

Scotland Excel

To: Joint Committee

On: 18 June 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 October 2020 to 31 March 2021, 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. Scotland Excel utilise the Community Benefit menu that 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

Twice yearly, suppliers and providers are requested to complete a comprehensive Community Benefits template. 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 return through to 31 March 2021, Community Benefits have been sought from suppliers and providers who have received in excess of £50,000 spend over the quarter via a Scotland Excel framework.

Table 1 shows a summary of the social value added across the Scotland Excel procurement portfolio since 2013. The figure are complete for the year ending on March 2021.

	2013/ 2014	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	Total
No of Apprentices	9	92	49	18	52	34	37	26	317
No of New Jobs	78	43	29	53	146	280	249	340	1,218
No of Work Placements	0	5	6	17	30	107	43	47	255
Hours of Volunteering & Mentoring	95	377	1279	1570	1637	803	853	608	7,222
Hours of Work Experience	5305	28214	16734	7852	2541	667	10,360	19	71,692
Value of Other Community Benefits	£2,474	£16,550	£46,140	£87,814	£311,549	£437,443	£901,410	£858,590	£2,661,970

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

Figures in terms of ‘number of new jobs’ for the current return period have seen further growth with Glasgow being of particular note. These are a result of the business associated with various providers across multiple frameworks, which has resulted in 80 new full-time / part-time employees mainly from Securigroup taking on additional staff to cope with demand and new protocols. In relation to ‘hours of volunteering and mentoring’, Edinburgh received 48 hours of volunteer predominately through the STEM programme ran by AECOM.

As shown in Appendix 1, returns illustrate that North Ayrshire received 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 Christmas gifts.

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 1051 suppliers appointed since formal consideration, 899 (85.5%) notified that they pay the Living Wage. This is broken down within the first four columns below:

Accredited	Progress towards accreditation	Committed to gaining accreditation over the first 2 years of the framework	Not accredited but paying the Living Wage	Not accredited or paying the Living Wage but committed to doing so within 2 years	Neither accredited nor paying Living Wage
200 (19.03%)	49 (4.66%)	97 (9.23%)	553 (52.62%)	33 (3.14%)	119 (11.32%)

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 30 September 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 Oct to Mar 21

	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	26.0	1	7	0	£13,848
Aberdeenshire	0.5	16.5	0	0	0	£12,499
Angus	0	10.0	0	0	0	£7,417
Argyll & Bute	0	0	0	0	0	£4,227
Clackmannanshire	0	1	0	0	0	£2,130
Dumfries & Galloway	0	0	0	0	0	£2,780
Dundee	0	5	1.6	0	0	£6,540
East Ayrshire	0	4.3	0	0	0	£6,959
East Dunbartonshire	0	0.2	0	28	0	£12,498
East Lothian	0.75	1	0	0	0	£6,879
East Renfrewshire	0	0	0	0	0	£6,641
Edinburgh	1	0	3.6	48	0	£22,342
Falkirk	1	3.8	0	2	0	£9,610
Fife	1	1.6	13	0	0	£16,029
Glasgow City	2.75	80.4	4	84	0.5	£46,669
Highland	1.25	7.0	0	0	0	£11,818
Inverclyde	0	0	0	0	0	£3,480
Midlothian	0	0	0	0	0	£3,002
Moray	0	1	0	0	0	£3,336
North Ayrshire	1	7.9	14	0	0	£16,637
North Lanarkshire	0	4.3	0	0	0	£14,156
Orkney Islands	0	0	0	0	0	£1,322
Perth & Kinross	0.75	3.2	0	0	0	£4,567
Renfrewshire	9.2	26.5	0	0	6	£4,123

Scottish Borders	0	0	0	0	0	£4,625
Shetland Islands	0	0	0	0	0	£1,897
South Ayrshire	0	1	0	0	0	£6,896
South Lanarkshire	4	27	0	16	0	£8,509
Stirling	0	0.3	0	0	0	£8,078
West Dunbartonshire	0	3.0	0	0	0	£7,444
West Lothian	1	7.9	0	0	0	£7,338
Western Isles	0	0	0	0	0	£875
Blank	0	9.6	0	0	0	£84,174
Total	24.2	248.7	37.2	185	6.5	£369,345