Moray Economic Partnership

Horizon Scotland, Forres

Thursday 28th February 2019, 10am

Graham Leadbitter (Chair)	Moray Council
Rhona Gunn	Moray Council
Jim Grant	Moray Council
Gordon Sutherland	Moray Council
Ranald Robertson	Hitrans
Donna Chisholm	HIE
Fabio Villani	TSI Moray
David Patterson	Moray College UHI
Ewan Mcintosh	Gordon and McPhail
Jamie Hogg	NHS Grampian
Calum Macpherson	Robertson
Fraser Grieve	SCDI
Sarah Medcraf	Moray Chamber of Commerce
Stephen Sheridan	Skills Development Scotland
Helen Ross	Muckle Media
Annie Diamond	Muckle Media
Kimberly Park	Muckle Media
Joanne Chisholm	Moray Council

Apologies

Laurie Piper	Moray Speyside Tourism
Murray Ferguson	CNPA
Andrew Anderson	TSI Moray

1.	Meeting Note and Actions from December	
	Introductions took place. Minute approved as an accurate record. DC asked for an update from JH regarding the situation with Dr Grays under AOB.	
2.	Moray Economic Strategy - governance	
	DC previously circulated a set of recommendations for consideration and invited comments from MEP.	
	MEP should operate as an open exchange environment with meaningful conversation and discussion on what is working and what's not. It should be an environment where we can discuss the Moray area without press getting involved and key action points recorded. All agreed.	
	The Partnership Charter should be updated showing how to interact and	

behaviours of the group. It was agreed that it should be a member from the private sector to chair and the charter to be agreed under the leadership of the new chair. The rebirth of MEP is an opportunity to show who covers each element and who the sub meetings are.

It was proposed that there should be 11 core members who has burden of change and only relevant businesses attending when required. After discussion the following points were made:-

- FV would like more third sector input.
- FG advised as he is on the MGD Board it would be useful for someone else to cover MEP.
- Hitrans can attend for Transport when required.

EM emphasised that we need a figurehead as Chair ensuring actions are met who will have an informed and committed role and be involved in the agenda setting. The minute will be actions only. HR added that the chair is mentioned in all press releases. After discussion, it was agreed to create a list of names and ensure that this is a volunteer and not a paid role. RG thought it would be useful to have a job description similar to what was done for MGD.

All agreed for the leader of the Council to be an observer by invite only.

After discussion it was agreed that Housing would be added as an agenda point to discuss the public/private issue. Only RG or JG will attend from now depending on the agenda point.

Working Groups

Skills and Employability meet 4 times per year before MEP. Additional meetings may be added when required.

FV to discuss Skills and Employment separately with SS in connection with 1.2 and 3.3.

Skills Investment Delivery Plan Governance (Item 5)

JG previously circulated paper regarding this item and explained it came from Ekos and all actions overlap.

It was confirmed that HIE rep should be Ian Bolland and only Dave McCallum for SDS. Moray Chamber are a small team and JG can inform chamber when a rep is required to attend.

3. Items relating to MES Themes and enablers

Leaflets were circulated on A96 dualling with preferred options.

RR advised there would be value in meeting with consultants but there will be statutory objections to overcome. We need to build on employment in Forres, attract people to Moray and show that it will now be a quicker route to the Airport. It was acknowledged that there is more work to be done with

FV/SS

JG

5.	Skills Investment Delivery Plan governance - Mentioned at item 2	
	planning themselves and see how key issues unfold with strategy.	
	DC advised that the Chairs on each relevant outcome group will take on action	
	DC to circulate links to both reports.	DC
	meeting.	DC
	Transport Scotland. It may also be an option to invite consultants to the next MEP	
	action plan forward along with input from Hitrans including a dialogue with	
	After discussions, it was agreed that external input would be required to take	
	recruitment side and apprentices in Moray to encourage local jobs.	

Westminster event has now been confirmed for 24th April 2019 and MOD are sending 6 reps to make their support clear. There will be a Moray contingent travelling of @ 40 people which is a very significant show of support. UK Government rep has figure authorised by treasury including ability to negotiate a percentage in devolved space but we don't know the figure yet. RG described the projects the UK Govt are supportive of but we don't yet know the position of the Scottish Govt. The UK Govt have also indicated a desire to fund a couple of additional projects which they consider would support the Moray economy . RG discussed the move to two stages – an announcement on quantum then an announcement on Heads of Terms and the timing expected for these.

RG expalined the parameters possible for the deal quantum.

RG advised that there is a negotiating team set up with the leader of the Council, Donna from HIE, Jim and Rhona and other players. They are looking for a rep from the Business Assembly possibly Michael Urquhart and a Community rep to help ensure the deal also meets the inclusive economic growth and rurality requirements. Once Heads of Terms have been announced the general public will want to know what difference it will make for the Community (not just Elgin but also rural parts) and the community rep will be part of the way in which this would be conveyed.

BiGGAR Economics are the consultants that have been appointed to provide economic expertise.

FV to arrange meeting with Rhona and Jim to discuss separately Tsi's desire to be more closely involved.

		FV/RG/JG
6.	Media Services Contract Update	
	Funding partners met in January and considered a report from Muckle Media (MM) regarding works undertaken for the partnership since March 2018. Partners concurred there had been a large amount of work undertaken and MM had delivered on the work streams identified including amongst other things communications support for the Growth Deal including logistics for the Holyrood engagement and the refresh of the My Moray website. As such partners were content to exercise the option to extend the existing contract with MM for 12 months (to 16 May 2020).	
	With budget pressures on all the funding partners for 2019/20 the plan is that with a contingency, media services will focus on maintaining the My Moray site, alongside promotion of the Growth Deal, support for the TBID, and promotion of Moray College UHI specific messages. The budget should allow for 2 days a month to the MGD and 2 days a month to general 'My Moray' activity providing a little bit of flexibility. This would allow MM to respond to media enquiries, maintain social media presence, keep the website updated, and accommodate new requests from MEP partners.	
7.	AOB	
	Muckle Media advised that after initial challenges which have now been addressed the My Moray website is now a landing place for businesses to attract them to the area. If anyone has any feedback from MEP HR asked to send over to Muckle Media.	
	As mentioned in December, JH confirmed the NHS are now rebuilding their team with doctors, nurses, advanced prescribed pharmacist, advanced nurse practitioners which are some are the first in Scotland. The Maternity and Paediatrics should be back fully running by the end of 2019 and by then nurse practitioners will be fully trained. Dr Grays are now pitching to train and attract people to train in Moray.	
	They are now involved in wider networks to partnership and bring more to Moray with pre procurement test bed environmental and clinical feedback which is valuable to companies. It has been a challenging period but moving in the right direction.	
	DC added that HIE and Moray Council want to work effectively with NHS and Dr Grays with talent attraction and want to be known as an innovation hospital for digital health. The digital health institute will also be growing through Moray Growth Deal. DC happy to discuss further.	DC/JH
	There was trouble recruiting nurses this time last year with the bad press but RAF	

have been more active with spousal employment. A film will be made by the RAF

	Thursday 13 June 2018 – 10am – James Jones, Forres	
8.	Date of next meeting	
	Chair confirmed that it is GS last MEP meeting and thanked GS for the work carried, professional advice and support and is much appreciated	•
	EM advised it would be useful to add TBID as a point on the next agenda so we can discuss now in connection with messaging and timing and LP can provide an update.	DC/LP
	RG confirmed the MOD are awaiting announcement for the expansion at Kinloss which it is hoped may come in the next few days.	
	TSIMoray will hold a join the dots event bringing together community groups, voluntary organisations, social enterprises, charities and public agencies and will be held on 20 th March 2019 and details can be found on the TSIMoray website.	
	on case studies on people relocating and footage will be put on My Moray. SM will pass details on to JH.	SM