

# Report

Report to:	<b>Community and Enterprise Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>16 February 2021</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Vision for Lanark Partnership Board</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:

- ◆ update the Committee on the activities of the Lanark Vision Group
- ◆ seek approval for an officer to attend and represent the Council at the Lanark Vision Partnership Board, as set out in section 4 of this report and to sign the associated Memorandum of Understanding

## 2. Recommendation

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the progress made by the Lanark Vision Group in preparing the Vision for Lanark 2020 to 2030 be noted;
- (2) that it be agreed that an officer attend the Lanark Vision Partnership Board to represent the Council; and
- (3) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) be authorised in consultation with the Head of Administration and Legal Services to agree to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on such terms so as to enable the work of the Lanark Vision Group while reflecting the objectives and best interests of the Council.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. Lanark Community Development Trust (LCDT), acting on behalf of a partnership consisting of the Trust, Discover Lanark, New Lanark Trust and Scottish Wildlife Trust (Falls of Clyde), is preparing a Vision for Lanark as a heritage led community regeneration strategy for the Lanark, New Lanark and Falls of Clyde area. The strategy is designed to build on the establishment of Discover Lanark by LCDT to provide a basis for longer term development of the town.
- 3.2. In 2019, the partners secured financial support from Border Biscuits Community Support and agreed to commission CMC Associates to prepare a report on the potential of the town. This report was delivered to the partnership steering committee early in the summer of 2020.
- 3.3. The Vision for Lanark 2020 to 2030 – “A Strategy for Greener Prosperity from our Sustainable Heritage” follows on from the adoption of the New Lanark World Heritage site management plan (2019 to 2023) and the formation of Discover Lanark- the BID organisation. These two organisations have joined with the Lanark Community Development Trust to commission the Vision document as a “high-level overview of the potential for action” prior to detailed project planning. Natural and Human Heritage

and Sustainability are key themes running through the document which sets out actions under 4 initiatives:-

1. Direction and Promotion
2. Funding and Support
3. Action and Change
4. Signature Project – the Lanark Hub

The full strategy document can be made available for Members on request.

- 3.4. The partnership steering committee agreed to carry out a two-stage programme of public consultation which was completed in October 2020. The outcome from the consultation is informing the development of the Delivery Plan, which is now in preparation, with further funding from Border Biscuits. Stage One of the consultation process involved a detailed questionnaire to 30 local organisations and Stage Two has consisted of an open public questionnaire which received a strong response.
- 3.5. The partnership steering committee envisages implementation will involve all the Vision partners who are exploring ways of supporting the existing World Heritage Site Management Plan and the BID Business Plan.

#### **4. Current Proposal**

- 4.1. The partnership steering committee recognises that the Council is already actively engaged in several initiatives which the consultation and report has identified and has an important contribution in progressing the Vision. These initiatives include the potential to deliver a refurbished transport hub, local tourism, partnership working with New Lanark and Discover Lanark along with a range of town centre activities.
- 4.2. The partnership steering committee has approached the Council requesting that it becomes a formal partner in the Vision Group via attendance at the Lanark Vision Partnership Board and, in turn, that it nominates a senior officer to represent the Council in that capacity. It is further proposed that the partners sign up to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to set out the scope of the group and terms of engagement and this is attached in Appendix 1. Legal Services have reviewed the draft Memorandum, which has been provided. The purpose of the MOU is to set out a mutual statement of intent setting out the objectives of the group rather than a legally binding commitment or formal partnership. In agreeing and signing the MOU it would not commit the Council beyond its normal role to facilitate and enable the work of the business and community partners, and therefore does not pose a risk to the Council.
- 4.3. It is, therefore, recommended that the proposal to work with the partnership to contribute to their objectives should be supported as it aligns with the Council's Economic Development ambitions. Further, it is recognised the Group is made up of several linked organisations in Lanark, and this should allow officers to engage with a range of partners through a single forum and, therefore, this should be more effective and efficient in engaging with each group on an individual basis. Authority is therefore sought for the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources), in consultation with the Head of Administration and Legal Services, to agree a Memorandum of Understanding on such terms as enable the work of the group to proceed, while reflecting the objectives and best interests of the Council.

- 4.4. It is further recommended that a senior officer, Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) / Head of Planning and Economic Development be the nominated senior officer(s) to lead the Council's role in the group with such support as is considered necessary from the Economic Development Service and other Council Resources.

## **5. Employee Implications**

- 5.1. The development and implementation of the projects will be supported by officers within Planning and Economic Development Services, in consultation and with support of other Council Resources as appropriate.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1. There are no funding implications to the Council as a result of this report.
- 6.2. No contribution of funding has been asked of the Council and none is sought under this report. Any future funding requirements will be subject to a separate report.

## **7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 7.1. The projects and initiatives identified in this report will be delivered using a range of sustainable techniques and models, having regard to best practice and current construction industry guidance. It is also noted that many of the projects could result in the redevelopment of vacant buildings and land.

## **8. Other Implications**

- 8.1. The risks associated with the Council not supporting this proposal are that the Vision Group will be unlikely to meet their aims and objectives and the local economy of Lanark will be less able to meet the challenges ahead. Were this to happen, there will be increased demand on a number of Council services from a range of sectors of the economy.

## **9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no Impact Assessment is required.
- 9.2. Consultations will be co-ordinated by Economic Development Services with a range of other Council Services which are likely to have an ongoing role in delivering services and initiatives in the area covered by the Vision Group's work. This consultation and co-operation will continue throughout the duration of the initiative.

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

26 January 2021

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Improve the quality of the physical environment
- ◆ Support the local economy by providing the right conditions for growth, improving skills and employability
- ◆ Improve health and increase physical activity
- ◆ Partnership working, community leadership and engagement

**Previous References**

- ◆ None

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ A Vision for Lanark 2020 to 2030

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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E-mail: [Iain.ross@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:Iain.ross@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

## **Appendix 1**

### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE VISION FOR LANARK PARTNERSHIP**

#### **Section 1: Background**

Lanark Community Development Trust, Discover Lanark (Business Improvement District company), New Lanark Trust and the Scottish Wildlife Trust have agreed to form a partnership, to be called the “**Vision for Lanark Partnership**”, in order to deliver “**A Vision for Lanark 2020-2030**”.

A Vision for Lanark 2020-30 is a heritage led regeneration initiative for the Royal Burgh of Lanark, the World Heritage Site of New Lanark and the designated designed landscape around the Falls of Clyde and defined by the report of the same name by CMC Associates of 2020 and commissioned by the steering group which has established this partnership.

The partnership is an equal partnership for the mutual benefit of all parties involved in providing public benefits for the local community.

#### **Section 2: Partnership aims**

The aims of the Partnership are: -

- 2.1 To promote A Vision for Lanark 2020-2030 as a strategic framework for heritage led community regeneration in the digital age.
- 2.2 To prepare from time-to-time project plans, programmes, and services to implement the strategy, and to oversee their implementation.
- 2.3 To share resources and allocate responsibilities for implementing projects and programmes to the partner organisations and secure effective coordination.
- 2.4 To work in partnership with other agencies to secure funding and effective implementation, especially South Lanarkshire Council.
- 2.5 To provide public information on the progress in implementation of the Vision for Lanark and to engage with all sectors of the local community in its development and implementation, as appropriate.
- 2.6 To monitor continuously the progress in implementation of the Vision and periodically to review the relevance of the Vision and its aims, at least at three-yearly intervals.

#### **Section 3 Partnership administration**

The host organisation for the administration of the partnership for the time being is the Lanark Community Development Trust, subject to such arrangements for resourcing the role as may be agreed from time to time.

Each partner organisation shall designate a senior member of staff as lead officer to liaise with the host and the other partner organisations to ensure that the administrative and technical needs of the partnership are met.

#### Section 4: Partnership governance and oversight

The partnership will be governed by a joint **Partnership Board** of 2 representatives of the trustees, non-Executive Directors or Executive Directors of each of the four partner organisations, together with such invited persons, to a maximum of four, as the board considers necessary for their expertise.

The Partnership Board shall from time to time appoint a Chair and Vice Chair. The Chair, who failing the Vice Chair, will carry delegated authority for ensuring that the terms of this agreement and of the decision of the Partnership Board are adhered to and that appropriate arrangements for dispute resolution are made, if required.

The lead officers designated in section 3 shall also form a supporting **Partnership Technical Group** to coordinate the approved actions of the Partnership Board.

#### Section 5: financial contributions

Subject to such arrangements as may be agreed from time to time to provide the resources for hosting the partnership in Section 3, the partnership is intended to be a light touch strategic coordinating mechanism which will not require significant funding contribution from the partner organisations.

In the event that the *modus operandi* requires to change (to meet the requirements of funding bodies, for example) this position may be reviewed.

#### Section 6: disclaimer

This Memorandum of Undertaking is a mutual statement of intent in the public eye but does not constitute a legally binding document. It is a statement, agreed voluntarily by equal partners by virtue of the signatures below, of the commitment to work together for the benefit of the community of Lanark, New Lanark and the area of the Falls of Clyde.

Signed.....  
pp Lanark Community Development Trust  
Date.....

Signed.....  
pp Discover Lanark  
Date.....

Signed.....  
pp New Lanark Trust  
Date.....

Signed.....  
pp Scottish Wildlife Trust  
Date.....