

AYRSHIRE ECONOMIC JOINT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 1530 HRS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS

PRESENT: Councillors Douglas Reid, East Ayrshire Council; Councillor Siobhan Brown, South Ayrshire Council; Councillor Marie Burns, North Ayrshire Council; Councillor Brian Connolly, South Ayrshire Council; Councillor Tom Cook, East Ayrshire Council; Councillor Joe Cullinane, North Ayrshire Council; Simon Foster, Director of Engineering, Spirit Aerosystems; Councillor Alex Gallagher, North Ayrshire Council; Donald Gillies, Director - Place, South Ayrshire Council; Andrea Glass, Regional Skills Planning Lead (South West Scotland and Forth Valley), Skills Development Scotland; Craig Hatton, Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council; Councillor Peter Henderson, South Ayrshire Council; Eileen Howat, Chief Executive, South Ayrshire Council; Fiona Lees, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council; Councillors John McGhee, East Ayrshire Council; Alex McPhee, Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer: Economy and Skills, East Ayrshire Council; Mark Newlands, Head of Partnerships, Scottish Enterprise; and Karen Yeomans, Executive Director of Economy and Communities, North Ayrshire Council.

OFFICERS ATTENDING: Allison Craig, Programme Manager, Ayrshire Growth Deal, South Ayrshire Council; David McDowall, Interim Head of Planning and Economic Development, East Ayrshire Council; and Julie Nicol, Service Lead, Planning and Building Standards, South Ayrshire Council.

ATTENDING: Gillian Hamilton, Democratic Services Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

APOLOGY: Katie Hutton, Director of National Training Programmes, Skills Development Scotland.

CHAIR: Alex McPhee, Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer: Economy and Skills for Items 1 - 2 below and Councillor Joe Cullinane, North Ayrshire Council thereafter.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

1. The Committee agreed to pass the following Resolution:- "That under Section 50A(3A) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that if members of the public were present, there would be a real and substantial risk to public health due to infection or contamination with coronavirus".

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF AYRSHIRE ECONOMIC JOINT COMMITTEE

2. It was noted that under the Terms of Reference for the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee, the Chair of the Joint Committee was due, from September 2020, to rotate to North Ayrshire Council for the period up until September 2021.

It was unanimously agreed to appoint Councillor Joe Cullinane as Chair of the Joint Committee for the period up until September 2021.

RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF AYRSHIRE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

- 2.2** It was noted that the Ayrshire Economic Partnership Board on 14 September 2020 had unanimously agreed to recommend the appointment of Councillor Peter Henderson, South Ayrshire Council as Chair of the Partnership Board for the period up until September 2021. The appointment was approved.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.** There were submitted and approved as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 June 2020 (circulated).

3.1 ACTIONS LOG

There was submitted and noted a list of actions from the previous meeting.

AYRSHIRE GROWTH DEAL - PROGRAMME UPDATE

- 4.** There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer: Economy and Skills, East Ayrshire Council which advised on the progress of the Ayrshire Growth Deal and the development of its component projects as at 24 August 2020 and set out the principal Ayrshire Growth Deal package of documents for consideration and agreement by the Joint Committee prior to formal joint sign off by the three Councils and by the UK and Scottish Governments. The report also provided the draft spend profile for the Deal over its lifetime. This was a draft estimate based on current activities and implementation plans and would be subject to review as Outline Business Cases (OBCs) were finalised. This profile would also be subject to negotiation with both the UK and Scottish Governments and would form a key part of the Deal documents which would require to be signed prior to full Deal implementation.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the updates provided in the report;
- (ii) to note the progress across the Ayrshire Growth Deal Programme;
- (iii) to note the key elements of work that should be concluded prior to Growth Deal implementation;
- (iv) to note the tentative date of late September 2020 for signing of the Ayrshire Growth Deal and that both UK and Scottish Governments remained fully committed to the growth deals programme across Scotland;
- (v) to note the Agreement between East, North and South Ayrshire Councils;
- (vi) to note the Ayrshire Growth Deal Communications Action Plan for 2020/21;
- (vii) to note the progress with the design and development of an Ayrshire Growth Deal website;
- (viii) to note that a minor textual amendment required to be made to the Deal Document, as highlighted at the meeting; and
- (ix) otherwise to note the report.

INDICATIVE AYRSHIRE REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY (iARSS)

5. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Service Lead (Planning and Building Standards), South Ayrshire Council on behalf of the Chief Executives of South, East and North Ayrshire Councils which advised on the requirement for and progress made on the preparation of a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for Ayrshire.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the requirement to prepare a Regional Spatial Strategy;
- (ii) to note the contents of the Indicative Ayrshire Regional Spatial Strategy appended to the report;
- (iii) to note that the iARSS had been reported to East and North Ayrshire Councils in advance of submission to the Scottish Government and South Ayrshire Council would consider the iARSS on 15 September 2020; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the report.

AYRSHIRE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD - 22 JUNE 2020

6. There were submitted and noted Minutes of meeting of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership Board held on 22 June 2020 (circulated).

AYRSHIRE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD - 14 SEPTEMBER 2020

7. The Depute Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer: Economy and Skills, East Ayrshire Council provided the Joint Committee with a verbal update on the meeting of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership Board held on 14 September 2020.

It was noted that consideration had been given to:-

- The above Ayrshire Growth Deal Programme Update;
- The above Indicative Ayrshire Regional Spatial Strategy;
- Community Wealth Building and establishing an Anchor Charter;
- Aerospace and the opportunity to establish an aircraft decommissioning centre of excellence at Prestwick Airport, subject to harnessing resources;
- Visitor Economy, range of grant support and establishment of an Ayrshire Destination Management Organisation (DMO);
- Freeports, expressions of caution and requirement to complement Ayrshire Growth Deal and Community Wealth Building;
- Food and Drink and Food Tourism Co-ordinator posts; and
- Labour market and the impact of Covid-19.

DRAFT MEETINGS CALENDAR

8. It was agreed that future meetings of the Ayrshire Economic Joint Committee would be held as follows:-

Monday, 22 February 2021 at 1400 hours;
Monday, 24 May 2021 at 1400 hours;
Monday, 13 September 2021 at 1400 hours; and
Monday, 29 November 2021 at 1400 hours.

The meeting terminated at 1630 hrs.