



## **PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**

### **PERTH CITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Minute of meeting of the Perth City Development Board, held in Perth Theatre on Tuesday 14 November 2017 at 4.30pm.

**Present:**

J Bullough, SCAA (Chair)  
Councillor I Campbell  
Ms B Malone, Perth and Kinross Council  
Mr J Valentine, Perth and Kinross Council  
Mr K Bazley, Scottish Enterprise (substituting for Dr E Mitchell)  
Mr M Beale, Algo (Blairgowrie) Ltd  
Ms M Cook, Perth College UHI  
Ms D Fuge, Perth Traders' Association  
Mr G Gibbons, Horsecross Arts Ltd  
Mr K Greenhorn, SSE Enterprise  
Dr T Ryan, Perthshire Photographic Society and Perthshire Society of Natural Sciences  
Mr D Robertson, Stagecoach East Scotland  
Mr D Ross, Kilmac Construction  
Mr M Stuart, The Sandeman

**In Attendance:**

D Bradley, Scotrail  
M Evans, The Retail Group  
T Flanagan, Perth and Kinross Council  
J Howarth, Perth College UHI  
D Littlejohn, Tay Cities Deal  
J McCrone, Perth and Kinross Council  
K Molley, Perth and Kinross Council  
D Williams, Perth and Kinross Council

**Apologies:**

Councillor P Barrett  
Councillor D Doogan  
Councillor S McCole  
Councillor C Stewart  
Mr J Fyffe, Perth and Kinross Council  
Ms M Crockart, Aviva  
Mr C Kinnoull, Culture Perth and Kinross  
Dr E Mitchell, Scottish Enterprise  
Mr G Ruddock, Giraffe  
Mr M Robinson, Live Active Leisure  
Mr S Stewart, Perthshire Chamber of Commerce  
Mr M Stuart, The Sandeman  
Ms V Unite, Perthshire Chamber of Commerce

J Bullough, Chair, Presiding.

## **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

J Bullough, Chairman, Perth City Development Board, welcomed all present to the meeting, and apologies were noted as above.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, J Bullough paid tribute to former Chair of the Tay and Earn Trust, David Clarke, who led on much of the activity relating to regeneration of the Tay and who had sadly recently passed away. J Bullough expressed his gratitude for D Clarke's work, and had passed on best wishes to Mrs Clarke on behalf of the Board.

It was noted that S Roue, Scone Palace, would be leaving the board on maternity leave, and would be replaced by S Branigan.

It was agreed that Councillor M Lyle, Perth and Kinross Council, would attend future meetings of the Board as an observer.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in any item on the agenda.

The Chair reminded private sector members to complete their registers of interests and short biographies and send them to [Committee@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:Committee@pkc.gov.uk).

## **3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minute of meeting of the Perth City Development Board of 5 September 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

## **4. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

## **5. CITY OF KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING, PERTH COLLEGE UHI**

M Cook, Principal, Perth College UHI, delivered a slide based presentation on the City of Knowledge and Learning, Perth College UHI.

The presentation covered the following topics:

- Summary of student numbers;
- Employment opportunities for College leavers;
- Partnership working;
- Knowledge economy/innovation;
- International work.

M Cook added that added that student figures were liable to change, with variables such as January intake. She added that partnership working helped

to offer further positive destinations for students, and highlighted that international students attending UHI would be based in Perth.

The Chairman observed that Perth College UHI offered education through from school-leavers to PhD, and asked M Cook how unique this was. M Cook responded that Perth College UHI was the only education institute in Scotland to offer this, and informed the Chair that further work was taking place around the marketing of this.

In response to a query from T Flanagan, Perth and Kinross Council, of any possible economic impact for the area, M Cook informed members that Perth College UHI were collaborating with other universities as part of the Tay cities deal to grow key sectors and had engaged with private investors to support investment in new student accommodation in the city centre..

## **6. SCOTRAIL TRAVEL PLAN**

D Bradley, Transport Integration Manager, ScotRail, delivered a slide based presentation on the ScotRail Travel Plan.

The presentation covered the following topics:

- A background to the ScotRail Franchise;
- The key commitments of Abellio ScotRail;
- The new Hitachi trains and refurbished inter-city trains;
- Perth in a rail context, highlighting the importance of at the centre of an inter-city network;
- 'Revolution in Rail' and key benefits for Perth;
- Perth Station improvements;
- Perth Station travel plan and key issues identified in the plan.

D Bradley added that, with regards to 'Revolution in Rail', that there would be an hourly service on the Perth to Inverness line and that smaller stations around Perth would begin to get hourly services. D Bradley also mentioned the scope for current retail opportunities at Perth Station, highlighting the recently redeveloped café at the station as a starting point.

In response to a query from the Chair regarding broader rail transport infrastructure improvements to improve Perth Station and services from Perth Station to Edinburgh, J McCrone, Perth and Kinross Council, responded that this was being considered as part of Tay Cities deal investment and collaboration with Network Rail. In response to a further question from the Chair, D Bradley informed members that ScotRail's focus was more upon providing service, whereas infrastructure lay with Network Rail.

In response to a query from M Beale, Algo (Blairgowrie) Ltd., regarding the timescale for the Travel Plan, D Bradley informed members that ScotRail were contracted to put together the business case for Perth Station redevelopment. D Bradley added that the train aspect was scheduled for late 2018-early 2019, and that there was funding available for immediate improvements to Perth Station. J Valentine, Depute Chief Executive, Perth

and Kinross Council, added that the Government had committed to a programme for investment in rail networks, and franchised operators to increase capacity.

MEMBERS AGREED TO VARY THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AT THIS POINT

## **7. TAY CITIES DEAL UPDATE**

D Littlejohn, Tay Cities Deal, delivered a verbal update to the Board on the Tay Cities Deal.

D Littlejohn informed members that negotiations were continuing with UK and Scottish Governments on the terms of the deal. D Littlejohn highlighted the importance of creating more high value jobs, increasing productivity and reducing inequality in the region. D Littlejohn also highlighted the importance of infrastructure allowing access to jobs.

D Littlejohn informed members that 5 out of 7 challenge workshops with civil servants from both UK and Scottish governments had been completed. He added that it was hoped that a deal would be reached with UK and Scottish Government by March 2018.

D LITTLEJOHN AND B MALONE LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT

## **8. FUTURE TARGET CUSTOMERS AND OCCUPIERS**

M Evans, Director, The Retail Group, delivered a slide based presentation on future target customers and occupiers in Perth city centre.

The presentation covered the following topics:

- The resident catchment of Perth and catchment profile;
- Expenditure patterns;
- Street survey responses;
- Operator survey responses;
- Stakeholder priorities;
- Perth's current retail offer;
- Current retail trends and landscape;
- Indicative target operators;
- Target location opportunities;
- Potential expansion zones/areas.

M Evans highlighted that a wide range of research had been undertaken in its study of Perth, including that of the public, more than 70 traders, and The Retail Group's own critique of Perth city centre. M Evans also noted that retail had been explored in a wider sense, and both tourism and student numbers were increasing in Perth, and highlighted the importance of easier access to the city centre.

M Evans highlighted Perth's existing retail offer, and that market and customer profiles survey results indicated potential for investment and existing

operators and key stakeholders support for further retail in the city centre  
M Evans further highlighted the need for further improvements to accessibility and opportunities for collaboration to secure investment in key sites within the city.

#### J HOWARTH LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT

In response to a query from J Bullough, M Evans highlighted how the building of a new theatre in Aylesbury, of similar catchment to Perth, had facilitated retail opportunity and noted other examples of how cultural investment can drive footfall.

J Valentine added that the Perth City Plan, included cultural investment within key themes to support the city centre and visitor economy and had supported the redeveloped Perth Theatre and its links with the city centre and public realm improvement

J McCrone advised that the purpose of the study was to create a framework, to support marketing and promotion and further encourage partnership working and collaboration in investment between the public and private sector.

#### COUNCILLOR CAMPBELL, D BRADLEY AND M EVANS LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT

### 9. PERTH CITY PLAN DELIVERY – PROGRESS

There was submitted a report by the Chairman (G/17/193) updating the Board on the delivery of the Perth City Plan in respect of the key themes and associated Big Moves.

With regards to Economic Prosperity and Enterprise, J Bullough informed members that the Story of Place Board had now been established by S Stewart, and S Merone, Perth and Kinross Council, had been nominated as project manager. J Bullough added that there was a workshop scheduled for 18 December 2017, and a report would be submitted to the Perth City Development Board in 2018.

The Chair informed members that there was an opportunity to review progress on the delivery of the Plan and the Board's role in supporting this. Previous review and development work had been assisted Yellow Book. Members agreed to hold a workshop early in 2018, and J Valentine informed members that this workshop should be left until the budgets for the Tay Cities Deal and Perth and Kinross Council had been established.

#### **Resolved:**

The progress in respect of the delivery of the Perth City Plan, be noted and the scope and methodology of a review be considered at the next Board meeting. **Action J Bullough**

**10. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

There was no other competent business.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of next meeting still to be confirmed, and members will be notified in due course.