
Report To:	Environment & Regeneration Committee	Date:	26 August 2021
Report By:	Interim Service Director, Environment & Economic Recovery	Report No:	E+R/21/08/10/SJ
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Subject:	Community Wealth Building - Update		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update in respect of Community Wealth Building.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 At its meeting on 15th September 2020, the Policy & Resources Committee remitted to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration and Resources to further develop the Community Wealth building agenda in consultation with partners and the community and thereafter present to Members the Inverclyde Community Wealth Building strategy and action plan.
- 2.2 Work has been progressing on this and as indicated previously to the Committee, Inverclyde has a strong track record in one of the key aspects of community wealth building involving retaining public spend within the local area.
- 2.3 Engagement with Scottish Government and CLES, the national organisation for local economies, has been undertaken both locally and through the City Region via a regional pilot.
- 2.4 Challenges remain in respect of procurement legislation however a workplan has been agreed by the City Region focussing on sustainable procurement and vacant and derelict land.
- 2.5 It is proposed that the Council support a regional approach to Community Wealth Building.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to note the work undertaken by Officers of the Council and colleagues across the Metropolitan City Region, and whilst continually supporting local opportunities for Community Wealth Building, positively engage and adopt a City Region wide approach.

Stuart Jamieson
Interim Service Director,
Environment & Economic Recovery

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Community wealth building (CWB) is a people-centred approach to local economic development, which redirects wealth back into the local economy, and places control and benefits into the hands of local people.
- 4.2 Developed initially by the Democracy Collaborative in the United States, and championed in the UK by the progressive economics think tank Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES), CWB aims to ensure the economic system builds wealth and prosperity for everyone
- 4.3 There are five core principles to Community Wealth Building:
 - progressive procurement – developing local supply chains of businesses likely to support local employment and keep wealth within communities
 - fair employment and just labour markets – Using anchor institutions to improve prospects of local people
 - shared ownership of the local economy – supporting and growing business models that are more financially generative for the local economy
 - socially just use of land and property – developing the function and ownership of local assets held by anchor organisations, so local communities benefit from financial and social gain
 - making financial power work for local places – increase flows of investment within local economies by harnessing and recirculating the wealth that exists
- 4.4 Anchor organisations are large employers with a strong local presence in an area. They can exert sizable influence through their commissioning and purchasing of goods and services, through their workforce and employment capacity, and by creative use of their facilities and land assets. Positive use of these aspects can affect social, economic and environmental change in an area. Anchor organisations can be the Council, university, college, housing association, NHS health board or large local private sector employers.
- 4.5 A number of challenges remain outstanding in respect of some of the principles of Community Wealth Building and these have been put to Scottish Government and CLES.
- 4.6 The Scottish Government's Programme for Government, published on 1st September 2020, includes a commitment to develop local CWB action plans for a number of regions, including Glasgow City Region. The work undertaken by CLES, and described in this report, sets the foundation for the development of a Glasgow City Region approach to CWB.
- 4.7 At the meeting on the 28th October 2020 the Glasgow City Region Chief Executives' Group received a presentation from Neil McInroy of CLES, and Geraldine Campbell, Scottish Government, regarding the process to develop a Glasgow City Region approach to CWB. Work to produce two papers would be undertaken by CLES and would focus on i) progressive procurement by anchor organisations with a focus on construction and ii) how to bring vacant and derelict land sites across the GCR into socially productive use.
- 4.8 The two papers produced by CLES 'Maximising Community Benefits in the Construction Sector through Sustainable Procurement in the Glasgow City Region' and 'Vacant and Derelict Land in the Glasgow City Region' were considered by the Chief Executives.
- 4.9 Following presentation it was proposed that the *Sustainable Procurement* paper be assigned to the Glasgow City Region Procurement Support Group and the Vacant and Derelict Land paper to the Land Use and Sustainability Portfolio Group for consideration and to progress relevant actions. These reviews are ongoing.
- 4.10 To further the approach to community wealth building at a regional level, there must be action across the five pillars, and in terms of collaboration between local and regional anchor organisations.

4.11 A broad set of actions were previously agreed by the City Regions Economic Delivery Group covering the following areas:

- Learn from good practice elsewhere
- Create opportunities for peer support between regional colleagues
- Encourage and support collaboration between local and regional anchors
- Support and develop, across the region:
- Progressive procurement of goods and services
- Socially productive use of land and property
- Fair employment and just labour markets
- Making financial power work for local places
- Plural ownership of the economy

4.12 Activity in relation to these areas is provided below:

Action area	Early actions	Proposed next steps	Timescale	Comment
Learn from good practice elsewhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collate and share examples of good practice across the five pillars of CWB • Make links with Birmingham and North Ayrshire in terms of anchor collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up with cities/regions well established in terms of progressive procurement (including North Ayrshire and Clackmannanshire) in terms of details of procurement practice that goes beyond Sustainable Procurement Duty • Revisit GCR's membership of CPP's Inclusive Growth Knowhow Network 	August	As CWB is a values-based economic development approach it can be difficult to find business-as-usual, system-wide work that sits well with the pillars of CWB. However, there are many smaller scale examples at the margins, rather the mainstream, of anchor organisations' activity, or driven in partnership with smaller, often third sector organisations.
Support collaboration across anchor organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review potential approaches to anchor collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support NHSGGC to take stock of CWB work and commit to actions to build on this. Baseline data collection underway and workshop with key stakeholders, supported by CLES, in development. • Explore, with established partners, appetite to draw up and commit to an anchor charter, based on shared principles to guide CWB practice. 	September	Consideration will be given to accountability i.e. if anchor charter is progressed, what is its purpose/likely outcomes and how will this evaluated over time?
Create opportunities for peer support between regional colleagues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a CWB 'community of practice' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on feedback from elsewhere in terms of procurement, organise a community of practice event focused on balancing value for money and quality/generative potential in procurement practice. • Seek feedback from the group in terms of other areas where support and learning from other areas would be useful. • Review group membership and invite others, as considered appropriate. • Follow up with Scottish Government re. development of a national community of practice. 	September	
Progressive procurement of goods and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to CLES report with action plan, working with Sustainable Procurement Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As above, utilise learning from elsewhere and the community of practice to explore in greater detail. • Review Regionals Sustainable Procurement Strategy actions and follow up opportunities to progress. 	September	This action is a response to requests for information and support from regional colleagues in terms of the 'how' in advancing more progressive procurement while remaining true to guidance and legislation.
Socially productive use of land and property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to CLES report with action plan, with LUS Portfolio Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with Clydeplan and PMO colleagues to develop a business case for a regional approach to vacant and derelict land, to go to Scottish Government. Programme Manager to specifically focus on ensuring the agreed actions from the LUS portfolio group are captured in the business case. 	October	Links established with Glasgow Community Food Network and GCPH on Glasgow Food Plan – focus on food growing across the region as part of the business case.
Fair employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commit to create a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take stock of work that supports this pillar across the 	November	

and just labour markets	paper, with recommended actions, similar to the CLES reports	Region, and summarise, highlighting opportunities to progress.		
Making financial power work for local places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commit to create a paper, with recommended actions, similar to the CLES reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take stock of work that supports this pillar across the Region, and summarise, highlighting opportunities to progress. 	November	
Plural ownership of the economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commit to create a paper, with recommended actions, similar to the CLES reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take stock of work that supports this pillar across the Region, and summarise, highlighting opportunities to progress. 	November	
Identify indicators of progress in terms of CWB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore interest in metrics with relation to CWB Liaise w OCEA re. work to measure a wellbeing economy at national level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Intelligence Hub to support development of the new Regional Economic Strategy, including identification of indicators of progress in terms of inclusive economy (and CWB, in particular). Continue to build on links with SCRIG, OCEA, PHS, and others to ensure a coordinated approach to development of indicators. 	October '21	<p>Consider data sources that provide insights at national, regional and local authority scale.</p> <p>There is a need to ensure that any regional level indicators fit with previous work by Scotland's Centre for Regional Inclusive Growth (SCRIG), and with work in progress by OCEA to identify metrics around a wellbeing economy, aligning to the National Performance Framework.</p>

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Council continue to maximise opportunities for Community Wealth Building but rather than work in isolation actively participate in the wider metropolitan solution to Community Wealth Building.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 6.1 There are no financial implications from this report

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Legal

- 6.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Human Resources

- 6.3 There are no HR implications arising from this report.

Equalities

6.4 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

Repopulation

6.5 There are no repopulation implications arising from this report.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The Chief Financial Officer, The Interim Head of Legal Services, and the Corporate Procurement Manager have been consulted on the contents of this report.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.