

Title of Report:	Growth Deal Terms of Reference
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	18 th February 2020
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Accelerating our Economy and Contributing to Prosperity
Outcome	The Council will work with partners to maximise investment opportunities
Lead Officer	Director of Leisure and Development

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	None at this stage
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	n/a
Code	n/a
Staffing Costs	n/a

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present to Members the Terms of Reference for the Growth Deal working group.

2.0 Background

At the October Leisure and Development Committee, Members were presented with the available information about the Growth Deal opportunity for the Causeway Coast and Glens area and approval was sought to proceed in principle.

In order to progress, it was agreed that Council formally engage with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to confirm Council's commitment and that a working group be established from within the Leisure and Development Committee.

The proposed Terms of Reference for the working group are attached at Annex A.

3.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee approves the Terms of Reference at **Annex A**.

ANNEX A

Growth Deal Working Group - (Draft ToR)

1. Introduction

A City or Growth Deal is a bespoke package of funding agreed between UK Government and local regions; aimed at helping to harness additional investment, create new jobs and accelerate inclusive economic growth.

Specifically Growth Deals are models of economic growth which provide regions with the opportunity to;

- Take charge and responsibility of decisions that affect their area.
- Do what they think is best to help businesses grow.
- Identify priorities for economic growth in the region.
- Decide how funding should be spent to meet those priorities.

The working assumption is that Causeway Coast and Glens has a potential allocation from £30m to an upper limit of £40m UKG funding, to be 100% matched by NI Exec (internal). The total co-investment package may also include Council, tertiary education and private sector investment.

As at the 5 November 2019, Council has formally engaged with the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MCHLG) to confirm this Council's commitment to a Growth Deal tailored to the specific opportunities in this Borough.

2. Purpose of the Oversight Group

The Working Group will provide strategic oversight in the initial development of all aspects of the Growth Deal.

The working Group is not a decision making body. Normal governance applies at this stage, in that responsibility for the recommendations and decisions relating to the Growth Deal are reserved for the Leisure and Development Committee and Council.

3. Start and Finish Principle

The purpose of this working group is to provide oversight of the initial development of the various mechanisms of the Growth Deal. Consequently, at some stage formal governance arrangements will be applied. Based upon other more advanced UK Deal arrangements, a Deal Executive, Board, Steering Group and Project Teams are likely to be established, which may negate the requirement for this group to continue.

4. Governance

The priority is to establish and agree the governance between the local partners, Northern Ireland Civil Service (NISC) and UKG. A Deal is a 15 year agreement, which therefore cannot allow changes to political structures to derail the process.

5. Key Outputs

The Working Group will provide initial strategic oversight of the development of:

- The Growth Strategy i.e. the Economic Development Strategy which will in-turn identify the key development themes for inclusive economic growth.

ANNEX A

- ‘Founding Partners’. The key partners who will have ownership and responsibility for Growth Deal Projects.
- Governance Structure. The Governance, covering all levels of the Deal, Funding and specific Projects.
- Resource Requirement. The Strategic and operational delivery teams.
- Proposed Projects. Aligned to the UKG themes of Innovation and Digital, plus NICS themed projects which may include Regeneration, Infrastructure, Tourism and Communications.

6. Membership

- 8 x nominated Councillors appointed by D’Hont.
- Director for Leisure and Development.
- Head of Service for Prosperity and Place.
- Strategic Project Manager.
- Representatives from Ulster University.
- Representatives from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Northern Ireland Civil Service as appropriate and as required.

7. Roles and working groups

- The Chair and Vice Chair to be elected by members of the Working Group.
- Those roles will normally have a one year term.
- Ad-hoc working groups may be set-up as and when necessary.
- The Working Group will receive and consider advice from stakeholders as it sees fit.

8. Meeting Frequency

Meetings are to be held quarterly or as otherwise agreed to facilitate timely reporting to the Leisure and Development Committee.