# **Public Document Pack**



# SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL THURSDAY, 26 JANUARY, 2023

A BLENDED MEETING of the SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, NEWTOWN ST. BOSWELLS AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS on THURSDAY, 26 JANUARY, 2023 at 10.00 AM.

All Attendees, including members of the public, should note that the public business in this meeting will be livestreamed and video recorded and that recording will be available thereafter for public view for 180 days.

J. J. WILKINSON, Clerk to the Council, 16 January 2023

BUSINESS				
1.	Convener's Remarks.			
2.	Apologies for Absence.			
3.	Order of Business.			
4.	Declarations of Interest.			
5.	5. <b>Minute</b> (Pages 5 - 18)			
	Consider Minute of Scottish Borders Council held approval and signing by the Convener. (Copy atta			
6.	Committee Minutes		5 mins	
	Consider Minutes of the following Committees:-			
	<ul> <li>(a) Jedburgh Common Good Fund</li> <li>(b) Community Planning Strategic Board</li> <li>(c) Eildon Area Partnership</li> <li>(d) Civic Government Licensing</li> <li>(e) Chambers Institution Trust</li> <li>(f) Peebles Common Good Fund</li> <li>(g) Planning and Building Standards</li> <li>(h) Executive</li> <li>(i) Scrutiny &amp; Petitions</li> </ul>	14 November 2022 17 November 2022 17 November 2022 18 November 2022 23 November 2022 23 November 2022 5 December 2022 6 December 2022 8 December 2022		

	(j) Pension Fund 13 December 2022	
	(Please see separate Supplement containing the public Committee Minutes.)	
7.	Committee Recommendation (Pages 19 - 24)	5 mins
	Consider recommendation by the Employee Council. (Copy attached.)	
8.	Local Government Finance Settlement 2023/2024 (Pages 25 - 46)	15 mins
	Consider report by Acting Chief Financial Officer. (Copy attached.)	
9.	Hawick Care Village - Outline Business Case	20 mins
	Consider report by Director Strategic Commissioning and Partnerships. (Copy to follow.)	
10.	Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust (Pages 47 - 52)	15 mins
	Consider report by Acting Chief Executive. (Copy attached.)	
11.	Peebles Swimming Pool Fire Update (Pages 53 - 56)	15 mins
	Consider report by Director Infrastructure and Environment. (Copy attached.)	
12.	Edinburgh and South East Scotland Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan (Pages 57 - 94)	15 mins
	Consider report by Director Resilient Communities. (Copy attached.)	
13.	Motion	5 mins
	Consider Motion by Councillor Anderson in the following terms:-	
	"That Scottish Borders Council recognises the major increase in the level of fuel bills currently being experienced, with no sign of a reduction in the immediate future, is causing huge issues not only on the public's available funds to be able to pay them but also the mental distress of worry about providing for their own and their families' welfare.	
	The Council therefore agrees that the Leader of the Council writes to the Minister of State (Minister for Energy and Climate)and the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport to ask for more pressure to be applied to the energy companies to give clear, uncomplicated bills to the public – including making clear the standing charge for meters - along with simplified billing advice so that they not only are able to understand their bills but also know where to seek help in either spreading the cost of these bills or finding other means of heating their homes. Energy companies should be required to place their customers automatically on the lowest unit price they offer for gas, electricity or oil as a matter of good practice."	
14.	Committee Appointment	2 mins
	Consider replacement for Councillor Cox on the H&SC Integrated Joint Board and the H&SC IJB Audit Committee.	
15.	Open Questions	15 mins
16.	Any Other Items Previously Circulated	

17.	Any Other Items Which the Convener Decides Are Urgent		
18.	Private Business		
	Before proceeding with the private business, the following motion should be approved:-		
	"That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the aforementioned Act."		
19.	Committee Minutes		
	Consider private Sections of the Minutes of the following Committees:-		
	(a) Civic Government Licensing 18 November 2022 (b) Peebles Common Good Fund 23 November 2022 (c) Executive Committee 6 December 2022 (d) Pension Fund 13 December 2022		
00	(Please see separate Supplement containing private Committee Minutes.)	Fi	
20.	Private Committee Recommendation (Pages 95 - 96)	5 mins	
	Consider recommendation by Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee. (Copy Minute attached.)		

#### **NOTES**

- 1. Timings given above are only indicative and not intended to inhibit Members' discussions.
- 2. Members are reminded that, if they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item of business coming before the meeting, that interest should be declared prior to commencement of discussion on that item. Such declaration will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.

Please direct any enquiries to Louise McGeoch Tel 01835 825005 email Imcgeoch@scotborders.gov.uk



# **SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL**

MINUTE of the BLENDED MEETING of the SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL held in Council Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells and Via Microsoft Teams on 15 December 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

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Present:- Councillors W. McAteer (Convener), J. Anderson, D. Begg, P. Brown, C.

Cochrane, J. Cox, L. Douglas, M. Douglas, J. Greenwell, C. Hamilton, S. Hamilton, E. Jardine, J. Linehan, N. MacKinnon, S. Marshall, D. Moffat, S.

Mountford, A. Orr, D. Parker, J. PatonDay, J. Pirone, C. Ramage, N. Richards, E. Robson, M. Rowley, S. Scott, F. Sinclair, E. Small (from paragraph 4), A. Smart,

H. Steel, R. Tatler, E. Thornton-Nicol, T. Weatherston

Apologies:- Councillor V. Thomson.

In Attendance:- Acting Chief Executive, Director Education and Lifelong Learning, Director

Infrastructure and Environment, Director Social Work and Practice, Director Strategic Commissioning and Partnerships, Chief Officer Health & Social Care, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Interim Chief Governance Officer, Democratic

Services Team Leader.

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#### 1. **CONVENER'S REMARKS**

- 1.1 The Convener paid tribute to Doddie Weir who had sadly passed away. A service to celebrate his life was to be held in Melrose on 19 December. The Convener expressed gratitude for the work he had done in relation to awareness and fund raising for MND research. He also expressed condolences to the family on behalf of the Council.
- 1.2 The Convener congratulated the Housing Strategy Team which had won an Energy Action Scotland Award for their Warm Borders Scheme in association with the CAB and Changeworks.
- 1.3 The Convener congratulated Jake Higgins from Wilton Primary School who had won the annual Council Christmas Card Competition.

#### **DECISION**

NOTED the Convener's remarks and agreed that congratulation be passed on as appropriate.

#### 2. MINUTE

The Minute of the Meeting held on 24 November 2022 was considered.

#### **DECISION**

AGREED that the Minute be approved and signed by the Convener.

#### 3. **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Minutes of the following Committees had been circulated:-

Police, Fire & Rescue and Safer Communities Board 2 September 2022 Selkirk Common Good Fund 15 September 2022 Sustainable Development 16 September 2022 Selkirk Common Good Fund 6 October 2022 Pension Fund 19 October 2022 19 October 2022 Pension Board **Chambers Institution Trust** 19 October 2022 Scrutiny & Petitions 20 October 2022

Tweeddale Area Partnership Planning & Building Standards Selkirk Common Good Fund Executive 1 November 20227 November 202214 November 202215 November 2022

# DECISION APPROVED the Minutes listed above.

#### **MEMBER**

Councillor Small joined the meeting.

4. FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2009: APPROVAL OF LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PLANS TO BE PUBLISHED ON 31 DECEMBER 2022

With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of 27 May 2021, there had been circulated copies of a report by the Director Infrastructure and Environment proposing approval of the Local Flood Risk Management Plans for the Forth Estuary Local Plan District, the Tweed Local Plan District and the Solway Local Plan District. This approval was required to allow for publication of the Local Flood Risk Management Plans in Scotland on 31 December 2022. The report explained that the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 (FRM Act) required the production of Local Flood Risk Management Plans covering each Local Plan District (LPD) in Scotland. Scottish Borders Council's area fell within 3 of the 14 Local Plan Districts in Scotland. These were Forth Estuary Local Plan District, Tweed Local Plan District and Solway Local Plan District. Under FRM Act there were two sets of complementary plans; the SEPA Flood Risk Management Plans, approved by Scottish Ministers and subsequently published by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) in January 2022 and Local Flood Risk Management Plans produced by Lead Authorities to be published 31 December 2022. Scottish Borders Council was the Lead Authority for Tweed Local Plan District. The SEPA Flood Risk Management Plans and Local Flood Risk Management Plans had been developed through collaborative partnerships between Local Authorities, SEPA, Scottish Water and other stakeholders. The SEPA Flood Risk Management Plans and Local Flood Risk Management Plans provide a framework for co-ordinating actions across catchments to dealt with all sources of flooding. The plans ensured long term planning around flooding and under Section 41(2) of the FRM Act and Scottish Ministers must take them into account when allocating funding. This approach helped target investment to areas where there was the greatest risk of flooding and where communities could receive the greatest benefit. This would help to maximise the benefit of public investment. The Local Flood Risk Management Plans took the objectives and actions identified in the SEPA Flood Risk Management Plans and set out who would be responsible for delivering the action, how the action would be funded, a timetable for when the action would be delivered and how it would be co-ordinated within the second FRM Cycle 2022 - 2028. There was now a need to obtain the Council's approval of the Forth Estuary Local Flood Risk Management Plan, the Tweed Local Flood Risk Management Plan and the Solway Local Flood Risk Management Plan prior to the national publication date of 31 December 2022. Although the Council had an interest in only one Potentially Vulnerable Area (PVA) in the Forth Estuary (PVA 02/10/28 – Berwickshire Coast) and one in Solway (PVA 02/14/04 - Newcastleton) Local Plan Districts there was a requirement through legislation for both plans to be approved in their entirety. Members welcomed the report and thanked Mr. Morrison and his team for all their work on flood prevention. However, Members commented on the increasing need for works to address more frequent flooding due to climate change. Concern was also expressed regarding the current Scottish Government funding model which was insufficient to meet the requirements for works across Scotland and it was considered that it was important to continue to lobby for funding for the Borders.

#### **DECISION**

AGREED to approve the following FRM plans for delivery by the Council as part of the Flood Risk Management Planning Cycle 2022-2028:-

(a) Forth Estuary Local Flood Risk Management Plan;

- (b) Tweed Local Flood Risk Management Plan; and
- (c) Solway Local Flood Risk Management Plan.

# 5. GYPSY TRAVELLER SITE PROVISION NEEDS ANALYSIS AND CONSULTATION UPDATE

With reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of 16 December 2021, there had been circulated copies of a report by the Director Infrastructure and Environment providing an update on the Gypsy/Traveller needs analysis and consultation activity undertaken as part of the Local Housing Strategy 2023-2028 development process and sets out proposed next steps. This built on the reports to Council in December 2021 and June 2022 on the experience during the COVID restrictions which highlighted that existing provision was neither adequate nor flexible enough to meet requirements of the Gypsy/Traveller community. The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 placed a duty on Local Authorities to prepare a Local Housing Strategy (LHS) supported by the assessment of need and demand for local housing provision and related services in the local area. Scottish Borders Council was currently developing its LHS for 2023-2028 and in June 2022 Council agreed to support a bespoke consultation process with Gypsy/Traveller families and national Gypsy/Traveller representatives to support this process and to better understand the potential need for future site provision. The evidence on the needs of Gypsy/Travellers would feed into the LHS priorities and action plan and inform future investment decisions for Scottish Borders Council. The needs analysis and early engagement with the Gypsy/Traveller community was now complete. The report summarised the findings from that exercise and made recommendations on proposed next steps to address the identified need. Policy HD6 "Housing for Particular Needs" in the draft Local Development Plan 2 supported future provision for the Gypsy/Traveller community where there was an identified need. The absence of any formally allocated available sites did not preclude Gypsy/Traveller provision being granted permission on any suitable (in planning policy terms) site. Members thanked officers for their work on this matter.

# DECISION AGREED:-

- (a) to note the findings from the Gypsy/Traveller needs analysis and consultation exercise summarised in the report;
- (b) that proposals would be developed to accommodate between 5-7 pitches initially and potentially a total of 10-14 pitches in the longer term;
- (c) to note that as no potentially suitable sites in Council ownership had been identified a "call for sites" would be undertaken in early 2023 to help identify suitable land opportunities;
- (d) that the focus of site identification be prioritised in the central Borders area and in line with national guidance to ensure the Gypsy/Traveller community had "safe and culturally appropriate places to live and travel" with access to services and amenities, including education and health services;
- (e) that the Director Infrastructure & Environment bring back a finalised short list of potential sites as part of an options appraisal process noting that further feasibility and consultation would be required to determine viability and costings;
- (f) to note that any preferred location/s identified would be subject to full planning application/s; and
- (g) to consider an appropriate capital allocation through the budget setting process to support delivery of permanent Gypsy/Traveller provision.

#### 6. EXTRA CARE HOUSING UPDATE

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Director Strategic Commissioning and Partnerships providing an overview of progress made in the delivery of the Extra Care Housing Programme of work in line with agreed strategic objectives. The report also highlighted the benefits and challenges of delivery so far and areas of the programme still to be progressed. A detailed background to the proposals to build Extra Care Housing within the Scottish Borders was provided, followed by an analysis of the benefits and challenges experienced in delivery of Extra Care Housing to date. The report also outlined the financial implications of the Extra Care Housing programme of work for the Council as well as highlighting the risk and mitigations associated with the delivery of Extra Care Housing in the Scottish Borders. Members welcomed the report and highlighted the importance of this type of provision to allow people to stay at home for as long as possible. In response to a question on the new provision at the former Kelso High School, the Director confirmed that there was already a waiting list for the homes.

# DECISION AGREED to:-

- (a) note the progress to date in the delivery of the Extra Care Housing developments in line with the Older Peoples Housing Strategy of 2018-2028;
  - (b) note the benefits realised and challenges experienced in delivery to date; and
- (c) continue to support the delivery of the three outstanding Extra Care Housing developments in line with the Integrated Strategic Plan for Older People's Housing, Care and Support 2018-2028.

#### 7. PROPOSALS RE-PROVISIONING NIGHT SUPPORT SERVICES

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Director Strategic Commissioning and Partnerships proposing that following the successful re-provisioning of the Peebles Night Support Service Pathfinder, the re-provisioning of the Night Support Service across the Borders be taken through a full consultation with service users and members of the public. The report explained that a Pathfinder for the re-provisioning of the Night Support Service took place in Peebles during September 2022. All service users were consulted and offered alternative support by way of differently timed visits (late evening/early morning) or the use of technology. The evaluation showed no adverse impact on service users and no increase in risk. Service users reported that they benefited from not being disturbed throughout the night. Families were supportive and raised no concerns. Staff were fully consulted and operated within St Ronan's Care Home for the duration of the Pathfinder period. They also responded to any alarm activations (13 activations for one client – 12 due to incorrect settings on the bed sensor). In the Peebles Team, there had been no indication of potential for staff redundancies, so if this was duplicated across the Borders the potential staff saving would be in the region of £451,642. In addition to this saving there would be approximately £7,000 saving on fuel and a reduction in staff mileage of 13,000 miles. Members supported the proposals but highlighted the importance of a detailed consultation process given the small number of service users covered by the pilot. The Director confirmed that the needs of service users would be fully considered as part of the consultation process and ensure that nobody ended up in full-time care as a result of any changes to the service.

# DECISION AGREED that:-

- (a) a full consultation on the re-provisioning of the Night Support Service would be undertaken, gaining feedback from current service users and members of the public;
- (b) a full IIA would be completed based on the findings of the consultation; and

(c) the findings of the consultation and the IIA be shared with Council prior to any further re-provisioning work being undertaken.

#### 8. COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS SUMMER 2022 FEEDBACK

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Acting Chief Executive providing an update on the feedback gathered from the 11 separate community conversations which took place over the summer of 2022 with Elected Members, senior officers and members of the public, and to seek approval on the next steps. The feedback from the events captured from a series of individual conversations was attached as an appendix to the report and the main issues arising from the feedback had been captured along with the proposed response. The Leader advised that the events had provided a great opportunity to speak to communities and lessons learned would be used to develop these events in future to make them even better in future. He also suggested that partners such as the RSLs and Live Borders also be invited to be represented at future events. It was proposed to hold the next events in Spring 2023. Members agreed that the events had been useful and that improvements could be made. It was also suggested that more detailed analysis of the responses would be useful.

# DECISION AGREED that:-

- (a) the issues raised needed to be considered as part of the budget process and realistic, prioritised plans would have to be developed to assist involving Community Councils and Area Partnerships;
- (b) the feedback should be shared with each Area Partnership and Community Council, and a co-productive process be developed to produce action plans for each community. These plans would require to be prioritised, risk assessed and be specific about resource requirements and time scales;
- (c) consultation would be required with Community Councils and Area Partnerships over the winter period with the aim of forming plans to be enacted in the spring of 2023; and
- (d) plans were to be developed for a further series of community conversations to take place during 2023.

#### **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors Brown, Richards and Weatherston declared an interest in the following item of business in terms of Section 5 of the Councillors Code of Conduct and left the Chamber during the discussion.

#### 9. SPORT AND LEISURE TRUSTS - FINANCIAL PRESSURES

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Acting Chief Executive setting out a proposal to help mitigate the challenges facing the three sport, leisure and culture Trusts funded by the Council, all of whom operated swimming pools. The Trusts had all seen significant increases in their cost base due to rising energy costs and reduced income. The paper sought approval from Members to provide financial assistance to Berwickshire Recreation and Education Sports Trust (BREST) of £127,000 from the Council's recovery fund for the 2022/23 financial year to assist with the costs of a programme of energy efficiency works that would significantly reduce running costs at the Duns facility by an estimated £62,000 per annum and reduce their carbon footprint by 130 tonnes of C02 per annum. Discussions were ongoing with Live Borders, and would now also be taken forward with the Jedburgh Sport and Leisure Trust, to ascertain how the Council could assist them with similar programmes of works and the costs of their continuing operations. With increasing energy costs in recent years, the three Leisure Trusts operating in the Borders had seen increasing costs of running their facilities. This increase in costs had been especially felt in those leisure centres operating swimming pools. Pools had faced particular challenges in continuing to operate while keeping their costs of admission affordable to users. Live Borders was the largest of the three charitable trusts commissioned by SBC for Page 9

the delivery of sport, leisure and cultural services. Live Borders currently operated 6 swimming pools on behalf of the Council in Eyemouth, Galashiels, Hawick, Kelso, Peebles and Selkirk, with one pool, Peebles, currently closed following a malicious fire earlier this year. The other two Borders based Trusts operating swimming pools in the Borders were Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust, which operated Laidlaw Memorial Pool, and Berwickshire Recreation Educational Sports Trust, which operated Duns Swimming Pool. Sport, physical activity and cultural activities played a vital role in delivering the Council Plan and Community Plan priorities and outcomes, in particular the priority of 'Good Health & Wellbeing', where the people of the Scottish Borders would be "enabled and supported to take control of their health and wellbeing, and enjoy a high quality of life" so that the Borders would have "more people in good health, leading an active lifestyle at every age and stage of life." Swimming pool buildings consumed significantly more energy per sq. m. than most other building types; careful design and the operation of pools to conserve energy was therefore of fundamental importance in ensuring their continued viability. Without sufficient funding to assist Trusts to reduce their energy usage and their carbon footprint, the financial viability of swimming pools in the Borders was at risk. This in turn risked the delivery of the corporate priorities associated with Health and Wellbeing, and the important community benefits they delivered. Members supported the proposals and commended the work the Berwickshire Trust had carried out to help minimise their cost increases.

# DECISION AGREED:-

- (a) to provide one-off financial support to Berwickshire Education and Recreation Sports Trust in the current year of £127,000 from the recovery fund to part fund a programme of energy improvement works identified by the Trust;
- (b) to note the extraordinary financial challenges facing the leisure sector, primarily as a result of increasing energy costs and reduced income levels;
- (c) to instruct officers to continue to engage with Live Borders and the Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust to identify a package of similar support measures to help manage energy costs, decarbonise buildings and to assist with reduced income;
- (d) that these Trusts played a vital role in the successful delivery of Council Plan priorities and that, as such, work was also to be undertaken as part of the budget process 2023/24 to identify ways to assist the three Leisure Trusts with their ongoing financial viability. This may include payments for new services, for example social prescribing to help deliver Health and Wellbeing outcomes; and
- (e) that as part of the budget process, and in recognition of any increased funding contribution, that the Trusts would be required to work with the Council to improve Governance oversight and demonstrate they were delivering the outcomes expected by Members, could evidence good value for money, and an ability to follow the public pound.

#### **MEMBERS**

Councillors Brown, Richards and Weatherston re-joined the meeting.

#### 10. INDEPENDENT INQUIRY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of 24 November 2022, there had been circulated copies of a report by the Acting Chief Executive providing the third formal update from the Inquiry Review Group which was established to progress the work identified following the independent investigation into the Council's handling of concerns raised about a former Scottish Borders Council employee. The report brought forward a number of reporting templates relating to a number of actions and sought Council approval to consider these actions as complete. The report also sought approval to alter the frequency of reporting in response to the level of progress and the number of completed actions now achieved. It was

explained that there were 14 actions which remained to be brought before Council to be approved as completed. As detailed in the report, these were either time dependant on collective work with other authorities or linked to actions which were time dependant, subject to legal determinations or awaiting audit activity. It was proposed therefore than in order to afford responsible officers the time to complete this small number of actions to a satisfactory conclusion, that reporting verbally at each Council meeting was ceased and that a written report be brought to Council with comprehensive updates on a quarterly basis. It was intended that the final approvals would be brought to Council by the end of April 2023. Members welcomed the progress to date.

# DECISION AGREED:-

- (a) to approve the actions contained in Appendix 1 to the report as being complete;
- (b) that the Inquiry Action Plan Group meet on a monthly basis rather than fortnightly;
- (c) to approve the proposal for communication with stakeholders at the conclusion of all actions and request that this plan be shared with Council for approval in the next report; and
- (d) that reporting to Council would be undertaken by written report on a quarterly basis and monthly verbal updates would cease.

#### 11. MID YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2022/23

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Acting Chief Financial Officer presenting the mid-year report of treasury management activities for 2022/23, in line with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice, including Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators, and sought approval by Council following consideration of the report by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The report was required as part of the Council's treasury management control regime. It provided a mid-year report on the Council's treasury activity during the six month period to 30 September 2022 and demonstrated that Treasury activity in the first six months of 2022/23 had been undertaken in full compliance with the approved Treasury Strategy and Policy for the year. Appendix 1 to the report contained an analysis of the performance against the targets set in relation to Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators, and proposed revised estimates of these indicators in light of the 2021/22 out-turn and experience in 2022/23 to date for Council approval.

# DECISION AGREED:-

- (a) to note that treasury management activity in the six months to 30 September 2022 was carried out in compliance with the approved Treasury Management Strategy and Policy; and
- (b) to note that the Audit Committee had scrutinised this report on 12 December 2022.

#### 12. WINTER PREPAREDNESS - GENERATOR PROPOSAL

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Acting Chief Executive seeking approval for the purchase and maintenance of a stock of small portable generators for use in communities during power outages. The report explained that during Storm Arwen, which struck large parts of the UK between 25 and 29 November 2021, a series of large scale and prolonged power outage situations were created in the Scottish Borders. After Storm Arwen, a number of post incident de-briefs were commissioned to harvest learning outcomes and build resilience for any future events. One of the issues identified was that many of the

village halls in the Borders that were used as general areas for communities to pull together and support each other, did not have any backup generators and were vulnerable should the hall become subject to a power outage. The Emergency Planning team had been carrying out a series of work, both internally and externally with partner agencies to ensure that a robust and cohesive response to winter incidents could be delivered in the Scottish Borders. Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) was responsible for delivering electricity to c.2million consumers across central and southern Scotland but had made it clear that when communities were subject to a planned power outage situation, they would not supply any generators. While it was not possible to provide every hall in the Borders with a generator, it was proposed that a small stock of 15 of the largest output KWH (Kilowatt Hour) small portable generators would be purchased. These could then be taken to a village hall or other building being used by a community during power outages. Extension cables could be run from the generator to power small electric appliances, such as electric 1KW/2KW heaters, table lights, kettles, etc. which would give enough power to heat and light a smaller room as opposed to the main hall area of a building. Allocation of the generators to communities needed to be on a needs/risk assessed basis. In the event of power outages, it was proposed that an Allocation team be established, comprising officers from Social Work, Emergency Planning, the Communities and Partnership team, and any other staff who could assist in the assessment of the needs and risks posed to the community. The generators would be stored in Roads depots and delivery of generators would be undertaken by the Roads teams or any other Service with access to a suitable vehicle large enough to transport the equipment. It was further proposed that when each generator was deployed, it would be sent out with enough spare fuel for one refill. To prevent the wrong fuel being added to the generators (which could be costly), it was proposed that SBC staff would refuel the fuel containers and ensure these were topped up when the generators were deployed. Maintenance of the generators would be carried out by engineers in the Roads depots. Members welcomed the proposals and agreed that community resilience groups should also be encouraged to acquire generators for use in their communities. Members expressed concern regarding the Scottish Power Energy Networks statement that they would not provide assistance and asked that they be written to and asked to reconsider their position. The Director of Social Work and Practice reassured Members that a database of vulnerable people shared with the NHS was kept and updated twice weekly.

# DECISION AGREED:-

- (a) to purchase 15 small portable generators and associated extension leads for deployment to local communities during power outages;
- (b) that the deployment of the generators be managed through an Allocation team comprising officers from Social Work, Emergency Planning, the Communities & Partnerships team, and any other relevant staff who could assist in the assessment of the needs and risks posed to the community;
- (c) that the cost of the generators and extension leads be funded from Council Reserves: and
- (d) that the Council write to SPEN asking that they reconsider their position regarding the provision of generators.

#### 13. **OPEN QUESTIONS**

The questions submitted by Councillors Sinclair, Ramage, Smart, Parker, Anderson, M. Douglas and Robson were answered.

#### **DECISION**

NOTED the replies as detailed in Appendix I to this Minute.

## 14. PRIVATE BUSINESS

DECISION

AGREED under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the business detailed in Appendix II to this Minute on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 6, 8 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

#### **SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUSINESS**

#### 15. Committee Minutes

The private sections of the Committee Minutes as detailed in paragraph 3 of this Minute were approved.

The meeting concluded at 12.15 p.m.

#### SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL 15 DECEMBER 2022 APPENDIX I

#### **OPEN QUESTIONS**

#### **Question from Councillor Sinclair**

#### To the Leader

On 24<sup>th</sup> November, in relation to the Administration Policy Paper presented, the Leader told full council "once we've set the policy direction, and this is the policy direction, then we can start saying this is what we want to do in year one, year two, year three, etc." We are now more than seven months into the first year of the council term. When will the Administration set out what they intend to deliver in year one, how those aspirations will be delivered and funded, and how their success will be measured?

## Response from Councillor Jardine

Thank you for your Question Councillor Sinclair and thank you also to Councillor Anderson for submitting a question on the same topic. Council Sinclair's question is framed in a slightly wider manner than Councillor Anderson's, so I will provide this one response to both questions to avoid repeating myself and taking up time on the Council agenda.

The Administration's high level policy priorities were, as you note, approved by Council on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022. These priorities cover the 5 year term of this Administration. The priority outcomes for delivery in 2023/24 will be set out with SMART targets in the updated Council Plan. It is intended that these will be resourced as part of the Council budget process for 2023/24 which will be agreed in February 2023 along-side the updated Council Plan. This will align the policy objectives of the Administration with the Budget process and the Council Plan, thereby ensuring the priorities set out by the Administration are fully costed and deliverable within the resources agreed by Council each year. It is my intention to bring annual updates to Council at the end of each financial year from 2023/24 setting out the successes that have been achieved.

## **Question from Councillor Ramage**

#### To the Executive Member for Community and Business Development

It was disappointing to be told last month that after 7 years the proposed Borders Railway Extension Feasibility Study had not commenced. In fact Council was advised that there is no detailed plan for the study or when it will be delivered and no information about what the study will entail and how long it will all take. Can the Executive Member provide more reassurance that this Administration will do everything possible to get the feasibility study under way.

#### Response from Councillor S. Hamilton

In general terms we have made good progress recently in relation to the initiation of the feasibility work for the proposed extension of the Borders Railway from Tweedbank through Hawick to Carlisle.

A positive meeting between Borderlands Partners and the Scottish Government was held in October where Council Leaders had the opportunity to present the case for the extension work to key Scottish Government politicians. From this discussion and subsequent correspondence, we believe the Scottish Government has now accepted our position that the strategic case for the railway feasibility work has been achieved and we now await the same confirmation from UK Government that they also agree with this position.

We have contacted the relevant department in UK Government and we are currently pressing them for a response.

Once this agreement has been received, we will be able to initiate and develop the business case for the feasibility study through the Borderlands Growth Deal process.

In addition, it was agreed in discussions with Scottish Government that we can start to recruit a Senior Programme Manager which will be delivered from the allocated funding contained within the Borderlands Growth Deal to help drive forward the feasibility study. It is likely that Scottish Borders Council would be the proposed employer for this post and once recruited they would report to the Borderlands Partnership.

We have initiated the development of a job description for this position and we would hope to be able to advertise for this position by the end of the current financial year.

There is also an action to develop a working group with suitable partners and politicians, including the Campaign for Borders Rail and we are presently giving some consideration as to how we develop this group going forward.

#### Supplementary

Councillor Ramage asked to be reassured that the Administration was committed to the scheme and asked that an Action Plan be submitted to Council at the January meeting. Councillor Hamilton advised that they were working with Borderland Partners so there would be no report to Council in January. A Working Group was being set up which would meet with local Councillors and reports would be made to Council as required.

#### **Question from Councillor Smart**

#### To the Leader

Due to the Elections Act 2022, whereby photographic ID will be required in Scotland for any UK wide election after May 2023, can the Executive Member advise what preparations Scottish Borders Council has made and continues to make in order for us as an Authority to be ready for this significant change.

In particular, what are the plans for the SBC version of the Voter Card, how will SBC identify those in need of this, and how will people be able to apply for one?

#### Response from Councillor Jardine

The Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) is responsible for the issue of a Voter Authority Certificate (Voter ID) to electors who make an identity document application in terms of The Voter Identification Regulations 2022.

#### **Preparation**

Both the ERO and Depute ERO continue to working with the UK Government (Department of Levelling Up, Housing & Communities), the Electoral Commission, the Scottish Assessors Association Electoral Registration Committee and the ERO's Electoral Management Software Supplier in preparation for the application system going live on 16 January 2023.

Senior ERO staff have also attended various seminars/briefings held by UK Government, Association of Electoral Administrators and the Electoral Commission.

ERO staff will be receiving training on 14 December in respect of the processing of Voter Authority Certificate applications through the ERO Portal which has been designed and developed by UK Government at no cost to the ERO.

#### **The Voter Authority Certificate**

For those who need this document it will be an A4 paper-based document, with inherent security features including patterning and watermarks, displaying:

- The elector's name
- Photograph
- Date of issue

- The issuing Electoral Registration Officer
- An 'identifier' (i.e. a reference number)
- Recommended renewal date

UK Government has contracted with a Print Supplier for production and dispatch of Voter Authority Certificates on behalf of the ERO.

#### Awareness

The Electoral Commission is conducting an awareness campaign from 8 January 2023 and materials will be supplied to the ERO.

The Commission has carried out a study that suggests up to 6% of the electorate do not have photographic ID. This equates to c 5500 electors in the Scottish Borders.

The ERO is developing an engagement strategy for those less likely to hold an accepted form of ID on how to obtain a Voter Authority Certificate.

The ERO's Engagement Officer will work with SBC Communications and various stakeholders to raise awareness locally.

#### How to apply

Voters without one of the prescribed accepted forms of ID are able to obtain a Voter Authority Certificate from the ERO to enable them to cast their vote in person.

Examples of accepted forms of ID are:

- A United Kingdom passport or issued by an EEA state or Commonwealth country
- A driving licence (including a provisional driving licence)
- A biometric immigration document
- Young Scot Card
- National Entitlement Card

Electors will be able to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate either through:

- GOV.UK 'Get ready to vote in person' digital service an online application service on the GOV.UK website; or by
- Paper application to the ERO (Scanned or emailed applications will not be permitted)

Applicants will need to provide their name, address, date of birth, photograph and National Insurance Number (NINo).

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Electoral Registration Officer, Brian Rout.

#### Supplementary

Councillor Smart noted that some people may only want an ID number and not their name. She also enquired if there were plans to delay introduction as she had read this was happening in England. Councillor Jardine advised he would raise this with officers.

#### **Question from Councillor Parker**

#### To the Leader

Can the Leader confirm that a four court indoor tennis centre will be provided at the new Galashiels Academy Community Campus?

#### Response from Councillor Jardine

Council Officers and colleagues at Live Borders have been working with SportScotland to progress the tennis centre. This is currently planned to be delivered as part of the Campus

Page 16

project. However, there is no specific funding for this and a funding bid is being prepared which will be submitted to SportScotland in early 2023. SportScotland are extremely supportive of the proposal and Council officers will continue to work with the partners to secure funding to deliver an indoor tennis centre.

On conclusion, a further update will be provided to relevant Ward and Executive Members, we expect clarification in the first half of 2023.

#### <u>Supplementary</u>

Councillor Parker asked if there was a shortfall in funding for the provision would the Council commit to make up any such shortfall. Councillor Jardine advised that he would discuss funding with officers.

#### **Questions from Councillor Anderson**

#### 1. To the Executive Member for Community Engagement

The Community Council scheme review still hasn't been published, when will this happen?

#### Response from Councillor Cochrane

The Community Council Scheme is currently still under review. A meeting of the Working Group is planned for early 2023 to go through the proposed changes and then it will go out for informal consultation with the Community Councils to allow them to submit comments for consideration by the Working Group. Thereafter the Working Group will present a report to a special meeting of full Council on the proposed changes and seek agreement for this to go out to public consultation for 12 weeks. The Working Group will consider any comments received in that consultation and then bring a final Scheme to a special meeting of Council for approval.

#### 2, To the Leader

At last month's Council meeting, Members received the Administration's Policy Plan the night before the meeting. This Plan had no timescales, no prioritisation of the commitments, no financial information or costings for the various commitments, and no clear idea of when any of the Plan will be delivered. Can the Leader inform Council when they can expect to see an Administration Policy Plan with timescales, prioritisation, costings and will Members get it 10 days in advance instead of the night before.

#### Response from Councillor Jardine

See response to question from Councillor Sinclair above.

#### **Question from Councillor M. Douglas**

#### To the Executive Member for Environment and Transport

The recent changes to the 362 Peebles High School bus service and its rebranding to the general service bus X62 has resulted in a great deal of concern amongst pupils and parents concerning the transport of pupils between Innerleithen and Peebles. There have been some reported instances of pupils being refused travel and thereby arriving late for lessons, as well as some instances of pupils arriving home later than usual due to delays with the X62 from Edinburgh. Parents are also concerned that the updated service now allows members of the public to travel with pupils which can cause further overcrowding.

Officials have advised that much of the current situation arises from pupils not using the correct bus service to which they have been allocated, and travelling on the X62 with travel cards. Could the Executive Member please advise what steps are being taken to engage with and update pupils and parents about the correct use of this and other school bus services, in order to allay fears over the safety of children travelling to and from school?

#### Response from Councillor Linehan

Following the recent challenges with transport arrangements which relate specifically to a small number of Peebles High School contracts, the Councils Transport Team are working closely with

the school, Peebles Parent Council and the respective Transport operators to resolve this situation quickly.

All pupils in Peebles are allocated to a specific contract in order to ensure that there are no issues with capacity and that there is sufficient space for members of the public who may wish to travel.

The current challenges arise primarily from pupils who are choosing to use other buses which in turn causes some problems with capacity. This is a direct result of some of the behavioural issues in some contracts which has been confirmed through monitoring the operators CCTV. We believe that pupils are choosing to travel on different vehicles due to the behaviour of individuals on others. There is also an element of pupils believing that they can use any bus as they have an under 22 free travel card.

In order to resolve the issues, Officers are actively working with the school and parents to resolve issues and refine service provision and they will continue to monitor the situation collectively.

The Bus Operator has made us aware that there have been no issues with over boarding of any contracts but has highlighted that not all pupils are making use of the available seats.

This may be because some pupils' feel uncomfortable sitting next to others but it does give the impression that there is insufficient seats available.

We have had similar challenges in Earlston earlier in the term but working together with the school and the Operators we have managed to resolve them. I am confident that if we follow the steps outlined above, we should be able to resolve the challenges we currently face in Peebles.

We have kept Cllr Douglas fully informed throughout and will continue to provide updates as and when we have further information to share.

#### Supplementary

Councillor Douglas advised that there was a local perception that the 362 service had been withdrawn and replaced with the X62. He asked that this be monitored and if necessary replace the 362 service. Councillor Linehan confirmed that the situation would be monitored.

#### **Question from Councillor Robson**

To the Executive Member for Developing Our Children and Young People

Can the Executive Member advise when the pages related to fostering and adoption on the Council's website were last reviewed?

#### Response from Councillor C. Hamilton

The Fostering and Adoption pages on the SBC Internet were last reviewed in June 2022 and the fees and allowances page was updated.

The majority of the Fostering policies, procedures and guidance on the Intranet were last formally reviewed in 2017 and require updating (though the content is still relevant). The Adoption and Permanence policies, procedures and guidance are up to date. There are also a number of other procedural and guidance documents which are only held within the Family Placement Team as they relate to some of the functions exclusive to the team.

#### Supplementary

Councillor Robson asked if the pages could be enlivened by including things like a link to a short film about childhood an emphasising the advantages for both children and carers to help attract more people. Councillor Hamilton agreed to discuss with officers.

## SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL - 26 January 2023

#### STARRED ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### Extract from Minute of Meeting of Employee Council – 1 December 2022

#### 1. MINUTE

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the Meeting held on 1 September 2022, the Employee Relations Manager, Mr Iain Davidson, explained that the Employee Council had previously agreed to approve a new constitution. However, the constitution of the Employee Council was contained in the Scheme of Administration so amendment was beyond their remit. The Employee Council could therefore only recommend to full Council to approve the constitution. Members agreed to amend the Minute to substitute "AGREED to approve the new Constitution..." with "AGREED to recommend to Council to approve the new constitution..."

#### **DECISION**

AGREED to approve the Minute as amended.

#### Extract from Minute of Meeting of Employee Council – 1 September 2022

#### 2. **NEW CONSTITUTION**

There had been copies of the Scottish Borders Council Colleague Community Constitution with the agenda. Copies of a proposed communications article had also been circulated. The Human Resources Business Partner, Ms Hayley Megson presented the Constitution and explained that a refresh had been planned of the Employee Council with a view to attract a greater number of staffing groups to attend. The language of the Constitution had been amended to provide a clearer outlook of the roles, aims and activities of the Colleague Community. Feedback had been received from employee representatives who had expressed that using the name of Colleague Community in the place of the Employee Council was a positive step to promoting an inclusive and welcoming group. The Employee Relations Manager, Mr Iain Davidson highlighted the proposed communications to staff and emphasised that it was important to publicise the group as much as possible to ensure that staff were aware of the group and the role it carried out. In response to a question regarding which Committee the Constitution would affect, Ms Megson confirmed that the draft Constitution related to the Employee Council and that it would subsequently be known as the Colleague Community. Ms Megson confirmed that any employee could attend a meeting of the Community in addition to the 15 employee representatives stipulated in the Constitution. The Senior Roads Planning Officer, Mr Alan Scott explained that any employee that wished to speak at the meeting would be asked to speak via an appointed employee representatives, and that it was hoped that attendance would improve given that staff were accustomed to meeting via Microsoft Teams. Mr Scott highlighted that regular meetings were held to discuss issues.

#### **DECISION**

- \* AGREED to recommend to Council to approve the new Constitution, subject to the appropriate amendments on the following:
  - (i) replace the Convenor of the Council as Chairperson with the Executive Member for Service Delivery and Transformation;
  - (ii) amend the Elected Members appointed to the Committee to replace reference to the Convenor with the Executive Member for Service Delivery and Transformation,

- and include "two other appointed members" in place of "another appointed member"; and
- (II) to include reference to the Colleague Representative Chairperson in the Management Committee section of the Constitution.

#### 1. Name

The Name of the group shall be "Scottish Borders Council Colleague Community".

#### 2. Definitions

"Discussion" means the exchange of views and the establishment of a dialogue between the Colleague Representatives and the Council Management

"Council" means Scottish Borders Council

"Corporate Management Team" means the Chief Executive and all other senior managers as included in the Council's Scheme of Delegation

"Employee/Colleague" means anyone employed by the Council, whether on a full time, part time, permanent or temporary basis, and also includes employees of arms' length bodies wholly owned by the Council.

"Colleague Representatives" means the employees/colleagues who have volunteered to represent the members on the Colleague Community

"Community" means the Scottish Borders Council Colleague Community

"Officers" means any member of the Council's Management Team.

"Colleague/employee" means employees of the Council

## 3. Objectives

The primary objectives of the group shall be:

- To provide an opportunity for all colleagues to provide information to decision makers to allow them to make better informed decisions through dialogue between Colleague Representatives, senior managers and elected members.
- To meet regularly to further these discussions.
- The work of the Colleague Community will not impact on the works of the recognised Trades Unions, or their elected representatives, nor any existing negotiating or consulting processes.
- The Community shall not affect the rights and responsibilities of the Council Management in any business decisions, but may influence that decision.

# 4. Scope

The Colleague community shall invite the opportunity for employees/colleagues and management, out with formal Union negotiations, for matters relating to employment and Council plans. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Employee benefits
- Public sector reform
- Council activities, financial and economic
- Corporate restructures
- Budget proposals
- Employment arrangements

# 5. Participation

**All** employees employed by Scottish Borders Council are automatically members of the Forum during their term of employment with the Council or relevant arms' length body, irrespective of whether this is on a full time, part time, permanent or temporary basis or where they are based. Elected members of the Council are regarded as employees in this respect.

Community participation shall automatically terminate upon termination of employment with the Council or relevant arms' length body.

# 6. Management Committee

The community shall be managed by a Management Committee, which comprises the following members.

Chairperson – This shall be the Executive Member for Service Delivery and Transformation of the Council or their delegated representative

The Chief Executive and the Corporate Management Team

Director for People Performance and Change or their nominated depute.

Colleague Representative Chairperson

Colleague Representatives – up to a maximum of 15

Elected Members –the Leader, the Executive Member for Service Delivery and Transformation the Leader of the Opposition and two other appointed members

No Colleague Community meeting shall take place without a quorum of:

- 2 Elected Members
- 2 Corporate Management Team members
- 2 Employee Representatives

Director for People Performance and Change or their nominated depute.

The Management Committee will have the power to set up sub-committees where required.

#### 7. Finance

The forum shall have no direct finance responsibilities. Where finances are required for agreed purposes, these shall be funded, on the agreement of the Community, from existing Council budgets with the agreement of the relevant budget holder.

## 8. General Meetings

All members are permitted to attend the Community meetings but, other than management committee members, shall only be able to address the meeting with prior arrangement unless otherwise directed by the Chairperson.

Meetings shall be advertised to all staff members in advance and shall be held at least three times during the year. Staff members can contact their Colleague Representative by

emailing them directly or contacting employeecouncil@scotborders.gov.uk. Meetings will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, to encourage participation.

Extraordinary meetings (including those that are not held virtually) shall be arranged when required with the approval of the Chairperson, the Chief Executive and the Chairman of the Colleague Representatives.

The Council's Democratic Services Department shall be responsible for the support associated with the meetings.

Attendance at any Community meeting by an external expert shall only be for the item for which they have an input. They shall not be present at the meeting for the discussion of other business.

## 9. Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments to this Constitution may only be made after agreement has been obtained at a quorate Community meeting.

## 10. Confidentiality

Members of the Management Committee, Colleague Representatives, deputes and experts shall not reveal any information passed to them or discussed at any Community meeting to any other party including other employees/colleagues, third parties or the media, which has been expressly provided in confidence. This obligation shall continue until such times as the information is deemed public by the Council, whether or not the employee remains a representative. Any breach could be deemed a disciplinary matter and may be subject to further investigation.

Colleague Representatives and Officers attending any Colleague meeting shall be bound by the Code of Conduct for Employees of Scottish Borders Council.

Elected Members attending any Community meeting shall be bound by the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

#### 11. General

The Colleague Representatives shall elect a Chairperson

The agenda for each Community meeting shall be agreed between the Chairperson, the Colleague Representatives Chairperson and a member of the Management Team. This shall be confirmed at a meeting prior to each Forum meeting and circulated with the relevant notice by the secretariat.

The Council's Democratic Services Department shall be responsible for preparing an accurate minute of the Forum meetings and circulating these as appropriate.

The Council shall cover all reasonable operating costs of the Community

Colleague Representatives shall be entitled to paid time off for attending Community Meetings.

With the prior agreement of the Director People Performance and Change, Colleague Representatives shall be granted reasonable paid time off to carry-out duties associated with their role as a Colleague Representative.

Where appropriate, the Colleague Representatives shall be supported by training activities, the costs of which shall be met by the Council from the appropriate budget with the agreement of that budget holder.

All Colleague representatives will have access to the Colleague Community mailbox (employeecouncil@scotborders.gov.uk).



# 2023/24 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT

# Report by Acting Chief Financial Officer SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

# 26 January 2023

#### 1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides Scottish Borders Council with an analysis of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/24, issued by Scottish Government on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and updated on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023.
- 1.2 This Local Government Finance Circular (Appendix 1) provides details of the provisional total revenue and capital funding allocations for 2023/24. The funding allocations form the basis for the Council's budget for 2023/24 and annual consultation between the Scottish Government and COSLA ahead of the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2023 being presented to the Scottish Parliament. This is currently scheduled for early February 2023.
- 1.3 Budget flexibilities identified in the settlement include no cap on Council Tax and a commitment to look at ring fenced funding by Scottish Government as part of a new partnership agreement with Local Government in Scotland.
- 1.4 The estimated financial implications of the settlement on the Council budget in 2023/24 is a small increase of £0.049m in the Capital settlement and a settlement of £257.765m for revenue which is required to fund core spend, a range of new policy priorities required by the Scottish Government as well as the ongoing impact of inflation. The settlement provides slightly more revenue resources than were anticipated totalling £1.5m when comparing base budget 2022/23 to base budget 2023/24 and adjusting for Scottish Government priorities funded within the settlement. The impact on Council budgets of inflation in 2023/24 is estimated at £8.7m, the additional £1.5m will help to partly offset the real terms reduction in the resources available. After applying this funding the reduction in the Council's spending power is £7.2m in real terms, this gap will have to be addressed as part of the Council's budget process. The meeting of Council to set the budget is scheduled for the 23rd February 2023.

#### 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that Scottish Borders Council:
  - (a) notes the officer interpretation of the Local Government Finance Settlement and associated financial implications for the Council; and
  - (b) notes that a budget gap remains for 2023/24, with Officers and the Council's Budget Group continuing to consider options for presenting a balanced budget for Council approval on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023.

#### 3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT

- 3.1 The Local Government Finance Circular (Appendix 1) was received on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022, with an updated circular provided on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023, and provides details of the provisional total revenue and capital funding allocations for 2023/24. The provisional total funding allocations form the basis for the Council's budget for 2023/24 and annual consultation between the Scottish Government and COSLA ahead of the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2023 being presented to the Scottish Parliament. This is currently scheduled for early February 2023.
- 3.2 Budget flexibilities identified in the settlement include no cap on Council Tax and a commitment to look at ring fenced funding by Scottish Government as part of a new partnership agreement.

#### 4 CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

4.1 The settlement figures for Capital provide £826m nationally, a cash increase of £200.6m. This is largely accounted for, however, by the funding provided for the local government pay claim (where there is a requirement to switch capital for revenue under the agreement reached with COSLA) and the expansion of Free School Meals for P6/7. The Council has received a small increase in General Capital Grant of £49k and £3k more than expected in specific grant for the Cycling, Walking, Safer Streets project as shown below.

	Pre-	Circular	
	<u>settlement</u>	11/2022	
2023/24 Draft Financial Plan	assumption	10/12/2022	Movement
	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Capital Grant	11,061	11,110	49
Specific Funding (cycling, walking,	504	507	3
safer streets (CWSS))			
Hawick Flood Protection Scheme		7,847	
Total		19,464	52
Commitments:			
Recurring funding for pay (2022/23 pay of	:laim)	2,571	
Expansion of Free School Meals for P6/7		1,949	
Additional specific funding		4,520	

Nature Restoration Fund and Play Park funding are outwith the settlement.

4.2 The revenue funding for Scotland is as follows, for next year the Scottish Government has announced total revenue funding of £12,405m, a cash increase of £498m on the previous year's total. From this funding Scottish Government has, however, identified a range of new commitments including pay funding, whole family wellbeing support, adult social care real living wage, funding for free personal and nursing care, and Free School Meals expansion. Scottish Government has also devolved empty property relief to Local Government, giving total new commitments to be funded from this money of £427m. This means the additional funding allocated to all Scottish Councils is £71m.

4.3 Turning to what this means for SBC, the national adjustments to funding will give a total of £257.765m next year, an increase of £16.2m. From this money the Council needs to fund £14.7m of new commitments. This leaves unallocated funding in the budget of £1.485m.

0000 (04.0. (1.5)		<u>Circular</u> 11/2022	
2023/24 Draft Financial Plan	Base position	10/01/202	Movement
	£'000	£'000	£'000
NDR	35,294	37,818	2,524
Ring-fenced grants	15,017	14,106	- 911
RSG	192,199	205,841	13,642
Total	242,510	257,765	15,255
NDR & RSG additional funding			16,166
New SG policy commitments: Changes in quantum			(12,369)
New money			(2,312)
Total commitments to be funde	ed		(14,681)
Contribution to the current gap			1,485
NB Variance excluding specific gr funding provided	ants as the servic	es need to ope	erate within

4.4 The impact on Council budgets of inflation in 2023/24 is estimated at £8.7m, the additional £1.5m will help to partly offset the real terms reduction in the resources available. After applying this funding the reduction in the Council's spending power is £7.2m in real terms, this gap will have to be addressed as part of the Council's budget process. The meeting of Council to set the budget is scheduled for the  $23^{rd}$  February 2023.

## **5 IMPLICATIONS**

## 5.1 Financial

There are no further financial implications other than the impact of the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement on the Council's 2023/24 budget.

## 5.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

The Local Government Finance Settlement is provisional until the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2023 is presented to the Scottish Parliament. The Council will continue to work closely with COSLA to ensure any amendments and their implications are identified as quickly as possible through the 2023/24 financial planning process.

## 5.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment**

It is anticipated there will be no adverse impact due to race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation or religion/belief arising from the proposals contained in this report.

#### 5.4 **Sustainable Development Goals**

There are no significant effects on the economy, community or environment. Page 27

## 5.5 **Climate Change**

No effect on carbon emissions are anticipated from the recommendation of this report.

## 5.6 **Rural Proofing**

It is anticipated there will be no adverse impact on the rural area from the proposals contained in this report.

#### 5.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

## 5.8 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to the Schemes of Administration or Delegation as a result of this report.

#### **6 CONSULTATION**

The Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People Performance & Change), the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications have been consulted on this report and any comments have been incorporated into this final report.

#### Approved by

Suzy Douglas	Signature
<b>Acting Chief Financial Officer</b>	

#### Author(s)

Suzy Douglas	Acting Chief Financial Officer 01835 824000 X5881
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# Background Papers:

## **Previous Minute Reference:**

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Suzy Douglas can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.



Email: Bill.Stitt@gov.scot

#### Local Government Finance Circular No. 11/2022

Chief Executives and Directors of Finance of Scottish Local Authorities

Chief Executive, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA)

Our ref: A42066772 20 December 2022

Dear Chief Executive/Director of Finance

#### 1. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT 2023-24

#### 2. NON-DOMESTIC RATES

- 1. This Local Government Finance Circular provides details of the provisional total revenue and capital funding allocations for 2023-24, as well as the latest information on current known redeterminations for 2022-23. This Circular also provides details on a range of Non-Domestic Rates measures, including the proposed 2023-24 poundage and changes to certain reliefs.
- The provisional total funding allocations form the basis for the annual consultation between the Scottish Government and COSLA ahead of the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2023 being presented to the Scottish Parliament. This is currently scheduled for February 2023.
- 3. We expect local authorities to inform COSLA, and for COSLA in turn to inform the Scottish Government by no later than 27 January 2023, if they think there are any discrepancies or changes required to these provisional allocations. Redistribution(s) to address any agreed discrepancies or changes will be undertaken within the total settlement allocations set out in this Circular and not through the provision of any additional resources by the Scottish Government. The allocations are therefore provisional only at this stage, with the final allocations not being confirmed until after the end of the consultation period and the publication of the Local Government Finance Circular which will follow the approval of the Local Government Finance (Scotland) Order 2023.
- 4. The Deputy First Minister wrote to the COSLA President, copied to all Council Leaders on 15 December 2022, confirming the package of measures that make up the settlement to be provided to local government. This Circular should be read in conjunction with that letter. The terms of this settlement have been discussed with COSLA on behalf of all 32 of its member councils.
- 5. The Scottish Government will work in partnership with local government to implement the budget and the joint priorities in return for the full funding package worth over £13.2 billion and includes:

- £260 million to support the local government pay deal and also delivers additional funding to ensure that payment of SSSC fees for the Local Government workforce which will continue to be made on a recurring basis:
- £72.5 million increase to the General Revenue Grant;
- £105 million to give effect to the devolution of Non-Domestic Rates Empty Property Relief;
- Maintained key in-year transfers worth over £1 billion and added a further net £102 million of resource to protect key shared priorities particularly around education and social care;
- £50 million capital to help with the expansion of the Free School Meals policy;
- Additional funding of £100 million to deliver a £10.90 minimum pay settlement for adult social care workers in commissioned services; and
- Consolidation of £30.5 million for the homelessness prevention fund.
- 6. In addition to the funding set out in this Circular it should be noted that there are a number of further revenue and capital funding streams outwith the local government finance settlement for particular policy initiatives which deliver on shared priorities and benefit local government services. Table 5.17 in the Scottish Government's "Budget Document: 2023-24", which was published on 15 December 2022, provides provisional details of these funding streams.
- 7. The allocations have been arrived at using the standard agreed needs-based distribution methodology and updated indicators. Any undistributed sums will be allocated in the standard way following consideration by the Settlement and Distribution Group. We have shared a separate note with COSLA providing a full reconciliation of the changes between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 Budgets and between the 2023-24 Budget and the figures in this Circular. We have also provided full details of all the revenue and capital allocations.
- 8. The various parts and annexes to this Circular, listed below, provide more of the detail behind the calculations.

Part A: Local Government Finance Settlement – Revenue: 2023-24 and changes in 2022-23;

Part B: Local Government Finance Settlement – Capital: 2022-24;

Part C: Non-Domestic Rates for 2023-24.

The various Annexes included in this Circular are as follows:

Annex A: All Scotland Aggregated Funding Totals 2022-24;

Annex B: Individual Revenue Allocations for 2023-24:

Annex C: Revised Individual Revenue Allocations for 2022-23:

Annex D: Explanatory Notes on the Revenue Distribution;

Annex E: Estimates of Ring-Fenced Grant Revenue Funding for 2023-24;

Annex F: Floor calculation for 2023-24;

Annex G: Redeterminations of Individual Revenue funding for 2022-23;

Annex H: 2008-24 Changes Column;

Annex I: General Capital Grant and Specific Capital Grants 2023-24;

Annex J: General Capital Grant - Flood Allocations Per Local Authority 2023-24;

Annex K: Updated General Capital Grant 2022-23; and

Annex L: Total Local Government Funding Settlement 2023-24

## Part A: Local Government Finance Settlement - Revenue: 2023-24 and changes in 2022-23

- 9. This Finance Circular sets out the provisional distribution of revenue funding allocations for 2023-24. **Annex A** of this Circular sets out the all-Scotland aggregate totals for 2022-24.
- 10. Annexes B and C set out the distribution of the total revenue funding allocation between councils and the allocation of the different elements (General Revenue Grant Funding, Non-Domestic Rate Income and Ring-Fenced Revenue Grants) for each council for 2023-24 and 2022-23. The basis behind the grant distribution methodology is as recommended in the report

from the Settlement and Distribution Group (SDG). The explanatory notes contained in Annex **D** explain the basis behind the calculation of the individual council grant allocations.

- 11. Annex E gives a breakdown of the provisional individual council shares of all the ring-fenced revenue grant allocations for 2023-24.
- 12. The calculation and effects of the main floor adjustment for 2023-24, which provided councils with a minimum increase in the funding used in the calculation of the main floor of 1.95%, is set out in Annex F of this Circular. The setting of the floor is in line with the revised arrangements agreed following the SDG review of the floor methodology during 2018.
- 13. This Circular confirms the continuation of the 85% funding floor for 2023-24. methodology compares total revenue funding plus local authorities' assumed council tax income and any council whose total support under this method falls below 85% will be topped up to ensure that all councils receive 85% of the Scottish average total revenue support per head. As all 32 local authorities now exceed 85% of the Scottish average, no additional funding has been provided.
- 14. This Local Government Finance Circular provides details of current known 2022-23 redeterminations at **Annex G** for the General Revenue Grant.
- 15. Annex H summarises the column within the settlement titled 2008-24 Changes Column.

#### Part B: Local Government Finance Settlement – Capital Grants 2022-24

- 16. In 2023-24 the Local Government Settlement provides capital grants totalling £826.6 million. This is made up of General Capital Grant totalling £687.5 million and Specific Capital Grants totalling £139.1 million.
- 17. Annex I sets out the provisional distribution of the Settlement for capital per local authority for 2023-24. The methodologies used to calculate these provisional allocations have been agreed with COSLA. Capital grants which remain undistributed are identified as such.
- 18. The provisional distribution for the General Capital Grant includes allocations for flood schemes. The allocations for these schemes is set out in Annex J. Where schemes have slipped and the grant paid in a prior year exceeds the grant due the scheme will show a negative value which will reduce the total General Capital Grant payable to that Council.
- 19. Annex K provides a breakdown of the updated 2022-23 General Capital Grant allocations by local authority.
- 20. Annex L summarises the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023-24

#### Part C: Non-Domestic Rates for 2023-24

- 21. The Distributable Amount of Non-Domestic Rates Income for 2023-24 has been provisionally set at £3,047 million. This figure uses the latest forecast of net income from non-domestic rates in 2023-24 and also draws on council estimates of the amounts they will contribute to the Non-Domestic Rating Account (the 'Pool') in 2022-23. The figure incorporates the Scottish Fiscal Commission's estimate of the contributable amount and includes a calculation of gross income; expected losses from appeals; estimated expenditure on mandatory and other reliefs; write-offs and provision of bad debt together; and estimated changes due to prior year adjustments. The distribution of Non-Domestic Rates Income for 2023-24 has been based on the amount each Council estimates that it will collect (based on the 2022-23 mid-year estimates provided by councils). General Revenue Grant provides the guaranteed balance of funding. This method of allocation provides a clear presentation of the Non-Domestic Rates Income per council and transparency in the make-up of council funding.
- 22. The 2023-24 Non-Domestic Basic Property Rate ('poundage') is provisionally set at 49.8 pence, the same rate as last year. Two additional rates are levied on properties with a rateable value over £51,000 (51.1 pence the Intermediate Property Rate) and £100,000 (52.4 pence the Higher Property rate), up from £95,000 in 2022-23.
- 23. The Scottish Budget 2023-24 announced the following changes to existing reliefs:
  - The Small Business Bonus Scheme will be reformed: 100% relief will be available for properties with a rateable value of up to £12,000 and the upper rateable value for individual properties to qualify for SBBS relief will be extended from £18,000 to £20,000. To improve the design of the scheme, we are tapering SBBS relief for properties with a rateable value between £12,001 and £20,000: relief will taper from 100% to 25% for properties with rateable values between £12,001 to £15,000; and from 25% to 0% for properties with rateable values between £15,001 to £20,000. The cumulative rateable value threshold will remain at £35,000. Car parks, car spaces, advertisements and betting shops will be excluded from eligibility for SBBS from 1 April 2023.
  - Business Growth Accelerator relief: properties receiving improvements relief for 2022-23 can continue to receive the same percentage of relief for the duration of the award in 2023-24.
  - Eligibility for Fresh Start relief will be expanded by raising the rateable value threshold to which properties qualify from £95,000 to £100,000. In addition, properties receiving Fresh Start relief for 2022-23 can continue to receive it for the duration of the award in 2023-24, irrespective of their rateable value.
  - Enterprise Areas relief will be extended for one year to 31 March 2024.
- 24. The Scottish Budget 2023-24 also introduces the following transitional reliefs for the 2023 revaluation:
  - A Revaluation Transitional Relief to protect those most affected by revaluation with bills capped as per the table below.

**Year-on-year Scottish Transitional Relief caps (%)** 

Rateable Value	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Small (up to £20,000)	12.5	25	37.5
Medium (£20,001 to	25	50	75
£100,000)			
Large (Over £100,000)	37.5	75	112.5

 A Small Business Transitional Relief: those losing or seeing a reduction in these reliefs (including due to the eligibility changes introduced for Small Business Bonus Scheme relief) on 1 April 2023 the maximum increase in the rates liability relative to 31 March 2023 will be capped at £600 in 2023-24, rising to £1,200 in 2024-25 and £1,800 in 2025-26.

- 25. The following reliefs will be maintained: charitable rates relief, day nursery relief (no longer time-limited), disabled rates relief, district heating relief, hardship relief, hydro relief, mobile masts relief, new fibre relief, renewable energy relief, renewable heat networks relief, reverse vending machine relief, rural relief, sports club relief and stud farms relief.
- 26. Empty Property Relief will be devolved to local authorities on 1 April 2023 covering all relief and rates exemptions for fully unoccupied properties including listed buildings, properties where the owner is in administration, etc. Partly unoccupied properties that the council requests be apportioned by the assessor will be liable for rates on the occupied portion only. Councils may offer their own local reliefs under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 including to empty properties.
- 27. NDR reliefs, like other subsidy or support measures, may be subject to the Subsidy Control Act 2022.
- 28. We will also lay legislation to help local authorities better tackle known avoidance tactics.
- 29. In addition, a non-domestic rating exemption will be introduced for prescribed plant and machinery used in onsite renewable energy generation and storage from 1 April 2023 until 31 March 2035.
- 30. Information on the Business Rates Incentivisation Scheme (BRIS) will be set out later.

#### **Enquiries relating to this Circular**

31. It should be noted that figures in this Circular may be marginally different from final allocations due to roundings. Local authorities should note that if they have any substantive specific enquiries relating to this Circular these should, in the first instance, be addressed through COSLA. We have given an undertaking to respond to these queries as quickly as possible. Contact details for COSLA are:

Sarah Watters Sarah@cosla.gov.uk

Any other queries should be addressed to the following:

Local Government Revenue Settlement and BRIS. Bill Stitt Bill.Stitt@gov.scot

Local Government Finance Settlement. (Capital) Craig Inglis Craig.Inglis@gov.scot

Non-Domestic Rates. Anouk Berthier <u>Anouk.Berthier@gov.scot</u>

32. This Circular, along with the supporting tables will be made available through the Local Government section of the Scottish Government website at:

https://www.gov.scot/publications/local-government-finance-circulars-index/

Yours faithfully

Wm Stitt

#### **Bill Stitt**

Team Leader, Local Government & Analytical Services Division

	2022-23	2023-24
Revenue Funding	£ million	£ million
General Resource Grant	8696.139	8579.458
Non Domestic Rate Income	2766.000	3047.000
Specific Revenue Grants	784.983	776.059
Total Revenue	12,247.122	12,402.517
less Redress Top-Slice	5.000	6.000
Net Total Revenue	12,242.122	12,396.517
less Teachers' Induction Scheme	0.000	37.600
less Discretionary Housing Payments	13.620	85.900
less Gaelic	0.103	0.103
less Pupil Equity Fund	10.000	0.000
less Support for Ferries	1.000	0.000
less Customer First Top-up	0.010	1.410
less Removal of Curriculum Charges	0.679	0.000
less Removal of Music Tuition Charges	2.091	0.000
less Educational Psychology Trainees	0.000	0.450
less HMRC Hidden Economy	0.173	0.000
less Real Living Wage	0.000	100.000
Total Undistributed Revenue Funding	27.676	225.463
Distributable Revenue Funding	12,214.446	12,171.054
Capital Funding		
General Capital Grant	672.239	687.537
Specific Capital Grants	123.777	123.777
Distributed to SPT	15.327	15.327
Total Capital	811.343	826.641
Total Funding	13,058.465	13,229.158

2022-23 RECONCILIATION FROM FINANCE CIRCULAR 1/2022		
General Resource Grant Circular 1/2022	8,449.650	
In Year Additions - Annex G	307.723	
less Teachers' Induction Scheme	37.600	
less Discretionary Housing Payments	13.620	
less Customer First Top-up	1.410	
less SCP Bridging Payments	21.957	
less Educational Psychology Trainees	0.450	
less Removal of Curriculum Charges	0.679	
less Removal of Music Tuition Charges	2.091	
less Redress Top-Slice	5.000	
Revised General Resource Grant	8,674.566	
Total Distributable Revenue	12,214.446	

General Capital Grant Circular 1/2022	545.537	
Nature Restoration Fund	5.000	
Additional Nature Restoration Bid Fund	1.103	
Local Government Pay Deal	120.600	
Revised General Capital Grant	672.240	

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	Expenditure					Funding							
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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	
	Updated	2008-24	Loan Charges/	Main Floor	Total	Assumed	Total Ring-	Non Domestic	General	Total	85% floor	Revised	
	Service	Changes	PPP/ LPFS		Estimated	Council Tax	fenced	Rates	Revenue			Total	
£million	Provision	_	_	_	Expenditure	contribution	Grants	_	Funding		_		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Aberdeen City	484.016	33.019	17.159		527.458		27.246	257.797	147.101	432.144	0.000	432.14	
Aberdeenshire	597.536	41.835	18.202	-8.701	648.871	114.087	33.017	134.839	366.928	534.784	0.000	534.784	
Angus	271.331	19.011	10.974		297.704		14.463	27.934	210.605	253.001	0.000	253.00	
Argyll & Bute	229.951	16.127	8.761	16.240	271.079		11.619	37.645	181.629	230.894	0.000	230.894	
Clackmannanshire	125.904	8.813	4.442		137.323		7.928	17.764	92.002	117.694	0.000	117.694	
Dumfries & Galloway	370.907	25.995	14.599		411.351	59.890	19.186	60.313	271.962	351.461	0.000	351.46	
Dundee City	369.653	25.998	5.558		405.277	48.212	22.991	73.704	260.370	357.065	0.000	357.065	
East Ayrshire	306.160	21.459	8.566		331.609	43.225	20.020	30.467	237.897	288.384	0.000	288.384	
East Dunbartonshire	263.354	18.540	3.821	-3.750	281.966	51.245	12.240	24.099	194.382	230.721	0.000	230.72	
East Lothian	249.973	17.534	3.556	-3.522	267.540	48.507	13.793	58.108	147.132	219.033	0.000	219.033	
East Renfrewshire	242.622	17.070	8.876	-3.595	264.972	44.416	10.565	15.695	194.296	220.556	0.000	220.556	
Edinburgh, City of	1,057.001	73.306	22.576	15.119	1,168.002	227.839	56.559	377.317	506.286	940.163	0.000	940.163	
Eilean Siar	86.216	6.044	6.577	19.099	117.936	9.666	4.169	9.106	94.995	108.270	0.000	108.270	
Falkirk	370.221	25.906	18.096	-5.426	408.797	59.793	22.327	75.322	251.354	349.004	0.000	349.004	
Fife	877.144	61.357	29.302	-12.577	955.226	141.862	52.828	172.108	588.428	813.364	0.000	813.364	
Glasgow City	1,562.296	107.928	35.496	31.368	1,737.087	218.382	100.560	358.472	1,059.673	1,518.705	0.000	1,518.70	
Highland	585.954	41.067	29.155	-1.273	654.903	99.495	32.431	156.979	365.998	555.408	0.000	555.408	
Inverclyde	201.569	14.135	9.627	1.633	226.965	27.800	11.221	21.333	166.610	199.165	0.000	199.165	
Midlothian	223.071	15.651	6.224	-3.136	241.810	38.646	15.249	35.215	152.700	203.164	0.000	203.164	
Moray	218.054	15.299	7.904	-3.302	237.955	35.071	11.943	55.314	135.627	202.884	0.000	202.884	
North Ayrshire	347.498	24.253	5.529	8.119	385.399	50.363	19.495	43.955	271.586	335.036	0.000	335.036	
North Lanarkshire	831.255	58.234	9.510	-12.164	886.835	118.152	50.598	121.640	596.445	768.683	0.000	768.683	
Orkney Islands	87.144	6.120	5.387	-1.313	97.338	8.272	16.114	11.473	61.479	89.066	0.000	89.066	
Perth & Kinross	353.459	24.805	11.459	-5.091	384.631	67.366	17.725	60.754	238.787	317.265	0.000	317.265	
Renfrewshire	430.897	30.125	7.430	-6.156	462.296	72.532	25.693	131.323	232.748	389.764	0.000	389.764	
Scottish Borders	277.284	19.415	11.915		306.454		14.106	37.818	205.841	257.765	0.000	257.765	
Shetland Islands	94.848	6.656	5.666	1	111.090	8.333	20.633	24.302	57.822	102.757	0.000	102.757	
South Ayrshire	277.864	19.442	8.610		301.830	ł	14.263	47.708	191.512	253.483	0.000	253.483	
South Lanarkshire	765.815	53.769	9.593		825.131		45.087	341.536	310.163	696.786	0.000	696.786	
Stirling	224.405	15.672	10.478		247.954		11.784	45.636	150.737	208.157	0.000	208.157	
West Dunbartonshire	234.152	16.418	3.459		260.692		14.353	93.396	119.262	227.012	0.000	227.012	
West Lothian	431.147	30.065	11.914		466.706		25.749	87.928	285.739	399.416	0.000	399.416	
Scotland	13,048.700	911.066	370.421	0.000	14,330.187		775.956	3,047.000	8.348.099	12,171.054	0.000		

	Expenditure					Funding							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	
	Updated	2008-23	Loan Charges/	Main Floor	Total	Assumed	Total Ring-	Non Domestic	General	Total	85% floor	Revised	
	Service	Changes	PPP/ LPFS		Estimated	Council Tax	fenced	Rates	Revenue			Total	
	Provision				Expenditure	contribution	Grants		Funding				
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Aberdeen City	483.895	18.816	17.891	-6.589	514.014	93.626		268.557	122.999	420.388	0.000	420.388	
Aberdeenshire	612.395	23.971	18.838	-8.607	646.598	113.278	33.562	138.786	360.972	533.320	0.000	533.320	
Angus	280.129	10.891	11.249	-3.376	298.893	44.383	15.010	26.160	213.341	254.510	0.000	254.510	
Argyll & Bute	238.109	9.332	9.037	15.850	272.328	39.931	12.186	33.179	187.032	232.397	0.000	232.397	
Clackmannanshire	130.649	5.053	4.595	-1.828	138.468	19.572	8.045	18.065	92.786	118.896	0.000	118.896	
Dumfries & Galloway	385.686	14.950	15.126	-3.287	412.475	59.603	18.545	51.388	282.939	352.872	0.000	352.872	
Dundee City	387.506	14.994	5.762	3.124	411.386	47.795	23.184	35.496	304.911	363.591	0.000	363.591	
East Ayrshire	315.048	12.192	9.710	-4.582	332.368	42.949	18.810	23.226	247.383	289.419	0.000	289.419	
East Dunbartonshire	274.246	10.674	3.961	-3.700	285.181	51.034	12.364	17.675	204.108	234.147	0.000	234.147	
East Lothian	257.166	9.982	3.684	-3.451	267.381	47.700	13.605	28.686	177.390	219.681	0.000	219.681	
East Renfrewshire	250.614	9.681	9.020	-3.271	266.044	43.756	9.951	9.574	202.763	222.288	0.000	222.288	
Edinburgh, City of	1,075.582	41.960	23.165	9.231	1,149.938	224.483	56.739	249.861	618.855	925.455	10.116	935.571	
Eilean Siar	92.088	3.520	6.824	17.984	120.415	9.602	4.346	8.149	98.319	110.813	0.000	110.813	
Falkirk	384.769	14.853	19.163	-5.415	413.370	59.717	23.131	80.433	250.089	353.653	0.000	353.653	
Fife	908.691	35.166	30.245	-13.035	961.067	141.061	52.847	179.675	587.484	820.006	0.000	820.006	
Glasgow City	1,593.483	61.583	36.258	42.849	1,734.172	217.525	100.324	296.203	1,120.120	1,516.647	0.000	1,516.647	
Highland	605.068	23.612	30.254	-2.212	656.722	98.460	32.673	141.565	384.023	558.262	0.000	558.262	
Inverclyde	208.787	8.076	9.993	2.258	229.114	27.699	11.315	15.906	174.194	201.415	0.000	201.415	
Midlothian	229.776	8.948	6.337	-3.088	241.973	37.780	14.835	24.895	164.463	204.193	0.000	204.193	
Moray	224.632	8.683	8.194	-3.253	238.256	34.745	12.020	54.575	136.916	203.511	0.000	203.511	
North Ayrshire	360.750	13.950	5.730	8.084	388.514	50.154	20.057	37.745	280.558	338.360	0.000	338.360	
North Lanarkshire	862.493	33.418	9.853	-12.171	893.593	117.725	49.382	111.737	614.749	775.868	0.000	775.868	
Orkney Islands	88.193	3.510	5.605	-1.330	95.978	8.243	15.527	12.954	59.253	87.735	0.000	87.735	
Perth & Kinross	360.728	14.074	11.853	-4.793	381.862	66.803	17.194	46.141	251.723	315.059	0.000	315.059	
Renfrewshire	446.600	17.310	7.705	-6.131	465.484	71.555	25.589	108.076	260.263	393.929	0.000	393.929	
Scottish Borders	288.416	11.220	12.405	-3.539	308.502	48.476	15.017	35.294	209.715	260.026	0.000	260.026	
Shetland Islands	96.767	3.861	5.943	4.690	111.261	8.300	20.722	35.322	46.918	102.961	0.000	102.961	
South Ayrshire	287.052	11.085	8.904	-4.041	303.000	48.255	13.887	30.913	209.946	254.745	0.000	254.745	
South Lanarkshire	788.685	30.614	9.939	-1.429	827.809	126.650	43.109	422.591	235.459	701.159	0.000	701.159	
Stirling	232.397	9.060	10.795	-3.309	248.944	39.162		35.942	161.175	209.782	0.000	209.782	
West Dunbartonshire	245.324	9.504	3.601	4.739	263.168	33.568	13.817	107.740	108.043	229.600	0.000	229.600	
West Lothian	443.097	17.118	12.292	-6.375	466.133	66.492	24.590	79.491	295.560	399.641	0.000	399.641	
Scotland	13,438.821	521.659	383.931	0.000	14,344.411	2,140.082	773.879	2,766.000	8,664.450	12,204.329	10.116	12,214.446	

£150 Cost of	10% £150 Cost
Living Support	of Living Award
£m	£m
10.396	0.974
8.902	1.126
5.678	0.692
4.016	0.386
2.455	0.308
7.293	0.796
7.831	0.962
6.300	0.752
3.036	0.365
4.339	0.497
2.452	0.273
20.294	2.085
1.551	0.168
7.667	0.934
17.390	2.218
32.958	3.813
11.075	1.167
4.126	0.452
4.073	0.493
4.490	0.560
7.019	0.910
16.995	1.951
1.160	0.128
6.140	0.702
8.747	0.951
5.406	0.519
1.179	0.118
4.958	0.559
15.218	1.985
3.063	0.373
5.039	0.568
8.289	1.043
249.534	28,828

The explanation of each of the columns within the tables at Annex B is as follows:

**Column 1** – represents the updated on-going service provision and includes the following combined information: (i) the updated Grant Aided Expenditure (GAE) assessments; (ii) the revised Special Islands Needs Allowance (SINA); (iii) each council's individual share of the ongoing revenue grants which have been rolled up into the core local government finance settlement; (iv) each council's share of all the baselined redeterminations since Spending Review 2007; and the previous loan charge adjustment.

Column 2 – is the new combined total, non-ring-fenced, changes in general provision resulting from Spending Reviews 2007, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2015 and budget revisions for 2016 - 2024 allocated pro-rata to each council's share of TEE as agreed with the Settlement and Distribution Group (SDG).

Column 3 – represents the updated share of the loan charges support for outstanding debt and the same level of on-going PPP level playing field support. The methodology for calculating Loan Charge Support (LCS) and support for Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects (level playing field projects only (LPFS) is set out on Annex H of Finance Circular 2/2011.

Column 4 - is the main floor adjustment which has been calculated using the revised methodology agreed following the 2018 review.

Column 5 – this is the net revenue expenditure recognised by the Scottish Government and represents the sum of columns 1 to 4.

Column 6 – is the assumption of the amount of Total Estimated Expenditure to be funded from the council tax. Any changes are as a result of buoyancy or projected numbers of properties, as well as the estimated additional council tax income to be collected and retained by each local authority as a result of the changes to bands E to H.

**Column 7** – is each council's estimated share of the on-going Ring-Fenced Grants for Gaelic, Pupil Equity Fund (PEF), Criminal Justice Social Work, Early Learning and Childcare, and Inter-Island Ferries.

Column 8 – is each council's share of the estimated non-domestic rate income which has been distributed proportionately on the basis of council's 2022-23 mid-year income.

Column 9 – is the balance of funding provided by means of general revenue funding and is calculated by deducting columns 6, 7 and 8 from the Total Estimated Expenditure in column 5.

**Column 10** – represents the total revenue funding available to each council in 2023-24.

Column 11 – is the 85% floor adjustment which has been calculated to meet the Scottish Government's commitment to ensure that no Local Authority receives less than 85% of the Scottish average per head in terms of revenue support.

Column 12 - is the revised total funding including all the changes and the 85% funding floor adjustments.

Local Authority	Gaelic	Pupil Equity Fund	Criminal Justice Social Work	Early Learning and Childcare Expansion	Support for Ferries
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Aberdeen City	0.092	3.256	3.956	19.941	0.000
Aberdeenshire	0.000	3.232	2.818	26.968	0.000
Angus	0.004	2.304	1.630	10.524	0.000
Argyll & Bute	0.360	1.364	0.986	7.610	1.300
Clackmannanshire	0.002	1.659	1.114	5.153	0.000
Dumfries & Galloway	0.000	3.266	2.523	13.397	0.000
Dundee City	0.000	5.095	3.545	14.350	0.000
East Ayrshire	0.144	3.800	2.111	13.964	0.000
East Dunbartonshire	0.068	1.723	0.792	9.657	0.000
East Lothian	0.007	1.786	1.069	10.931	0.000
East Renfrewshire	0.022	1.485	0.616	8.442	0.000
Edinburgh, City of	0.320	7.850	7.984	40.405	0.000
Eilean Siar	0.965	0.340	0.294	2.570	0.000
Falkirk	0.014	3.953	2.686	15.675	0.000
Fife	0.012	10.441	6.108	36.267	0.000
Glasgow City	0.560	23.154	15.482	61.364	0.000
Highland	0.910	4.262	3.238	23.124	0.897
Inverclyde	0.065	2.579	1.299	7.278	0.000
Midlothian	0.007	2.418	1.252	11.572	0.000
Moray	0.000	1.481	1.293	9.169	0.000
North Ayrshire	0.090	4.162	2.657	12.585	0.000
North Lanarkshire	0.260	9.659	5.353	35.325	0.000
Orkney Islands	0.000	0.249	0.235	2.227	13.402
Perth & Kinross	0.102	1.870	1.834	13.919	0.000
Renfrewshire	0.015	4.652	2.588	18.439	0.000
Scottish Borders	0.001	1.919	1.257	10.929	0.000
Shetland Islands	0.000	0.254	0.252	2.631	17.496
South Ayrshire	0.015	2.609	1.731	9.907	0.000
South Lanarkshire	0.170	8.928	4.414	31.575	0.000
Stirling	0.114	1.450	1.239	8.981	0.000
West Dunbartonshire	0.029	3.373	1.634	9.318	0.000
West Lothian	0.007	5.426	2.459	17.857	0.000
Scotland	4.355	130.000	86.450	522.056	33.095

**Outwith Settlement** Justice Social Work **Offender Services** top-up £m 1.002 0.714 0.413 0.250 0.282 0.639 0.898 0.535 0.201 0.271 0.156 2.023 0.075 0.680 1.547 3.922 0.820 0.329 0.317 0.328 0.673 1.356 0.060 0.465 0.656 0.318 0.064 0.438 1.118 0.314 0.414 0.623 21.899

Notes: These figures represent the best estimates used in the calculation of the 2023-24 local government finance settlement, including the calculation of the Floors. The actual sums payable will be notified to the relevant Policy Team.

PEF allocations for 2023-24 are still being prepared by the Scottish Government. The figures refer to local authority PEF allocations in the 2022-23 financial year.

The distribution of the Inter-Island Ferries has also necessarily used estimated figures.

	Grant	Change			
Local Authority	Without	Without	Floor	Grant With	Change
	Floor	Floor	Change	Floor	With Floor
	£m	%	£m	£m	%
Aberdeen City	342.220	5.52%	-6.736	335.484	3.44%
Moray	167.730	5.24%	-3.302	164.428	3.17%
Orkney Islands	66.701	5.13%	-1.313	65.388	3.06%
East Lothian	178.931	4.98%	-3.522	175.409	2.91%
Aberdeenshire	442.051	4.86%	-8.701	433.349	2.80%
Perth & Kinross	258.639	4.85%	-5.091	253.548	2.78%
West Lothian	326.140	4.77%	-6.420	319.721	2.70%
East Renfrewshire	182.647	4.68%	-3.595	179.051	2.62%
Clackmannanshire	93.280	4.54%	-1.836	91.444	2.48%
Midlothian	159.315	4.48%	-3.136	156.179	2.43%
Falkirk	275.673	4.45%	-5.426	270.247	2.39%
North Lanarkshire	617.959	4.33%	-12.164	605.795	2.27%
South Ayrshire	207.602	4.27%	-4.086	203.516	2.21%
East Ayrshire	232.444	4.14%	-4.575	227.869	2.09%
Renfrewshire	312.741	4.05%	-6.156	306.585	2.00%
East Dunbartonshire	190.496	4.00%	-3.750	186.746	1.95%
Angus	206.023	3.77%	-3.612	202.411	1.95%
Argyll & Bute	173.485	-6.78%	16.240	189.724	1.95%
Dumfries & Galloway	285.548	2.00%	-0.149	285.399	1.95%
Dundee City	279.003	0.48%	4.068	283.071	1.95%
Edinburgh (City of)	723.763	-0.14%	15.119	738.882	1.95%
Eilean Siar	76.218	-18.48%	19.099	95.317	1.95%
Fife	663.600	3.92%	-12.577	651.023	1.95%
Glasgow City	1,163.608	-0.73%	31.368	1,194.975	1.95%
Highland	454.072	2.23%	-1.273	452.799	1.95%
Inverclyde	157.874	0.90%	1.633	159.507	1.95%
North Ayrshire	260.268	-1.14%	8.119	268.387	1.95%
Scottish Borders	211.937	3.00%	-2.159	209.778	1.95%
Shetland Islands	71.809	-3.33%	3.920	75.729	1.95%
South Lanarkshire	560.640	2.69%	-4.046	556.594	1.95%
Stirling	168.819	3.54%	-2.601	166.219	1.95%
West Dunbartonshire	170.174	-1.89%	6.662	176.836	1.95%
	9,681.408	2.20%	0.000	9,681.408	2.20%

The annual change in the Grant for Floor Funding was 2.20% and as a result of the floor being set at -0.25% below this annual change the minimum increase in the Grant for floor was set at 1.95%

					2022 Local Heat	*Scottish		Additional	1		Discretionary
				Whole	and Energy	Child	Green Growth	Funding for		Discretionary	Housing
			Adult	Family	Efficiency	Payment	Accelerator	Local		Housing	Payments
	2022 Summer	Teacher Pav	Disability	Wellbeing	,	Bridging	Resource	Government	Customer		Benefit Cap
GENERAL FUNDING	Programme	Award 21-22	Payment	Fund	resourcing	Payments	Funding	Pay Deal	First	Benefit Cap	ADMIN
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Aberdeen City	0.279	1.067	0.089	1.025	0.075	0.955	0.026	5.050	0.000	0.086	0.017
Aberdeenshire	0.355	1.667	0.080	1.464	0.075	0.954	0.026	6.433	0.000	0.089	0.013
Angus	0.211	0.716	0.071	0.657	0.075	0.523	0.026	2.923	0.000	0.040	0.009
Argyll & Bute	0.135	0.528	0.045	0.439	0.075	0.276	0.026	2.504	0.000	0.018	0.007
Clackmannanshire	0.110	0.339	0.036	0.337	0.075	0.442	0.026	1.356	0.000	0.028	0.005
Dumfries & Galloway	0.329	0.868	0.098	0.917	0.075	0.770	0.026	4.012	0.000	0.039	0.014
Dundee City	0.294	0.859	0.125	0.894	0.075	1.086	0.026	4.024	0.000	0.079	0.020
East Ayrshire	0.279	0.772	0.089	0.832	0.075	0.791	0.026	3.272	0.000	0.037	0.016
East Dunbartonshire	0.105	0.854	0.045	0.471	0.075	0.505	0.026	2.865	0.000	0.028	0.005
East Lothian	0.162	0.627	0.054	0.579	0.075	0.433	0.026	2.679	0.000	0.046	0.007
East Renfrewshire	0.118	0.836	0.036	0.492	0.075	0.303	0.026	2.598	0.000	0.023	0.004
Edi <b>no</b> urgh, City of	0.576	2.220	0.250	2.199	0.075	1.785	0.026	11.261	0.000	0.344	0.046
Eilean Siar	0.046	0.195	0.018	0.161	0.075	0.056	0.026	0.945	0.000	0.003	0.001
Falkirk	0.286	1.010	0.107	0.923	0.075	0.966	0.026	3.986	0.000	0.033	0.014
Fife	0.740	2.245	0.223	2.289	0.075	2.306	0.026	9.438	0.000	0.133	0.037
Glasgow City	1.665	3.439	0.535	4.666	0.075	5.009	0.026	16.527	0.000	0.420	0.077
Highland	0.465	1.444	0.134	1.420	0.075	0.868	0.026	6.337	0.000	0.050	0.017
Inverclyde	0.131	0.488	0.071	0.423	0.075	0.503	0.026	2.167	0.000	0.029	0.010
Midlothian	0.162	0.630	0.064	0.535	0.075	0.449	0.026	2.401	0.000	0.043	0.007
Moray	0.173	0.585	0.045	0.546	0.075	0.290	0.026	2.330	0.000	0.024	0.006
North Ayrshire	0.324	0.890	0.098	0.959	0.075	1.005	0.026	3.744	0.000	0.057	0.019
North Lanarkshire	0.766	2.291	0.276	2.351	0.075	2.153	0.026	8.968	1.400	0.113	0.035
Orkney	0.041	0.158	0.009	0.132	0.075	0.050	0.026	0.942	0.000	0.003	0.001
Perth & Kinross	0.242	0.863	0.071	0.805	0.075	0.458	0.026	3.777	0.000	0.032	0.010
Renfrewshire	0.292	1.092	0.125	0.988	0.075	0.904	0.026	4.646	0.000	0.040	0.017
Scottish Borders	0.208	0.654	0.062	0.668	0.075	0.454	0.026	3.011	0.000	0.034	0.009
Shetland	0.049	0.204	0.009	0.158	0.075	0.060	0.026	1.036	0.000	0.004	0.001
South Ayrshire	0.189	0.704	0.071	0.604	0.075	0.589	0.026	2.975	0.000	0.028	0.012
South Lanarkshire	0.577	2.135	0.223	1.827	0.075	1.980	0.026	8.216	0.000	0.077	0.030
Stirling	0.139	0.587	0.045	0.495	0.075	0.338	0.026	2.432	0.000	0.013	0.006
West Dunbartonshire	0.198	0.591	0.071	0.604	0.075	0.734	0.026	2.551	0.000	0.036	0.011
West Lothian	0.354	1.241	0.134	1.140	0.075	1.139	0.026	4.594	0.000	0.051	0.017
Scotland	10.000	32.800	3.409	32.000	2.400	29.134	0.832	140.000	1.400	2.080	0.500

				Council Tax				Self		
			Easter Study	Reduction (CTR)	Teachers			Isolation		
	Educational	Improvement	Support	data extract	Induction	Dundee to	River Annan	Assistance		10% £150 Cost
GENERAL FUNDING	Psychologists	Service	Provision	funding	Scheme (TIS)	Stansted	Bridges	Service	Total	of Living Award
GENERAL FUNDING	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Abardoon City	0.012	0.000	0.099	0.030	1.770	0.000	0.000	0.025	10.605	0.974
Aberdeen City	0.012				0.745	1				
Aberdeenshire	0.013	0.000	0.093 0.070	0.008	0.745	0.000	0.000	0.030 0.017	12.045 5.493	1.126 0.692
Angus			0.070	0.008						0.892
Argyll & Bute	0.011	0.000	0.042	0.009	0.109	0.000	0.000	0.012	4.236	
Clackmannanshire	0.016 0.011	0.000	0.049	0.008	0.453 1.037	0.000	0.000	0.008 0.024	3.288	0.308 0.796
Dumfries & Galloway						0.000			8.353	
Dundee City	0.018	0.000	0.162	0.009	0.219	1.246	0.000	0.025 0.020	9.161	0.962
East Ayrshire	0.018	0.000	0.112	0.009	1.053	0.000	0.000		7.401	0.752
East Dunbartonshire	0.017	0.000	0.053	0.009	1.357	0.000	0.000	0.011	6.426	0.365
East Lothian East Renfrewshire	0.008 0.017	0.000	0.051 0.043	0.029 0.009	1.545 3.353	0.000	0.000	0.013 0.009	6.334 7.942	0.497 0.273
						0.000	0.000			
Edinburgh, City of	0.036	0.000	0.232	0.008	1.098	0.000	0.000	0.053	20.209	2.085
Eilean Siar	0.000 0.008	0.000	0.009	0.029	2.625	0.000	0.000	0.005 0.021	4.194	0.168
Falkitk	0.008	0.000	0.117	0.008	2.697	0.000	0.000	0.021	10.277	0.934 2.218
Fife Classon City		0.000	0.315	0.009	3.172 5.612	0.000	0.000		21.098	
Glasgow City Highland	0.069 0.004	0.000	0.707	0.029 0.009		0.000	0.000	0.108	38.964	3.813 1.167
	0.004	0.000	0.128	0.009	0.494	0.000		0.033 0.013	11.504	
Inverciyde		0.000	0.076		0.777	0.000	0.000		4.815	0.452
Midlothian	0.016 0.001	0.000	0.070 0.044	0.008	0.672 1.878	0.000	0.000	0.011 0.012	5.169	0.493 0.560
Moray		0.000				0.000	0.000		6.043	
North Ayrshire	0.023	0.000	0.137	0.009	0.941	0.000	0.000	0.023	8.330	0.910
North Lanarkshire	0.036	0.049	0.290	0.008	2.709	0.000	0.000	0.049	21.595	1.951
Orkney	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.009	0.053	0.000	0.000	0.003	1.511	0.128
Perth & Kinross	0.011	0.000	0.054	0.009	0.301	0.000	0.000	0.019	6.753	0.702
Renfrewshire	0.027	0.000	0.139	0.009	2.520	0.000	0.000	0.026	10.926	0.951
Scottish Borders	0.001	0.000	0.057	0.009	0.746	0.000	0.000	0.016	6.030	0.519
Shetland	0.000	0.000	0.007	0.008	0.051	0.000	0.000	0.003	1.691	0.118
South Ayrshire	0.015	0.000	0.076	0.009	1.712	0.000	0.000	0.017	7.102	0.559
South Lanarkshire	0.041	0.000	0.263	0.009	1.875	0.000	0.000	0.047	17.401	1.985
Stirling	0.017	0.000	0.045	0.029	1.226	0.000	0.000	0.011	5.484	0.373
West Dunbartonshire	0.008	0.000	0.101	0.009	0.474	0.000	0.000	0.015	5.504	0.568
West Lothian	0.018	0.000	0.160	0.008	2.856	0.000	0.000	0.025	11.838	1.043
Scotland	0.542	0.049	3.900	0.379	46.260	1.246	0.033	0.759	307.723	28.828

<sup>\*</sup>Final funding is subject to full reconciliation.

Local Authority	2023-24 GAE	Percentage	2008-24	2008-23	Movement in
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Aberdeen City	359.876	3.64	33.019	18.816	14.202
Aberdeenshire	479.171	4.85	41.835	23.971	17.864
Angus	213.447	2.16	19.011	10.891	8.120
Argyll & Bute	171.493	1.74	16.127	9.332	6.795
Clackmannanshire	92.191	0.93	8.813	5.053	3.761
Dumfries & Galloway	286.061	2.89	25.995	14.950	11.045
Dundee City	270.828	2.74	25.998	14.994	11.004
East Ayrshire	230.133	2.33	21.459	12.192	9.267
East Dunbartonshire	203.740	2.06	18.540	10.674	7.867
East Lothian	196.123	1.98	17.534	9.982	7.552
East Renfrewshire	192.013	1.94	17.070	9.681	7.388
Edinburgh, City of	790.007	7.99	73.306	41.960	31.346
Eilean Siar	70.984	0.72	6.044	3.520	2.524
Falkirk	285.792	2.89	25.906	14.853	11.053
Fife	675.315	6.83	61.357	35.166	26.190
Glasgow City	1116.622	11.30	107.928	61.583	46.345
Highland	453.816	4.59	41.067	23.612	17.455
Inverciyde	146.785	1.49	14.135	8.076	6.059
Midlothian	174.642	1.77	15.651	8.948	6.703
Moray	172.764	1.75	15.299	8.683	6.617
North Ayrshire	253.669	2.57	24.253	13.950	10.303
North Lanarkshire	628.811	6.36	58.234	33.418	24.816
Orkney	61.404	0.62	6.120	3.510	2.610
Perth & Kinross	274.851	2.78	24.805	14.074	10.731
Renfrewshire	323.850	3.28	30.125	17.310	12.815
Scottish Borders	217.151	2.20	19.415	11.220	8.194
Shetland	66.111	0.67	6.656	3.861	2.795
South Ayrshire	209.254	2.12	19.442	11.085	8.357
South Lanarkshire	590.275	5.97	53.769	30.614	23.155
Stirling	172.287	1.74	15.672	9.060	6.612
West Dunbartonshire	167.678	1.70	16.418	9.504	6.914
West Lothian	334.332	3.38	30.065	17.118	12.947
Scotland	9881.475	100.000	911.066	521.659	389.407

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2023-24	Capital S	ettlement 2023-	24	Sp	ecific grants to	be paid	in 2023-24	
			Total Capital	Strathclyde	Vacant and	_	Cycling	
£m	General Capital Grant	<b>Specific Grants</b>	Grants	Partnership	Derelict Land	TMDF	Walking &	Total
Aberdeen City	25.241	0.993	26.234	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.993	0.993
Aberdeenshire	27.765	1.147	28.912	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.147	1.147
Angus	14.587	0.507	15.094	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.507	0.507
Argyll & Bute	19.456	0.376	19.832	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.376	0.376
Clackmannanshire	6.272	0.225	6.497	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.225	0.225
Dumfries & Galloway	26.187	0.650	26.837	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.650	0.650
Dundee City	18.220	0.645	18.865	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.645	0.645
East Ayrshire	12.831	0.533	13.364	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.533	0.533
East Dunbartonshire	11.446	0.476	11.922	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.476	0.476
East Lothian	8.410	0.478	8.888	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.478	0.478
East Renfrewshire	9.370	0.422	9.792	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.422	0.422
Edinburgh, City of	52.571	30.249	82.820	0.000	0.000	27.950	2.299	30.249
Eilean Siar	8.677	0.116	8.793	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.116	0.116
Falkirk	11.191	0.702	11.893	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.702	0.702
Fife	40.776	3.257	44.033	0.000	1.621	0.000	1.636	3.257
Glasgow City	71.538	69.018	140.556	0.000	1.950	64.295	2.773	69.018
Highland	32.743	1.039	33.782	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.039	1.039
Inverclyde	8.879	0.335	9.214	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.335	0.335
Midlothian	10.723	0.413	11.136	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.413	0.413
Moray	11.864	0.421	12.285	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.421	0.421
North Ayrshire	35.704	2.092	37.796	0.000	1.506	0.000	0.586	2.092
North Lanarkshire	36.383	3.332	39.715	0.000	1.841	0.000	1.491	3.332
Orkney Islands	6.529	0.098	6.627	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.098	0.098
Perth & Kinross	23.369	0.672	24.041	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.672	0.672
Renfrewshire	18.383	0.786	19.169	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.786	0.786
Scottish Borders	23.476	0.507	23.983	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.507	0.507
Shetland Islands	6.865	0.100	6.965	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.100	0.100
South Ayrshire	12.761	0.491	13.252	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.491	0.491
South Lanarkshire	33.388	2.096	35.484	0.000	0.687	0.000	1.409	2.096
Stirling	8.834	0.408	9.242	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.408	0.408
West Dunbartonshire	15.547	0.383	15.930	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.383	0.383
West Lothian	18.551	0.810	19.361	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.810	0.810
Undistributed	19.000	0.000	19.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Councils Total	687.537	123.777	811.314	0.000	7.605	92.245	23.927	123.777
Strathclyde Partnership for								
Transport		15.327	15.327	15.327	0.000	0.000	0.000	15.327
Grand Total	687.537		826.641	15.327	7.605	92.245		139.104

Council	Flood Scheme	Total 2023-24
		£m
Aberdeenshire Council	Stonehaven	-4.685
Aberdeenshire Council	Huntly	0.000
Angus Council	Arbroath	0.518
Argyll & Bute Council	Campbeltown	5.424
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	South Fords	0.864
Dumfries & Galloway Council	Dumfries/ River Nith/ Whitesands FPS	2.538
Dumfries & Galloway Council	Stranraer work item 4 &6	0.224
Dumfries & Galloway Council	Langholm	0.392
Dumfries & Galloway Council	Newton Stewart/ River Cree	1.229
Dundee City Council	Broughty Ferry	-0.004
Dundee City Council	Dundee	0.000
East Ayrshire Council	New Cumnock	0.129
East Dunbartonshire Council	Park Burn	-0.002
East Lothian Council	Musselburgh	-3.885
East Lothian Council	Haddington	0.088
Falkirk Council	Grangemouth FPS	-4.713
Fife Council	Kinness Burn	1.152
Glasgow City Council	White Cart Water Phase 3	0.000
Glasgow City Council	Camlachie Burn	0.000
Highland Council	Smithton and Culloden	0.082
Highland Council	Caol and Lochyside	-0.790
Highland Council	Drumnadrochit	-0.445
Inverclyde Council	Inverclyde FPS - Glenmosston Burn	0.024
Inverclyde Council	Inverclyde FPS - Coves Burn	0.000
Inverclyde Council	Inverclyde FPS - Bouverie Burn	0.000
Inverclyde Council	Quarrier's Village	0.000
Moray Council	Newmill	0.000
North Ayrshire Council	Millport Coastal	19.980
North Ayrshire Council	Upper Garnock FPS	0.000
North Ayrshire Council	Mill Burn Millport	0.544
Orkney Islands Council	Kirkwall	0.000
Perth & Kinross Council	Comrie	1.776
Perth & Kinross Council	Milnathort	1.272
Perth & Kinross Council	South Kinross	1.076
Perth & Kinross Council	Scone	0.142
Scottish Borders Council	Hawick	7.847
Stirling Council	Bridge of Allan	-0.490
Stirling Council	Stirling	-0.628
Stirling Council	Callander	-1.248
West Dunbartonshire Council	Gruggies Burn	5.186
	Total	33.600

			Additional Nature				
2022-23 General		Nature Restoration	Restoration Bid	Local Government			
Capital Grant	Circular 1/2022	Fund	Fund	Pay Deal	Free School Meals	Flooding	2022-23 Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Aberdeen City	18.638	0.135	0.000	4.350	0.897	0.642	24.662
Aberdeenshire	27.885	0.213	0.000	5.542	1.893	0.125	35.658
Angus	11.093	0.150	0.350	2.518	0.702	0.132	14.945
Argyll & Bute	16.716	0.238	0.000	2.157	0.807	0.078	19.996
Clackmannanshire	4.355	0.091	0.000	1.168	0.284	0.055	5.953
Dumfries & Galloway	14.179	0.257	0.000	3.456	1.108	0.114	19.114
Dundee City	13.845	0.086	0.183	3.466	0.635	0.067	18.282
East Ayrshire	9.764	0.102	0.000	2.818	0.650	0.074	13.408
East Dunbartonshire	7.553	0.132	0.000	2.468	0.604	0.168	10.925
East Lothian	9.776	0.110	0.000	2.308	0.581	8.155	20.930
East Renfrewshire	6.474	0.061	0.000	2.238	0.538	0.066	9.377
Edinburgh, City of	40.626	0.161	0.000	9.700	1.821	0.163	52.471
Eilean Siar	8.866	0.124	0.000	0.814	0.240	0.028	10.072
Falkirk	16.005	0.179	0.000	3.434	0.813	0.100	20.531
Fife	25.308	0.378	0.000	8.130	2.059	0.238	36.113
Glasgow City	50.794	0.132	0.000	14.237	2.627	0.603	68.393
Highland	36.726	0.328	0.000	5.459	1.918	0.142	44.573
Inverclyde	6.417	0.160	0.000	1.867	0.350	0.030	8.824
Midlothian	7.318	0.103	0.000	2.069	0.534	0.049	10.073
Moray	8.797	0.124	0.000	2.007	0.598	0.032	11.558
North Ayrshire	13.428	0.190	0.000	3.225	0.738	8.760	26.341
North Lanarkshire	23.681	0.274	0.000	7.726	1.905	0.059	33.645
Orkney	5.234	0.054	0.000	0.811	0.245	0.017	6.361
Perth & Kinross	12.016	0.176	0.000	3.254	0.913	0.100	16.459
Renfrewshire	12.229	0.102	0.350	4.002	0.876	0.248	17.807
Scottish Borders	20.781	0.161	0.106	2.594	0.740	0.186	24.568
Shetland	5.814	0.079	0.000	0.893	0.314	0.002	7.102
South Ayrshire	8.811	0.096	0.114	2.563	0.602	0.043	12.229
South Lanarkshire	22.720	0.188	0.000	7.077	1.887	0.202	32.074
Stirling	10.886	0.114	0.000	2.095	0.531	0.081	13.707
West Dunbartonshire	6.061	0.126	0.000	2.197	0.496	0.166	9.046
West Lothian	11.740	0.176	0.000	3.957	1.094	0.075	17.042
Scotland	494.536	5.000	1.103	120.600	30.000	21.000	672.239

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			General		General			2023-24 Local
	Ring-Fenced	Non Domestic	Revenue	Total 2023-24	Capital	Specific	Total 2023-24	Government Finance
Local Authority	Grants	Rates	Funding	Revenue	Grant	Grant	Capital	Settlement
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Aberdeen City	27.246	257.797	147.101	432.144	25.241	0.993	26.234	458.378
Aberdeenshire	33.017	134.839	366.928	534.784	27.765	1.147	28.912	563.696
Angus	14.463	27.934	210.605	253.001	14.587	0.507	15.094	268.095
Argyll & Bute	11.619	37.645	181.629	230.894	19.456	0.376	19.832	250.726
Clackmannanshire	7.928	17.764	92.002	117.694	6.272	0.225	6.497	124.191
Dumfries & Galloway	19.186	60.313	271.962	351.461	26.187	0.650	26.837	378.298
Dundee City	22.991	73.704	260.370	357.065	18.220	0.645	18.865	375.930
East Ayrshire	20.020	30.467	237.897	288.384	12.831	0.533	13.364	301.748
East Dunbartonshire	12.240	24.099	194.382	230.721	11.446	0.476	11.922	242.643
East Lothian	13.793	58.108	147.132	219.033	8.410	0.478	8.888	227.921
East Renfrewshire	10.565	15.695	194.296	220.556	9.370	0.422	9.792	230.348
Edinburgh, City of	56.559	377.317	506.286	940.163	52.571	30.249	82.820	1,022.983
Eilean Siar	4.169	9.106	94.995	108.270	8.677	0.116	8.793	117.063
Falkirk	22.327	75.322	251.354	349.004	11.191	0.702	11.893	360.897
Fife	52.828	172.108	588.428	813.364	40.776	3.257	44.033	857.397
Glasgow City	100.560	358.472	1,059.673	1,518.705	71.538	69.018	140.556	1,659.261
Highland	32.431	156.979	365.998	555.408	32.743	1.039	33.782	589.190
Inverclyde	11.221	21.333	166.610	199.165	8.879	0.335	9.214	208.379
Midlothian	15.249	35.215	152.700	203.164	10.723	0.413	11.136	214.300
Moray	11.943	55.314	135.627	202.884	11.864	0.421	12.285	215.169
North Ayrshire	19.495	43.955	271.586	335.036	35.704	2.092	37.796	372.832
North Lanarkshire	50.598	121.640	596.445	768.683	36.383	3.332	39.715	808.398
Orkney	16.114	11.473	61.479	89.066	6.529	0.098	6.627	95.693
Perth & Kinross	17.725	60.754	238.787	317.265	23.369	0.672	24.041	341.306
Renfrewshire	25.693	131.323	232.748	389.764	18.383	0.786	19.169	408.933
Scottish Borders	14.106	37.818	205.841	257.765	23.476	0.507	23.983	281.748
Shetland	20.633	24.302	57.822	102.757	6.865	0.100	6.965	109.722
South Ayrshire	14.263	47.708	191.512	253.483	12.761	0.491	13.252	266.735
South Lanarkshire	45.087	341.536	310.163	696.786	33.388	2.096	35.484	732.270
Stirling	11.784	45.636	150.737	208.157	8.834	0.408	9.242	217.399
West Dunbartonshire	14.353	93.396	119.262	227.012	15.547	0.383	15.930	242.942
West Lothian	25.749	87.928	285.739	399.416	18.551	0.810	19.361	418.777
Undistributed	0.103	0.000	225.360	225.463	19.000	0.000	19.000	244.463
Redress Top Slice	0.000		6.000	6.000	0.000	0.000		6.000
Strathclyde Passenger Transport	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000	15.327	15.327	15.327
Scotland	776.059	3,047.000	8,579.459	12,402.517	687.537	139.104	826.641	13,229.158



## SPORT, LEISURE & CULTURE TRUST FINANCE – Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust

Report by Acting Chief Executive SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

26 January 2022

#### 1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to set out a proposal to help mitigate the financial challenges facing the Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust (JFLT) following approval of a grant of £127,000, to the Berwickshire Recreation and Education Sports Trust (BREST) at Council on 15 December 2022. The JFLT like BREST has significant increases in their cost base since the COVID 19 pandemic due to rising energy costs and reduced patronage income. The paper seeks approval from Members to provide financial assistance to JFLT of £127,000 from the Council's recovery fund for the 2022/23 financial year to assist with the costs of a programme of energy efficiency works that will significantly reduce the running costs of the Laidlaw Memorial Pool.
- 1.2 With increasing energy costs in recent years, the three Leisure Trusts operating in the Borders have seen increasing costs of running their facilities. Live Borders is the largest of the three charitable trusts commissioned by SBC for the delivery of sport, leisure and cultural services operating 6 pools across the Region. The other two Borders based trusts operating swimming pools are the Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust, which operates the Laidlaw Memorial Pool in Jedburgh, and Berwickshire Recreation Educational Sports Trust, which operates Duns Swimming Pool. This increase in energy costs has been especially felt in those leisure centres operating swimming pools, with pools facing particular challenges in continuing to operate while keeping their costs of admission affordable to users.
- 1.3 Sport, physical activity and cultural activity play a vital role in delivering Council Plan and Community Plan priorities and outcomes, in particular the priority of 'Good Health & Wellbeing', where the people of the Scottish Borders will be "enabled and supported to take control of their health and wellbeing, and enjoy a high quality of life" so that the Borders will have "more people in good health, leading an active lifestyle at every age and stage of life."

- 1.4 Swimming pools buildings consume significantly more energy per sq m than most other building types; careful design and the operation of pools to conserve energy is therefore of fundamental importance in ensuring their continued viability. Without sufficient funding to assist the Trusts to reduce their energy usage and their carbon footprint, the financial viability of swimming pools in the Borders is at risk. This is turn risks the delivery of the Council's corporate priorities associated with Health and Wellbeing, and the important community benefits they deliver.
- 1.5 Council has already agreed to assist BREST, and this paper seeks approval to also provide the same level of grant funding of £127,000 to the Jedburgh Trust. Discussions with Live Borders are also progressing and will be reported to Council at the earliest opportunity.

#### **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 It is recommended that Scottish Borders Council agrees to provide one-off financial support to Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust in the current financial year of £127,000 from the Recovery Fund to help finance a programme of energy improvement works identified by the Trust at the Laidlaw Memorial pool.

#### 3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Berwickshire Recreation Educational Sports Trust (BREST), which operates Duns Swimming Pool, Live Borders (LB), and the Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust (JLFT), which operates the Laidlaw Memorial Pool, are the three Leisure Trusts in the Borders. Live Borders is the largest of the Trusts and it operates Borders-wide. Live Borders operates 6 pools across the Borders in Eyemouth, Galashiels, Hawick, Kelso, Peebles and Selkirk, on behalf of the Council. Peebles currently closed following a malicious fire earlier this year is currently anticipated to re-open at the end of April as detailed in a paper elsewhere on the Council Agenda.
- 3.2 The Council Plan contains a key priority of 'Good Health & Wellbeing', where the people of the Scottish Borders will be "enabled and supported to take control of their health and wellbeing, and enjoy a high quality of life". Similarly, the Community Plan contains an outcome that the Borders will have "more people in good health, leading an active lifestyle at every age and stage of life." Sport, physical activity and culture play a vital role in successful delivery of these priorities and outcomes.
- 3.3 There have been various news articles highlighting the problems facing organisations in the sport and leisure sector across the UK in recent years. The rise in energy costs and sluggish recovery in visitor from the pandemic are two reasons why. These challenges are particularly acute for those operating swimming pools dependant on participant income for a significant part of their funding. It is recognised however that Swimming pools contribute significantly to health and well-being in communities with the benefits of water based exercise for all ages widely acknowledged.
- 3.4 In response Council resolved on 15 December to provide financial assistance to the Berwickshire pool in Duns to help with an ongoing programme of energy works and to consider support to the other Trusts.

#### **4 ENERGY PRESSURES**

- 4.1 Discussions have now been held with representatives of the Board of Management of the Jedburgh Facilities Leisure Trust. Information of a programme of works some already undertaken, some planned at the pool has been provided to Council Officials. These works include:-
  - Installation of ducting and automatic shutters to direct heat only to where it is needed.
  - Installation of glass beads for pool water filtration and fitting more efficient valves, to reduce the number of backwashes, saving both heat and water costs.
  - Installation of a new better insulated hot water tank to conserve energy.
  - The Trust is also seeking assistance with the cost of installing solar panels on the roof of the building. With a first phase of works above the main pool hall, comprising an array of 73x370w panels which will providing 16,700kwh of energy a year, and a second 73 panel phase of works to double this capacity following building adaptations.

The Trust are also looking at installing new heat generation capacity and a new air handling unit. Taken together, these works will enhance the pool's energy security, limit exposure to future energy price costs and deliver a significant reduction in their CO2 output annually.

#### **5 IMPLICATIONS**

#### 5.1 Financial

The paper seeks approval from Members to provide the Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust with a grant of £127,000 to help meet the costs of energy efficiency works at the Jed pool. This grant, payable from the Council's Recovery Fund, will help to reduce future energy costs and reduce the carbon foot print of the pool.

#### 5.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

This proposal helps the Council demonstrates a commitment to support local Leisure Trusts financially, which should have a positive impact on communities, helping to contribute to the sustainably of these facilities.

#### 5.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment**

An IIA checklist has been completed – it is not anticipated that the grant support recommended will of itself eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity between people who share a characteristic (age, disability, gender re-assignment, trans/transgender identity, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race groups, religion or belief, sex-gender identity, and sexual orientation) and those who do not; and foster good relations between people who share a characteristic and those who do not. However, support to the Jed Trust will assist local residents, both those who identify as belonging to an equality group and those who do not, to continue accessing high quality leisure and recreation facilities in Jedburgh, the Cheviot area and the wider Borders.

#### 5.4 Sustainable Development Goals

The grant support recommended will assist the Trust to improve its carbon footprint which ties in with UN SD Goal 7 (Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all).

#### 5.5 **Climate Change**

This proposal will help ensure minimise energy use in the Berwickshire pool and assist the Borders to reduce its carbon footprint. Further work with the two other Leisure trusts to de-carbonise their operations through reduced energy usage will provide further benefits. The availability of high quality swimming facilities in local communities will mean that people who wish to swim can do so locally rather than travel out-with their community.

#### 5.6 Rural Proofing

This proposal will have a positive effect on the communities of Cheviot ensuring the continuation of a high quality leisure facility in Jedburgh.

#### 5.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**No changes are required to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals in this report.

#### **6 CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Acting Chief Financial Officer, the Acting Chief Corporate Governance Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People Performance & Change), the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications are being consulted and any comments received will be reported verbally to Members at Council.

#### **Approved by**

#### **David Robertson**

#### **Acting Chief Executive**

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
David Robertson	Acting Chief Executive, Tel: 01835 825012

Background Papers: Nil

Previous Minute Reference: Nil

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. David Robertson can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

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#### **PEEBLES SWIMMING POOL**

#### **Report by Director - Infrastructure & Environment**

#### SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

#### 26 January 2023

#### 1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to provide an update on the repair works to Peebles Swmmimg Pool.
- 1.2 A fire in June 2022 caused damage to the roof, plant room and parts of the internal fabric of the main pool hall. The pool was closed to the public.
- 1.3 Following discussions with the Council's fire insurance provider, agreement has been reached on the work required to repair the fire damage. This work has now commenced.
- 1.4 The swimming pool is intended to re-open to the community in Spring 2023.

#### 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 I recommend that Council notes the contents of the report.

#### 3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On the evening of 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Scottish Fire and Rescue responded to a call regarding a fire to the roof.
- 3.2 Although the fire caused moderate damage to the roof structure, there has been significant water penetration to the plant room and ceilings within the main pool hall as a consequence of extinguishing the fire. The roof tiles were known to be an asbestos-containing material and therefore specialists were engaged to undertake immediate removal of debris from the surrounding site. As a result of this, internal air assurance asbestos testing was undertaken to allow safe access within the building for damage assessments. In consultation with Live Borders the decision was made to close the pool to the public, allowing thorough investigations to take place.
- 3.3 Contact was made with the Council's insurance provider, appointed loss adjustors and investigations were undertaken in conjunction with Live Borders appointed loss adjustors.
- 3.4 The scope of repair work that needs to be undertaken to repair the damaged roof and other fire damaged elements of the building fabric was developed during the latter part of 2022. It was agreed that all roof/ceiling tiles that contain asbestos will be removed as part of the repair works.

#### 4 CURRENT PROGRESS

- 4.1 Turner & Townsend have been engaged to provide project management support and due diligence on overall works, as agreed with the Council's insurance provider. SBc Contracts have also been engaged to act as Principal Contractor for the overall works providing a streamlined approach to the construction management on site covering the Health & Safety requirements and legal/contractual obligations.
- 4.2 Work on site commenced on 9<sup>th</sup> January to erect safety scaffolding within the building, thereafter external scaffolding will be erected to allow the commencement of roofing works.
- 4.3 The pool will remain closed during the construction period. Alternative arrangements by Live Borders regarding swimming lessons will continue as currently scheduled.
- 4.4 The Project Team are working towards a target completion date of the end of April 2023. Given the nature of the construction works and the complexity that comes with repairing buildings damaged by fire, the completion date may shift. Officers will regularly monitor progress and will keep local members updated during the works.
- 4.5 Once works are complete, the building will be handed over to Live Borders as the operator to reopen the pool to the public and resume swimming lessons. A review of management operations with Live Borders will be undertaken to ensure that the likelihood of a repeat incident is minimised.

#### **5 IMPLICATIONS**

#### 5.1 Financial

- (a) The Property maintenance budget was initially used for the immediate action with the specialist asbestos removal works and initial damage surveys.
- (b) All costs associated with the fire, and subsequent water penetration, will be included in the insurance claim to the Council's insurers. All other works that are necessary at this time, to allow the swimming pool to be handed over to Live Borders in a fully functional condition, will be reviewed separately with a funding source allocated.

#### 5.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

Management arrangements with Live Borders have been reviewed following the fire in consultation with the Council's insurers to ensure that likelihood of a repeat incident is minimised.

#### 5.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment**

The closure of the swimming pool will have had an adverse impact on service users within the Tweeddale swimming community. The re-opening of the pool following the repair work will reinstate the use within the local community.

#### 5.4 **Sustainable Development Goals**

The repair work to the roof and building fabric affected by the fire will be undertaken using local skills and trades wherever possible.

#### 5.5 **Climate Change**

The repair work to the roof will not have any impact on the energy performance of facility.

#### 5.6 Rural Proofing

This report does not affect or amend rural proofing policies.

#### 5.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

#### 5.8 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals in this report.

#### **6 CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Director - Finance & Corporate Governance, the Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director - People, Performance & Change, the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications have been consulted and comments received have been incorporated into the final report.

#### Approved by

#### Name John Curry Title Director - Infrastructure & Environment

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Lauren Green	Property Manager

**Background Papers:** 

Previous Minute Reference: Council -

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Lauren Green can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at Lauren Green - <u>LGreen@scotborders.gov.uk</u>



## EDINBURGH AND SOUTH EAST SCOTLAND CITY REGION DEAL REGIONAL PROSPERITY FRAMEWORK DELIVERY PLAN

#### **Report by Director - Resilient Communities**

#### SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

#### 26 January 2023

#### 1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks Council's ratification of the Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) Delivery Plan (Appendix 1) in anticipation of approval by the City Region Joint Committee on 3 March 2023.
- 1.2 The Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan is the articulation of the next phase of the development of the regional economy, building upon the successes of the City Region Deal. It is both an action plan, focused on more immediate and currently resourceable interventions and a prospectus for investment setting out collective ambition and opportunity for the city region to become the data capital of Europe; support inclusive growth; and a just transition to a net zero economy over the next 20 years.
- 1.3 The document is a live document that will be updated every 12 months to reflect changes to the local, regional, and macro economy and to ensure that regional activity can react and remain relevant to city region partners.
- 1.4 Over the next 12 months four key programme areas have been identified:
  - Green Regeneration;
  - Infrastructure & Recovery;
  - Visitor Economy & Culture: and
  - Data-Driven Innovation.
- 1.5 To realise the ambitions of the Delivery Plan, Regional Partners will ask both the Scottish and UK Governments to:
  - Commit to work in tripartite (UKG/SG/ESES) partnership to progress the Delivery Programme which is aligned with Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET) and UK Government Levelling Up and Shared Prosperity priorities; and
  - For our Delivery Plan to be supported through a medium to long term, integrated, place-based funding allocation based on shared outcomes.

- 1.6 The Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan will be considered by the other five constituent Local Authorities in the region ahead of the meeting of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Joint Committee on 3 March 2023, which (subject to agreement) will conclude formal sign off of the Delivery Plan under the City Region's governance arrangements.
- 1.7 This Report also highlights the City Region Deal Annual Report for 2021/22, which provides an update on overall progress for the City Region Deal programme between 1 August 2012 and 31 July 2022, and includes the expected milestones to be achieved in the next year.

#### 2 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 I recommend that Council:
  - a) approves the Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Plan;
  - b) notes that the Delivery Plan will be considered by the other five constituent Local Authorities in the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region (ESESCR) ahead of the ESESCR Joint Committee meeting on 3 March 2023;
  - c) notes the progress highlighted in the 2021/22 City Region Deal Annual Report;
  - d) agrees that future updates on the progress of the City Region Deal and Delivery Plan be provided to the Economic Development Executive Committee.

#### 3 BACKGROUND

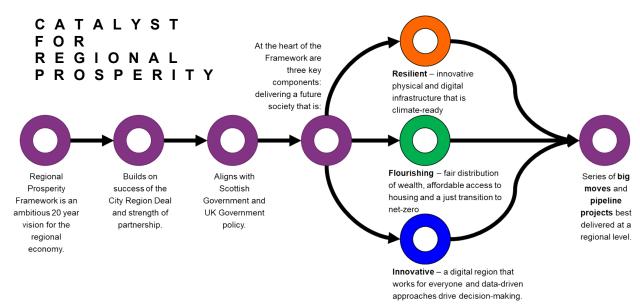
- 3.1 The maturity of the regional partnership with UK and Scottish Governments has seen the City Region Deal partners develop an ambitious Regional Prosperity Framework (formerly Growth Framework), approved in September 2021 before being ratified individually by each of the six Local Authorities and the University of Edinburgh. The Joint Committee ratified the Regional Prosperity Framework on 5th October 2021
- 3.2 The Framework is the articulation of the next phase of the development of the regional economy, building upon the successes of the City Region Deal both in terms of the programmes but also the regional collaboration. It provides a blueprint for regional economic recovery post-pandemic; resilience through the ongoing cost of living crisis; and provides future direction for major projects and investment.
- 3.3 Since the publication of the RPF, regional partners have been developing the Delivery Plan appended to this report. This period has covered both the COVID 19 Pandemic and ongoing cost-of-living crisis. Partners have tried to develop a Delivery Plan that responds to these and recognises they have disproportionately impacted the most economically disadvantaged members of the community, with the cost of basic necessities e.g., food and fuel far exceeding any increases to wages.
- 3.4 The Regional Prosperity Framework builds on the success of the City Region Deal. The latest Annual Report for 2021/22 (City Region Deal Annual Report 2021 2022) summarises progress of the Programme for the third year since the signing of the 15-year programme (August 2021 to July 2022). The report shows significant progress across the 20 projects and programmes which are currently in delivery and includes the expected milestones for to be achieved in the next year.

#### 4 MAIN REPORT

- 4.1 The Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) provides a blueprint for regional economic recovery post-pandemic; resilience through the ongoing cost of living crisis; and provides future direction for major projects and investment that support inclusive growth and the transition to a net zero economy over the next 20 years.
- 4.2 The RPF and its Delivery Plan align closely with Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET) and the UK Government's Levelling Up White Paper with its funding allocations, and the additional funding allocations available through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. All three of these present major opportunities for our region to truly capitalise on additional investment.
- 4.3 The Regional Prosperity Framework has a vision to become 'the data capital of Europe. We will ensure the social and economic benefits of this capability extend to all. All sections of the community will have the opportunity to develop the key skills that will help to end inequalities in our society. We will protect our environment and make best use of our extraordinary built

and natural assets, ensuring that the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region delivers a just transition to a net zero economy. Our institutions, ancient and modern, will deliver positive outcomes that enhance our local, national, and international reputation.'

- 4.4 The regional partners are committed to this vision and to use it to guide and integrate public, private, and third-sector decisions, actions, collaborations, strategies, policies, and investments across areas such as sustainability, climate change, energy, transport, planning, housing, infrastructure, education, digital, services, inequalities, well-being, economic development, procurement, and delivery.
- 4.5 Regional Priorities have been developed around three core themes that support an economy that is **resilient**; **innovative and flourishing** (see diagram 1 below).



**Diagram 1 - Regional Prosperity Framework Delivery Process** 

- 4.6 All actions under the RPF are framed to support:
  - **People** to access fair work, to learn and develop new skills and to live happy and healthy lives
  - **Places** that are sustainable, and attractive to live and work in and where enterprise thrives
  - Planet meeting our needs in a way that will allow future generations to meet theirs, with a focus on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- 4.7 As we emerge from Covid-19 it is a different economic world than the one we had known before. Subsequent global events, such as the war in Ukraine, inflation, and emerging financial and political uncertainties, mean that there is a need to develop a different strategic approach if we are to achieve the shared ambition for the region and to deliver a resilient economy that can meet the needs of its citizens and businesses.
- 4.8 To be able to reflect current and future economic shocks, the Delivery Plan has been developed as a living document, with the immediate priorities for

- the region set out over a 1 to 3-year horizon, but in the context of the longer-term ambitions for the region. Regional priorities will be reviewed annually and refreshed to align to current events impacting the regional and local economy. Programmes and projects will be added or subtracted to ensure that continued focus on our ambitions and reflect what is happening at the local, regional, national, and macro level of the economy.
- 4.9 This Delivery Plan establishes a clear process for delivery of the projects and sets out an ambitious prospectus for investment. Four key programme areas have emerged as the priority for the next 12 months Green Regeneration; Infrastructure and Recovery; Visitor Economy and Culture; and Data-Driven Innovation. A summary of each programme is outlined below with further detail provided in Appendix 1.

#### **Green Regeneration of the Forth Estuary**

- 4.10 From Eyemouth to Grangemouth, the Forth Economic Corridor has the potential to drive transformational economic and climate adaptation through major waterfront regeneration including Granton Waterfront, Blindwells and Cockenzie; reuse and modernising of existing assets, sites, and operations to create strategic net zero employment opportunities; support innovative manufacturing and shipbuilding; and proposals for a Green Freeport aim to underpin and enhance the area's future economic success including the creation of the nation's largest offshore renewable energy hub.
- 4.11 Cross partner support will be required to establish a Forth Estuary Collaboration Network. Enabling closer collaboration between neighbouring authorities to deliver their national and regional priorities for the Forth, and to promote the reputation of the Forth economic corridor domestically and internationally.
- 4.12 Key to the future success of the Forth and region is the development of future green skills to meet the needs of businesses today and in the future economy whilst creating new high value jobs. The creation of a Net Zero Accelerator Hub can help to address the demand and supply side barriers that exist, helping key sectors begin or accelerate the transition to net zero.

#### **Infrastructure & Recovery**

- 4.13 The most productive regions are the best connected and the most sustainable. Much of Scotland's future population and household growth is set to take place in the region, with available capacity to grow in parts of the region. The scale and nature of the consequential impact on the region's infrastructure is substantial and is crucial to the success of the regional and national economy.
- 4.14 The housing need and demand in the city region is the greatest in Scotland with nearly 60% of the total annual affordable homes requirement for Scotland needed in our city region. This region delivers more homes than any other part of Scotland and continues to drive construction innovation. Resources are required to sustain and accelerate this activity.
- 4.15 The Edinburgh & South East Home Demonstrator Project is a new business model for the delivery of Net Zero affordable homes at scale. There are

- currently 75 Homes are under construction at Granton Waterfront with support required to secure a delivery partner and to scale up a regional pipeline of sites.
- 4.16 The region needs financial support to both deliver the Energy Efficiency Standards for Social Housing 2 (EESH2) programme of retrofitting existing homes and continue to build new affordable homes.
- 4.17 Accelerating delivery of the City Region Deal strategic sites can deliver 35,000 homes, transforming vacant and derelict land to deliver net zero carbon homes.
- 4.18 It is essential that regional transport priorities are co-ordinated to deliver the aspirations of the: Regional Transport Strategy; Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 (STRP2); and National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET). This will best ensure that we can: Effect Modal Shift; Promote Mass Transit; Decarbonise Transport (support transition to net zero); and Tackle Transport Poverty.
- 4.19 To deliver on these strategic ambitions, including fairer and more equal economic prosperity, requires a skilled population. We must ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate fully in the labour market. The transition to net zero and the data revolution, in particular, will necessitate a new supply of skills. Housing, transport and skills are essential for removing barriers faced by some in participating and progressing in the labour market and in ensuring that employers have the supply of skills they need. A Net Zero Accelerator Hub proposal is being developed by regional partners.

#### **Visitor Economy & Culture**

- 4.20 The renewal of our world class cultural and visitor offer is key to our regional economy and can be realised through establishing a Regional Visitor Economy Partnership to create and deliver a regional visitor economy development plan will allows for collaborative public sector investment and delivery in the visitor economy.
- 4.21 A Data Driven Innovation led approach to tourism destinations can help to position the region as a global leader in regional data-driven decision-making for strategic tourism investments, aligning and contributing towards the regional ambition of being the Data Capital of Europe.

#### **Data-Driven Innovation**

4.22 Embedding and extending the impact of the City Region Deal Data-Driven Innovation investment in the regional and national economy. Ensuring the region provides the skills, support network, data and transport infrastructure needed to grow data-led organisations. Cross-partner support is needed to promote the aspiration for the Region to be a Data Capital, and its linkages to delivering Scottish and UK Government Digital and Data Strategies.

- 4.23 Partners will work to support the operational growth of the TechScaler Network, funded by Scottish Government, and support the ongoing recognition of the Region as a World Leading Centre for Informatics and High-Performance Computing Academic Excellence.
- 4.24 The delivery programmes above are critical to the region's future economic success, providing clarity for future investment and collaboration to ensure this region has a prosperous net zero future. These programmes will be monitored and reviewed every 12 months to ensure they are still relevant to local, regional, and national partners.

#### **5 NEXT STEPS**

- 5.1 Each of the five other constituent Local Authorities will also consider a report on the RPF Delivery Programme before the City Region Deal Joint committee meets on 3 March 2023.
- 5.2 Subject to the necessary approvals at the above committees, regional partners will undertake the following:
  - Ask both the Scottish and UK Governments to commit to work in tripartite (UKG/SG/ESES) partnership to progress the Delivery Programme which is aligned with Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation and UK Government Levelling Up and Shared Prosperity priorities.
  - Ask for our Delivery Plan to be supported through a medium to long term, integrated, place-based funding allocation based on shared outcomes.

#### **6 IMPLICATIONS**

#### 6.1 Financial

Approval of the RPF Delivery Plan does not commit resources from Scottish Borders Council. Where resource requirements arise, these will be reported to Council as appropriate.

#### 6.2 Risk and Mitigations

- a) The work on the RPF has been overseen by the City Region Deal Directors Group including representation from both Scottish and UK Government; the Regional Enterprise Council (REC); and the Elected Member Oversight Committee (EMOC). Scottish Borders Council is represented on the Directors Group and EMOC, while the Scottish Borders is represented on the REC.
- b) An officer working group with membership from across each of the six local authorities, the University of Edinburgh, and Scottish Enterprise, supported by the Programme Management Office has developed the Regional Prosperity Framework and Delivery Plan.
- c) Over the lifetime of the project consultancy support was secured to assist with development work. This was paid for by monies received from Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise and £30k SESplan rebate.

- d) Delivery will be achieved through existing resources and additional public and private sector investment. As external funds are secured programmes and projects will be progressed on a business case basis.
- e) City Region Partners want the Delivery Plan to be supported through a medium to long term, integrated, place-based funding allocation based on shared outcomes. Officers are developing the case for this funding approach, which should cover the whole-life costs of delivery and will present this to UK and Scottish Government in advance of the UK Government budget next year. Partners will continue to work with Scottish Government to ensure that the RPF Delivery Plan aligns to programmes and spend on National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET), Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 (STPR2), infrastructure and other relevant areas.

#### 6.3 **Integrated Impact Assessment**

An integrated impact assessment has not been completed for the purposes of this report, which concerns the overarching and non-statutory RPF Delivery Plan. Integrated Impact Assessments will be undertaken, where appropriate, in relation to development and implementation of the projects embodied within the Delivery Plan.

#### 6.4 Sustainable Development Goals

While promoting 'prosperity' across the City Region is at the heart of the RPF, the Delivery Plan is underpinned by the UN Sustainable Development Goals and are consistent with National Performance Framework.

#### 6.5 Climate Change

Together with promoting prosperity, community wellbeing and reducing inequalities, net-zero and just transition are at the heart of the Delivery Plan. The framework identifies the themes in the Climate Change Checklist as key priorities and provides linkages to National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), the Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 (STRP2), and Just Transition, amongst other key policies.

#### 6.6 Rural Proofing

There is a strong emphasis on the 'diverse economy' of the City Region with each of the six regions being unique with different challenges and opportunities and a recognition that a single solution will not work across the City Region. Specifically, the RPF Delivery Plan is respectful of the differences posed by rurality, with the Scottish Borders Council being the most rural of its local authority areas, and it recognises the need to adapt approaches whether in transport, infrastructure support, skills training or reducing inequalities, to respond to the rural context.

#### 6.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

### 6.8 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation Not applicable.

#### **7 CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Acting Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People, Performance & Change), the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications have been consulted and any comments received have been incorporated into the final report.

#### **Approved by**

Jenni Craig	
<b>Director, Resilient Communities</b>	Signature

#### Author(s)

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**Background Papers:** Scottish Borders Council 'Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Regional Growth Framework Update' Report 23 September 2021

**Previous Minute Reference:** Minute item 6 Scottish Borders Council 23 September 2021

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Michael Cook/Ewan Doyle can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at the phone numbers above or <a href="Michael.Cook@scotborders.gov.uk">Michael.Cook@scotborders.gov.uk</a> / <a href="mailto:edoyle@scotborders.gov.uk">edoyle@scotborders.gov.uk</a>





# REGIONAL PROSPERITY FRAMEWORK

D E L I V E R Y P L A N & P R O S P E C T U S 2 0 2 3 / 2 4

# Edinburgh and South East Scotland Joint Committee



Councillor Cammy Day Leader, The City of Edinburgh Council



Professor Peter Mathieson Chair, Higher & Further Education Consortium and Principal, University of Edinburgh



Councillor Norman Hampshire Leader, East Lothian Council



Claire Pattullo
Chair of Regional Enterprise Council
and Chief Executive Officer at Edinburgh
Social Enterprise



Councillor David Ross Leader, Fife Council



Garry Clark
Vice-Chair of Regional Enterprise
and Council Development Manager (East
of Scotland) at Federation of Small
Businesses



Councillor Russell Imrie Councillor, Midlothian Council Chair, Joint Committee 2022









Councillor Euan Jardine Leader, Scottish Borders Council Chair, Joint Committee 2023









Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick Leader, West Lothian Council Vice Chair, Joint Committee 2023

1. Foreword	3
2. Introduction	4
3. Executive Summary	5
A Resilient Regional Economy	
4. Our Diverse Region	7
5. Our Economy and Goals	9
6. Opportunities & Challenges	10
Our Priorities	
7. Our Theory of Change	12
8. Priority Initiatives	13-16
9. Call To Action	
Delivering Together	18
9. Our Ask of the Governments	19
10. What Will Change?	20
Annex 1: Already Delivering – Case Studies	23

#### **Foreword**

The City Region Deal brings together six local authorities, four universities, six colleges and the Regional Enterprise Council with representatives from the business, social enterprise and third sectors. The partnership is now in the fifth year of the delivery of the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal programme, and we continue to make excellent progress.

Building on the successful delivery of the City Region Partners have developed an ambitious Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) that articulates the next phase of activity to develop the regional economy, building upon the successes of the City Region Deal. The RPF sets out a blueprint for regional economic recovery post-pandemic; resilience through the cost-of-living crisis and transition to net zero.

Our RPF Delivery Plan is both an action plan – focused on more immediate interventions that can currently be resourced – and a prospectus; setting out collective future ambition and opportunities. A "living" document, the Delivery Plan sets out an ambitious and dynamic series of four key programmes to deliver the region's ambitions:

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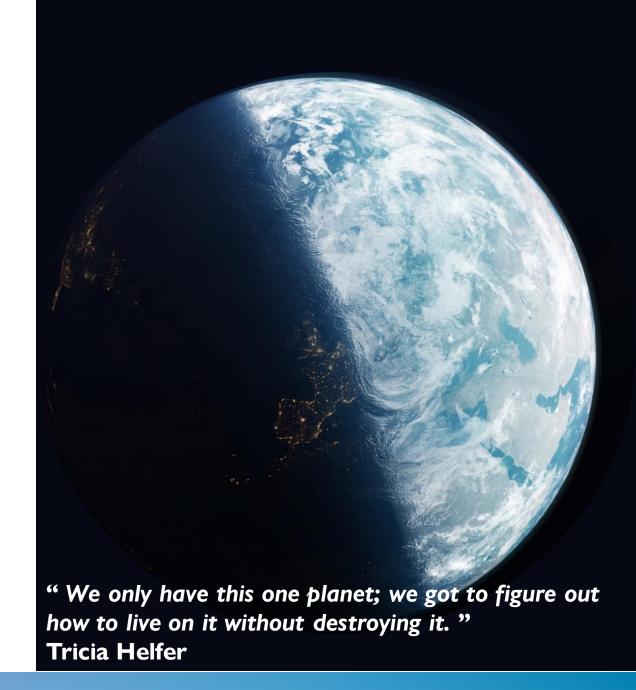
- Green Regeneration
- Infrastructure for Recovery & Prosperity
- Wisitor Economy and Culture, and
- Data Driven Innovation (DDI) Economy

These programmes will enable the city region to maintain and enhance its global reputation and become the data capital of Europe, delivering sustainable and inclusive growth.

Our Delivery plan aligns with Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET), Scotland's Regional Economic Policy Review recommendations, and UK Government's Levelling Up priorities, as well as the 2022 Autumn Statement.

We ask the Scottish and UK Governments to continue to commit to work in tripartite partnership to deliver our Blueprint through a long term, integrated, place-based funding allocation to deliver shared outcomes.

Chair of the Edinburgh & South East of Scotland Joint Committee



#### **Executive Summary**

Over the last five years the regional partnership behind the South East Scotland City Region Deal has flourished, resulting in the publication of the Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) in September 2021.

A range of acute external pressures have strained the REP, and this living Delivery Plan is our remedy. The Plan targets three goals: reduced economic exclusion; increased regional competitiveness; and, accelerated transition to Net Zero.

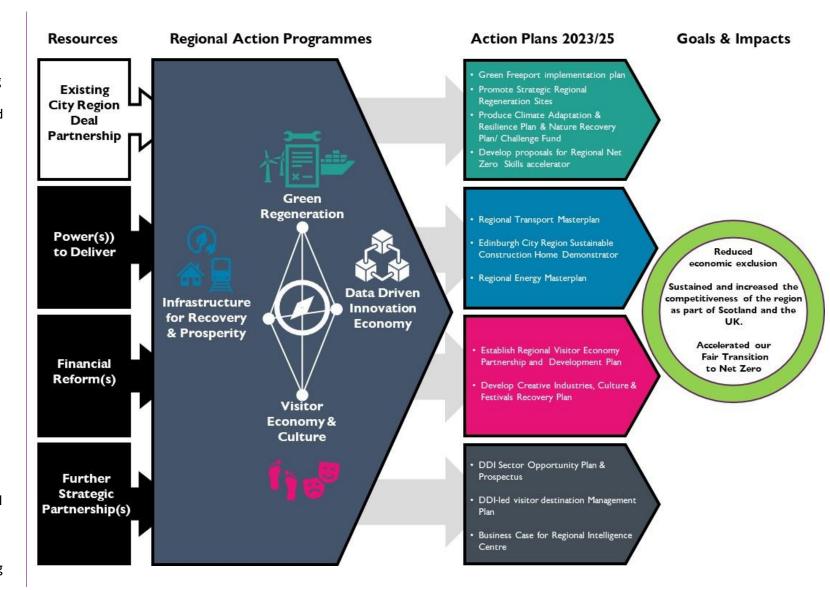
The Delivery Plan comprises four key programmes and associated regional action plans. The action plans will deliver immediate benefits whilst providing a longer-term platform for future activities that deliver our goals.

Early momentum is key to consolidating the Regional Partnership, as a more formal Regional Economic Partnership, and is core to our actions plans. Our Call to Action comprises four priority initiatives:

- Enfrastructure for Recovery & Prosperity by co-developing with the Governments a <u>place-based capital and revenue funding model</u> for delivery of regional ambitions;
- Develop Green Regeneration (*focused on the Forth*) investment prospectus;
- Secure a sustainable visitor economy and promotion of our cultural assets; and,
- Promote the transition to a data driven innovation (DDI) enabled economy in the region.

These initiatives will provide further evidence of the positive impact of our Partnership; build further confidence in our ability to collaborate and deliver and demonstrate the positive outcomes that investment in our region will deliver.

The Regional Partners now seek to co-create the delivery and resourcing approach for this Delivery Plan with government partners and other stakeholders.





CodeBase fully supports Edinburgh's ambition to become the Data Capital of Europe. That is why we are excited about plans to embed, and broaden the impact of, Data-Driven Innovation investment in the regional and national economy.

In order to become Europe's Data Capital, it is essential that Edinburgh and South East Scotland continue to provide the skills, support network, data and transport infrastructure that will facilitate the continued growth of data-led organisations - companies old and new - in the region.. **Steven Drost, CSO CodeBase** 

#### Introduction

Our Delivery Plan has been developed through our Regional Economic Partnership (REP) in collaboration with the governments and their agencies. The Plan sets out our opportunities for regional action and investment that better deliver regional inclusive economic growth through regional collaboration.

#### The Delivery Plan Builds Upon our shared Strategic Framework

The Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF) articulates the long-term aspirational goals for Edinburgh and South East Scotland city region. It guides the future direction of regional economic and wider policy by setting out an ambitious vision for the regional economy to 2041. All actions under the RPF are framed to support:

People: expand access fair work, learn and develop new skills and to live happy and healthy lives

**Places:** develop communities that are sustainable, attractive to live and work in and where enterprise thrives

**Planet:** meet our needs whilst enabling future generations to meet theirs, with a focus on climate action through emissions reduction and adaptation.

#### Our Vision for the Region is Challenging but Achievable...

We will ensure the social and economic benefits of future growth extend to all. All sections of the community will have the opportunity to develop & enhance the key skills that will help to end inequalities in our society. We will protect our environment and make best use of our extraordinary built and natural assets, ensuring that our Region delivers a just transition to a net zero economy. Our institutions, ancient and modern, will deliver positive outcomes that enhance our local, national, and international reputation. Our aim is to become the data capital of Europe.

#### ....by Remaining Responsive to Change

Global events, such as global pandemic recovery, the war in Ukraine, inflation and emerging financial and political uncertainties, demand an agile strategic response if our shared regional ambitions are to be achieved. As a result, the Delivery Plan focuses on the immediate **1 to 3-year horizon**, but in the context of our longer-term regional ambitions. It will be **reviewed annually**, adding or subtracting Programmes and projects to ensure continued focus on our ambitions and enable dynamic responses to any challenges as they emerge.

#### Our Plan Builds Upon the Unique Attributes of the Region

The Delivery Plan describes:

- The Region's Diverse Economy, identifying the unique strengths and assets of our regional economy.
- Opportunities and Challenges, assessing our regional growth levers and the barriers we must overcome.
- **Delivering together,** describing the aims and priorities for our Plan including the pathway that we can follow if we are going to positively impact the regional economy.



# A RESILIENT REGIONAL ECONOMY

# **Our Diverse Region**

#### **Edinburgh**

- Key driver of Scottish economy with diverse global business base, quality retail core, and world heritage cityscape.
- Global strengths in professional services, finance, insurance, education, science, health and data.
- Thriving retail, hospitality and leisure sector.
- Forth Bridge world heritage site frames key green growth and regeneration opportunities along the Forth.
- Continued strong demand in housing and commercial property markets.
- Regional actions underway to distribute economic opportunity, address commuting travel patterns, improve affordable housing supply and enhance strategic local infrastructure.

#### **West Lothian**

- Broad and extensive business base is supported by a skilled workforce
- Key strengths in life sciences, engineering, construction, food & drink, aerospace, retail, software development, renewables, advanced manufacturing, health, communications, support services and logistics.
- Heartlands offers 2,000 homes and 1.5 million square feet of employment space with easy motorway access.
- Winchburgh is delivering thousands of new homes and 40 acres of employment and retail space, with easy motorway access and potential for a new roll station.

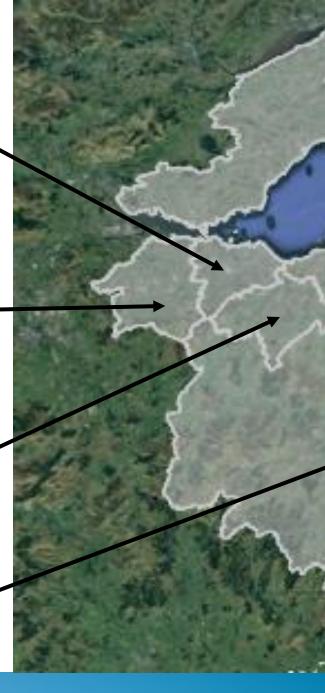


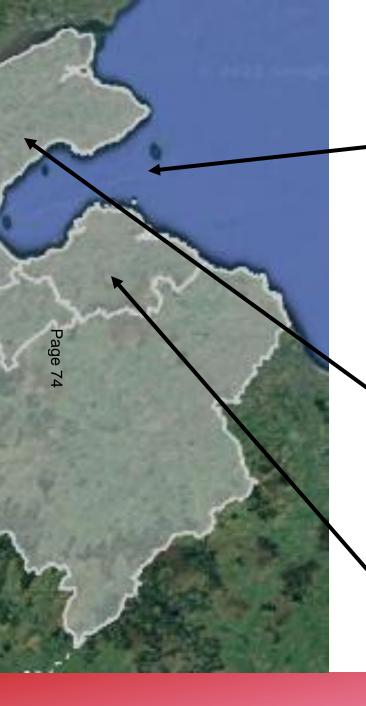
#### **Midlothian**

- High quality clusters of professional, education, health and scientific developments such as Easter Bush.
- At the forefront of world leading research and development programmes in biomedicine and agritech.
- Data Driven Innovation (DDI) Skills Gateway established at Newbattle High School Centre of Excellence.
- Destination Hillend is a strategic proposal for multi-activity leisure tourism with business opportunities at Hillend Snowsports Centre.
- Strengths in wholesale retail and trade, construction and manufacturing, and agriculture.

#### **Scottish Borders**

- Strong cultural heritage, high quality environment and communities with a good quality of life.
- Strengths in agriculture, energy, tourism, food & drink, manufacturing, forestry and construction
- Well connected to Central Scotland and the Cities of the North of England.
- Borders Rail has catalysed regional opportunities.
- Future extension of railway to Carlisle and planned 4G/5G investments will sustain economic opportunities.
- Scottish Borders Mountain Bike Innovation Centre will cement the region's international cycling reputation.
- Inspire Learning Centre Tweedbank. Delivering a world class digital learning environment in partnership with Apple





#### The Firth of Forth and Coast

- Economic renaissance of the Forth estuary is driven by green growth, net zero energy innovation and sustainable infrastructure, new fuel production and nature based solutions.
- Strengths in life sciences, engineering, construction, agriculture, food and drink, distribution, aerospace, retail, software development and renewables, advanced manufacturing health, information, communications, support services and logistics.
- Three regeneration and renewal zones along its length:
  - 1. South Zone: Hound Point (deep water facilities), Edinburgh Waterfront and East Lothian's Climate Evolution Zone (including the former Cockenzie Power Station), Blindwells new settlement (with potential for expansion), and Eyemouth as a hub for off-shore renewables;
  - 2. North Zone: former Longannet Power Station site (with rail link), Rosyth International Port, Braefoot Bay Oil and Gas Terminal (deep water facilities), Mossmorran fuel and distribution hub, the Fife Renewables Innovation Centre and ORE Demonstrator at Levenmouth; and
  - 3. West Zone: the Forth provides links to the Falkirk and Grangemouth Investment Zone with its green fuel production, biotechnology and skills development, and Scotland's National Environment Centre and National Aquiculture Technology and Innovation Hub.

#### Fife

- Strengths include advanced manufacturing, financial and business services and food and drink.
- Outstanding coastline and strategic travel routes provide opportunities for inclusive, sustainable growth.
- Dunfermline awarded city status and offers large housing development area including shared learning campus for Fife College.
- Rosyth International Port and Arrol Gibb Campus complement local strengths in freight and logistics.
- Centre of Excellence in Low Carbon and Renewable Energy innovation being created at Guardbridge.
- Number of transformative investments are already underway (e.g. reopening of the Levenmouth Rail Link.
- Outstanding natural and cultural assets (the Forth Bridges, 48 golf courses, the Fife Coastal Path, and the Pilgrim Way)

#### **East Lothian**

- Celebrated for its attractive market towns, prime countryside and coast, and golf and leisure tourism.
- Green growth opportunities in emerging Climate Evolution Zone, including Cockenzie Power Station site and potential expansion of Blindwells new settlement,
- · Potential investments in strategic sustainable infrastructure, including the High Speed Rail,
- Internationally significant scientific, biomedical and education activities, including Edinburgh Innovation Hub and Edinburgh Innovation Park,
- The future use of Torness Nuclear Power Station site is a significant longer term opportunity.

# **Our Economy and Goals**

- 65% of 1.4m residents are of working age. The Region's dependency ratio is projected to increase from 54% in 2018 to 57% by 2043, compared to Scotland's 60% (number of dependents over the number of people working).
- This is the fastest growing region in Scotland and one of fastest in UK. Forecast change in population 2018 2043 is 9.1% (Scotland 2.5%/UK 9%).
- In 2022, **20.7**% of residents aged 16-64 were economically inactive, **2.2**% lower than Scotland. This ranges from **16.3**% to **26.9**% in the Local Authorities. It is a decrease from pre-pandemic levels. Reasons for inactivity include long term sickness. Unemployment rates by disabled status range from **15.6**% to **33.7**%.
- By 2032, there will be a need to replace **264,100** people who have left the labour market in the Region. (RSA Nov 22)
- Productivity, calculated by dividing total regional GVA by total regional employment (measured by jobs), in 2022, was forecast to be £59,700, higher any other region and than the Scottish average of £54,100.
- Over the long-term (2025-2032) productivity is expected to grow by 1.1% on average each year, broadly similar to Scotland as a whole.
- **4.6** tonnes of CO2 emissions per head in 2020, *matching* the UK and Scottish national positions.

## **Our Goals**



#### **Reduce Economic Exclusion**

- Reduce levels of economically inactivity.
- Reduce unemployment levels by disabled status.
- Reduce the number of people suffering the greatest levels of deprivation
- Minimise the impact of an increasing dependency ratio (e.g., those not in work who depend on those in work) in the region



## **Sustained and Increased Competitiveness**

 Increase productivity per capita by increasing adoption of data driven innovation and business start-ups.



#### Accelerate Fair Transition to Net Zero

- Reduce per capita end-user greenhouse gas emissions for the region and by sector
- Better achieve net zero by 2045, 90% by 2040 and 75% by 2030.

# **Opportunities & Challenges**

# **Opportunities**

Devise circular investment opportunities where benefits from investments are retained and magnified within the region.

Link supply and demand at a regional level so that regional needs can be better met locally in a sustainable fashion.

Develop a "pack mentality" in the REP to seek and deliver regional opportunities which transects all sectors and builds on the success of the City Region Deal.

Building on the progress in the digitisation of the regional economy, further drive adoption of this innovation into all sectors

Improve food and resource security at a regional level, and develop sustainable forms of tourism, culture and heritage

Deliver interventions that are collaborative, multi-faceted and diffused to address local needs across the region

Embed community wealth building in anchor institutions to increase focus on a wellbeing economy

Develop new partnerships with industry and the governments and secure funding through a "one region" approach that complements local action within communities

Mobilise a whole societal 'one region' approach to Net Zero, involving communities, businesses and governments

# Goals

# **Challenges**

Place based capital and revenue funding allocations, recognising the delivery of regional ambition, need to be designed and delivered

Significant fiscal uncertainty exists for the governments and the public sector. Maintaining core key services is the priority for all regional partners in the short term

Sustained and Increased Competitiveness

The scale and complexity of our external challenges requires a response that is equal to it, and **collective action at scale is vital** to meet them with the necessary capability and capacity

Change in national policies and approaches is needed if regional opportunities are to be realised



Reduced Economic Exclusion

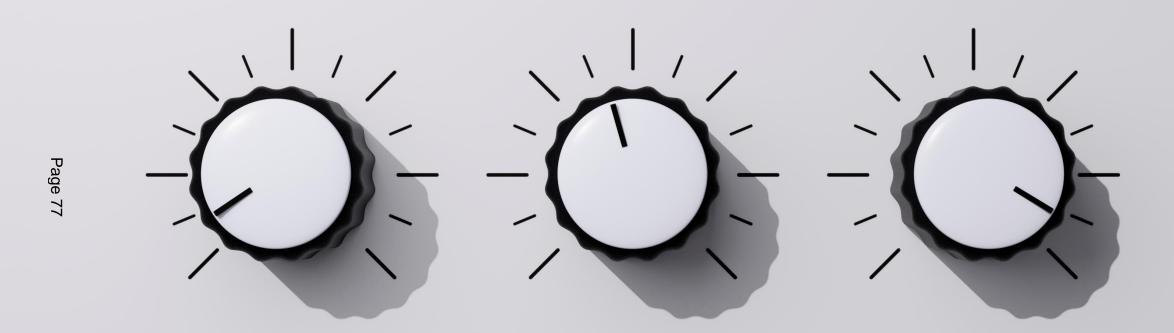


Quality of life shocks are having a real and sustained impact on the quality of life across the region, reinforcing regional inequalities



Whilst unprecedented transformative change is essential the cost of delivering a **just transition**, in the short term, is beyond the means of local government **alone**.

Page 76



# OUR ACTION PLAN PRIORITIES

2023 - 2025

# Resources Existing City Region Deal **Partnership** Power(s)) to Deliver **Financial** Reform(s)

Page

78

**Further** 

Strategic

Partnership(s)

# **Regional Action Programmes**

# Green Regeneration **Data Driven** Infrastructure Innovation for Recovery **Economy** & Prosperity Visitor **Economy &** Culture

## Action Plans 2023/25

- Green Freeport implementation plan
- Promote Strategic Regional Regeneration Sites
- Produce Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plan & Nature Recovery Plan/ Challenge Fund
- Develop proposals for Regional Net Zero Skills accelerator
- Regional Transport Masterplan
- Edinburgh City Region Sustainable
   Construction Home Demonstrator
- Regional Energy Masterplan
- Establish Regional Visitor Economy Partnership and Development Plan
- Develop Creative Industries, Culture & Festivals Recovery Plan
- DDI Sector Opportunity Plan & Prospectus
- DDI-led visitor destination management plan
- Business Case for Regional Intelligence Centre

Reduced

economic exclusion

Goals & Impacts

Sustained and increased the competitiveness of the region as part of Scotland and the UK.

Accelerated our Fair Transition to Net Zero

# **Green Regeneration**



- Await decision on Forth Green Freeport Bid & Cockenzie Power Station Site Levelling Up Bid:
  - Develop, define and deliver business cases for longer term projects and programmes
- Establish Forth Collaboration Network to oversee successful Forth transformation, including ambition to deliver:
  - Leith Renewables Hub and wider Edinburgh Waterfront
  - Climate Evolution Zone with net zero infrastructure and employment at former Cockenzie Power Station site (with rail link) and Blindwells New Settlement (with potential for expansion), as well as Eyemouth off-shore renewables service and operations hub, and in the longer term future opportunities at Torness Nuclear Power Station site
  - Rosyth International Port, including Green & Blue Innovation Economy Opportunities, reuse of former Longannet Power Station site (with rail link), and Energy Park Fife;
- Define and Develop a Regional Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plan:
  - Build on Adaptation Scotland's Regional Climate Risk Assessment to develop a regional adaptation and mitigation strategy
- Establish Nature Recovery Plan and Project Fund:
  - Use regional and local plans and strategies, including coastal management programmes and practices, and project planning to define and deliver cross border Other Area Based Conservation Measures and net benefits for biodiversity, linked to potential developer contribution protocols
- Regional Net Zero Accelerator:
  - Finalise Business Case for Regional Net Zero Skills Accelerator Hub to deliver programmes that enable key sectors to accelerate transition to net zero by meeting demand for green skills

# Infrastructure for Recovery & Prosperity



# Regional Transport Masterplan

- Collaboratively develop a brief for the South East Scotland Regional Transport Masterplan, Funding & Delivery Programme.
- The Master Plan will complement the Strategic Transport Projects Review 2, while providing influence and regional clarity on expectations.
- The Masterplan will build upon the Regional Transport Strategy by reviewing and identifying cross boundary infrastructure and services improvements beyond the remit of SPTR2.

# Edinburgh City Region Sustainable Construction Home Demonstrator

- New business model for deliveiring net zero affordable homes
- Phase 1 in delivery and scale up programme with Regional Pipeline defined
- Identify funding and delivery partner and potentially suitable sites for off-site manufacturing facilities e.g. for infrastructure and / or housing

# Regional Energy Masterplan

• Phase 1 funding secured and develop Phase 2 proposition and demonstrators

# **Visitor Economy & Culture**



- Regional Visitor Economy Partnership:
- Seek to establish Regional Partnership with Visit Scotland, Scottish Enterprise and others
- Regional Visitor Economy Development Plan:
  - Regional Partnership to co-produce a Plan that aligns regional ambitions and actions
- Festivals and Cultural Recovery:
  - Create Festivals Recovery Fund to create resilience, and to enable festivals to recover with new business model implemented
- Creative Industries:
  - Define regional creative industries sectoral challenges and opportunities, and co-produce a recovery and growth plan

# Data Driven Innovation (DDI) Economy



# DDI Prospectus Sector Opportunity Plan:

- Develop new regional and sectoral plans and prospectus to align the role and impact of data services across the business base and region, focusing on sectorial priorities
- DDI-led approach to visitor economy destination management:
  - Scope business case, which will help to position the region as a global leader in regional data-driven decision-making for strategic tourism investments
- Regional Intelligence Centre:
  - Finalise business case to enable regional policy makers, service delivery executives and the public to access relevant useful knowledge and insights to develop regional policy and improve services



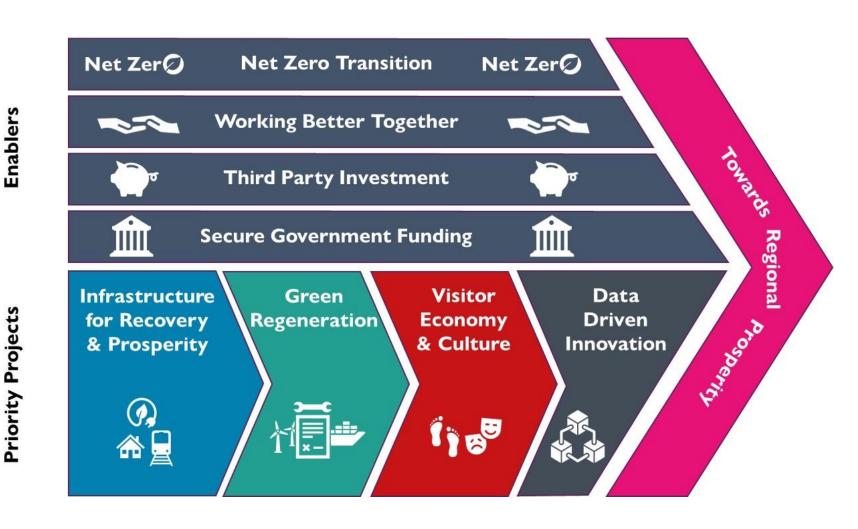
# OUR SHARED PROSPECTUS: DELIVERING TOGETHER

## A Call to Action

Early momentum is key to any major initiative and is embedded in the Action Plan. Our Call to Action does not require all **12** initiatives to be launched simultaneously and immediately. Instead, we will undertake the following four activities as a priority:

- Infrastructure for Recovery & Prosperity codeveloping with the Governments a new funding model for regional infrastructure initiatives that incorporates capital and revenue place-based funding allocations.
- Develop an investment prospectus for the Green Regeneration (focused on the Forth).
- Secure a sustainable visitor economy and promotion of our cultural assets.
- Promote the transition to data enabled business performance in the region.

These early wins will provide us with further evidence of the positive impact of regional working; build further confidence in our ability to collaborate and deliver and demonstrate the positive outcomes that investment in our region will deliver.



## **Our Ask of the Governments**

#### **Transformation is a Team activity**

Addressing the scale of transformation required to transition the region to a balanced economy that meets the needs of its citizens and businesses within the limits of its resources will require action at a local, regional and national level. It is for this reason that the Partners have set out an ambitious yet pragmatic vision for innovation and change. New ways of working together are required.

The region has the diversity and attributes to tackle many of its economic challenges in ways that provide for the needs of its citizens and businesses. But the nature of some of the actions required mean that a *new multi-governmental Team approach is required*. Many of the controls through which local and regional challenges can be addressed sit with others at Scottish or UK Government level. Through the right form of partnership (new collaborative approaches and funding models) the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Region has the potential to harness the opportunity of the drive to net zero, to build a more self-sustaining regional economy that can support a just transition for Scotland and the UK.

### Our Asks of Government Span Financial Support and New Forms of Partnering

To realise the aim and objectives of the Regional Prosperity Framework, and this associated Action Plan, Scottish and UK Government are asked to offer the following support:

#### Financial Support for Programmes

• We ask for our Action Plan to be achieved through a **medium to long term, integrated, place-based funding allocation** based on shared outcomes.

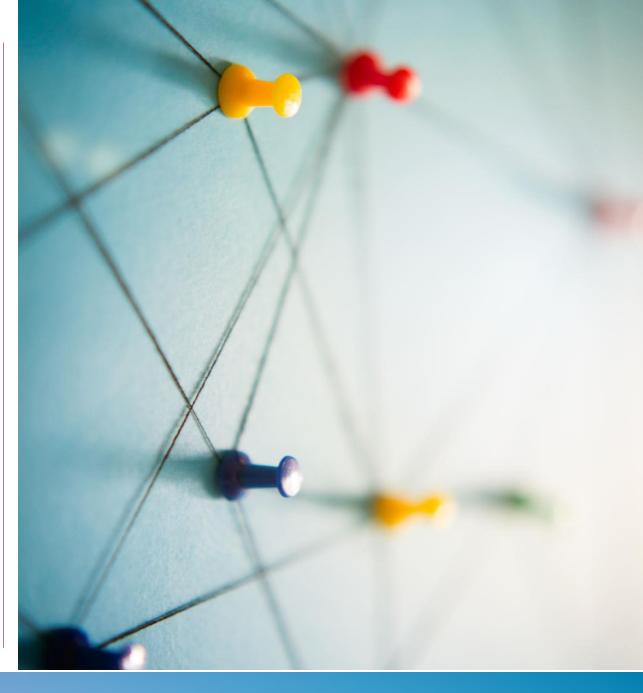
#### **New forms of Partnering**

- Support to develop a new Regional delivery capability to support the Regional Prosperity Framework
- Align national strategies & policies to support regional aspirations
- We ask both the Scottish and UK Governments to commit to continue to work in tripartite (UKG/SG/ESES) partnership.
- Recognise the region is closely aligned and uniquely positioned to progress the recommendations made in the Scottish Government's Regional Economic Policy Review.

#### **Enablement**

New powers and new delivery tools to deliver the Framework, through a "live" Action Plans.

National Strength Recognition – there are a basket of regional economic assets that are a vital part of the national economy, but which have been buffeted by recent economic upheavals. We want to work the Governments to secure these for the long term.



# What Will Change?

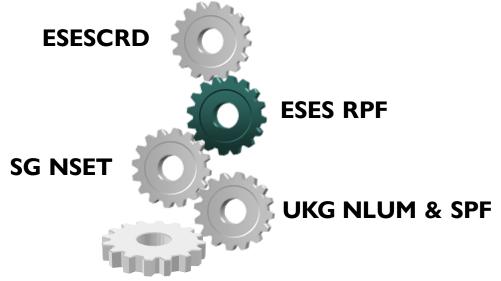
#### **Measuring impact**

As with the City Region Deal activity, it is intended that a Benefit Realisation approach be adopted for the Regional Prosperity Framework.

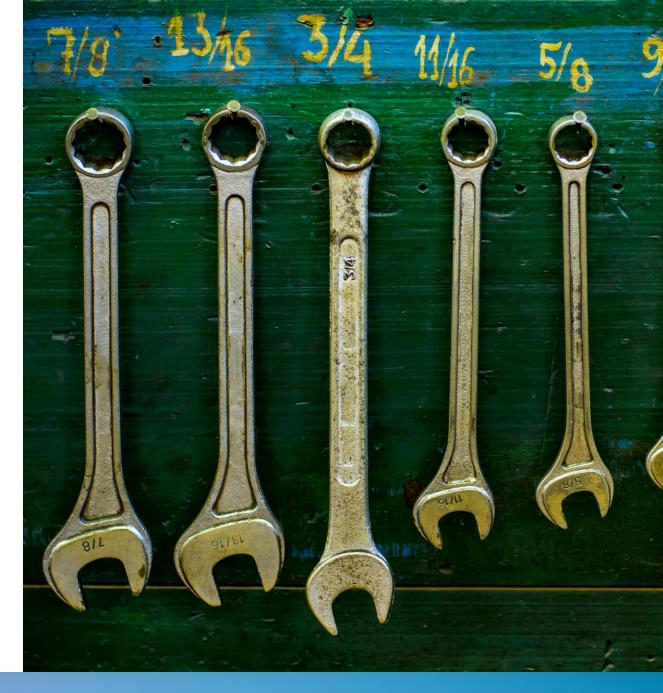
Given the emerging activities of the Scottish Government, and its National Strategy for Economic Transformation, and the Regional dimension to this being developed, and UK Government, through its Levelling Up Missions and Shared Prosperity Fund activity, the Regional Partners want to work with both UK and Scottish Government, and other Regional Partners, to develop a Benefit Realisation approach that enables all of these activities to be answered with the lowest possible resource demand, ensuring that resources are primarily focused on delivery and impact.

This will look at build up on the work already defined through the City Region Deal, to create a sustained suite of indicators of success and impact, supported by the stories of impact that allow economic development to be understood, allowing the stories of our citizens and businesses to be heard and amplified.

⁻age 86



**Shared Measurement Approach** 



It has been a pleasure for the Regional Enterprise Council (REC) to have been part of developing the Regional Prosperity Framework (RPF), from its original vision through to this Delivery Plan. The REC advises the City Region Deal's Joint Committee on the delivery of projects across the city region and encourages further investment opportunities, and has helped shape the ambition and strategic direction of the RPF.

There has been considerable change at a national, local and regional level since the RPF was published in September 2021. The City Region Deal Partners are determined to respond positively to challenges and changes in the economy. It is critically important that the RPF Delivery Plan is a living document that is regularly reviewed and re-focussed to ensure that everyone benefits from regional prosperity and growth.

The four key programmes - Green Forth; Housing and Recovery; Culture & Visitor Economy; and Data Enabled Business - are critical to the region's economic future. They provide clarity for collaboration and future investment to ensure this region continues to be Scotland's most successful and productive regional economy. The RPF Delivery Plan is a key step in delivering sustainable, inclusive growth to enhance and protect our environment and make best use of the region's built and natural assets, ensuring that the region delivers a just transition to a net zero economy.

Claire Pattullo and Gary Clark, Chair and Vice Chair of the Regional Enterprise Council

It has been a privilege to have been part of the team preparing the Regional Prosperity Framework to constitute a flexible and lasting template for economic development across the whole Region and to maximise the benefits for all from the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Deal.

A most welcome characteristic of how that team has worked together is the collaboration across geographies among the elected representatives from all political parties, council officials, communities and enterprises. As we have sought to build back differently for the future many open conversations have taken place about where we are now, where we want to be, and how we are going to get there. These conversations have been conducted, not as a dance of opposites, fueled by self-interest or point-scoring, but as heartfelt dialogues to collectively create and deliver a common vision for the future.

The team have had the confidence to be bold and ambitious in how the pressing challenges that exist for our enterprises, workplaces, marketplaces, communities and for our environment can be addressed. We have had a shared vision of a sustainable, respectful Scotland, where individuals and communities can flourish, and our diversity is celebrated. That vision recognises that our wellbeing is dependent upon the people most affected taking informed decisions about their futures.

As the Framework process now moves from design the team is wrestling with how the pace of delivery can be accelerated. As the actions and outputs are measured, we will answer the timeless question posed by immunologist Jonas Salk, who developed the polio vaccine in the 1950s: are we being good ancestors?

Robert Carr, Regional Enterprise Council, Partner and Solicitor Advocate - Anderson Strathern



# Regional Prosperity Framework: 2023/24 Delivery Plan

This is a 'living document' and will be updated on an annual basis to reflect the delivery of activities to ensure that the Region meets its long term goals of a regional economy that is **resilient**, **flourishing** and **innovative**.













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# ANNEX 1: CASE STUDIES ON EXISTING REGIONAL COLLABORATION

# Case Study: Borders Railway

When opened in September 2015, the Borders Railway marked the longest domestic railway to be constructed in Britain for over 100 years. The new railway quickly and substantially exceeded the predicted patronage figures and wider benefit forecasts.

The line has breathed fresh vitality and investment into the communities it serves, transforming the places and local economies by:

- Retaining and attracting residents;
- Enabling the local business base to expand; and
- Doing so in a sustainable manner.

There is a commitment in the Borderland Growth Deal for UK and Scottish Governments to fund a Feasibility Study to deliver the remaining section to Carlisle, providing an important regional and national connection southwards to the rest of the UK.

- intercharge

**Source**: Borders Railway Completion The missing link - re-connecting the Borderlands — Produced by Borderland Inclusive Growth Deal

Transport Scotland evaluation of the existing line has revealed the wide-ranging nature of the impacts in just the first two years of operation (since 2015/16). Only two years of data is likely to vastly underreport the full impacts - major rail infrastructure would typically take five to ten years for the full effects. Impact summary below:

#### Connectivity

- 40% of journeys were not previously made.
- In only two years, 15% of survey respondents indicating they had changed employment, and over half indicating that the line was a factor.
- 90%+ of travel is to/from Edinburgh and beyond.
- 15% of users did not have a car available.

#### Modal Shift

- 60% used another mode, of which 64% previously travelled by car.
- 6% of survey respondents had reduced their car ownership.

#### Housing

- Housing delivery in Midlothian doubled in years before opening.
- Over 50% of new residents stated the line had been a factor in their decision to move to the area.

#### **Visitor Economy**

- Visitor numbers for Midlothian and Borders attractions increased by 7% in the first half of 2016.
- 70% of tourist and day visitor users said the railway had been a factor in their decision to make the trip.

#### Skills/Qualifications/Training

 Applications to Borders College (Galashiels) increased by 74% in 2016/17 compared to the previous year.

Approach: Partnership

**Themes**: Innovative – Flourishing & Resilient **Benefits**: Net Zero, jobs, connectivity,

housing, skills

Page 90

Case Study: Preparing for Tomorrow Today – Granton Net Zero Housing

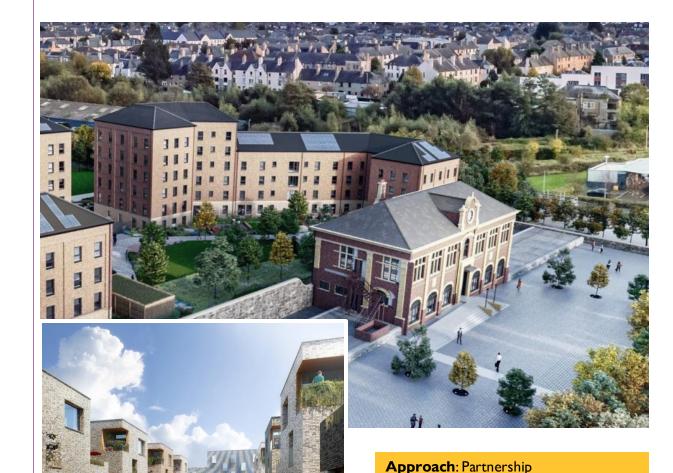
As part of the Region's commitment to "net-zero" 75 net-zero carbon homes and three retail units have been developed as part of the Granton D1 initiative.

This is an Edinburgh Home Demonstrator (EHD) pilot, championed by City Region partner, the City of Edinburgh Council, with support from construction and academic partners. It is part of the region's ambitions to deliver XXXX affordable homes by 2028.

The project was undertaken in partnership with CCG (Scotland) Ltd, to test this new business model for building affordable, net zero homes. A large proportion of the construction was carried out off-site in a factory setting, re\( \mathbb{H}\) icing the overall time it takes to build the homes.

The homes include zero emissions heating, reducing the risk of fuel poverty for tenants. In addition, this will help reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and support the region's net-zero targets.

The pilot is also supported by a team from Napier Edinburgh University, who are analysing the energy performance of the homes to validate and inform the net-zero carbon strategy for future EHD projects. The EHD project aims to deliver 1000 affordable net-zero carbon homes across the region as part of the City Region Deal.



**Themes**: Innovative – Resilient

for other developments

Benefits: Net Zero, homes, jobs, model

Case Study: Integrated Regional Employability & Skills (IRES)

IRES is a £25m, 8 year change programme which started in April 2018. Excellent progress is being made towards delivering an additional 14,700 skill improvements; 5,300 people into employment; and a further 500 career enhancements through its 7 themes:





Building on the successful partnerships established through the IRES programme we will support the Regional Prosperity Framework through the establishment of additional Skills Gateways. A Net Zero Accelerator to develop skills linked to green economy jobs including Construction, Energy and Transport; whilst there is a strong ambition for a Health and Social Care Skills Gateway to support innovation and capacity.

Outputs and outcomes are tracked through a bespoke monitoring and evaluation framework and reported using a live dashboard

Skills

Approach: Partnership

**Themes**: Resilient – Aligning Skills **Benefits**: Skills, Jobs, Poverty

Reduction

# Case Study: Regional Transport Master Plan

Transport is a key enabler to unlock the region's potential, but in many areas, it has constrained the full realisation of opportunities and benefits for our people, place and economy. The national commitment to decarbonised transport and infrastructure provides a once in a generational opportunity to deliver a 'Just Transition' to tackle transport poverty and the inequalities that currently exist across the region. Coupled with the publication of the Regional Transport Strategy, Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 and the National Planning Framework 4, it all supports an 'infrastructure first' approach to deliver a sustainably connected region.

Our Previous approach to public transport no longer responds to our region's needs and barriers. Instead, having a transport system which is collaborative, coordinated, collects/analyses/responds to the emerging data, is inclusive and responsive, attracts a diverse workforce, while minimising its impact on the environment is critical to the region's success.

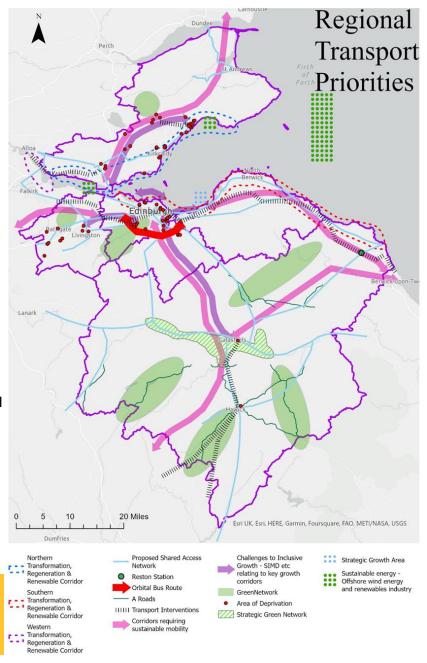
A regional Master Plan will respond to the needs of the region by identifying the cross-boundary opportunities that will fill the gaps of SPTR2, identify economies of scale, build on existing partnerships to support the region's ambition and respond to current and future challenges.

**Approach**: Partnership

Themes: Innovative, Flourishing & Resilient

Benefits: Net Zero, jobs, connectivity, enabling the RPF 4

**Priority Projects** 



As an example of this is Mass Rapid Transit (MRT). It must be designed with regional coordination, smarter (utilising data) and be responsive to accommodate high volumes of movement to key local and regional destinations, while acknowledge the variances in daily demand for a flexible working population. Regional MRT will include:

- Tram:
- · Light / heavy rail (existing and new);
- Bus: and

 Active travel to deliver integration into wider local transport networks (whole journey approach – first mile/last mile).

Key to its success will be the equitable delivery of scaled journey hubs, targeted local/regional infrastructure improvements, a single Mobility as a Service information and ticketing system, open API's across all transport modes to optimise the network and experience for the end user

This will also support the expectations and demands of the visitors to our region, whether they are local, national or international. Assisting the role of the visitor arrival hubs like Edinburgh Airport, as a crucial access point for national and international visitors, before they seek coordinated sustainable transport options to visit the wider region and Scotland.

#### **Master Plan Priorities:**

- Partnership;
- Mobility as a Service;
- Data sharing and digital infrastructure aligned to transport network;
- Public transport infrastructure and services investment and funding models;
- Improve arterial routes into rural communities;
- Active Travel;
- Efficient movement of freight;
- Behavioral Change; and
- Decarbonising Transport.

Case Study: Place, People and Planet



# Edin burgh Innovation Hub & Park

- Joint venture between East Lothian Council and Queen Margaret University to deliver the Edinburgh Innovation Hub
- Is funded by UK Government, the Scottish Government, and the Council
- The Hub will drive company growth, support and develop existing businesses and create sustainable new businesses to access a global market for healthy and functional food
- Will be a catalyst for subsequent delivery of wider Edinburgh Innovation Park (EIP)
- The EIP will create a nationally significant centre of knowledge exchange, innovation and high value businesses

# **Draft Example**



#### East Lothian's Climate Evolution Zone

As part of the wider greening of the Forth, strategic net zero and just transition opportunities in this Zone include:

- the redevelopment of the Cockenzie Power Station site for net zero infrastructure and strategic employment
- Blindwells new settlement, with potential for expansion into a significant new town
- Sustainable infrastructure, including strategic transport improvements, potential for high speed rail, and green and blue network and nature based solutions

These major green growth projects can also be a catalyst for significant regeneration, and require partnership to enable and accelerate benefits.





#### **Future of Torness Power Station Site**

The future reuse of Torness Power Station site, with its grid connection, coastal location and deep water access, is a significant long term opportunity linked to the wider greening of the Forth. Strategic collaboration and partnership on the future use of this site and wider area could deliver long term benefits.

Approach: Partnership

**Themes:** Flourishing – Innovative – Resilient

**Benefits:** Green growth and jobs, and biomedical, net zero and just transition innovation, housing delivery, including affordable homes, strategic and sustainable infrastructure, regeneration and place-making,

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