

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

23 November 2023

Report by Clerk

NATIONAL EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – SCOTLAND'S CITY REGION AND GROWTH DEALS – PROGRESS ON 2020 AUDIT REPORT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To provide information on the Audit Scotland report, *Scotland's City Region and Growth Deals - Progress on 2020 Audit Report*.

RECOMMENDATION

2. It is recommended that the Committee considers the report.

BACKGROUND

3. A copy of the Audit Scotland report, [Scotland's City Region and Growth Deals - Progress on the 2020 Audit Report](#), published in June 2023, has already been circulated to all Audit and Scrutiny Committee Members. Under the Committee's specialisation arrangements, the Member leading the review of this particular report is Councillor Ireland.

4. The Head of Place has provided comments on the report. A copy of that feedback is attached (see Appendix A).

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that the Committee considers the report.

Local Government Access to Information Act 1985

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Background Papers:-

1. Audit Scotland report on [Scotlands City Region and Growth Deals - Progress on the 2020 Audit Report](#),

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILAUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE23 November 2023SCOTLAND'S CITY REGION AND GROWTH DEALS**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Audit and Scrutiny Committee with details of the Glasgow City Region – City Deal Cabinet response to the Audit Scotland report entitled **Scotland's City Region and Growth Deals** published in June 2023.

BACKGROUND AND REPORT

2. The Audit Scotland report entitled Scotland's City Region and Growth Deals was published in June 2023. The report provides comment on the progress of the 2020 audit report recommendations and a summary of the progress made to date, it does not contain any recommendations.

3. As Members will be aware, the main governance arrangement around the Glasgow City Region deal is the Glasgow City Region – City Deal Cabinet upon which the Council is represented by the Leader of East Renfrewshire Council. In that respect, Glasgow City Region Project Management Office submitted information to Audit Scotland to inform the report.

4. The Audit Scotland report highlights a summary of progress.

- Overall, there has been good progress against key 2020 audit recommendations. Scotland's City Region and Growth Deals are bespoke packages of funding, which means the governance and partnership arrangements vary across the deals.
- Deals are at different stages of delivery, but governance, scrutiny, and risk management arrangements have been strengthened locally and nationally. The Scottish Government and deal partners are closely monitoring the risks to project delivery arising from increasing costs.
- Partners are working well together and there is progress with ensuring deals are aligned with wider opportunities to support economic growth for the region.
- Deals have made progress with plans to assess the longer-term impact of this investment on communities, but they are at different stages and recognise there is still more they can do in this area

5. The City Deal Cabinet were presented with the Audit Scotland report entitled **Scotland's City Region and Growth Deals** on 8th August. The Cabinet was invited to: "note the report findings that good progress has been made against the 2020 Audit recommendations, with governance, scrutiny and risk management arrangements strengthened locally and nationally".

6. An update on ERC's City Deal Programme was presented to Cabinet on 23 March 2023 and a copy can be found in the link below.

[https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/8869/Cabinet-item-07-23-March-2023/pdf/Cabinet item 07 - 23 March 2023.pdf?m=638140440356770000](https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/8869/Cabinet-item-07-23-March-2023/pdf/Cabinet%20item%2007%20-%2023%20March%202023.pdf?m=638140440356770000)

RECOMMENDATION

7. It is recommended that the Committee note the Glasgow City Region response to the Audit Scotland report entitled **Scotland's City Region and Growth Deals** published in June 2023.

Director of Environment

Further information can be obtained from: Elaine Rodger
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November 2023