

Moray Economic Partnership

Teams Meeting

Wednesday 5 July 2022 @ 15:00

David Reid	HIE (Chair)
Andrew Anderson	tsiMoray
Chris Muir	Moray Council
Jim Grant	Moray Council
Rhona Gunn	Moray Council
Stephen Sheridan	SDS
Sarah Medcraf	Moray Chamber of Commerce
Kerry Williams (Minutes)	HIE

Apologies

Graham Leadbitter (Chair)	Moray Council
David Patterson	Moray College UHI
Jamie Hogg	NHS Grampian - Dr Gray's Hospital
John Cowe	Councillor, Moray Council
Katherine Mackintosh	Robertsons
Pearl Hamilton	FSB

1. Welcome Chair: GL absent today but DR to chair this meeting.	
2. Minutes from last meeting and matters arising Minutes agreed	
3. a. Levelling Up Fund JG announced that a proposal bid went to the full council last week and details have been published in the local press. If the bid is successful, the first round of funding will concentrate on regenerating derelict and vacant sites with several planned projects due to benefit including: i. Old Mill Site. Although this has a few issues to resolve such as flooding and different ownerships. The Moray Council (TMC) will deal with the flooding and develop the auction site. The land over the road will be developed under the private sector. The development will also encourage active travel by narrowing the road over the railway bridge, widening the pavement and adopting one-way systems. ii. Sign of The Times second hand shop in South Street to be developed into an arts/creative sector space. iii. Jenners toy shop and the old Jailhouse will be developed to complement the Moray Growth Deal.	

	<p>iv. The Elgin Club in Commerce Street will be refurbished by the private sector into a boutique hotel.</p> <p>v. Cooper Park will see development of the pond, public conveniences, and further seating areas.</p>	
3	<p>b. Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)</p> <p>UKG have now set the criteria for the funding bid. It has been recommended for a community partnership, such as the MEP, to encompass:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Employability Partnership to focus on skills • Local business intervention • Community and places <p>Town centre regeneration could be a good fit for this fund said JG. MP and MSP will be invited to attend the council meeting to sign off the bid at the end of the month.</p> <p>The deadline for applications is 1st August with a time frame for allocation initially for 3 years with another 2 years to be confirmed. All the funds are hugely transformational for Moray and there is a requirement to recognise the scale of the projects to deliver.</p> <p>SM commented that the SPF criteria is widely spread however JG clarified that TMC will use a percentage of funds to administer the scheme but some funding will be apportioned to the third sector. SM asked whether there would be scope in the fund to use for skills, employability and third sector towards childcare? JG responded that potentially this could be possible but also could go through the Challenge Fund. JG/SM to take offline for further discussion.</p> <p>ACTION: JG/SM to discuss childcare through the Challenge Fund</p>	JG/SM
4.	<p>Just Transition Fund</p> <p>A total of £19m will be made available across the whole Grampian region with £1m for the third sector. The criteria for the fund were announced on 31st May and allows for any organisation to bid with eligibility criteria attached. Scottish Government are looking for bids to be ambitious. JG said TMC will focus mainly on feasibility studies, associated with carbon off-setting, energy, hydrogen, development of derelict land, and refurbishment of existing buildings.</p> <p>JG shared concern around Council resources to delivery on the Growth Deal projects and SRO function while adding JTF into the mix.</p>	
5.	<p>Moray Economic Strategy Refresh (MES)</p> <p>DR announced that the fourth draft of the MES had now been submitted and is ready for HIE graphics designer to input infographics and photographs. RG highlighted that the terminology of the Action Plan needs to go into more depth and team leads will need to have an inception meeting to pad out the column actions.</p>	

	<p>DR commented that the document can change and evolve to plot progress – it is fully flexible as an online document.</p> <p>ACTION: Theme leads to pull together groups for the Action Plan Framework in the first instance – there is no need to wait until the final uploaded document is ready. Working groups to agree the tone and context of where we are with an open measurement framework and action plan.</p>	<p>All Team leads</p>
<p>6. MEP Structure</p>	<p>DR proposed that as there is a new council in place it would be an appropriate time to recalibrate the MEP. The group has an updated role to play, and it would be timely to reshape the cohort, looking for active participants with good business representatives to take forward and raise up the profile of the MEP as it has evolved.</p> <p>GL has been nominated by the council to continue as Chair, however, it was suggested that the possibility of a joint chair, perhaps from the public/private sector would increase employer visibility. Someone from the Business Assembly could have a lot of influence. There was previously representation from three councillors but now there are five parties to consider in this council’s administration so membership would need to be limited.</p> <p>A new Terms of Reference will be required to include a voice into SG (SS recommended looking at One North East as a good example).</p> <p>It was suggested and agreed that HIE would take a first draft positioning, discussion and recommendation paper to the next meeting with the aim of recalibrating the role and structure of MEP and taking account of the refocus in-line with the MES. The discussion paper to consider the following:</p> <p>RG advised developing a structure to feedback at each group and have reporting built in from the start.</p> <p>ACTION – DR to pull together a discussion paper on recalibration of MEP structure, focus and membership. All to contribute thoughts and suggestions over next couple of weeks. No requirement to wait until next MEP.</p>	<p>DR/All</p>
<p>7. AOB</p>	<p>CM confirmed that the media/comms company White Label have a set budget and a proposal for delivery. SM commented that it is encouraging to have the company feed into the MEP and to attend further meetings by agenda item only. DR encouraged the members to put forward news to White Label Creative rather than have to find out information. TMC would control and manage the contract but members to contribute when relevant and appropriate to engage.</p> <p>CM suggested having inviting guest speakers to future meetings.</p>	

8.	Date and Time of next meeting(s) Wednesday 7 September Time 2:00pm – 4:00pm Wednesday 7 December Time: 2:00pm – 4:00pm	
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	ACTIONS SUMMARY	
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