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## **ECONOMY AND LIFELONG LEARNING GROUP**

**HAY ROOM, DEWAR'S CENTRE, GLOVER STREET, PERTH**

**FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2015 – 11.00AM**

Minute of meeting of the Community Planning Economy and Lifelong Learning Group held in the Hay Room, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Friday 6 February 2015 at 11.00am.

**Present:** Councillors J Kellas, A Livingstone and G Walker, all Perth and Kinross Council; N Gardiner, TACTRAN (substituting for E Guthrie); G Ballie (Scottish Enterprise); V Unite, Perthshire Chamber of Commerce (substituting for M Beale); L Reid, G Raez and N Christenson (VisitScotland) (substituting for J Clarkson); J Dernie (Perth & Kinross CHP, NHS Tayside); D Gourlay (Perth College/UHI); G MacEwan (Federation of Small Businesses); A Burnett (Elevator/Business Gateway) (substituting for G McEwan); K McPherson (PKAVS (Voluntary Action Perthshire) VAP)

**In Attendance:** J Valentine, D Littlejohn; J Devine, D Stokoe, J MCrone, A Seggie, P Rennie and Y Oliver ( all Perth and Kinross Council) and H MacKinnon, PKAVS (Voluntary Action Perthshire) VAP).

**Apologies:** M Beale (Perthshire Chamber of Commerce); J Clarkson (VisitScotland); E Dawson (Jobcentre Plus); E Devine (NHS Tayside); J Flynn (Perth & Kinross CHP, NHS Tayside); E Guthrie (TACTRAN); J Hunter (Skills Development Scotland) and S Pengelley (Morrisons Academy).

Councillor J Kellas, Presiding.

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Councillor J Kellas welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the relevant Codes of Conduct.

### 3. **MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minute of meeting of the Economy and Lifelong Learning Group of 31 October 2014 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

### 4. **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising at this time.

### 5. **PRESENTATIONS FROM COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERS ON CONTRIBUTION TO THE OUTCOME DELIVERY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

#### (i) **VisitScotland**

G Raez and L Reid, representing VisitScotland, provided the Group with a slide-based presentation on their work to promote Perth and Kinross as a tourist destination. This included details of the contribution tourism makes to the local economy.

VisitScotland to consider how the Perth and Kinross work can be reflected in the Outcome Delivery Group Action Plan (**Action: VisitScotland**)

#### (ii) **PKAVS**

K McPherson, PKAVS (Voluntary Action Perthshire) VAP provided a presentation on PKAVS' contribution to the Economy and Lifelong Learning Group with a particular emphasis on volunteering as a route into employment, and the role the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector plays as an employer in Perth and Kinross.

The Group was advised that PKAVS have helped over 4,000 organisations of which 902 were Registered Charities.

J Valentine reminded members of the requirements of the forthcoming Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill which requires community planning partners to come together in each local authority area to form a CPP and advised that PKAVS was an invaluable source with good, strong community groups. The Bill also extends the list of key partners to include a wider range of public bodies that may have a role in influencing local outcomes, including Scottish Natural Heritage, Skills Development Scotland, and the new integration joint boards formed under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. Individual partners have a duty to work collaboratively and to take into account the plan for local outcomes when setting their individual priorities. These partners are also expected to commit resources to delivery of the plan and report to the CPP on their contribution.

Councillor Kellas said this was an excellent opportunity to engage people in employment via volunteering, with volunteering being actively promoted in schools and colleges. A Seggie replied that Perth and Kinross Council was actively encouraging out-of-work people to get involved in volunteering and there was work to be done in the next 6 months in collaboration with the Children and Young People's Strategic Group.

PKAVS are going to establish a volunteering working group to progress this work (**Action: H McKinnon**)

The Convener thanked G Raez and L Reid of VisitScotland and K McPherson of PKAVS for providing the informative presentations to the Group.

Councillor A Livingstone and J Valentine left the meeting at this point.

## **6. COMMISSION FOR DEVELOPING SCOTLAND'S YOUNG WORKFORCE**

There was submitted a copy of a publication by the Scottish Government entitled "Developing the Young Workforce – Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy" (G/15/16) which dealt with the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce. The Foreword was provided by Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Fair Work, Skills & Training who stated that "... It is right that our ambition is to improve youth employment levels beyond where they were pre-2008. This requires a fundamental examination of how we provide, promote, and value a range of learning which leads to a variety of jobs. It also means ensuring that *all* young people, whatever the barriers they face, have fair access to these opportunities."

These were the findings of the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce, chaired by Sir Ian Wood and the Commission laid out a compelling set of challenges to national and local government, to the education and training system, to employers, and indeed to young people themselves and all who support them.

A Seggie provided an update on the 4 short life working groups which had been established to examine the findings of the Commission and, in particular, to map current activities and outcomes across the four main areas of (1) Schools activity; (2) Modern Apprenticeships; (3) College activity; and (4) Employer Engagement.

Considerable work is currently being undertaken in conjunction with schools and Perth College/UHI. There was also collaboration with Skills Development Scotland.

A progress report would be brought to the next meeting of the Economy and Lifelong Learning Group in May. (**Action: A Seggie**)

## 7. **ECONOMY AND LIFELONG LEARNING GROUP OUTCOME DELIVERY PLAN – FEBRUARY 2015 UPDATE**

A copy of the Economy and Lifelong Learning Group Outcome Delivery Plan (G/15/17) was tabled. Members were advised that the new Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement has set out five Strategic Objectives and the Economy and Lifelong Learning Outcome Delivery Group has been tasked with delivering 3 local outcomes under two of the Strategic Objectives:

Strategic Objective: ***Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens***

Local Outcome: ***People are Ready for Life and Work***

Strategic Objective: ***Promoting a Prosperous, Inclusive and Sustainable Economy***

Local Outcome: ***Thriving, Expanding Economy***

Local Outcome: ***Employment Opportunities for All***

Members were advised that the Plan was a live document and asked how they would like to monitor it? Councillor Kellas suggested focussing on a separate theme for each meeting. A Seggie replied that the Wood Commission would be a key priority for the next few months but what other areas did the Group want to look at? The plan and the ODG were both partnership based and it was important that the plans and agendas reflected the work that the ODG can add most value to.

It was agreed that:

- (1) There would be a spread of themes with highest priority being given to what the Group wants partners to focus on;
- (2) The Group must not lose sight of the “red” areas of the plan to ensure they are moving forward.
- (3) The Outcome Delivery Group will work together to plan and commit shared resources to support the delivery of the Plan and monitor its progress.

## 8. **COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP JOINT RESOURCING PILOT**

The Group was briefed on the ongoing work in East Perthshire on Joint Resourcing. The Community Planning Partnership agreed the following three interlinked joint resourcing priorities as the initial focus for joint resourcing arrangements:

- (i) Workless Households in Blairgowrie/Ratray
- (ii) Business Growth and Support (including business start-ups and social enterprise); and
- (iii) Employer Engagement.

The CPPEOG further progressed joint resourcing arrangements at a second workshop which focused upon the workless households theme, allowing the Group to discuss the 'lived experience' of a workless household in Ratray and consider collaborative outcomes and measures of success. An outline action plan has been identified and an update on joint resourcing progress was submitted to the Community Planning Partnership Board on 13 February 2015. Statement of Ambition, FAQ and powerpoint presentation to be circulated to the ODG (**Action David Stokoe**).

#### **9. EMPLOYABILITY PIPELINE EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS (ESF) APPLICATION UPDATE**

The Group received an update on the development of a CPP Employability Pipeline bid for ESF funding. Although some details around the funding mechanisms remain unclear, it is still hoped that the Council will submit a bid by the next deadline of 9 March 2015.

Members were advised that Perth and Kinross Council had been ineligible to apply for ESF funding prior to this time but were now looking at a partnership with Dundee City Council. Whilst Dundee had much more experience in this area, Perth and Kinross Council would still be the lead partner in submitting claims for funding to the Scottish Government. A Working Group will be set up to look at all claims. It was a big challenge but also a big opportunity.

#### **10. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

N Gardner, TACTRAN advised the Group that the Scotrail franchise with Abellio was commencing on 1 April 2015 and TACTRAN was hosting an event in March. All details were available on the TACTRAN website.

#### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the date of the next meeting of the Economy and Lifelong Learning Group is Friday 8 May 2015 at 11.00am – the venue would be Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth:

