

At a MEETING of the **TAY CITIES REGION JOINT COMMITTEE** held at Dundee on Friday, 22nd March, 2019.

Present:-

Angus Council

Councillor David FAIRWEATHER
Councillor Bob MYLES (Articles I to V)
Councillor Angus MacMillan DOUGLAS
Councillor Bill DUFF

Dundee City Council

Councillor Willie SAWERS (substitute for Councillor John ALEXANDER)
Councillor Lynne SHORT
Councillor George McIRVINE (substitute for Councillor Richard McCREADY)

Fife Council

Councillor Tim BRETT
Councillor David ALEXANDER (substitute for Councillor David ROSS)

Perth & Kinross Council

Councillor Angus FORBES (substitute for Councillor Murray LYLE)
Councillor Dave DOOGAN
Councillor Colin STEWART

Non-Elected Members

Alison CARRINGTON, Skills Development Scotland (substitute for Gordon McGUINNESS)
Professor Andrew ATHERTON, Principal, University of Dundee Regional HE/FE Forum
Ellis WATSON, Tay Cities Enterprise Forum

Also Present

Mo SAUNDERS, Tay Cities Deal
Craig BIRRELL, Scottish Government
Lesley JACKSON, Scottish Government
David MARTIN, Dundee City Council
Robin PRESSWOOD, Dundee City Council
Margo WILLIAMSON, Angus Council
Vivian SMITH, Angus Council
Jim VALENTINE, Perth & Kinross Council
Julie FARR, Third Sector
Mark MITCHELL, Dundee City Council

Councillor Bob MYLES, in the Chair for Articles I, II, III, IV and V.

Councillor David ALEXANDER, in the Chair for Articles V to XIII.

Prior to the commencement of business, the Chair, on behalf of the Joint Committee, referred to the sad passing of Councillor Brian Gordon and paid tribute to his role on the Joint Committee.

I APOLOGIES

Apologies had been intimated from Councillors John Alexander, Richard McCready, Karen Marjoram, David Ross and Murray Lyle, Mr Jim Reid and Mr Gordon McGuinness.

II DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

III MEMBERSHIP

The Joint Committee noted that due to the retiral of Professor Sir Pete Downes, and, in form of Clause Six of the 2017 Minute of Agreement, the University of Dundee had appointed Professor Andrew Atherton, Principal and Vice Chancellor, as their representative on the Joint Committee.

Furthermore, Tim Allan of Unicorn Properties Limited, intimated his resignation from the Joint Committee on 16th January, 2019, which had resulted in a vacancy on the Joint Committee. In terms of Clause Six of the 2017 Minute of Agreement, the Tay Cities Regional Business Forum had been requested to appoint a replacement for Mr Allan.

The Joint Committee also noted due to the sad passing of Councillor Brian Gordon, there was a vacancy for a co-opted member from TACTRAN. TACTRAN had been requested to appoint a replacement, and had intimated that this would be made following their June Committee meeting.

IV CHANGE OF CONVENERSHIP

It was reported that the term of Convenership held by Angus Council was at an end and the position of Convener required to be filled by Perth and Kinross Council, in terms of Article II of the minute of meeting of 18th May, 2018. The position of Convener would be filled by Councillor Murray Lyle.

V VICE CONVENERSHIP

In terms of Clause Twelve of the 2017 Minute of Agreement, the position of Vice-Convener required to be filled by a member of Fife Council. The Joint Committee agreed that this position be filled by Councillor David Ross.

The Joint Committee further agreed that in the absence of both the Convener and the Vice Convener, Councillor David Alexander take the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Councillor Alexander thereupon took the Chair.

VI MINUTE OF MEETING OF 9TH NOVEMBER, 2018

The minute of meeting of 9th November, 2018 was submitted and approved.

VII MATTERS ARISING

(a) MICHELIN GROUP

It was noted that discussions were continuing with regards to the phasing out operations and that employees affected were continuing to receive guidance from relevant organisations. Strong support had also been received from the Scottish Government, which was welcomed by the Joint Committee.

VIII HEADS OF TERMS

There was submitted Report No TRCJC3-2019 by the Executive Director of City Development providing the Joint Committee with an update on the Heads of Terms for Tay Cities Deal.

The Joint Committee noted and welcomed the package of new resources for the Tay Cities Deal.

IX NEXT STEPS PRESENTATION – SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT/UK GOVERNMENT & PMO (INCLUDING OUTLINING OF ROLE OF TAY CITIES REGION JOINT COMMITTEE FOR DELIVERING TAY CITIES DEAL)

A presentation was given to the Joint Committee by Lesley Jackson, Scottish Government, Craig Birrell, UK Government and Mo Saunders, Tay Cities Deal, on next steps for delivering the Tay Cities Deal, a copy of which is appended to the minute.

An overview was given of the current position of Tay Cities Deal, noting that Heads of Terms had been signed in November 2018. Support and guidance was continuing to be offered to all regional partners, with open dialogue continuing.

It was anticipated that Full Deal status would be achieved with the funding programme and robust deal documentation. This would also move forward in tandem with identified projects and programme development.

In conclusion it was noted that meetings had taken place with all project owners, and efforts were being made to achieve identified targets.

The Joint Committee then had the opportunity to ask questions, with the following points being made:-

- It would be possible, once approval had been given, for project leaders to commence works then claim back monies spent and that adequate governance arrangements would be in place for this.
- For a project to be approved there would need to be clear evidence of deliverability, however priority would not be given to one project at the expense of another.
- The programme for Tourism and Culture would be finalised with input from the Scottish Government, thereafter the nominated partner would lead in the organisation of this.
- It would make more financial sense and have a greater social impact for the programme to have a ten year timescale, and this needed to be demonstrated clearly to the Scottish Government.
- The additional £50 million which was available did not form part of the deal, but was aligned to the project, however a business case would be required for this funding to be awarded.
- It was important for the private sector to play a proactive role and share skills to enable delivery of projects within agreed timescales.

X PROVISIONAL REVENUE BUDGET 2019/2020

There was submitted Report No TCRJC1-2019 by the Treasurer seeking approval for the Tay Cities Region Joint Committee's 2019/20 to 2021/22 Provisional Revenue Budget.

The Joint Committee agreed to:-

- (i) approve the 2019/20 Provisional Revenue Budget for the Tay Cities Region Project Management Office as detailed in Appendix A;
- (ii) note that the agreement regarding the proportion of costs shared with Higher and Further Education, and other Institutions would be agreed separately;
- (iii) note that the external audit estimate was likely to change, once an external auditor had been appointed; and
- (iv) note the indicative Revenue Budgets for 2021/22.

XI UPDATE ON TAY CITIES DEAL: NEXT STEPS: PROJECT OWNER MEETINGS & TIMESCALES FOR OUTLINING BUSINESS CASES

Mo Saunders advised the Joint Committee that all project owner meetings had taken place and that once bids were received, a process of analysis and appraisal for deliverability would be undertaken. Dialogue would be open with all project leaders to ensure robust bids were submitted timeously.

XII REGIONAL TOURISM STRATEGY UPDATE

There was submitted Report No TRCJC2-2019 by Business Development Team Leader providing the Joint Committee with an update on progress on the development of a Regional Tourism Strategy.

The Joint Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the content of the report; and
- (ii) request a further update on the Regional Tourism Strategy at a future meeting of the Committee.

XIII DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday, 21st June, 2019 at 10.00 am in Council Chamber, 2 High Street, Perth.

David ALEXANDER, Chair.