

Community Wealth Building- Briefing

Community Planning Board
20th September 2018

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North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath



Summary

- What is Community Wealth Building?
- Links to Inclusive Growth
- Footprint- focus on economic levers that the public sector does have- employment, procurement and assets
- Actions to progress
- Role for the CPP

Community Wealth Building: what do we mean

“A way of building an economy where wealth- including the spending of the local “anchor institutions”, is recirculated locally for the benefit of local communities”

- A different model of economic development, part of the wider “Inclusive Growth” agenda- of particular importance to North Ayrshire, given the challenges we face: see Inclusive Growth Diagnostic
- Approach pioneered in the UK by Preston City Council and its partners over the last 5 years
- Report agreed by Council in May 2018

Using the economic levers that that they have to support local economies through:

- Procurement
- Employment
- Assets
- Service delivery

Council's economic footprint

- 6,900 employees (headcount)
- 77% are North Ayrshire residents- over £100 million a year in salary expenditure
- £196m procurement spend
- £38m in with local companies- 19.4% of total spend
- Investing in our assets and infrastructure through the capital programme to encourage and support inclusive economic growth- £133 million for period 2016/17-2018/19
- Impact that we can have on the local economy- if the Council spent locally at the Scottish Council average of 27% would mean an additional £14.9 million circulating in the local economy.

Council's Economic Footprint :

- Particular focus on the role and importance of procurement- local spend and community benefits
- Role as an employer also for excluded groups- lone parents, disabled, looked after children and so on
- Supporting local businesses through Team North Ayrshire- new starts and growth businesses
- Scope to do more as a local authority and as a Community Planning partnership to help build a community wealth approach.

Actions to progress

- Living Wage- Living Wage Places/ Increase the number of accredited Scottish Living Wage employers- starting with the public sector?
- Additional support to excluded groups- Council employment
- Procurement- Baseline and understanding of where we can deliver most effectively- SMEs/ Quick Quote/ Procurement strategy/ Looking at Community Benefit Clauses
- Links to private sector- disability employment gap
- Assets- reviewing our industrial and commercial portfolio

Role for the CPP

- Engage with partners to progress- How can we work together?
- What can you do in relation to Living Wage/ employment of disadvantaged groups- developments around Scottish Living Wage Accreditation/ Living Wage Places- Public Sector as exemplar employers. Programmes for disabled/ lone parents etc.
- Procurement- local procurement, scope to spend more with local companies- linked to community benefit approach. Council has established a corporate procurement group to help co-ordinate activity.
- Collaboration through Fair for All strategy and steering group- key targets and outcomes

For Further Information

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