Introduction

We welcome this opportunity to provide written evidence in advance of the Committee session on 27 November 2013. In doing so we are building on the evidence we have already submitted, both in writing and in the sessions on 11th and 25th September 2013.

How the various bodies are providing a joined up approach to the delivery of regeneration in Scotland.

In all cases of national physical regeneration projects, SE would be one among a number of partners. Each partner brings both resources, both in terms of funds and personnel, to the table along with their own perspective and objectives.

As set out in our written evidence of 28 May, the setting of well articulated objectives for a project is vital in:

- Aligning the interests of partners around the successful achievement of agreed outcomes
- Identifying outcomes by which the ultimate success of the project can be measured
- Providing the means to judge the progress of the project during delivery to allow for adjustments to the approach being taken
- Enabling the contribution of the project to wider national, regional or local outcomes to be assessed.

Through our engagement with Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs), SE is working closely with Local Authorities in the identification of economic opportunities.

Who is accountable for delivering what.

Local regeneration is the responsibility of Local Authorities. SE’s role, as guided by the Government Economic Strategy, is to increase Scotland’s sustainable economic growth. As such, we invest in physical infrastructure projects which have the potential to generate increased economic growth at a national level. Our role in this is shaped by our focus on growth sectors, e.g. the energy sector in Energetica.

Also contributing to regeneration outcomes is our support for growth companies in these areas. For example, our support for Sigma-Aldritch Company Ltd in Irvine and Walker Precision Engineering in the east end of Glasgow has increased employment in these areas.

How physical, economic, and social regeneration are planned, coordinated, funded, and monitored, with communities and for the benefit of communities.

As SE’s focus is principally on economic growth and the sector opportunities arising from physical regeneration, this is a question which best sits with our Local Authority partners. Our main role in this is consultation with the business community and ensuring that they are engaged with these projects.
The absolute size and spend on ‘regeneration’ by Scottish Enterprise. What the balance of spend is, broken down by capital and revenue funding.

As stated in our written evidence of 28 May 2013, SE does not have explicit regeneration objectives, our primary focus being economic growth. As such we do not have an easily identifiable regeneration budget. We do however have objectives which reflect the contribution we make to regeneration outcomes. This raises a challenge to this question as it raises the issue of what to include. For example, our work in supporting growth companies leads to the creation of employment opportunities, an important contribution to regeneration.

If we focus specifically on physical infrastructure projects SE’s expenditure in any given year will reflect the expenditure profile of projects, their priority relative to other projects, and the overall resources available. There is no ring-fenced pot of money.

SE’s total spending plans for 2014/15 total £336.7m, estimated to be split £149.4m capital and £187.3m revenue\(^1\). As SE has the flexibility to transfer funds from revenue to capital to meet operational requirements the final outturn may differ from this split.

Of this total, the current budget for 2014/15 for business infrastructure projects is £35.2m, almost entirely (£33.4m) capital\(^2\).

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\(^1\) These budget figures are draft and could be subject to change following SE Board consideration in January 2014.

\(^2\) As above.