

ABERDEEN CITY REGION DEAL:

Powering Tomorrow's World

Report Name	Aberdeen City Region Deal Progress Update
Lead Officer	Richard Sweetnam
Report Author	John-Paul Cleary
Date of Report	4 May 2018
Governance	City Region Deal Joint Committee

1:	Purpose of the Report
i.	To update the Joint Committee on the progress of the City Region Deal and its constituent workstreams.

2:	Recommendations for Action
i.	It is recommended that the Joint Committee – a. Acknowledges an interim special meeting of the City Region Deal Joint Committee may be required; and b. Notes the content of the report and its appendices, and the progress made.

3:	Summary of Key Information
Annual Report and 'Annual Conversation' Meeting	
i.	Following the publication of the Scottish Parliament's Local Government and Communities Committee report in January, the Scottish Government City is further developing its governance around Scottish City Region Deals. Related to this, on 18 th April, the Aberdeen City Region Deal received a letter from the Scottish Government detailing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The terms of reference of the Scottish City Region Deal Delivery Board;

3: Summary of Key Information

- The requirement to produce an Aberdeen City Region Deal Annual Report and covering letter;
- An 'Annual Conversation' to be arranged at 'Senior Officer Level', informed by the Annual Report and anticipated to take place in June.

Appendix 1 contains the letter from the Scottish Government including its three annexes detailing the terms of reference of Scottish City Region Deal Delivery Board, a proposed agenda for the 'Annual Conversation' and proposed format for the Annual Report.

- ii. As the Scottish Government is suggesting the 'Annual Conversation' meeting should take place in June, there may be a need for a special meeting of the Aberdeen City Region Deal Joint Committee to take place prior to that, in order to review and approve the Annual Report.

Agri-Food & Nutrition Hub for Innovation

- iii. The business case for the Agri-Food & Nutrition project is currently being developed, and conversations are underway with the two governments. The business case is scheduled to be available in June this year, and with the next City Region Deal Joint Committee not due until 31 August, there may be a requirement to arrange a special meeting or alternative arrangement to review the business case.

Fibre Infrastructure Projects

- iv. At a special meeting on 29th November 2017, the CRD Joint Committee approved the business case to extend the existing Aberdeen City Council's wide area network to an additional 57 sites at a cost of £2m. This business case was also approved by the Scottish Government, with funding provided from the additional Scottish Government funding covered by the Memo of Understanding. This project is now underway and has also been the catalyst for fibre infrastructure investment in the City of up to £40m by City Fibre / Vodafone.
- v. On 9th February 2018, the CRD Joint Committee also approved (subject to UK Government and Scottish Government approval) a second business case to connect a further 212 additional sites. Of these 212 sites, 60 were NHS, 23 were Aberdeen City Council and 129 were Aberdeenshire Council. The estimated cost of the project was £11.5 million, with £6.28 million of that funded from City Region Deal.
- vi. The remaining £5.22 million was the subject of a bid to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's LFFN Challenge Fund. This Challenge Fund bid was unsuccessful, and as a result, the Digital Workstream

3: Summary of Key Information

Group are currently reviewing the options going forward and this will result in the rework of the existing business cases.

Duct Network Project

- vii. On 20th January 2017, the City Region Deal Joint Committee approved the Digital Infrastructure Business Case. As discussions were ongoing at the time with the Scottish Government over the National R100 Programme, this business case was reviewed by both the UK Government and the Scottish Government but was never approved. Subsequently, elements of this business case were redefined as part of the individual fibre infrastructure business cases discussed above.
- viii. However, one element of that original business case has remained largely unchanged – the Duct Network element. This has also been split off into a separate business case but the costs (£5m) and scope remain as previously approved. The business case is currently under review by both governments and further minor changes may result. The most recent version of the business case is attached as Appendix 2 for noting only.

Transport STAG Appraisal

- ix. The commission to identify problems, opportunities, key themes and objectives for the regional transport network is now entering the final phase, with the client group expecting the first set of draft reports in the next few weeks. A second Elected Member workshop has been planned to present the key findings of the work to date, and validate these prior to the interim final report being prepared. This workshop being is planned for the afternoon of 1st June at Woodhill House.
- x. Subsequent to this, the final report will be produced for review by the CRD Joint Committee. Again, with the timescales involved, this is likely to require a special meeting of the CRD Joint Committee during June.

Harbour Travel Plan

- xi. On 9th February, the CRD Joint Committee recommended that a Travel Plan be developed to support the new South Harbour and the arrival of large cruise liners. Options for resourcing this task are being considered, either resourced from Aberdeen City Council or Aberdeenshire Council or externally procured.

Dashboard Report

- xii. Further updates on the progress of individual workstreams and projects

3:	Summary of Key Information
are contained in the dashboard report in Appendix 3.	

4:	Finance and Risk
i.	The financial implications are included in the body of the report.