

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL

Report to: Clackmannanshire Council

Date: 8 September, 2016

Subject: City Deal

Report by: Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to bring to members' attention some very recent developments in respect of Clackmannanshire Council's potential involvement in City Deal and to seek approval for Council engagement in the Initiative.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Council:
- a) agrees to work as an equal partner with Stirling Council and other relevant organisations on the City Deal Initiative;
 - b) agrees that the Council Leader should be the Council spokesperson for City Deal and, as such, represent the Council politically on the matter;
 - c) notes that officers are having preliminary discussions with their counterparts in Stirling Council on the development of potential business cases under the auspices of City Deal;
 - d) notes that a member briefing is scheduled for 13 September which will provide fuller information on City Deal and the opportunities it could offer for new collaborative approaches to improving the regional economy of which Clackmannanshire is a part;
 - e) notes that a more detailed update report on City Deal will be brought to a future meeting of Council.

3.0 Background & Considerations

- 3.1 The City Deal is an initiative under Scotland's Cities' Strategy and is focused on the regional economies of Scotland's seven cities, of which Stirling is one.
- 3.2 The City Deal initiative offers the potential for new collaborative partnerships focused on long-term strategic approaches to improving regional economies. Its aim is to deliver positive economic outcomes by encouraging local authorities to operate strategically at regional level to support the priorities of 'Scotland's Economic Strategy'.

3.3 Stirling Council has been working for some time on developing its strategy and the associated business cases for which it will be seeking City Deal funding. Clackmannanshire is part of the regional economy associated with Stirling City Deal and, accordingly, this Council through its officers and members has been seeking to become engaged with the Initiative. Very recently, Stirling Council has responded to these approaches and there now exists a positive opportunity for this Council to become directly involved in City Deal via:

- joint working on potential projects which are mutually beneficial to Clackmannanshire and Stirling; and
- the development of business cases for Clackmannanshire projects which could provide wider economic benefit across the regional economy.

3.4 One of Clackmannanshire's underpinning principles will be to take forward proposals on the basis of inclusive growth, one of the four key strands of Scotland's economic strategy. The overall aim of this is to make tangible improvements to our communities and economy, provide equity across the region to improve health, access to jobs, connectivity, social inclusion and enhance overall life opportunities through investing, improving the areas infrastructure and promoting the attractiveness of the Clackmannanshire and Stirling city region

3.5 Potential themes which are under preliminary exploration include:

- Digital infrastructure and connectivity
- Creating business space
- Towns and Villages
- Leisure and tourism development
- Unlocking residential development
- Transport Infrastructure
- Employability and skills.

3.6 An all member briefing is being held on 13 September at which more detailed information will be provided about the City Deal and the potential opportunities for Clackmannanshire which may arise. In addition, a fuller report will come forward to a future meeting of the Council for member consideration.

4.0 Sustainability Implications - N/A

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. *Financial Detail*

There are no immediate budget implications arising from this report.

City Deal funding is contingent on business cases being prepared and approved.

It is likely resource will be required to develop and take forward Clackmannanshire's proposals, which will be detailed in a future paper to Council

5.2. *Staffing Implications*

There is no impact on the Council's establishment directly as a result of this report.

6.0 **Declarations**

6.1 The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities**

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail) Single Outcome Agreement; Economic Development Strategy, Employability Strategy

7.0 **Equalities Impact**

7.1 N/A

8.0 **Legality**

8.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

9.0 **Appendices**

None

10.0 **Background Papers**

None

Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Elaine McPherson	Chief Executive	Signed: E McPherson

