



**Note of the Scottish Cities Alliance Leadership Group meeting
Wednesday 2nd April 2014
Edinburgh**

Attendance

Cllr Barney Crockett	Leader, Aberdeen City Council
Valerie Watts	Chief Executive, Aberdeen City Council
Cllr Ken Guild	Leader, Dundee City Council
David Dorward	Chief Executive, Dundee City Council
Cllr Andrew Burns	Leader, City of Edinburgh Council
Greg Ward	Director of Economic Development, City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Archie Graham	Deputy Leader, Glasgow City Council
Lynn Brown	Executive Director of Financial Services, Glasgow City Council
Cllr Drew Hendry	Leader, Highland Council
Dr Stuart Black	Director of Development and Infrastructure, Highland Council
Cllr Ian Miller	Leader, Perth and Kinross Council
David Littlejohn	Head of Planning and Regeneration, Perth and Kinross Council
Cllr Johanna Boyd	Leader, Stirling Council
Bob Jack	Chief Executive, Stirling Council
Nicola Sturgeon MSP	Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities
Oonagh Gil	Head of Enterprise and Cities Division, Scottish Government
Prof Lesley Sawers	Chair, Scottish Cities Alliance

Also in attendance

Alison Muckersie	Senior Manager, Economic Development, City of Edinburgh Council
Kevin Rush	Head of Economic Development, Glasgow City Council
Dr Morag Watt	Cities Team Leader, Scottish Government
Sharon Miller	Cities Team, Scottish Government
Martin Ward	Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities, Scottish Government
Stewart Carruth	Strategic Director, Scottish Cities Alliance, SCDI
Iain McCreaddie	Policy Executive, Scottish Cities Alliance, SCDI

PwC

Paul Brewer	Partner, PwC
Adam Turner	Manager, PwC

Apologies

Cllr Gordon Matheson	Leader, Glasgow City Council
George Black	Chief Executive, Glasgow City Council

David Coyne	Head of City Deals, Glasgow City Council
Sue Bruce	Chief Executive, City of Edinburgh Council
Steve Barron	Chief Executive, Highland Council
Bernadette Malone	Chief Executive, Perth and Kinross Council
Dr Donald Houston	Director, Scottish Cities Knowledge Centre
Ross Martin	Chief Executive, SCDI

Note of meeting

1. Preliminary Discussion

2. Note of previous meeting and matters arising

The note of the previous meeting (16 December 2013) was agreed subject to the note being amended to include the group's support for the Carbon Clever Highlands initiative as well as Inverness' ideas for becoming a cycle city.

3. City Investment Plans and Funding Frameworks

Stewart Carruth spoke to a summary paper tabled on the Attracting Investment workstream based on the final report and City Investment Plans prepared by PwC on delivering sustainable economic growth through effective city investment planning. Stewart asked the Leaders to consider a set of seven key recommendations to unblock the investment pipeline across the cities and deliver a potential multi billion pound investment programme. All seven recommendations were agreed subject to some qualifications as follows:-

Recommendation 1 – The Leaders agreed to the set of principles tabled for taking the investment work forward subject to principle 1 being amended to include cities and their regions' functional and economic geography and that the principles as a whole are kept under review and refined as the investment work progresses.

Recommendation 2 – The Leaders formally approved the City Investment Plans tabled subject to minor amendments being made to both Inverness' and Perth's plans.

Recommendation 3 – The Leaders agreed that the Alliance Strategic Director and Delivery Group should develop business cases for collective approaches to delivery of the housing and business premises elements of the City Investment Plans drawing on the expertise of the Scottish Government and National Agencies. The Leaders also agreed that the Alliance should continue to engage in the other opportunities identified in the PwC report, in particular digital connectivity.

Recommendation 4 – The Leaders agreed that the Alliance should look to explore a range of funding models, including payment by results models, which help deliver economic growth.

Recommendation 5 – The City Leaders agreed that they would each work over time to commit a percentage of overall city spend, with an aspiration of 1% over the longer term, to economic infrastructure investment. It was recognised that this may include a city's existing committed spend and that each city's contribution would be dependent on their financial position.

Recommendation 6 – The Leaders agreed that the Alliance Strategic Director should bring a paper to the Leadership Group in June which sets out how the remaining unallocated monies from the City Investment Fund could be used to provide a central resource for use by the cities to assist with project assembly, finance, procurement and delivery. The Leaders noted that this may have an impact on existing workstreams and that it was important to ensure that the Alliance adds value to existing work rather than duplicating work already taking place elsewhere.

Recommendation 7 – The Leaders agreed that the Alliance should draw on the existing delivery capability within the cities and national agencies to help deliver the ambition laid out in the City Investment Plans.

Stewart Carruth thanked the cities, Scottish Government and PwC for their contribution to developing the report and City Investment Plans and the Leaders for their approval of the recommendations which will help set a strong direction of travel for the Alliance going forward.

4. Director's Update Report

A report detailing progress across the three workstreams of the Strategic Implementation Plan as well as budget spend to date was tabled and noted.

5. AOB

The Leaders recognised that the first step to unlocking the £6 billion of investment detailed in the City Investment Plans would be to develop a coordinated media strategy to enable the Alliance to showcase the opportunity. It was agreed that the Chair and the Strategic Director should work with the Scottish Government communications team to coordinate an appropriate press release on the Attracting Investment workstream which took account of work underway and was tailored to suit individual city purposes and local press.

The Leaders agreed that they would welcome the opportunity to meet again as a group in June.

The Chair noted that this may be both Bob Jack and Valerie Watts' final Leadership Group meeting. The Chair thanked them both for their input since the inception of the Alliance and wished them well for the future.

The meeting closed at 10.00am