

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Finance and Resources
<b>DATE</b>	7 August 2024
<b>EXEMPT</b>	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	No
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Heritage & Place Programme - Governance
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	CR&E/24/208
<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>	Gale Beattie
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	David Dunne
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Sian Loftus
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	3.2, 3.4

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks approval of the proposed governance structure for the Heritage & Place Programme; the Heritage and Place Programme Area Partnership Board Terms of Reference and approvals process for grants and awards; and the Heritage and Place Programme Area Partnership Advisory Group Terms of Reference. The intended governance structure and Terms of Reference must be included as part of the funding applications to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and Historic Environment Scotland (HES) for the next stage of the project.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Note the projected end date of the current Union Street Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) project in September 2024 (with final reporting to HES up to one quarter after the project end date) and note the disestablishment of the Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) Board at the completion of the project; and
- 2.2 Approve the proposed Heritage and Place Programme Area Partnership Board Terms of Reference and approvals process for grants and awards (as detailed in Appendix 1), the Heritage and Place Programme Area Partnership Advisory Group Terms of Reference (as detailed in Appendix 2), and the Heritage and Place Programme governance structure (as detailed in Appendix 3), and instruct the Chief Officer – Strategic Place Planning to submit the Heritage and Place Programme governance structure and Terms of Reference as part of the second round (Delivery Phase) applications to Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) in February 2025.

### **3. CURRENT SITUATION**

- 3.1 As Committee has previously been advised, the Union Street Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) is soon due to conclude, and Historic Environment Scotland (HES) has launched a replacement funding programme for CARS, entitled the Heritage & Place Programme (H&PP). In May 2023 the Council was informed that its bid to the first-round application to the Heritage & Place Programme had been successful.
- 3.2 In line with Committee approval of 29 March 2023 (COM/23/100), offers of grant from HES and the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for the development phase of Aberdeen Heritage and Place Programme (H&PP) were accepted in June 2023 with the NLHF 'Permission to Start' issued 15 August 2023, triggering the start of the 12-month development phase.
- 3.3 Due to delays in procuring experienced consultants to support the development of the H&PP project, the development phase has been extended to 28 February 2025. Other H&PP schemes in the same cohort round have also experienced delays and a number of the template documents necessary for the second round (delivery phase) application submission remain to be issued by HES.
- 3.4 The governance structure for the Heritage and Place Programme, along with the Terms of Reference for the H&PP Area Partnership Board and H&PP Area Partnership Advisory Group, need to be submitted as part of the second-round applications to HES and NLHF. A summary of the proposed governance arrangements can be seen in Figure 1 below, with further detailed provided in Appendices 1-3. All strategic decisions will be made by the Finance & Resources Committee with other decisions delegated to the relevant Chief Officers and Director.

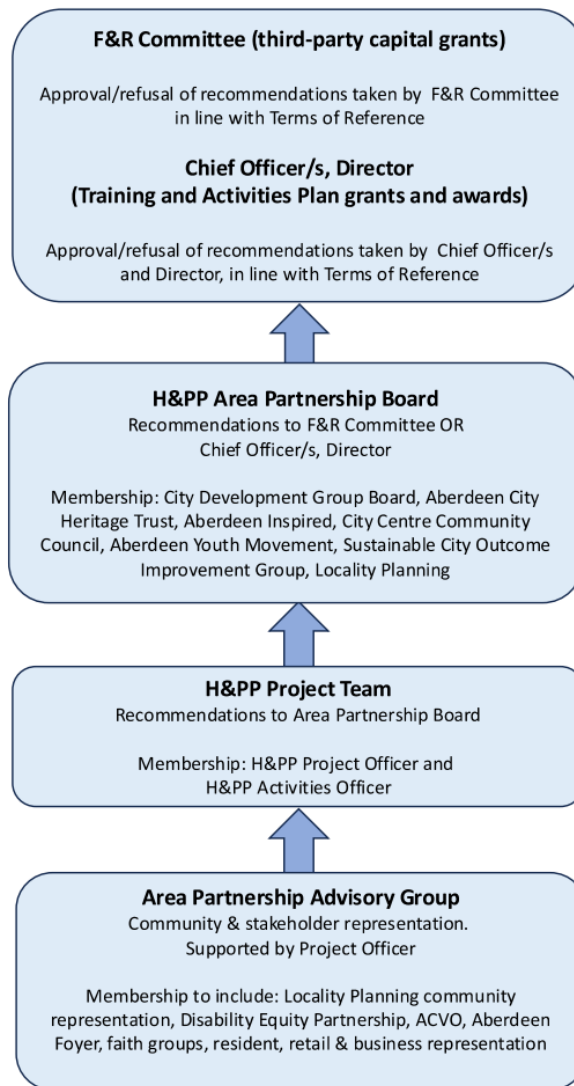


Figure 1- H&PP Governance Structure

- 3.5 The H&PP (development phase) currently reports to the CARS Board, which it is suggested will continue until such time as the future arrangements of the Heritage & Place Programme are known.
- 3.6 The outcome of the second-round H&PP applications are anticipated by 31 May 2025. It is therefore recommended that a new H&PP Area Partnership Board be established for Q2 of the 2025-26 financial year should the applications be successful.
- 3.7 Subject to the outcome of the HES and NLHF grant applications and acceptance of grant offers, by the Chief Officer- Strategic Place Planning (following consultation with the Convenor of the Finance and Resources Committee) the Heritage & Place Programme Area Partnership Board would commence at that time.
- 3.8 Community engagement is currently being carried out during the H&PP development phase as part of the development and codesign of the Heritage Activities Plan (with external evaluation consultants) and to support the wider programme's outcomes and ensure the community voice in the H&PP

governance structure. Engagement has identified a breadth of groups and organisations with a stake in the outcomes and outputs of the H&PP, with the proposed H&PP governance structure representing the outcome of engagement and cognisant of funder guidelines and Council requirements.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The proposed H&PP governance structure differs from the CARS Project Board in that there is broader representation on the Board and the Project Team are supported by an Area Partnership Advisory Group. The delivery phase would involve input from Council Officers in coordinating and participation in the Board and Support Group.
- 4.2 The H&PP Project Team would draw on the support of colleagues from across a number of Council services in the delivery of the project. There are resource implications to this, though opportunities too for coordinating efforts and ensuring the H&PP activity contributes to and supports wider Council outcomes, particularly around the City Centre Masterplan.
- 4.3 Where specific services are required in support of the H&PP project which might be commissioned from external suppliers, such as legal services, architectural support and evaluation reporting, these will be costed into the H&PP delivery phase budget.
- 4.4 The above financial implications are only relevant if the Council accept any offered delivery phase grant, and therefore enter into the 5-year delivery phase.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 In approving the proposed H&PP governance structure, H&PP Area Partnership Board Terms of Reference and approvals process for grants and awards and the H&PP Area Partnership Advisory Group Terms of Reference (Appendices 1-3) the Council would not be committing to the delivery phase at this time, as there is no guarantee that the funding application will be successful. The implementation of the H&PP governance structure and establishment of the H&PP Area Partnership Board and H&PP Area Partnership Advisory Group could only happen after the acceptance of any H&PP delivery phase grant offers from the funders. Approval to accept any grant offers are delegated to Chief Officers, following consultation with the Convenor of the Finance and Resources Committee, and provided that any terms and conditions of such funding have been approved by the Chief Officer - Finance and the Head of Commercial and Procurement.
- 5.2 As such, there are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report beyond an agreement from this Committee that the proposed H&PP governance structure, the H&PP Area Partnership Board Terms of Reference and approvals process for grants and awards and the H&PP Area Partnership Advisory Group Terms of Reference are appropriate to

be included in the grant applications to HES and the NLHF, which will be made early 2025.

## 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

## 7. RISK

<b>Category</b>	<b>Risks</b>	<b>Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level</b>	<b>*Target Risk Level (L, M or H)  *taking into account controls/control actions</b>	<b>*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?</b>
<b>Strategic Risk</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Compliance</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Operational</b>	In not having an approved governance structure for H&PP the grant applications would be incomplete, jeopardising the opportunity for H&PP funding	Approve the governance structure and Terms of Reference, in support of the grant applications	L	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Financial</b>	If grant applications are not completed and submitted the investment in the development phase will have not realised a direct return.	Approve the governance structure and Terms of Reference, in support of the grant applications	L	<b>Yes</b>

<b>Reputational</b>	If the Council does not apply for H&PP delivery phase grant then it could be seen to be failing to care for and value Aberdeen's historic built environment and opportunities for broader community engagement in heritage will be lost	Approve the governance structure and Terms of Reference, in support of the grant applications	L	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Environment / Climate</b>	If the Council does not apply for H&PP delivery phase grant then opportunities to protect and enhance the built and natural environment, as well as engaging with the community in support of these outcomes, will be lost.	Approve the governance structure and Terms of Reference, in support of the grant applications	L	<b>Yes</b>

## 8. OUTCOMES

<b><u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2023-2024</u></b>	
	<b>Impact of Report</b>
<b>Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement</b>	The governance structure supports greater partnership working and community participation in

<a href="#"><u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u></a>	protecting and enhancing the historic environment and pride in place.
<a href="#"><u>Local Outcome Improvement Plan</u></a>	
Community Empowerment Stretch Outcomes	<p>The governance structure for H&amp;PP aims to support Stretch Outcome 16, specifically;</p> <p>16.1 100% of decisions which impact on children and young people are informed by them by 2026.</p> <p>16.4 10% increase in amount of funding distributed by local funders across Aberdeen City using non-traditional methods by 2026.</p> <p>16.5 Increase the number of community led projects promoted and celebrated across the City, and increase by 20% the proportion of policy and decision makers who feel they have a good awareness of community-led initiatives in the City by 2025.</p> <p>16.6 Increase the number of people (staff and communities) who state that they have the skills, tools and support they need to work together to make improvements in the community to 50% by 2025.</p>
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	<p>The outcomes of the project aim to support the stretch outcome 2, specifically;</p> <p>2.1 Support 25 people from ethnic minorities into sustained, good quality employment by 2026</p> <p>2.3 Increase employer sign up to the Real Living Wage by 5% year on year to 2026 to achieve Real Living Wage City Status by 2026.</p> <p>2.4 Support 100 people into sustained, good quality employment by 2026, with a particular focus on those from priority neighbourhoods and people over 50.</p> <p>2.6 Support 40 young parents into training and / or employability provision by 2026.</p> <p>2.8 Support 25 individuals to gain employability skills through volunteering opportunities by 2026.</p>
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	<p>The outcomes of the project aim to support stretch outcomes 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 specifically:</p> <p>4.4 Increase by 5% the number of S1-S6 pupils who report that they feel confident by 2025.</p> <p>4.5 Increase by 10% the % of children living in areas of deprivation who feel safe in their communities by 2025.</p> <p>6.3 Increase by 10% the rate of completion of NPA/FA/HNC courses available to young people across the city by June 2024.</p> <p>6.4 Increase the % of learners entering a positive and sustained destination to be ahead of the Virtual Comparator for all groups by 2025.</p>

	<p>7.5 Reduce by 15% the number of instances of youth anti-social behaviour calls to Police Scotland by 2025.</p> <p>9.9 Reduce by 10% the number of adult anti-social behaviour calls to Police Scotland by 2026</p> <p>10.4 To support 50 low-income families in priority neighbourhoods to improve healthy eating behaviours and adopt good life choices to support healthy weight by 2026.</p> <p>12.9 Increase accessibility to a wider range of housing options to people at risk of homelessness</p>
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	<p>The outcomes of the project aim to support stretch outcome 15, specifically;</p> <p>15.1 Increase to 65% the proportion of people who feel they can regularly experience good quality natural space by 2026</p> <p>15.3 25% of people report that they understand the importance of nature on both their neighbourhood and individual wellbeing by 2026</p> <p>15.4 At least 23 organisations across all sectors in Aberdeen pledging to manage at least 10% of their land for nature by 2024 and at least 26% by 2026</p> <p>15.5 Increase by 50% the number of community groups delivering local environmental improvements in their neighbourhoods by 2026</p>
<b>Regional and City Strategies</b>	<p>The report seeks approval for the governance structure for a programme which will help conserve Aberdeen's historic built environment which supports policy D6- Historic Environment of Aberdeen Local Development Plan 2023</p>

## 9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
<b>Integrated Impact Assessment</b>	<i>New Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed</i> The assessment shows a positive impact on the protected groups and on children and young people.
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	Not required
<b>Other</b>	Not required

## 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.2 Finance and Resources Committee (29 March 2023) – COM/23/100,



## 11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix 1 - Heritage and Place Programme Area Partnership Board Terms of Reference and approvals process for grants and awards
- 11.2 Appendix 2 -Heritage and Place Programme Area Partnership Advisory Group Terms of Reference
- 11.3 Appendix 3 - Heritage and Place Programme Governance Structure

## 12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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