

we connect

UPDATE BRIEFING ON THE GLASGOW CITY REGION CITY DEAL



Councillor Frank McAveety

Leader Glasgow City Council and
Chair of the Glasgow City Region Cabinet

Dear Colleagues

Last month the eight member councils of the Glasgow City Region launched an ambitious economic action plan kick-starting an unprecedented long-term collaboration on jobs, skills and inclusive growth. This move, a first in Scotland, will see the City Region member authorities pursue a common economic strategy between now and 2035.

Our eight councils have pledged to work together to deliver a range of ambitious targets - including 100,000 extra jobs; 6,500 new businesses, and big improvements in qualifications, training and skills. We also aim to bring thousands of hectares of vacant and derelict land into use and support the building of 110,000 new homes across the region.

The strategy and action plan represent a step-change in our approach. Building on the City Deal, we are collaborating more closely than ever before and want to extend that strong, open partnership to the Scottish and UK Governments, the business community and other agencies, such as our colleges and universities.

Glasgow City Region is already the powerhouse of the Scottish economy – but, as council leaders, we are absolutely united in our determination to aim higher on jobs, skills and growth that benefits every community.

There's more detail below on the Economic Strategy and Action Plan and also news on various infrastructure developments, all of which are bridges. This is symbolic of our overall ambition to create better and stronger links across and within the region for communities and

www.glasgowcityregion.co.uk

[@glasgowcitydeal](https://twitter.com/glasgowcitydeal)

businesses. In fact, many of the City Deal projects will bring jobs and benefits wider to their immediate location.

As always, keep up to date on progress through the Glasgow City Region website and twitter feed - glasgowcityregion.co.uk/@GlasgowCityDeal.

Councillor Frank McAveety



NEWS



Glasgow City Region Councils commit to working together to deliver economic vision, left to right:
 Cllr Martin Rooney, West Dunbartonshire;
 Cllr Jim Logue, North Lanarkshire;
 Cllr Stephen McCabe, Inverclyde;
 Cllr Frank McAveety, Glasgow;
 Cllr Jim Fletcher, East Renfrewshire;
 Cllr Chris Thompson, South Lanarkshire;
 Cllr Rhondda Geekie, East Dunbartonshire;
 Cllr Mark MacMillan, Renfrewshire

Glasgow City Region Councils commit to ambitious shared vision for jobs, skills and inclusive growth

The Glasgow City Region Economic Strategy and Action Plan were formally launched on Tuesday 14 February to an audience of key stakeholders across the public, private sector and other agencies at The Lighthouse in Glasgow, Scotland's centre for design and architecture.

The strategy and action plan identify eleven key priorities for the region's economy along with 50 specific actions, both short and long-term, to deliver them. The Strategy sets out a clear vision for where the partners want to position Glasgow City Region's economy by 2035.

Presentations on the day stressed success would only be achieved by further and stronger collaboration not only across the City Region council's but together with the Scottish and UK governments, their agencies, the business community, and colleges and

Glasgow City Region's economy by 2035

- An additional 100,000 jobs in the region;
- 110,000 new homes
- The opportunity of a job, training or apprenticeship for every young person that wants one;
- An increase of 50,000 in the working population;
- A halving of the current rate of adults without any qualifications;
- An increase in the long term survival rate for new businesses;
- An increase in the business base of 6,500 businesses; and
- 3,000 hectares of vacant and derelict land brought back into use.

universities. Guests also heard from the Chief Executive of Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, Stuart Patrick, and Chair of the Glasgow City Region Economic Leadership Board, Lord Haughey - both of whom welcomed the plans on behalf of the business community.

To deliver on the Economic Strategy eight portfolios themes have been established which will be led by each of the eight councils. Each portfolio will focus on delivering the actions and ambitions within their remit, and these will contribute towards the objectives set out in the Regional Economic Strategy. These portfolios are:

- Land Use and Sustainability - East Dunbartonshire Council

- Infrastructure and Assets - East Renfrewshire Council
- Inward Investment and Economic Growth - Glasgow City Council
- Tourism and Destination Marketing - Inverclyde Council
- Transport and Connectivity - North Lanarkshire Council
- Enterprise - Renfrewshire Council
- Skills and Employment - South Lanarkshire Council
- Housing and Equalities - West Dunbartonshire Council

More information:

View [short film clip](#) and visit [website](#) to

access the strategy and action plan documents.



NEWS

New City Deal Director in place

Robert Pollock took up position as Director of Programme Management Office of City Deal in January.

Currently Chair of the Economic Development Association of Scotland, Robert has been involved in economic development and public policy for over twenty years. In that time he's worked within Scottish Enterprise, local government and international consultancy. Robert has been an advisor on economic development



to a range of European governments and undertaken assignments for a number of international bodies. He has also developed national and local strategies and has led the delivery of a variety of large capital and revenue programmes.

Speaking of his appointment Robert said, "I'm delighted to be leading the PMO team and assisting the eight member authorities to realise the significant economic opportunities through the programme of City Deal investments. This is an exciting time to be joining the Glasgow City Deal – with a number of projects moving into implementation stage and with the recent launch of the regional Economic Strategy and Action Plan. Over these first few months, I look forward to meeting with key programme stakeholders and gaining insight into partner priorities and ambitions for the City Deal."

Cathkin Relief Road – Completion of first major City Deal Transport Project

THE completion of the first major City Deal transport project was marked by an event in South Lanarkshire on Friday 24 February.

Cathkin Relief Road, a new 7.3 metre wide carriageway between the

junctions of the existing Cathkin Bypass/Burnside Road and Fernhill Road/Croftfoot Road/Blairbeth Road in Rutherglen, is now fully open. The new road was welcomed by the Depute Leader of South Lanarkshire Council, as well as by UK and Scottish Government Ministers. Pupils from four local primary schools – Burnside, Cathkin, Spittal and St Mark's Primary Schools – were also among the first VIPs to open the road.

Depute Leader of South Lanarkshire Council, Councillor Jackie Burns, said: "We are delighted to be able to deliver

the first major transport project of the Glasgow City Region City Deal. Cathkin Relief will improve infrastructure to employment areas across Rutherglen and Cambuslang and reduce traffic impacts on neighbouring residential type roads.

"The road will also reduce congestion at peak times which has the knock-on effect of also reducing carbon emissions.

"Another benefit will be an improvement to public transport reliability and bus/rail integration in the area, primarily because the new road will remove congestion and through traffic from existing routes.

"The capacity and quality of the wider footpath and cycle network in the area has been enhanced which will improve access for cyclists and pedestrians. The new paths are also DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliant."



NEWS

For more information, visit www.glasgowcityregion.co.uk or email citydealgcr@glasgow.gov.uk

Redevelopment of bridge to Finnieston

The 30-year-old bridge between the SEC and Finnieston is set to be redeveloped with £5m from the Glasgow City Region City Deal, with an initial grant of £660,000 agreed for feasibility, design and procurement.

The covered walkway is a key connection between the SEC, Finnieston, Pacific Quay and the Exhibition Centre rail station. This area will see investment of £114million from the Glasgow City Region City Deal alone, and will connect economic drivers in the area such as the University of Glasgow, the SEC, the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, and the digital media quarter at Pacific Quay, and develop vacant sites close to the river Clyde.

SEC chief executive Peter Duthie said: "First impressions are very important and with a new brand, a world class arena and countless incredible events coming on site it is important that our campus facilities are up to scratch. In many cases the covered walkway or 'Smartie tube' is the first thing visitors experience when coming to the Scottish Event Campus and so we are delighted with the news that it is to be upgraded."

Bridge between Govan and Partick

Glasgow City Council has appointed global engineering consultancy CH2M Hill to undertake design of a new bridge between Govan and Partick, funded through the City Deal.

The consultancy's Glasgow office will develop the design of the bridge, with construction work expected to begin in 2019. CH2M Hill (formerly Halcrow) has previously delivered a number of bridges across the River Clyde, including the Clyde Arc, the Dalmarnock Smart Bridge and the Tradeston Bridge. The bridge will once again make the historical connection between the two areas, and will be able to open to ensure that vessels

such as Waverley will still be able to berth up-stream.

This new connection across the Clyde will stimulate economic growth and improve links between the University of Glasgow Campus and the hub of high-tech research facilities located at the new Queen Elizabeth University Hospital (QEUH).

Clyde Waterfront and Renfrew Riverside

Crews are nearing completion of initial on-site work to deliver a new City Deal funded bridge across the Clyde.

The £90.7 million Clyde Waterfront and Renfrew Riverside project will strengthen links between communities and businesses in Renfrewshire, West Dunbartonshire and Glasgow's west end.

Specialist teams operating between Renfrew, Clydebank and Yoker have been working around the clock, gathering crucial geotechnical and environmental information about what lies beneath the riverbed. The complex overwater ground investigations will help in the development of the new



Stephen Curtis, Site manager Geotech and Councillor Mark MacMillan, Leader of Renfrewshire Council.

bridge's design and inform a future decision on its exact location and alignment.

Renfrewshire Council Leader Mark Macmillan – the Glasgow City Region Cabinet Lead for Enterprise – visited crews on the river to get a first-hand look at the work. He said: "This is an exciting project and it's great to see it underway. The new bridge will give people on both sides of the river better

access to jobs and services, as well as helping businesses reach more customers, access suppliers and hire the staff they need. It will also improve access to underused land, opening it up for new development and to help regenerate our areas."

Buses, cars, cyclists and pedestrians will all be able to cross the bridge, which will 'open' to allow ships to continue sailing up and down the river.