



**Note of the Scottish Cities Alliance Leadership Group meeting
Wednesday 5 December 2012
Edinburgh**

Attendance

Prof Lesley Sawers	Chief Executive, SCDI (Chair)
Cllr Barney Crockett	Leader, Aberdeen City Council
Valerie Watts	Chief Executive, Aberdeen City Council
Cllr Ken Guild	Leader, Dundee City Council
Mike Galloway	Director of City Development, Dundee City Council
Cllr Andrew Burns	Leader, City of Edinburgh Council
Sue Bruce	Chief Executive, City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Gordon Matheson	Leader, Glasgow City Council
George Black	Chief Executive, Glasgow City Council
Cllr Drew Hendry	Leader, Highland Council
Alistair Dodds	Chief Executive, Highland Council
Cllr Alan Grant	Depute Leader, Perth and Kinross Council
Bernadette Malone	Chief Executive, Perth and Kinross Council
Cllr Corrie McChord	Leader, Stirling Council
Bob Jack	Chief Executive, Stirling Council
Nicola Sturgeon MSP	Deputy First Minister and Minister for Cities
Oonagh Gil	Head of Enterprise and Cities, Scottish Government
Geoff Duke	Director, Scottish Cities Alliance, SCDI
James Alexander	Senior Policy & Communications Manager, SCDI
Dr Morag Watt	Cities Team Leader, Scottish Government
Sharon Miller	Cities Team, Scottish Government
Beth Elliot	Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Minister for Cities, Scottish Government
Alison Muckersie	Senior Manager, City Development, City of Edinburgh Council

Apologies

Cllr Ian Miller	Leader, Perth and Kinross Council
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Note of meeting

1. Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting and noted that the Deputy First Minister would join the meeting later.

2. Note of previous meeting and matters arising

The note of the previous meeting (22 August 2012) was agreed. It was noted that it would be placed on the Scottish Cities Alliance website and that the Deputy First Minister would share it with the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee.

3. Scottish Cities Alliance Update

3a Overview

An overview was given by the SCA Director noting that the Delivery Group and action teams were working well and had made good progress. The Leadership Group noted the positive progress.

3b Current Projects

3b (i) Cities Investment Programme

The Cities Investment Programme paper was discussed and progress noted.

Following discussion, the following recommendations were agreed:

- i. Approve the SCA Investment Delivery Plan and associated timescales;
- ii. Acknowledge the demands that this work will place on local authority teams and agree to ensure that resources are made available to ensure its timely delivery; and
- iii. Note the background paper on potential investment funding models.

3b (ii) Digital Connectivity

The Digital Connectivity paper was discussed.
Following the discussion, progress was noted.

3b (iii) Smart Ticketing

The Smart Ticketing paper was discussed and it was noted that the cities' work had helped to add pace to Transport Scotland's Smart and Integrated Ticketing Strategy.
Following discussion, funding was approved to develop the project as set out in the paper, subject to the plan being agreed by the Delivery Group.

3c Proposed Project

3c (i) Hydrogen as a zero carbon fuel

The paper on this proposed feasibility study was discussed. In addition to the potential environmental benefits, it was noted that there are opportunities for economic growth by developing the supply chain market and for economies of scale to drive down the unit cost of the infrastructure.

Following discussion, the following recommendations were agreed:

- i. Procurement of a consultant to conduct the feasibility study;
- ii. Budget of £50,000; and
- iii. Delivery Group to report back on the feasibility study findings.

4. Strategic Focus: Economic Growth through Sustainability – A vision for the future

There was a presentation by Nathan Goode from Grant Thornton noting the economic benefits that may arise in addressing sustainability issues.

4a Green Deal

The Green Deal paper was discussed, noting the opportunities through collaboration to attract additional funding from the Energy Companies Obligation (ECO).

Following discussion, the following recommendations were agreed:

- i. note progress towards developing the business case for Green Deal and ECO;
- ii. note that the next stage is to consult with the Scottish Cities local authorities through the Green Deal action team;
- iii. the principles of an approach to develop an Early Mover Programme and Capacity Builder initiatives; and
- iv. recognition of the potential financial and wider resource implications of taking forward the Early Mover Programme and Capacity Builder projects.

5. Cities Investment Fund - Financial Update

The Financial Update paper was noted and spending requests approved.

6. Dates and Strategic Focus of Future Meetings

Following discussion on a range of topics, it was requested that a programme of potential projects and associated funding allocations be developed for the next meeting.

The date for the next meeting was agreed as 17th April 2013 in Edinburgh.