29 August 2013

Dear Kevin

Thank you for your letter of 5 July 2013 about the simplification of funding streams and the measurement of regeneration outcomes.

Mapping Regeneration Funding

Scottish Government regeneration funding is focused into two funding streams, the Capital Investment Fund (CIF) and the People and Communities Fund (PCF). There are a number of other Scottish Government funds, accessible to community organisations, which can also support regeneration outcomes but whose primary focus is to do with a policy initiative such as health or justice.

I recognise that the variety of Scottish Government fund streams available to the community sector can sometimes be a barrier for community organisations trying to access funding. Officials have been looking at the situation and are mapping Scottish Government funds to make it easier for people or groups to see what funding is available, what they can get it for and what the criteria are. This information will be published on our website shortly and will be an up-to-date resource for community organisations. This will complement work of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations who have helped simplify the funding landscape through their online funding portal.

Measurement of Outcomes

I attach in Annex A our options paper on how we plan to measure the outcomes associated with the Scottish Government’s regeneration strategy, Achieving a Sustainable Future. This paper has been agreed by the Regeneration High Level Working Group which I chair. The proposed approaches outlined for regeneration monitoring and evaluation are now being implemented.
It is important to note that regeneration covers a breadth of policy areas and it is not always possible to attribute all changes at the national and local level solely to our strategy. The strategy has a range of supporting outcomes. These outcomes are not unique to regeneration as they link to wider government policy, including economic development, planning, public health, justice, safety, housing, business support, education and skills. As a result, it is not possible to attribute all regeneration spend directly to a regeneration budget.

When we launched the regeneration strategy, we were clear on the need to monitor both the resulting activity and outcomes as a way of tracking the impact of the strategy. The options paper outlines how we aim to achieve this and explains the importance of our outcome based approach.

Rigorous processes are in place to assess projects before funding is approved. For example, in relation to the SPRUCE Fund, we have an FSA regulated independent fund manager who undertakes stringent due diligence processes before making recommendations to an investment panel. Regarding the recently launched £25m Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, all project proposals will complete a two stage assessment process. An independent panel, chaired jointly by COSLA and Scottish Government, will assess the proposals against the criteria for the fund.

The People and Communities Fund require bidders to outline how the project intends to contribute to the economic, physical and social outcomes set out in the regeneration strategy. Bids are appraised against set criteria that considers fit with priorities to the fund, sustainability of projects and project outcomes. Projects awarded funding report periodically and at the end of the project as to how the project has contributed to the outcomes identified. This allows for outcomes to be identified and measured at a very specific local level. We are currently considering options for providing support and capacity building around self-evaluation to enable individual projects to refine their own monitoring and evaluation approaches. Self-evaluation is based around developing an evaluation process with the intention of generating information on what works or doesn’t work in meeting project outcomes. Annex B provides some examples of the projects we have funded and the associated outcomes.

In terms of the specific question in relation to Value for Money (VfM), every project that receives Scottish Government regeneration funding is scrutinised in an open and transparent process that challenges whether or not the associated outcomes of the project are likely to be achieved. It can be difficult to try to put monetary values on regeneration outcomes such as improved community cohesion, benefits to individuals from feeling part of community, etc. Therefore, while it is important that projects can provide evidence of impact, most VfM measures of wider outcomes can be more open to question. As I have indicated, our preferred emphasis is on providing support for community organisations to undertake their own evaluation/monitoring activities as this builds community capacity; means they can use the intelligence in an on-going way to shape how they deliver their project; and can help them develop their own VfM measures. Our outcomes based approach is the most effective way to measure the impact of regeneration spend in Scotland.

I hope that you find this response useful and I look forward to our discussion at the committee session on the 25 September.

Kind regards

MARGARET BURGESS

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‘ACHIEVING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: REGENERATION STRATEGY’
OPTIONS FOR STRATEGY MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Introduction

The Achieving a Sustainable Future Regeneration Strategy was published in December 2011 and brought together a coherent framework within which regeneration policy would be framed. This paper discusses potential options for monitoring and evaluating the impact of the Strategy. It discusses three levels of analysis:

1. National
2. Local Authority
3. Regeneration Strategy Activity

The data and options presented provide a broad framework to enable on-going monitoring of both the direct and indirect effects of the Strategy’s implementation. Given the breadth of policies that regeneration covers, it will be difficult to attribute any changes at the national and local level solely to the Strategy, necessitating the need to look in more detail at the contribution of specific delivery elements of the Strategy.

1. National Level Monitoring

1.1 National Outcomes

Scotland Performs set out in 2007 is the government’s 10 year vision. It contains 16 National Outcomes, which describe what the Government wants to achieve in this time, in terms of making a positive difference to people, businesses and communities across Scotland. To enable tracking of progress the NPF also contains 50 National Indicators.

The cross-cutting nature of regeneration means that the ‘Achieving a Sustainable Future’ strategy is relevant to all 16 of the National Outcomes. However, three National Outcomes (NOs) have been identified which are closest to the core remit and activity of the Strategy and it is suggested that these are the most appropriate to track and report on. These are:

NO6: We live longer, healthier lives

NO 10: We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need

NO 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others

The Scotland Performs website reports on all 50 of the National Indicators (NIs) and many of these are relevant to regeneration. By means of example, Annex A of this paper details the latest performance on three National Indicators relevant to the National Outcomes identified above. However, it is envisaged
that the Scottish Government will monitor all National Indicators that have relevance to regeneration policy.

1.2 Housing and Regeneration Outcomes

Work is underway across the Scottish Government to develop narratives about the steps needed to achieve the National Outcomes and the Government’s Purpose. At the end of 2011 the Scottish Government developed an outcomes framework for housing and regeneration, identifying four key outcomes it would like to achieve for housing and communities in Scotland: a well-functioning housing system; high quality, sustainable homes; homes that meet people’s needs; and people living in socially, physically and economically sustainable communities.

As set out in diagram below these four key outcomes are crucial to achieving the desired future for housing and regeneration, as described in the vision statements in the diagram. In turn, these four key outcomes contribute to the delivery of the National Outcomes and the Government’s Purpose. These four outcomes are inevitably inter-dependent, but setting them out as four clear outcomes provides a focus for working in a joined-up way across the Scottish Government, with the broader public sector and other stakeholders, to maximise the benefits for people in Scotland.

Diagram 1: Housing and Regeneration Vision and Outcomes

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1 The target symbols shown in the diagram against the housing outcomes identify the relevant Government commitments; moving from left to right across the diagram these are: 30,000 new affordable homes; 2020 Carbon Emissions; 2015 Scottish Housing Quality Standard; 2016 Fuel Poverty; and 2012 Homelessness.
For each of the four housing and regeneration outcomes there needs to be an understanding of what should be achieved to enable delivery of that outcome, this has been described as mapping the ‘building blocks’ or **supporting outcomes**. Work was undertaken to map these lower-level supporting outcomes with Scottish Government policy leads and external stakeholders. For the ‘sustainable communities’ outcome a wide range of supporting outcomes were identified for the social, physical and economic aspects of communities. These were detailed in the ‘Achieving a Sustainable Future: Regeneration Strategy’ document (see Annex A of the strategy).

A number of **indicators** have been identified to monitor progress on the housing and regeneration outcomes, in order to provide a high-level indication of success on each of the outcomes; in a similar way as the national indicators provide a high-level indication of progress against the National Outcomes. For monitoring the ‘sustainable communities’ outcome and the regeneration strategy there are a number of indicators that can be tracked looking at the economic, physical and social aspects of communities (see the second table of the dashboard in Annex A at the end of this paper). Similar to monitoring of the key national indicators, these indicators can be monitored for trends over time and further investigation undertaken where there is a decline in performance.

Monitoring progress on these indicators at a national level will provide important background context and help understand how outcomes are changing over time. However, changes in these outcomes (both positive and negative) will be influenced by a range of factors (e.g. Welfare Reform) that cannot be attributed to the Regeneration Strategy. Where there is a decline in performance further investigation of relevant data and gathering of other related evidence can be undertaken to understand the reasons for performance worsening. Conversely, where there are significant improvements in progress, the Scottish Government will want to understand what is working well.

**Proposed Approach:** To aid understanding of the overall national context (not necessarily attribution to the Regeneration Strategy) the Regeneration Unit and Communities Analytical Services can monitor National Indicators with relevance to regeneration, as well as the set of indicators for the ‘sustainable communities’ outcome. Where there are changes in performance, further data/evidence investigation can be undertaken, potentially including discussions with relevant policy areas, to attempt to understand the reasons.

### 2. Local Authority Level Monitoring

Local authorities and Community Planning Partnerships are responsible for determining their own priority outcome areas and for developing indicators to inform progress. There are a range of data sources available at a local authority level which can be used to look at progress on a range of outcomes across the economic, physical and social aspects of communities. Of particular value is the Scottish Government’s Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (SNS) which enables statistics across health, education, poverty, unemployment, housing, population, crime and social / community issues to be brought together for a common small area geography on a regular basis. In addition, data at a local authority level is also available from the Scottish Household Survey (SHS). Both the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) and Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) provide data at a police force and health board level enabling a more nuanced geographical analysis of local data.

Local authorities will provide data through reporting on Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs). As well as using national data collections such as the SNS and SHS, local authorities will also use their own collections, such as neighbourhood satisfaction surveys, citizen surveys and local panels to evidence progress towards SOA outcomes. SOAs are the agreements between the Scottish Government and Community Planning Partnerships which set out how each will work towards improving outcomes for
the local people in a way that reflects local circumstances and priorities. Recent SOA guidance published by COSLA and the Scottish Government highlights the Menu of Local Outcome Indicators as a key means of accessing relevant and robust indicators. The Menu has recently been revised to align with the six SOA policy priorities. These are:

- Economic Recovery and Growth
- Employment
- Early Years
- Outcomes for Older People
- Health Inequalities and Physical Activity
- Safer and Stronger Communities and Reducing Reoffending

Many of the indicators suggested by the Menu are of relevance to the outcomes for the Regeneration Strategy and will therefore be useful in providing data at a local level. The Menu is not prescriptive and therefore Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) will vary in the selection of indicators they use when reporting on SOAs. As with the national indicators discussed in the previous section, any changes at a local authority can not necessarily be attributed to the Regeneration Strategy, but they can provide important context about how local outcomes are changing over time. A selection of indicators from the Menu that are relevant to regeneration are listed in the Local Level table on the dashboard at Annex A.

Proposed Approach: To aid understanding of local contexts (not necessarily attribution to the Regeneration Strategy) the Regeneration Unit and Communities Analytical Services can monitor a selection of ‘local level’ indicators through the Scottish Neighbourhood Survey. In addition, where Menu indicators relevant to the outcomes within the Regeneration Strategy are used by CPPs in reporting on SOAs, the Regeneration Unit/Communities Analytical Services could collate this data to inform understanding of what is happening at a local level. Where there are changes in performance, further data/evidence investigation can be undertaken, potentially including discussions with relevant local authority areas, to attempt to understand the reasons and/or looking at evidence of specific actions at a local level.

3. Regeneration Strategy Activity Monitoring

Within the Regeneration Strategy there are three key elements which drive the implementation of the Strategy. These are:

- The People and Communities Fund
- The Capital Investment Fund
- Strategy Action Points

3.1 People and Communities Fund

The People and Communities Fund (P&CF) will provide £7.9m per annum from 2012-2015 to specifically support community-led regeneration. Funds are allocated via bids from organisations and groups. A requirement of the bidding process is that bidders are required to detail in their application how their project intends to contribute to the economic, physical and social outcomes outlined within the Regeneration Strategy. Projects that are awarded funding will also be required to report periodically and at the end of their project as to how their project has contributed to the outcomes identified. Hence, project level data will be available which will provide detail of performance against outcomes for...
each project. This will generate clearly identifiable outputs and outcomes at a very specific local level as a direct result of the P&CF and therefore implementation of the Strategy.

Proposed Approach: The Regeneration Unit will monitor P&CF bids and evaluation forms to ensure the bidders are contributing to the outcomes within the Regeneration Strategy. Communities Analytical Services could undertake a desk-based review of bid applications and monitoring forms to provide a high-level overview of the types of activity being funded by the P&CF and reported outputs=outcomes achieved. Options will also be explored for providing support and capacity building around self-evaluation to enable individual projects to develop their own monitoring and evaluation approaches. Self-evaluation is based around developing an evaluation process with the intention of generating information on what works or doesn’t work in meeting project outcomes. Support may be offered to individual projects helping them to develop their own evaluation process.

3.2 The Capital Investment Fund

The Capital Investment Fund comprises four main elements: the SPRUCE fund; the Regeneration Capital Grant fund (currently funding Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs)); the Vacant and Derelict Land Fund; and town centre regeneration. Potential monitoring of these four elements is discussed further below:

3.2.1 SPRUCE Fund
This fund provides loan support to revenue generating projects in 13 ERDF eligible areas of Scotland, namely Clackmannanshire, Dundee, East Ayrshire, Edinburgh, Fife, Glasgow, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, South Lanarkshire, West Dunbartonshire, West Lothian, as determined by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. The fund currently totals £50m and is managed by a fund management organisation AMBER. They in turn are managed by the European Investment Bank (EIB). The EIB are responsible for reporting to the Scottish Government on the overall performance of SPRUCE. This involves reporting on a number of indicators, primarily concerned with economic data. AMBER is responsible for reporting on the progress of specific projects to the Scottish Government but as the range of projects in the pipeline are varied we would anticipate different outcomes for each successful investment. Two such investments have now been made at Dundyvan, Coatbridge and Queen Street, Glasgow. The first is funding workshop space and the second a high end office complex. Strong community benefits clauses are included in each contract with a number of outcomes envisaged, including creation and sustaining of jobs, and training and development of young people.

3.2.2 The Regeneration Capital Grant Fund

The Scottish Government has in conjunction with COSLA developed the £25m per annum Regeneration Capital Grant Fund which will deliver projects from 2014/15. The resources for this fund reflect redirecting resources which currently support Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs) to 2013/14, in line with an agreement reached with COSLA in 2007. This fund will support large scale transformation activity and projects will be required to provide information on the physical outputs created by the funding and to demonstrate how they will deliver the outcomes identified in the strategy. A total of £23m for 2013/14 has been allocated from the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund for the remaining URCs still supported by Scottish government. Amounts of £4.5m and £3.5m has been set aside in agreement with COSLA for the URCs in 2014/15 and 2015/16 respectively although specific amounts to each URC have yet to be agreed. The majority of funding for 2013/14, £20m, went to the Clyde Gateway URC to help support activity in the East End of Glasgow and assisting in the preparation for the Commonwealth Games. The Commonwealth Games Analysis team (within Communities Analytical Services Division) is undertaking a detailed evaluation of the legacy impacts of the Commonwealth Games. This may provide
evidence on the performance of the Clyde Gateway URC, but it may be difficult to disentangle the specific contribution of the URC from the other Commonwealth Games investment and activity. As part of the Commonwealth Games evaluation a longitudinal study, ‘GoWell: Studying Change in the East End’, is being funded to run from 2012-17. This will provide a wealth of evidence about the area, including any change in resident perceptions, experiences and behaviours, and in the ‘ecology’ of the area. This is not a direct evaluation of the URC – but it will capture changes in an area where the URC is clearly contributing.

URCs have a responsibility to report to the SG on a quarterly and annual basis on progress. In the annual report, URCs are asked to report on a number of outcomes and provide data on outputs relevant to the National Outcomes:

No. 1: We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
No. 2: We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people.
No. 3: Research and Innovation outcome – no sure of specific wording
No. 4: Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
No. 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
No. 10: We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.
No. 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
No. 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect and enhance it for future generations.

The URC annual reports also provide data on direct and indirect financial and non-financial (e.g. land, property) awards that the URC has received and expects to receive for that year.

Data from the Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics (SNS) can also be used to provide a profile of each of the URC areas across a series of indicators, for example: employment; school leaver destinations; hospital admission rates for drug and alcohol misuse; and proximity of residents to derelict sites. The data can be used to compare the URC areas to the Scottish average and look at changes over time, although it would not be possible to attribute any changes (positive or negative) to the activity of URCs alone.

3.2.3 Vacant and Derelict Land Fund (VDLF)
The VDLF is available to selected local authorities to tackle issues with long-standing vacant and derelict land. Five local authorities are currently in receipt of VDLF funding for 2012/13 and 2013/14: South Lanarkshire; North Lanarkshire; Glasgow; Highland; and Dundee.

Each local authority that has received VDLF provides a mid-year expenditure report by 31 October each year and an end year report by 30 April following the end of each financial year. The end of year return reports on expenditure and what has happened as a result of deployment of the grant award. The annual reports are not standardised which means they do not follow a monitoring framework and each is different. The annual reports mainly detail progress made on specific projects. In some cases, outcomes are identified but these are particular to the local authority and are not linked to either the National Outcomes or SOAs. Each local authority also supplies a mid-year expenditure review.
In addition to the annual reports and mid-year expenditure review, local authorities complete an annual monitoring spread sheet. This is standardised and the same information is asked of the five local authorities:

- project area size;
- what is being done to this land;
- outputs that are derived from the project, including size of land developed by purpose (e.g. housing, business), houses built and jobs created; and
- indicative outcomes as a result of the projects.

In addition to the data supplied by local authorities, the Scottish Government conducts an annual survey of vacant and derelict land. The Vacant and Derelict Land Survey (VDLS) collects a range of information and informs three key indicators that are used to allocate funding. The indicators are: amount of land out of use since at least 1995; amount of land that is within Scotland’s 15% most deprived datazones; and population that lives within 500 metres of long-term derelict land.

The Regeneration Strategy signalled the Scottish Government’s intention to carry out a review of the VDLF. It is planned that this review will be undertaken in 2013. It will include reviewing the current indicators and priorities of the fund and exploring whether a wider range of projects, for example vacant and derelict buildings, could be supported; as well as re-examining the funding rationale to determine whether the fund could be expanded beyond the current five recipient local authorities.

3.2.4 Town Centre Regeneration (TCR)

There is currently a Town Centre Review looking at TCR activity in Scotland, involving an external advisory group comprising stakeholders from many sectors with an interest in TCR. It is anticipated that in 2013 projects will be developed and implemented as a result of the review. Some limited funding from the Capital Grant Fund may be available to help support these projects. Monitoring and evaluation of these projects should be a consideration and further research may be required to capture activity and impact.

Proposed Approach: The Regeneration Unit will utilise existing reporting mechanisms to monitor progress of the SPRUCE Fund, URCs and VDLF, and consider any future needs of TCR monitoring.

3.3 Strategy Actions Points

Within the Regeneration Strategy are a number of specific actions that the Scottish Government has said it will do. Key to measuring the impact that the Strategy has had will be to advise on whether or not these actions have been implemented. The Regeneration Unit will report periodically on these actions and provide commentary on progress made.
Annex A - Regeneration Portfolio Dashboard

NATIONAL: KEY SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NATIONAL OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO 6: We live longer, healthier lives.</th>
<th>NO 10: We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.</th>
<th>NO 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Key: ➕ Performance Improving ➖ Performance Maintaining ➖ Performance Worsening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example National Indicators</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Trend</th>
<th>Next Update</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve self-assessed general health</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>➖</td>
<td>Sep 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve people’s perceptions of the quality of public services</td>
<td>66.0%</td>
<td>➕</td>
<td>Aug 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve people’s perceptions of their neighbourhood</td>
<td>55.9%</td>
<td>➖</td>
<td>Aug 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit [www.scotlandperforms.com](http://www.scotlandperforms.com) for details of the full set of indicators for these National Outcomes

NATIONAL: KEY SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT HOUSING AND REGENERATION OUTCOME

Sustainable communities

Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People Live in Sustainable Communities</th>
<th>Previous</th>
<th>Latest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economically Sustainable Communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of workless households</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment rate (gap between deprived areas and other areas)</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%age of people with post school qualifications (Gap between deprived areas and other areas)</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physically Sustainable Communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%age of people who think their neighbourhood has got better in the last 3 years</td>
<td>-3.0%</td>
<td>-3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of vacant and derelict land</td>
<td>10,857</td>
<td>10,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socially Sustainable Communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%age of people satisfied with the quality of local council services delivered</td>
<td>42.0%</td>
<td>44.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%age of people satisfied with community centres and facilities</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%age of people who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### LOCAL: SELECTED LOCAL AUTHORITY/SMALL AREA INDICATORS FROM THE MENU OF LOCAL INDICATORS

#### Economic
- VAT/PAYE registrations per 10,000 adults
- Gross Value Add (total economic output)
- Employment rate
- Youth Claimant Count
- % of working age population in receipt of out of work benefits
- % of population income deprived
- % of working age population with no or low qualification

#### Physical
- % of adults rating the condition of their house or flat as good
- % of derelict land
- Proportion of people/households within 300m of accessible green space managed for community use

#### Social
- Average WEMEBS (mental health index) score
- Self-assessed health
- Rate of recorded crimes per 10,000 population
- Perceptions of local drug dealing/drug use in neighbourhoods
- % of adults saying they feel safe or very safe at home alone at night and safe or very safe when walking alone at night in local neighbourhood
- % of adults stating that their neighbourhood is a very good place to live
- % of adults agreeing that they can influence decisions which affect their local area
- Satisfaction with public services
- % of children walking or cycling to school

### REGENERATION STRATEGY ACTION MONITORING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People and Communities Fund</th>
<th>Capital Grant Fund</th>
<th>Strategy Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Monitoring and evaluation of project bids.</td>
<td>• SPRUCE, URC and VDLF reporting mechanisms.</td>
<td>• Regeneration Unit reporting on strategy actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Potential TCR monitoring and evaluation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2. [www.improvementservice.org.uk/local-outcome-indicators](http://www.improvementservice.org.uk/local-outcome-indicators)

3. Potential new indicator
Examples of projects funded

Capital Investment Fund:

SPRUCE

Two Projects have now been funded. Eligible contributions of £1.8m and £9.6m have been made to a project at Dundyvan, Coatbridge, to support development of commercial workspace for SME’s and a substantial Grade “A” office development in Queen Street, Glasgow City Centre.

The investment at Dundyvan should support up to 100 jobs and provide new commercial space for up to 16 SME’s while generating 12 new jobs during the construction phase.

The new development of infrastructure will have an obvious and immediate impact on improving the physical aspect of the site which is often lying unused and unsightly. For example the Queen Street project in Glasgow was identified as addressing the market failure to invest in much needed Grade "A" office space for the city centre at the same time as addressing the need to remove an unsightly and unused building in a key city centre location. The new building will generate interest from high profile companies looking to invest in the city. Crucially during construction the contractors have agreed through the inclusion of community benefits, to provide work placements opportunities, support new and completing apprentices, advertise jobs and contracts locally and provide training to contractors and subcontractors.

The new office development will accommodate up to 1,500 workers and during construction help to support 250 jobs in the sector and 30 apprenticeships over the lifetime of the project.

People and Communities Fund:

A total of 117 projects have already been approved, representing a three year commitment over 2012-2015 of £15.06m towards a wide range of employability and preventative action outcomes.

Examples of projects already being supported are summarised below:

South East Area Lifestyles (SEAL) is a community health project that is designed to improve the health and wellbeing of at least 300 people living in the south east of Glasgow. Support includes healthy eating and living initiatives, assistance with household budgeting, training courses and help for people with addictions. Volunteering opportunities will encourage development of employability skills. 90 people are expected to progress into further education or training and around 40 into employment. The PCF contribution of £164k over 2012-2015 represents 30% of the total project cost. Longer term, the project intends to adopt a social franchising model that can be replicated in other areas of Glasgow via income generation.

Wellhouse Community Trust’s (now Connect Community Trust) Peoples Gateway project focuses on providing support for local people in Glasgow via the provision of job clubs, volunteering opportunities, a positive psychology toolkit and buddying systems. The main focus is employability, with approx. 1,800 people expected to become more economically active over 2012-2015. The PCF contribution of £196k represents approx. 44% of the total project cost. Longer term, partnership links are expected to create service level agreements and generate income to help sustain future service delivery.
Hebridean Connections' People and Communities project will build a network of community volunteers throughout the Outer Hebrides. The PCF contribution of £213k will help to address problems of geographical and social isolation in innovative ways, based on interest in the preservation and promotion of the area's outstanding cultural heritage. Communities in 10 inhabited islands are involved, and a minimum of 75 volunteers are expected to gain a range of IT, interpersonal and other employability skills as well as access to e-learning opportunities. Sustainable economic benefits are expected to be created through increased jobs, cultural tourism and reduced population decline.

Gargunnock Community Centre in Stirling is being supported by PCF via a contribution of £90k to help refurbish/convert a local building into a multi-functional community asset that will support future delivery of a wide range of activities to help sustain a rural community.