



Community Planning Aberdeen

ABERDEEN PROSPERS OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT GROUP

Thursday 29th August 2019, 2.30pm, SDS Union Street

1. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting attendees - Allison Carrington (AC), Martin Barry (MB), Duncan Abernethy (DA), Gregor Docherty (GD), Jonathan Smith (JS), Lavina Massie (LM), Ishbel Greig (IG), Liz Rattray (LR), Roz Taylor (RT)

AC welcomed LR to her first Aberdeen Prospers Group and explained a bit about Aberdeen Prospers, gave an overview of the LOIP and our current projects.

2. Apologies – Paul Tytler, Rab Dickson, Susan Morrison, Maggie Hepburn

3. Update from CPA meeting of 5th August (discussion re charters)

AC represented the Aberdeen Prospers group at the Board and explained the delays in some projects progressing to the board.

JS mentioned that the development of relationships with external organisations has to be progressed and we can feed back to the board that we need strategic leadership support to do so.

4. Update from Project Leads on Charter Status

IG explained that we have 5 Aberdeen Prospers charters scheduled to go to the December board and for this to happen they have to be submitted to the CPA team by 1st October. IG will circulate key dates for board meetings for 2020.

5. Review of Project Leads

AC has reviewed the various projects and project lead from within the group and that a number of people were leading on various projects and therefore these should be spread more evenly. AC explained that the project lead doesn't have to be the subject matter expert, as long as the subject matter expert attends the meetings and is in the group.

Introducing other external organisations was discussed to sit on specific project groups. Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce (AGCC) have input in project groups.

Opportunity North East (ONE) have also been approached about a project group but they have declined.

Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) are also contributing to a project and could be approached to join Aberdeen Prospers or join other relevant project groups.

Updated spreadsheet on project leads will be circulated with these minutes.

6. Update on Chair for Aberdeen Prospers

AC gave an update that she is happy to Chair another one or two Aberdeen Prospers meetings as the Acting Chair for the group but would like a long term solution to the issue.

IG will feed back to Richard Sweetnam and Michelle Cochlan and ask for an update on the Chair of Aberdeen Prospers.

7. AOCB

RT explained that as part of the Business Start-Ups project the 'Be Brave' festival will take place on 3rd October, and will cover opportunities for pre-start up, start-ups, businesses, students and individuals to take the next step and start-up their own businesses. Various workshops, seminars and talks will run throughout the day. RT will circulate more information and asked that this be shared.

LR expressed an interest in the University of Aberdeen exhibiting, this will be discussed further.

MB explained more about the Real Living Wage project and the conversations held with employers around becoming accredited. A workshop is scheduled for 10th Sep to help contribute towards the charter and the project team will meet again on 16th Sep to finalise the charter.

JS explained that he is the Community Engagement group chair and would like to look at LOIP and existing opportunities for codesign with the community. He asked how we can make volunteering more flexible to contribute to projects and wanted to pick this up at a future meeting. AC commented that this could be a possible agenda item for the next meeting.

LM mentioned the negative articles on Free Ports in the press, but stated that this could attract inward investment. It was commented that this conversation has to be between Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils to source revenue for the region.

RGU, University of Aberdeen, ONE, OGTC, and the Councils are working to put forward a proposal around energy transition and a facility or support structure around this. Members

of AGCC and SCDI have also raised this topic with Ministers to bring the topic of free ports forward.

8. Date of next meetings

28th October, University of Aberdeen, time tbc

16th December, 10am-12pm, Scottish Enterprise