

Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

Part 1 Scoping

1 Details of the Proposal

Title of Proposal	Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Regional Growth Framework.
What is it?	A new Policy/Strategy/Practice <input type="checkbox"/> YES A revised Policy/Strategy/Practice <input type="checkbox"/>
Description of the proposal	<p>The Regional Prosperity Framework seeks to set out a 20-year vision to help address the significant challenges and opportunities ahead. In addition to supporting a post-COVID-19 economic recovery, the region needs to be in a position to address national priorities such as Scotland becoming a more sustainable, inclusive and net zero carbon economy, while supporting wellbeing for all of its people.</p> <p>The overall aim of the Regional Prosperity Framework is 'to inform future approaches, strategies and policies across sustainability, transport, planning, housing and economic</p>

development to enable the region to generate and spread sustainable inclusive growth and to transition to a low carbon economy'. In doing so, it seeks to ensure that the success of the region can continue to be realised and that it continues to be a key driver of the Scottish economy. It seeks to identify how regional partners can build on the opportunities created by the City Region Deal.

The Draft Regional Prosperity Framework has been developed in a consultative and collaborative way. This includes strategic regional input from the Regional Enterprise Council, the Elected Member Oversight Committee, and the Leaders, Executive and Director's groups.

This IIA has been taken forward as a two-stage process with:

1. consultation of the draft Framework (approved by Council 17 June 2021), and
2. Consideration/analysis of responses, with appropriate amendments incorporated into the Framework for validation by Council on 26 August 2021, prior to City Deal partner's approval on 3 September 2021.

Stage 1 - Consultation

This stage of the IIA process considered the development and consultation process for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal – DRAFT Regional Prosperity Framework .

The consultation process started on 14 June and conclude on 26 July 2021 before analysis of feedback and final amendments to the Framework are made prior to Council consideration and approval in Autumn 2021.

A list of key regional stakeholders was prepared in advance and direct approaches were made to encourage responses from a wide range of organisations, including the public, private and third sector, industry bodies and other representative organisations.

In total 71 responses were received through the consultation portal, or by email submission.

In addition to the formal consultation, two additional online engagement sessions were organised. These informal events engaged around 47 individuals from around the region. The sessions were anonymous.

Stage 2 – Analysis and Amendments to Framework

Following closure of the consultation on 26 July, a full analysis of all responses has been undertaken by officers across the City Region partnership and the Programme Office with the support of consultants, Deloitte. Amendments have been made to the Framework seeking to address or reinforce the themes of the feedback. In particular, emphasis has been added to the environmental

	<p>and sustainability imperatives, which now underpin all economic activity, and the zero and low carbon connectivity (both physical transport and digital connections) upon which economic activity is predicated.</p> <p>The purpose of this IIA is to support the report that seeks Council views upon and, ultimately, Council approval of the proposed finalised Regional Prosperity Framework following the consultation process. This allows the Council Leader to support the final draft of the Framework, subject to any comments from Council, when presented to the City Region Deal Joint Committee on 3 September 2021</p>
<p>Service Area Department</p>	<p>Economic Development Corporate Improvement and Economy</p>
<p>Lead Officer: (Name and job title)</p>	<p>Executive Director for Corporate Improvement and Economy</p>
<p>Other Officers/Partners involved:</p>	<p>Michael Cook – Policy Advisor – SBC Ewan Doyle – Workforce Mobility Manager – City Region Deal Andy Nicol – PMO – City Region Deal David Baxter – PMO – City Region Deal Kirstin Marsh – Fife Council Andy Stewart – East Lothian Council Annie Watt – Midlothian Council Lawrence Wyper – Scottish Enterprise Anna Herriman – SEStran</p>

	Simone Doyle – Equality & Diversity Officer – Scottish Borders Council
Date(s) IIA completed:	Stage 1 – 26 th May 2021 Stage 2 – 10 th & 12 th August 2021

2 Will there be any cumulative impacts as a result of the relationship between this proposal and other policies?

Yes - This IIA considers the development, consultation, analysis and amendment process for the DRAFT Regional Prosperity Framework . Moving forward once adopted, the intention is that the Framework would become non-statutory regional policy and strategy. It would be a high level agreed statement of regional economic priorities and ambitions. In that context, its primary purpose would be to help inform the development of other national, regional and local plans and strategies, including a future review of the Council's Economic Strategy.

A workshop of Scottish Borders Council Elected members took place on 24 June 2021 to consider the draft consultative South of Scotland Regional Economic Strategy and the City Region Regional Prosperity Framework . Working with our partners, SBC have sought to ensure that the feedback from SBC Elected Members is incorporated in the Final Regional Prosperity Framework. This will promote the Framework that covers the South East of Scotland, and the Regional Economic Strategy, that covers the South of Scotland, complementing each other with shared goals and outcomes.

3 Legislative Requirements

3.1 Relevance to the Equality Duty:	
Do you believe your proposal has any relevance under the Equality Act 2010? Yes	
Equality Duty	Reasoning:
Elimination of discrimination (both direct & indirect), victimisation and harassment.	<p><u>STAGE 1</u></p> <p>Consultation on the Framework was conducted in a number of differing ways. This enabled as wide as possible community involvement and inclusiveness under the COVID 19 restrictions that were in place in July 2021.</p> <p>Methods of consultation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • online access to the draft framework and consultation questions, • Teams consultation forums with the public & communities to discuss the draft and gather local opinion, • email/written comments to the team for consideration <p><u>STAGE 2</u></p> <p>The consultation responses have been collated and analysed and major themes from the consultation are summarised below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel – including detailed feedback from Transport Scotland, also relates to environment
Promotion of equality of opportunity?	
Foster good relations?	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment – including Nature Scot. • Society/Place – including feedback from Scottish Government More Homes Division and NPF4 teams; Scottish Enterprise; Creative Scotland; and Homes for Scotland. • Wellbeing - including fair work, active travel / core path improvements, addressing (fuel and other) poverty recognising the link between poverty and poor health, community wealth building, and the need to create better career paths in the care sector in order to meet our future care needs as a society; • Equality – and a desire to see a fairer region. <p>Amendments have been made to the Framework seeking to address or reinforce the feedback received from the consultation process.</p> <p>We believe these actions fulfil the requirements of the Equality Duty.</p>
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3.2 Which groups of people do you think will be or potentially could be, impacted by the implementation of this proposal? (You should consider employees, clients, customers / service users, and any other relevant groups)				
Please tick below as appropriate, outlining any potential impacts on the undernoted equality groups this proposal may have and how you know this.				
	Impact			Please explain the potential impacts and how you know this
	No Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
All of the Protected Characteristics including: Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment		X		<u>STAGE 1</u>

<p>Trans/Transgender Identity, Marriage or Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race Groups, Religion or Belief, Sex. Sexual Orientation</p>			<p>Utilising the various consultation processes and methods as outlined above has ensured that all considerations for each protected group and the below socio economic factors can be made. This approach should result in a very informed consultative outcome.</p> <p>The original drafting of the Framework was based on consultation with public, private and voluntary sectors from across the region and information from the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, Skills Development Scotland (supported by Oxford Economics), statistics from the Scottish Government and Transport Scotland.</p> <p><u>STAGE 2</u></p> <p>Analysis of the consultation has ensured that the considerations identified will be built into the revised Framework.</p> <p>The aspirations of the Framework together with the consultation analysis should ensure a positive impact for the communities of the Scottish Borders and other City Deal partners in meeting the Strategic Aims of the Framework.</p>
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3.3 Fairer Scotland Duty

This duty places a legal responsibility on Scottish Borders Council (SBC) to actively consider (give due regard) to how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socioeconomic disadvantage when making strategic decisions.

The duty is set at a strategic level - these are the key, high level decisions that SBC will take. This would normally include strategy documents, decisions about setting priorities, allocating resources and commissioning services.

Is the proposal strategic?

YES

If yes, please indicate any potential impact on the undernoted groups this proposal may have and how you know this:

	Impact			State here how you know this
	No Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
Low and/or No Wealth – Material Deprivation Area Deprivation Socio-economic Background Looked after and accommodated children and young people Carers Homelessness Addictions and substance use Those involved within the criminal justice system		X		It is envisaged that the delivery of the Framework will have a positive impact on these elements of the Fairer Scotland Duty.

4 Full Integrated Impact Assessment Required

YES

Part 2 Full Integrated Impact Assessment

5 Data and Information

What evidence has been used to inform this proposal?

(Information can include, for example, surveys, databases, focus groups, in-depth interviews, pilot projects, reviews of complaints made, user feedback, academic publications and consultants' reports).

The original drafting of the Framework was based on consultation with public, private and voluntary sectors from across the region and information from the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, Skills Development Scotland (supported by Oxford Economics), statistics from the Scottish Government and Transport Scotland

The formal consultation process on the Draft Regional Prosperity Framework commenced on 14 June and concluded on 26 July 2021 before analysis of feedback and final amendments to the Framework are made prior to Council consideration and approval on 26 August 2021.

As part of the consultation a list of key regional stakeholders was prepared in advance and direct approaches were made to encourage responses from a wide range of organisations, including the public, private and third sector, industry bodies and other representative organisations.

- In total 71 responses were received through the consultation portal, or by email submission. In addition to the formal consultation, two additional online engagement sessions were organised. These informal events engaged around 47 individuals from around the region. The sessions were anonymous. The online engagement events surfaced similar themes including:
- **Travel** – including detailed feedback from Transport Scotland, also relates to environment
- **Environment** – including Nature Scot.

- **Society/Place** – including feedback from Scottish Government More Homes Division and NPF4 teams; Scottish Enterprise; Creative Scotland; and Homes for Scotland.

The consultation responses have been collated and analysed and major themes from the consultation are summarised below.

- **People & Workforce** – access to skills and training is key, including upskilling and apprenticeships (perhaps with an emphasis on “green skills”), access to jobs, addressing skills shortages, developing transferable skills. The wider context of EU Exit and Covid-19 as significant threats to future workforce stability and opportunities was highlighted.
- **Environmental** – appetite to place environmental sustainability more centrally in the vision and document (including development of microgrids, response to climate emergency;
- **Place & Transport** – quality of place; pride in place and a positive legacy; successful economy, access to affordable housing, changing patterns of travel accelerated by the Covid-19 pandemic;
- **Wellbeing** – including fair work, active travel / core path improvements, addressing (fuel and other) poverty recognising the link between poverty and poor health, community wealth building, and the need to create better career paths in the care sector in order to meet our future care needs as a society;
- **Equality** – and a desire to see a fairer region.

Describe any gaps in the available evidence,-then record this within the improvement plan together with all of the actions you are taking in relation to this (e.g. new research, further analysis, and when this is planned)

The Covid 19 restrictions that were in place in July 2021 limited the ways in which the consultation process could be taken forward without ‘face to face’ meetings and forums. This will have in some circumstances limited the number who could engage with the process interactively. However, the option to provide email or hand written responses was still in place.

6 Consultation and Involvement

Which groups are involved in this process and describe their involvement

The consultation process was led by Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Programme Management Officers, supported by Scottish Borders Council Policy officer, Fife Council Project Manager, East Lothian Council Project Manager, Midlothian Council Economic Development Officer, Workforce Mobility Manager, Scottish Enterprise and SEStran.

The breakdown of the consultation responses received by geography was as follows:

Breakdown of Consultation Respondents by Geography		
	Number	%
City of Edinburgh	23	32
East Lothian	3	4
Fife	2	3
Midlothian	13	18
Scottish Borders	11	15
West Lothian	2	3
Regional (ESES)	2	3
Regional (non-ESES)		
National	15	21
Other		

In addition to the formal consultation, two additional online engagement sessions were organised. These informal events engaged around 47 individuals from around the region.

Breakdown of Online Participants by Geography		
	Number	%
City of Edinburgh	20	42
East Lothian	3	6
Fife	8	17
Midlothian	4	9
Scottish Borders	7	15
West Lothian	1	2
Other	4	9

Describe any planned involvement saying when this will take place and who is responsible for managing the process

STAGE 1 – Programme Management Office responsibility (supported by partners listed above)

City Deal Joint Committee approved consultation 4 June 2021

Council approval of consultation 17 June 2021

Consultation period 14 June to 26 July 2021

STAGE 2 – Programme Management Office responsibility (supported by partners listed above)

Collation and analysis of responses 27 July to 6 August 2021

Amendments to Framework 9 to 13 August 2021

Report to Council 16 – 26 August 2021

Report to City Deal Joint Committee 26 August to 3 September 2021

Describe the results of any involvement and how you have taken this into account.

Following closure of the consultation on 26 July, a full analysis of all responses has been undertaken by officers across the City Region partnership and the Programme Office with the support of consultants, Deloitte. Amendments have been made to the Framework seeking to address or reinforce the themes of the Framework from the feedback received. In particular, emphasis has been added to the environmental and sustainability imperatives, which now underpin all economic activity, and the zero and low carbon connectivity (both physical transport and digital connections) upon which economic activity is predicated.

What have you learned from the evidence you have and the involvement undertaken? Does the initial assessment remain valid? What new (if any) impacts have become evident?

The consultation process has highlighted partner and community priorities that need strengthened in the Framework, but overall the initial assessment remains valid.

7 Mitigating Actions and Recommendations

Mitigation			
Please summarise all mitigations for approval by the decision makers who will approve your proposal			
Equality Characteristic/Socio economic factor	Mitigation	Resource Implications (financial, people, health, property etc)	Approved Yes/No
Consultation process limited to digital interactions	Although there were no face to face consultation sessions and a heavy reliance on the use of digital platforms for interactive engagement, the Draft Framework was still available to download and individuals had the ability to provide comment in writing and by email if they could attend an online interactive session.	This mitigation was put in place to safeguard the health of officers and the public under the COVID restrictions that were in place in July 2021	Yes

Travel	Public transport is a complex sector without consistent regulation. Transport has regularly been a barrier in rural areas, so the Framework recognises this and sets Transport as a key theme to help minimise inequalities across the region	There will be financial commitments required to deliver change. There will be health benefits from the change and reducing private vehicle miles	
Environment/Society/Place	Environment is at the centre of the Framework and aid the delivery of Net Zero by 2045	Investment is required in protecting the natural environment to support our communities financially, deliver high quality places and support wellbeing	
People & Workforce	Developing employment, training and education pathways that reflect and respond to the ambitions of the Framework	Reducing inequalities, supporting inclusive growth, wellbeing and the environment	
Wellbeing & Equality	At the heart of the Framework is the need to reduce inequalities and increase community wellbeing and inclusive growth.		

8 - Action Plan

Actioner Name: Edinburgh & South East Scotland City Region Deal Partners	Action Date: December 2021
What is the issue? Produce Implementation and Action Plan to support the Regional Prosperity Framework	

What action will be taken?	
Step 1 - 26 Aug 21	Scottish Borders Council - Draft Final Regional Prosperity Framework to be presented and discussed
Step 2 - 30 Aug 21	Joint Committee Papers – Draft Final Regional Prosperity Framework published along with Joint Committee papers
Step 3 - 3 Sept 21	Joint Committee Decision
Step 4 - By 30 Sept 21	Final Publication – preparation of publication version of Regional Prosperity Framework (subject to Joint Committee approval)
Step 5 - Sept to end-Dec 21	Endorsement by regional partners as required by 30 Sept Implementation and Action Plan Development to support delivery
Progress against the action: Currently at Step 1	

9 - Monitoring and Review

State how the implementation and impact of the proposal will be monitored, including implementation of any amendments? For example what type of monitoring will there be? How frequent?

As part of the Implementation and Action Plan, a set of share objectives will be set that will be monitored and evaluated during the delivery phase.

What are the practical arrangements for monitoring? For example who will put this in place? When will it start?

To be agreed at the next stage

When is the proposal due for review?

December 2021

Who is responsible for ensuring that this happens?

Service Director – Customer & Communities

10 Recommendation and Reasoning (

- Implement proposal taking account of mitigating actions (as outlined above)

Reason for recommendation:

The production of the Implementation and Action Plan to support the Regional Prosperity Framework is the next step to understanding how the high level strategic ambition can be delivered in the next 20 years. The Plan will also need to take account of political/social/environmental changes over the next 20 years and adapt appropriately. This may require a future refresh of the Regional Prosperity Framework.

Signed by Lead Officer:	Ewan Doyle / Michael Cook
Designation:	Workforce Mobility Manager (City Region Deal) / Policy Officer
Date:	12 th August 2021
Counter Signature (Director):	Jenni Craig - Resilient Communities
Date:	17 th August 2021

