

Tay Cities Deal Joint Committee notes

Forfar Town hall, 22nd March 2019

Scottish Government and UK government representatives attended to inform the Committee about the process.

The Deal is going to be a flat programme eg. Same amount distributed each year of programme (therefore if it is a 15 year programme it will be £20m each year that is spent). Although this seems to have some flexibility in it. This is managed through projects submitting spend profiles. This was highlighted as an issue by the Committee to which Scottish Government (SG) responded to say that it is tricky but in reality there is an underspend. SG are open to discussions. Spend to start in 2019 – 2020.

The £27m Tourism and Culture programme is being developed to which projects will submit their bids. The regional strategy which will set the priorities of the Tourism and Culture programme is also currently being developed. This is being led by Dundee and Angus Councils (Economic dev depts.). The regional tourism strategy is to be presented at the June Joint Committee meeting.

Projects will be able to access support to work up their Business Cases. For those projects that have already received an indication that they will be granted TCD funds they will receive assistance on their Business Cases if they are deemed not strong enough.

A communications protocol will be developed to ensure information on the Deal is communicated. I highlighted the need for greater transparency in the process going forward.

The information below was circulated in relation to the Heads of Terms.

TAY CITIES DEAL HEADS OF TERMS

4.1 The Heads of Terms for the Tay Cities Deal were signed on the 22 November by all the key parties – Scottish Government, the UK Government, the 4 local authorities, the Tay Cities Enterprise Forum and the Tay Cities HE/FE Forum.

4.2 The Heads of Terms sets out the scope of a City Region Deal that seeks to transform the regional economy by delivering inclusive growth: raising the productivity of the region and increasing the participation of its workforce. Its themes reflect the regional strategy and focus on inclusion, industry, innovation, internationalisation and empowerment.

4.3 The Heads of Terms commits the UK Government and the Scottish Government to work collaboratively with the regional partners to deliver a Deal that will transform the regional economy. The Scottish Government and the UK Government will each invest up to £150 million in the Deal over 10-15 years, subject to final approval of

robust business cases. The deal anticipates that partner Councils and their partners will lever in an additional £400 million.

4.4 On the 7 January, the Scottish Government announced an additional £50M of support for the Tay Cities Region. The investment includes £40M in s the Cross Tay Link Road and £10M for the development of an industrial investment programme, supporting the manufacturing sector.

4.5 City Region Deal partners believe that this investment has the potential to secure over 6,000 jobs and lever in over £400 million in investment over the next 10-15 years, decisively reducing the economic inequality gap as part of the drive to boost productivity. Details on how that additional £400 million will be levered in will become clearer once the timescales and conditions of release of the funding becomes clearer.

5 NEXT STEPS

5.1 The Tay Cities Deal proposals set out a new approach to economic development, strategic planning and transport planning underpinned by a new approach to city regional governance. This new regional governance will exemplify the expectations set out in Scotland's Enterprise and Skills Review. Significant progress has been made towards this new regional joint working with the establishment of the Tay Cities Region Joint Committee in December 2017.

5.2 The regional partners are now developing the means of delivering a new collaborative model that will assist the delivery of improved outcomes for everyone living and working in the region, using the momentum created by the City Region Deal to accelerate inclusive economic growth. This will be best achieved through close alignment with Scottish Government and UK Government departments and agencies, and with the support and guidance of the private sector.

5.3 Regional partners will lead work to move from Heads of Terms to full Deal, working with the Scottish and UK Governments to develop a Delivery Plan that details the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all projects and programmes receiving funding through this deal.

5.4 The Delivery Plan will also set out the full partnership, governance and assurance arrangements as well as implementation and financial plans with relevant milestones. Regional partners will demonstrate the value for money case for each programme and/or project before funding is made available. As such, all the commitments in this document are subject to the approval of final business cases from the relevant Government, or from both Governments in the case of jointly funded projects.

5.5 The Scottish Government is developing an Inclusive Growth monitoring framework which will incorporate indicators to measure progress towards the five high level inclusive growth outcomes (Productivity, participation, Population, People and Place) and will expect the City Region Deal evaluation and monitoring reports to align with this.

5.6 Regional partners will work with both the Scottish and the UK Governments to agree a communications strategy and an operating protocol. Both documents will set out how communications about the City Region Deal and its associated activities are taken forward in a way that meets the needs of Regional Partners as well as the Scottish and UK Governments.