



Stirling & Clackmannanshire City Region Deal

City Region Deal Joint Committee – 19 June 2025

Agenda Item 4.1

MINUTES

MINUTES of MEETING of the STIRLING AND CLACKMANNANSHERE CITY REGION DEAL JOINT COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILNCRAIGS, ALLOA and by MICROSOFT TEAMS on THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2025 at 2.30 pm

Present

Councillor Ellen Forson, Clackmannanshire Council (Chair)
Councillor Neil Benny, Stirling Council (Via Teams)
Councillor Martha Benny, Clackmannanshire Council (Via Teams)
Graeme Duff, University of Stirling (Via Teams)
Councillor Kenneth Earle (Via Teams (S))
Professor Leigh Sparks, University of Stirling (Via Teams)
Councillor Gerry McGarvey, Stirling Council
Eileen Schofield, University of Stirling (Via Teams)

In Attendance

Caroline Sinclair, Chief Executive, Stirling Council
Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive, Clackmannanshire Council
Sally Dimeo, Chief Finance Officer, University of Stirling (Via Teams)
Lindsay Sim, Chief Finance Officer, Clackmannanshire Council (Via Teams)
John Craig, Head of the City Region and Growth Deal Programme, University of Stirling (Via Teams)
Professor Iain Docherty, University of Stirling, Chair of Regional Economic Advisory Group
Emma Fyvie, Head of Economic Development, Planning & Climate Change, Stirling Council
Kevin Wells, Strategic Director, Clackmannanshire Council
Brian Roberts, Chief Operating Officer- Infrastructure & Environment, Stirling Council
Kelly Mathewson, Economic Development Project Manager, Stirling Council
Lena Schelling, Programme Officer/Analyst, Regional Programme Management Office
Mark Henderson, Communications, Stirling Council (Via Teams)
Helena Arthur, Solicitor, Legal and Governance, Clackmannanshire Council (Depute Clerk)
Sarah Goldberg, Team Leader, Legal and Governance, Clackmannanshire Council (Via Teams)
Melanie Moore, Committee Services, Clackmannanshire Council
Gillian White, Committee Services, Clackmannanshire Council



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Recording of Meeting started

Prior to the start of the meeting, Councillor Forson, as Chair of the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal Joint Committee, welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was advised that the meeting was being broadcast live via Clackmannanshire Council's website and that a recording of the meeting would also be made publicly available on the website following the meeting.

CRD45 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Councillor Janine Rennie, Clackmannanshire Council, submitted her apologies and Councillor Kenneth Earle attended as substitute for Councillor Rennie.

CRD46 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CRD47 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business brought forward.

CRD37 MINUTES – STIRLING & CLACKMANNANSHIRE CITY REGION DEAL JOINT COMMITTEE – 31 OCTOBER 2024

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal Joint Committee held on 31 October 2024 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The Stirling & Clackmannanshire City Region Deal Joint Committee approved the minutes of the meeting of 31 October 2024 as an accurate record of proceedings.

EXEMPT ITEM

The Joint Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(a) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in Schedule 7A, Part 1, Paragraph 9.

CRD38 STIRLING DIGITAL HUB

The purpose of the report, submitted by Kelly Mathewson, Economic Development Project Manager, Stirling Council, presented for review and approval, the Stirling Digital Hub Business Justification Case ("BJC") found at Appendix 1. The Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal Joint Committee (the "Joint Committee") has been delegated power by both Councils to make decisions on project business cases within the City Region Deal remit.



The BJC sought approval for up to £2 million of City Region Deal ("CRD") funding to develop the Stirling Digital Hub (the "Hub"). The Hub aims to build on the local successes in the digital sector, and to support and enable the further growth of local digital companies, while attracting inward investment opportunities.

The BJC presented the strategic, economic, commercial, financial and management cases for the Hub. The BJC has been reviewed by Scottish Government which has provided a letter of comfort that the BJC will be approved when tenders are returned, and final costs are known. The letter of comfort was attached as appendix 2.

Approval of the BJC by Joint Committee will be followed by a report to Stirling Council's Finance, Economy and Corporate Services Committee seeking approval to procure the works. It is expected works will be completed by the end of 2025.

Decision

Having considered the report and having had the opportunity to ask questions, the Stirling & Clackmannanshire City Region Deal Joint Committee agreed to:-

1. Approve the Stirling Digital Hub Business Justification Case; and
2. Note that following approval of the business case, a report will be taken to Stirling Council's Finance, Economy and Corporate Resources Committee in April, seeking approval to commence the procurement process.

Action

Kelly Mathewson, Economic Development Project Manager, Stirling Council

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.04 pm