

# ABERDEEN PROSPERS COMMUNITY PLANNING ABERDEEN

Note of meeting, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018

	In attendance	Apologies
	<p>Jamie Bell (JB), Scottish Enterprise  Allison Carrington (AC), Skills Development Scotland (vice-chair)  Duncan Cockburn (DC), RGU and Cultural Network  Joyce Duncan (JD), ACVO  Kirsty Jarman (KJ), Department for Work and Pensions  Matt Lockley (ML), ACC, City Growth (chair)  Lavina Massie (LaM), Aberdeen Civic Forum  Jonathan Smith (JS), Aberdeen Civic Forum  Paul Tytler (PT), ACC, Localities</p>	<p>Duncan Abernethy, NESCOL  Derick Murray, NESTRANS  Rab Dickson, NESTRANS  Ryrie Oag, Momentum  Roz Taylor, Elevator  Mark Bremner, ACC  Michelle Cochlan, ACC</p>
	Item	Action points
1	<p><b>Welcome and introductions</b></p> <p>ML welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted (as above).</p>	
2	<p><b>Notes of last meeting, actions</b></p> <p>ML apologised that he had not yet completed or circulated the notes from the group's meeting in April. These would be done in summary format and circulated with the notes from this meeting.</p>	<p><i>Notes from April meeting to be completed and circulated.</i></p>

<p>3</p>	<p><b>Changes to governance</b></p> <p>Matt informed the group that changes to its governance had recently been agreed by the Community Planning Aberdeen (CPA) Board. Matt is now formally taking over the chairing role, with Allison (SDS) taking on the Vice-Chair role.</p> <p>Alongside this formal change, Matt asked the group for their views on membership. This had previously been raised on a number of occasions but no decisions had been reached. Following discussion, it was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Momentum Skills should not be considered as core members of the group as they are not representing a wider third sector perspective. They should be encouraged to participate in improvement activity and engage in project teams where appropriate and may be asked to provide periodic updates on the Fair Start programme in the city</li> <li>• Whilst Duncan could represent RGU his primary role on the group was to represent Culture Aberdeen. Broader university engagement in the group would be welcomed. Duncan suggested that the group may also wish to consider the universities' outcome agreements at a future meeting</li> <li>• The business voice was still something that was lacking from the group. It was agreed that Matt should approach the Chamber of Commerce and FSB with a view to engaging them both with Aberdeen Prospers, possibly with a specific focus on Developing the Young Workforce and the Circular Economy</li> </ul>	<p><i>Matt to invite to next meeting in cycle</i></p>
<p>4</p>	<p><b>Annual report</b></p> <p>Matt outlined the draft Aberdeen Prospers section of the Community Planning Aberdeen Annual Report, noting that some of the datasets still need updated. The Annual Report highlights some key areas of work and progress for Aberdeen Prospers and suggests priority work areas for the coming year.</p>	

Discussion focussed on the following:

- The wide-ranging drivers and measure in the economy section of the LOIP and whether these were appropriate for the Aberdeen Prospers Group, in terms of ability to influence or drive change. It was agreed that the forthcoming Away Day (11<sup>th</sup> September) which is going to include a 'stock-take' of the LOIP, would be a good opportunity to raise the issue and to refocus the economy section
- The group agreed that a focus on a smaller number of priorities, where a partnership approach could make a significant impact, was important to achieve
- Recognition that other indicators and measures are important 'context measures' and should continue to be monitored in terms of the economic narrative, but the Aberdeen Prospers group has limited ability to influence many of them
- Agreed that the partners to Aberdeen Prospers should be listed in full, and that there should not be a distinction between 'lead' and other partners
- Duncan suggested that university and college outcome agreements could be looked at in terms of any new measures that Aberdeen Prospers could support. In particular, university and college targets around engagement and participation of people from priority localities and wards could be an interesting area of focus for the group
- Agreed that there is not enough positive messaging coming out of the CPA and that this could be significantly improved
- It was also agreed that the group could do more work on defining 'prospers' – looking at wider issues of cultural prosperity and wellbeing, for example, and people's participation in new cultural facilities and opportunities
- Finally, it was reiterated that one of the ongoing 'challenge' roles for Aberdeen Prospers was to ensure that investments and initiatives at the macro-level (i.e. City Region Deal, the work of Opportunity North East) have an impact in priority localities and are accessible to people from our communities

*Group members to actively participate in Away Day on 11<sup>th</sup> September and take the opportunity to push for a more focussed economy section of the LOIP*

*Matt to amend*

*Factor in to 'stock-take' session at Away Day*

*Matt to raise at CPA Management Group*

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**Scotland's Economic Performance – Jonathan Aitken**

Jonathan provided an update on a recently published report by the Scottish Government's Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee. He outlined key issues for local reference:

- Enhanced links between business / public and third sector partners and the FE/HE sectors were a big focus, recognising the significant shift in skills requirements for the future workforce
- Low rates of business scale-up in Scotland were a feature of the economy and potentially therefore an area of focus / future investment
- Innovation in the workplace and understanding the future skills needs of the economy is an underpinning priority
- Equalities is a major focus of the report, which estimates that there would be an £8billion boost to the Scottish economy if women had access to the same services and funding opportunities as men. The group were unsure if this was a specific problem in Aberdeen but thought it would be interesting to ask for some figures and any local data
- There is still an opportunity to review and input into the Scottish Government's budget proposal, particularly around the Scottish National Investment Bank
- The report recommends renewed focus and energy in terms of international relationships and business exports etc
- There is a need to look at the social impact and value of sector growth. This links back to the earlier conversation about City Region Deal investment at the macro-economic level and the impact this has (or not) at priority locality level. Further work required on this and Aberdeen Prospers is well-placed to take a lead

Matt thanked Jonathan for providing the update. Jonathan to send Matt his notes to be circulated with the minutes of the meeting.

*Matt to speak to Jamie Coventry about this*

*Matt to circulate notes*

<p>6</p>	<p><b>Thematic focus – Innovation / Regional Economic Strategy – Jamie Bell</b></p> <p>Matt had asked Jamie to reflect on the recent update to the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) Action Plan and what this meant for the innovation theme within the LOIP. Jamie gave a brief overview of the Innovation chapter of the RES, which emphasises the importance of the regional innovation asset base and the consistently high levels of investment in R&amp;D by businesses in the region.</p> <p>Jamie noted the close fit across the RES Action Plan and the LOIP, and also the context of the earlier discussion about the role Aberdeen Prospers can play in moving some of the priorities forward. With that in mind, Jamie suggested the following areas of the LOIP and RES Action Plan that are probably most relevant for Aberdeen Prospers to focus on for improvement activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circular economy / zero waste and business opportunities that this might provide</li> <li>• Hydrogen Action Plan</li> <li>• Digital / smart cities (although noted that there is a separate ‘Digital City’ group within the CPA)</li> <li>• Clusters around the City Region Deal funded Innovation Hub activity and opportunities for entrepreneurship projects</li> </ul> <p>The group agreed that there are some potentially exciting areas for further investigation, and that relevant additional partner organisation should be invited to future meetings to discuss. It was noted that there is limited support locally for business start-up and growth in the creative industries sector and this is a sector that can drive innovation. Potential for further work on this with Culture Aberdeen.</p>	<p><i>Matt to circulate further background info</i></p>
<p>7</p>	<p><b>Improvement charters</b></p> <p>Matt apologised that time was tight for this item, which was unfortunate as it is the key priority for the Outcome Improvement Group. Matt thanked group members for</p>	

	<p>attending the bootcamp that had been delivered by Michelle and Elsie in May. Members who had attended agreed that it had been useful to spend time on the methodology and to understand the tools available to them. Several of the group's improvement charters had subsequently been reworked and circulated for today's meeting. Matt gave a brief update as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Benefits – focus is on co-designing community benefit activity with communities with a view to creating more impact and improving take-up rates. Some resistance from procurement colleagues was noted – needs to be overcome. Lori Manson will be taking this forward and will be pulling together a small project team</li> <li>• Employer brokerage – Kirsty is leading on this charter, which aims to improve outcomes from sector skills training activities. Kirsty is setting up a project group to work on this with a view to starting to deliver and collect information on outcomes in the autumn</li> <li>• Invest Aberdeen – Matt will circulate a draft charter on this before the next meeting. It's likely to focus on how partners can support specific aspects of the Invest Aberdeen initiative, probably focussed on recruitment and skills</li> <li>• Community Justice – Aberdeen Prospers continues to support the Community Justice group's charter on employability and employer practices</li> <li>• Food and drink pilot – Paul is continuing to work on this charter, should be ready for sign off at the next meeting</li> <li>• Seaton employability pilot – Paul will present this at the next meeting</li> </ul>	<p><i>Group members to continue to access learning and development support in the improvement methodology through the partnership</i></p> <p><a href="https://communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk/innovate-and-improve/model-for-improvement/">https://communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk/innovate-and-improve/model-for-improvement/</a></p> <p><i>Updates to be provided as a standing agenda item. Group to consider other areas of the LOIP that could benefit from the improvement approach and feed this in to the LOIP stocktake session at the CPA Away Day in September</i></p>
8	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>Date of next meeting: <b><u>Fri 5<sup>th</sup> October, 10:00, Scottish Enterprise</u></b></p>	