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|  | **Report to:** | **Glasgow Community Planning Partnership Executive Group** | |
| **Date:** | **3 February 2021** | |
| **Subject:** | **Open Government Partnership Update** | |
| **Report by:** | **Glasgow City Council, Strategic Policy and Planning** | |
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1. **Purpose**
   1. This paper provides the Executive Group with an update on the outcome from Glasgow’s application to join the Open Government Partnership’s (OGP) Local Programme, outlines next steps and initial considerations, and seeks the support of Community Planning Partners in the development of an Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow.
2. **Background: OGP Local Membership**
   1. In August 2020, the Executive Group noted that an OGP Local Expression of Interest had been submitted by Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, and if successful Community Planning Partners would support future work to develop an Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow. The Expression of Interest was submitted on 13 August 2020, with four potential thematic policy areas of interest, reflecting our Open Government ambitions; public service delivery, marginalised communities, climate change, and digital governance. This was a joint application process with our non-governmental stakeholder application made by Glasgow Chamber of Commerce. In September 2020, following an invite to progress to the full application stage, the Leader of Glasgow City Council submitted a Letter of Support for Glasgow’s membership of the OGP Local programme.
   2. On 20 October 2020, it was announced that Glasgow had been selected as one of the new OGP Local members in 2020. There were 56 finalists invited to join OGP Local in 2020, 8 from Europe (from Italy, North Macedonia, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain and the UK), including 2 new UK members – Glasgow and Northern Ireland.
   3. The Open Government Points of Contact for Glasgow have been submitted to the OGP – Glasgow City Council (Chief Executive’s Service) representing the government stakeholder, and Glasgow Chamber of Commerce representing the non-governmental stakeholder. The 2 Points of Contact are currently undertaking the Open Government Partnership’s Local orientation programme in January/February 2021. The other key induction activities will include:

* OGP Handbook (January 2021) - circulation of the OGP Local Handbook which will set out the rules and guidance for new members, and provide links to key resources including the OGP Co-Creation Toolkit;
* Regional Overview Webinar: Europe (January 2021) - to share what’s happening on Open Government in Europe, highlighting action plans, relevant open government activities, thematic trends, and regional events; and
* Thematic Deep Dives Webinars (February/March) -Led by OGP partner organisations, these sessions will focus on specific thematic policy areas within open government and offer examples of potential commitments within these areas. The thematic policy areas to be covered include civic space, public service delivery, access to information, open data, gender and inclusion, and participatory budgeting.

1. **OGP Local Programme: Initial Considerations and Next Steps**
   1. Glasgow City Council’s Expression of Interest anticipated that our Open Government agenda would be progressed through Glasgow Community Planning Partnership (GCPP), as an existing partnership which brings together key city partners, and essential in driving the community and citizen empowerment agenda in the city. GCPP are well placed to provide strategic oversight of our Open Government Plan, to be developed and informed by a wider group of non-governmental stakeholders and ensure that capacity and resources are identified across our strategic partners. Glasgow Chamber of Commerce made the non-governmental stakeholder application, with GCVS interested in taking forward an open government agenda in Glasgow - the development of a Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow now provides an opportunity to bring on further non-governmental stakeholders through GCPP to co-create and deliver the City’s Open Government ambitions.
   2. The induction programme has highlighted a number of lessons, considerations and requirements in developing an Open Government vision for Glasgow, planning and building a Open Government Team, and collaboration on development of the Open Government Action Plan. The key lessons, recommendations and requirements so far include:

* The Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow must be submitted to the OGP by 30 July 2021;
* The Action Plan should contain a maximum of 5 Open Government Commitments;
* When building an Open Government vision build on existing priorities, activities, and opportunities;
* The OGP have recognised the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the open government co-creation process, and have created a toolkit to assist us to move co-creation online - sharing examples, with a dedicated webinar taking place in February 2021;
* Collaboration is key, the Action Plan must be developed through a multi-stakeholder process, with active engagement of citizens and civil society; and
* To create spaces for engagement – making room for deliberative discussions with diverse stakeholders engaged. Through the engagement process, stakeholders will require notice and time to engage with the Open Government Action Plan.
  1. The 4 key lessons and recommendations from the Open Government Partnership which the Executive Group may wish to consider at this early stage are:
* **Establish an Open Government Forum** - Local Government with the support of non-governmental stakeholders should have space for participation in the development and review of the Action Plan. The OGP advice is to have a small forum at the beginning of the process, brining in other partners and stakeholders in later stages. The Executive Group may wish to consider if they undertake this function, or if it is appropriate to establish an Open Government Working Group to oversee the development and implementation of the Open Government Plan. The OGP Local Handbook has not yet been circulated for us to review the purpose and functions of the Forum, but is outline for national members as: a standing consultative body that assists in the process; it should meet every three months in order to comply with basic guidance; the structure will vary to reflect local contexts and demands; and Forums are responsible for assisting in the oversight of the OGP process to ensure that, in accordance with the OGP Participation and Co-creation Standards, it is open and inclusive of all stakeholders.
* **Build an Open Government Team** - assemble a core team for the co-creation process. This team should cover key skills recommended by OGP as: partnership, negotiation and consensus building; understanding the OGP process; and participatory design experience. The Executive Group should consider identification of an Open Government Core Team to take forward the planning and implementation of a Glasgow Open Government process, with the key skills required. This core team will provide the time, commitment and resource to drive forward the OGP process.
* **Open Government Timeline: Planning and Preparation** - the Open Government Forum should define the Open Government process and timeline, agreeing the stages and designating blocks of time for the key phases. The basic sequence would usually include; developing ideas and public call for proposals; prioritisation of proposals; engagement and participation; define and draft commitments; public consultation on commitments; and presentation of Action Plan.
* **Define the co-creation process** - the Open Government Core Team should begin to consider the co-creation process and the outreach plans we would wish to use in Glasgow, building on established co-creation activity and consultation mechanisms. The OGP Local Team will be sharing examples, guidance and materials to assist and show how the 2020 OGP Action Plans successfully moved co-creation processes online during the pandemic.

1. **Recommendations**
   1. The Executive Group is asked to:
2. Note that Glasgow has been announced as one of the new Open Government Partnership Local Members in 2020;
3. Note that an Open Government Action Plan for Glasgow must be submitted to the Open Government Partnership by 30 July 2021; and
4. Consider taking forward 2 key recommendations from the Open Government Partnership at this early stage:

* Establish an Open Government Forum - the Executive Group may wish to establish an Open Government Working Group to oversee the development and implementation of the Open Government Plan; and
* Build an Open Government Team - identification of an Open Government Core Team to take forward the planning and implementation of a Glasgow Open Government process, including defining the Open Government process and timeline, and the co-creation process we wish to use in Glasgow, building on established co-creation activity and consultation mechanisms.