

## Meetings Feedback form for Borders Community Action Representatives

<b>Name and purpose of meeting:</b> Regional Economic Partnership	
<b>Date of meeting:</b> 15/03/2024	<b>Attended by:</b> J Amaral – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sector Representative
<b>Relevant agenda items:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflections from Convention of the South of Scotland</li> <li>• Our Strategic Priorities: Housing</li> <li>• Draft Action Plan</li> <li>• Tracking our progress</li> </ul> <p>Transport/infrastructure (written update)(ii)Skills (written update)(iii)Performance Measurement Framework (written update)(iv)Communications - website update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RES Delivery Plan</li> <li>• Refreshed Delivery Plan</li> </ul>	
<b>Specific points of interest:</b>	
<p>Convention of South of Scotland – Forestry and tourism conversations: update provided by Gail Macgregor and Ewan Jardine. There is tension between industries Agriculture and forestry, cabinet secretary took views on board. Visit Scotland was highly praised. Outcomes are to be circulated to the rest of the REP. A new strategy on forestry Transport Scotland was also present – Ewan Jardine raised the Borders rail as a topic for discussion.</p> <p>RLUP – Rep to become the governance/ oversight group once consultation is concluded. REP waiting for guidance from the Government.</p> <p>Housing: south of Scotland housing crisis. RSLs standards are usually higher than private sector houses. A list of actions and priorities has been formulated. REP needs to focus on key actions – Building on local development plans. Possibility for connection with community engagement via town teams for local place plans.</p> <p>Transport: The franchising model being discussed in parts of England, could work well for other parts across Scotland. Frustration was voiced as subgroup meetings have been cancelled in the past 6 months.</p> <p>Skills: The strategic coordination group set 3 challenges regarding increased provision in forestry, engineering and construction.</p> <p>Performance measurement: Cornerstone indicators are the new approach being taken. Check if statements resonate. Language is required to be cross-referenced with communities to ensure this resonates – an invitation for the team to attend the CLP network to connect and use the expertise of communities working on developing surveys and tweaking language.</p>	

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Communications - Key audiences for new comms are people across SS, partner organisations and the Scottish Government.

Work is currently underway on the branding and website; [www.southofscotlandrep.com](http://www.southofscotlandrep.com) – comms for the launch of the website to be shared among rep members.

RES delivery plan: collaboration plan that looks at the regional priorities (not isolation or silos). There would be more opportunities for the third sector to be included in other themes such as community wealth building, fair work, wider skills and development however, it is recognised that the plan needs to be flexible so strands can be adapted as the delivery progresses. Important to demonstrate impact and use the right channels to share communications.

Regional City Growth Deal Investment update: 7 local authorities partnership (SBC, Edinburgh, Fife, Glasgow, East Lothian, West Lothian, Mid Lothian) – 5 key themes City Region Deal for Innovation, Skills, transport, culture and housing.

Regional Prosperity Framework (2021-2041): Scotland’s most successful and prosperity

Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal: £265M UK government, £85K Scottish Government along £100m of local co-investment to deliver three strategic objectives over 10 years (2021-2031):

- Improving places, supporting business, innovation and skills, enabling infrastructure, encouraging green growth

Impact: additional 5,500 job opportunities, tourism increase, improve mobile and digital connection, investment in towns and green economy.

### Comments:

Action: a connection between the Performance management group and CLP for a sense check on the narrative.

### Distribution list for information:

BCA Team/ Third Sector

Signed: J Amaral