

5 SCOTTISH CITIES ALLIANCE (AN12-2013)

The Council is participating in an organisation established by the cities and the Scottish Government called the Scottish Cities Alliance. It aims to foster collaboration between all seven Scottish cities on economic development issues. This is being facilitated by the Scottish Council for Development and Industry. A leadership group involving Council Leaders and Chief Executives has met a couple of times and a delivery group has been formed, which the Director of City Development and Head of Economic Development attend. The Scottish Cities Alliance has through these meetings agreed that each city should subscribe to the organisation and a sum of £10,000 has been proposed as Dundee's level of subscription. This will be met from the Chief Executive's Department budget. It is recommended that the Committee approve subscribing to this organisation in furthering the city's economic development goals.

The Scottish Cities Alliance has agreed a work programme and invited each city to take a lead responsibility for developing a collaborative strategy on a particular topic. The broad topics include: connected cities, sustainable cities, knowledge cities and vibrant and cultural cities. The Scottish Cities Alliance has proposed that Dundee City Council take on a role of creating a vision for rolling out integrated smart travel in each city as part of the connected cities programme due to the Council's existing lead role in developing the smartcard for the national travel concessions scheme. Dundee City Council will consult each city and transport sector leaders on the local priorities and propose a collaborative scheme to deliver this. A preliminary budget of £50,000 is proposed to appoint a suitably qualified consulting firm to deliver this consultation process. The Council's costs will be met in full by the Scottish Cities Alliance. The Committee is asked to approve the issue of an 'invitation to tender' to further this work.