake by councils in relation to the 63 contracts in the Scotland Excel portfolio.

6 Operating Plan Update 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Director of Scotland Excel relative to the half-year progress report for the Operating Plan 2018/19, a copy of which was appended to the report.

The report summarised the progress made against operating plan commitments and used a 'traffic light' symbol to provide a guide to the status of each activity. This guide had been revised to include symbols to indicate projects or activities which had not yet started and projects or activities which had been completed.

The report also tracked performance against thirteen key performance indicators linked to strategic outcomes.

DECIDED: That Scotland Excel's performance in the delivery of the Operating Plan 2018/19 be noted.

Sederunt

Councillor Hawick left the meeting during consideration of the following item of business.

7 Community Benefits and Fair Work Practices Update

There was submitted a report by the Director of Scotland Excel providing an update on the community benefits facilitated and delivered from the Scotland Excel framework portfolio for the period April to September 2018 together with an update on fair work practices.

The report intimated that Scotland Excel continually strived to be innovative in its approach to community benefits and recognised that community benefits had a considerable social, environmental and economic impact within local communities and continued to encourage and grow awareness in this regard. The organisation's approach to community benefit commitments at point of tender had 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 had been favoured by procurement specialists when embarking on new procurement exercises and offered a focused approach across the Scotland Excel procurement portfolio and aimed to encourage suppliers and providers to deliver community benefits within the awarding local authority area.

Table 1 to the report detailed a summary of the social value added across the Scotland Excel portfolio since 2013. The appendix to the report detailed the community benefits by council for the period April to September 2018.

In relation to fair work practices, including the Living Wage, the report intimated that Scotland Excel commenced formal consideration within tenders in early 2015 and that since this time the respective position on bidders' work practices had been outlined within contract approval reports submitted to the Executive Sub-committee. The report detailed the overall position across Scotland Excel's portfolio. It was noted that any reference to the Living Wage should be the Living Wage in Scotland.

The next community benefits data collection, analysis and review cycle would be completed in line with management information processes to cover the period to 31 March 2019. The results would be reviewed with the supply base and where appropriate would be incorporated into supplier performance objectives.

It was proposed that the Director of Scotland Excel provide a briefing paper to Councillor Foulkes providing more detail on the community benefits delivered in her council area. This was agreed.

DECIDED:

(a) That the report be noted and the measures proposed to monitor delivery of community benefits for the 2018/19 financial year be supported: and

(b) That the Director of Scotland Excel issue a briefing paper to Councillor Foulkes providing more detail on the community benefits delivered in her council area.

8 Membership of Scotland Excel Chief Executive Officers Management Group (CEOMG)

There was submitted a report by the Clerk seeking approval for the membership of Scotland Excel's Chief Executive Officers Management Group (CEOMG), a key governance body for the organisation.

The report intimated that the CEOMG had been part of Scotland Excel's governance since its inception in 2008 and members were appointed to the CEOMG in terms of the CEOMG procedures which were detailed in the report.

In August 2018 a presentation had been made to the SOLACE branch group seeking a new CEOMG member due to the retirement of Mary Pitcaithly. The SOLACE Executive decided to review the overall membership and nominations had been received from

Angela Scott, Aberdeen City Council; Margo Williamson, Angus Council; Cleland Sneddon, Argyll & Bute Council; Steve Grimmond, Fife Council; Annemarie O'Donnell, Glasgow City Council and Sandra Black, Renfrewshire Council. Sandra Black would continue to chair meetings of the CEOMG as Chief Executive of the lead authority in line with the CEOMG procedures.

DECIDED: That the membership of the CEOMG, as detailed in section 3.4 of the report, be approved.

9 Risk Register Update

There was submitted a report by the Director of Scotland Excel providing an update on the risk register maintained to assess threats and risks that could impact on the delivery of Scotland Excel's organisational objectives and actions identified to mitigate such risks. A copy of the Risk Register was appended to the report.

The report intimated that the risk management plan would be reported to the Executive Sub-committee twice a year and the Joint Committee on an annual basis.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

10 Meetings of Scotland Excel Joint Committee 2019

There was submitted a report by the Clerk relative to proposed meeting dates for the Joint Committee during 2019.

DECIDED: That meetings of the Joint Committee be held at 10.45 am on 21 June and 6 December 2019 within the City Chambers, Glasgow City Council.