

ABERDEEN PROSPERS COMMUNITY PLANNING ABERDEEN

Note of meeting, 18th May 2017

	In attendance	Apologies
	<p>Richard Sweetnam (RS), Aberdeen City Council, Economic Development, Chair Duncan Abernethy (DA), NESCOL Martin Barry (MBa), Scottish Enterprise Mark Bremner (MBr), Aberdeen City Council, Cultural Policy and Partnerships Linda Buchanan (LB), Aberdeen City Council, Lifelong Learning Jamie Coventry (JC), Aberdeen City Council, Economic Development Rab Dickson (RD), NESTRANS Nicola Graham (NG), Skills Development Scotland Kirsty Jarman (KJ), Department for Work and Pensions Matt Lockley (ML), Aberdeen City Council, Economic Development Charlie Love (CL), Aberdeen City Council, Education – Curriculum Liz McAlpine (LM), ACVO Mark McEwan (MM), NHS Grampian Paul Tytler (PT), Aberdeen City Council, Localities</p>	<p>Joyce Duncan, ACVO Jamie Bell (JB), Scottish Enterprise Derick Murray (DM), NESTRANS Roz Taylor (RT), Elevator – Business Gateway Lesley Thomson (LT), Aberdeen City Council, Cultural Policy and Partnerships</p>
	Item	Action points
1	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <p>RS welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies and substitutes were noted (as above).</p>	

2	<p>Notes of last meeting</p> <p>The notes of the meeting on 30th March were agreed, with the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP3 – outline action plan for Aberdeen Prosperers. It has been confirmed that this needs to be in place by October 2017. AP3 remains an action for ML/JC – draft to be prepared for June meeting. • AP6 – RS had contacted Visit Scotland about their representation on this group and VS had responded. • AP7 – remains live, ML to invite other partner organisations as and when appropriate <p>Other actions were covered by the agenda.</p>	<p><i>AP9 – ML to circulate VS response to Prosperers membership with notes</i></p>
3	<p>Improvement ambitions and focus</p> <p>ML introduced some outline work on a matrix which aims to provide some context to where the Aberdeen Prosperers group might wish to focus on in the coming months. The draft matrix sets out all of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) outcomes relating to the economy and shows where these are being delivered (i.e. where other partnerships / organisations have a lead role). This then suggests where the Aberdeen Prosperers group can play a distinct, added value role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase business gateway start up numbers • Business gateway “Growth companies” accepted into Scottish Enterprise’s Growth Pipeline • Construct an Economic Footprint for the CPP and develop an action plan based on Key findings and recommendations • % of Economic Footprint improvement recommendations implemented • Develop and implement Locality Plans for those communities experiencing socio economic disadvantage 	

- Delivering high attainment levels and positive destinations for our young people and providing a future supply of skills for employers, inward investors and future entrepreneurs
- Address skills shortages in key sectors including public services and health sectors as identified in the Regional Skills Strategy

The group discussed how the focus of Aberdeen Prospers was shaping up. There was broad agreement that the priorities listed went some way to providing framework to move forward from and that specific actions should be prioritised to further develop our understanding of the priorities. These should include:

- Circulating a high-level summary of the Economic Footprint work that the Improvement Service has undertaken for Aberdeen City Council and using this as the basis for a discussion on how Community Planning partners could provide similar information
- For locality priorities, testing out where Aberdeen Prospers can influence the pace and extent of improvement activity
- Tabling the Regional Skills Strategy and Action Plan at a future meeting of Aberdeen Prospers as the starting point for actions around skills shortages. NG mentioned that SDS is currently recruiting a new Skills Planning Lead for the North East and that when in post, this colleague could be invited to support the skills discussion. In the meantime, it was agreed that there should be an initial discussion between SDS, DWP and NESCOL on the skills shortage indicator

Members agreed that whilst the matrix exercise did provide some focus, the group should not lose sight of the rest of the economic measures in the LOIP. In particular, it was felt that the group should retain a focus on the inter-relationships between the economic outcomes (i.e. sector growth and skills shortages; capturing community benefits from capital and major infrastructure schemes; place marketing and promotion; transport access issues; modern apprenticeships). The Chair asked that these are captured in the draft action

AP10 – ML to circulate summary

AP11 – Chair / group to continue to review

AP12 – schedule for meeting in autumn 2017

AP13 – ML organise short meeting / conf call to discuss this indicator

AP14 – ML/JC ensure that relevant

	plan which would be tabled at the next meeting in June.	<i>actions are captured</i>
4	<p>Draft improvement charter: enterprise</p> <p>PT introduced the draft improvement charter that has been worked up to capture proposed enterprise activity in localities. PT and Roz Taylor from Elevator have been working with ML, KJ and NG to scope out what these locality based events will look like and how they will enable the ‘test of change’ to be measured. The plan is for these activities to be delivered in late summer, after the school holidays, in one of the three localities. Three events will be trialled so that an assessment of their impact can be made, whilst also testing out whether different approaches (i.e. promotion, timing, venue) have a direct impact on attendance and outcomes.</p> <p>LM said that ACVO would be keen to be involved in the enterprise project proposals and that they could link to community-based support activity and projects in localities, for example language cafes.</p> <p>RS suggested that the template be amended to include a section on dependencies and on the timing of the proposed improvement activity.</p> <p>The group discussed potential additional activities that could support the enterprise agenda. Using schools as a means of promoting enterprise opportunities to parents was proposed, and this prompted a discussion about young people and enterprise. It was noted that this is a key focus of the Developing the Young Workforce agenda.</p> <p>There was keen interest in looking at how local entrepreneurs and self-starting companies could be encouraged to offer work experience placements to young people. It was felt that entrepreneurial role models could give a real insight into starting and managing a business to young people, if work experience or similar activity could be facilitated. This could present real opportunities for improving</p>	<p><i>AP15 – PT/RT to provide further update to group at next meeting</i></p> <p><i>AP16 – ACVO to be invited to take part in planning / activities around enterprise in localities</i></p> <p><i>AP17 – ML feedback to CPA Manager</i></p>

	<p>young people's awareness and aspirations and could also be a significant improvement project in its own right. Any activity could involve a wide range of partners including, for example, Scottish Enterprise (with their account managed growth companies), the work placement charter programme and Opportunity North East.</p> <p>It was agreed that this is probably a separate project from the enterprise in localities one that is currently being developed and would need further exploration.</p>	
5	<p>Fair Start Scotland</p> <p>ML provided a short update on the Fair Start Scotland bidding process. Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire is a single geographic 'lot' for this major new employability programme, starting in April 2018. As such, the City and Shire Councils are leading the development of a consortium bid with 12 local providers / partners.</p> <p>A key aspect of the bid is that Community Planning Aberdeen partners will be asked to contribute to the programme through a range of measures, including (but not limited to) guaranteed interviews; work placements; using community benefit powers to support the programme; aligning recruitment opportunities with Fair Start Scotland activity.</p> <p>The results of the bidding process will be announced in October. If successful, Aberdeen Prospers will have a role to play in terms of advising and supporting the programme (as will the equivalent group in Aberdeenshire) and partners will be asked to formally consider their contributions to the programme.</p>	<p><i>AP18 – small, short-life group to consider this (ACC/SE/DYW)</i></p> <p><i>AP19 – all partners to consider how they could support the ambitions of the Fair Start North East bid</i></p>
6	<p>Young people and employment</p> <p>RS gave a brief introduction to the work of the Developing the Young Workforce</p>	

	<p>initiative and spoke in particular about Aberdeen City Council's work to increase the participation of younger people in its workforce, in response to its recent Investor in Young People accreditation. RS mentioned that the City Council's approach to this is currently being developed and would be brought back to this group later in the year once it is more formed, but he noted that the focus is on workforce and succession planning and the Council's provision of modern apprenticeship and work experience placements. LB noted that the Children and Young People's department is undertaking an audit of all of the Council's work experience placements to set a benchmark for the future.</p>	<p><i>AP20 – schedule DYW / IYYP accreditation for future meeting</i></p>
<p>7</p>	<p>AOCB</p> <p>RS noted two items of interest for the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European funding underspends. Scotland currently has approximately £400million of its European funding unallocated and work is therefore being done through organisations such as the Scottish Cities Alliance to develop funding proposals. • Community Benefit Clauses and the Council's Section 75 / developer contributions powers. Noting the earlier discussion, RS suggested that Aberdeen Prospers should dedicate more time to this on a future agenda <p>The meeting closed at 15:30</p> <p>Date of next meeting: <u>27th June 2017, 15:30, Marischal College</u></p>	<p><i>AP21 - partners to note and to seek advice from Aberdeen City Council (via RS/ML) if they have potential project ideas</i></p> <p><i>AP22 – factor in to future agenda / forward plan</i></p>