

# Community Wealth Building in Fife

Presentation to West Lothian Community Planning  
Partnership

24<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Sinead O'Donnell, Fife Council



# CWB - What is It?

*“Community wealth building is about creating a fairer, more socially just economy. It is practical action, framed by progressive concepts.” CLES 2019.*



# Fife - Why Now?

1. A commitment in our Plan for Fife – our community plan (2017)
2. Political priority / EM learning visits to Wigan, Oldham, Preston (2018)
3. Already doing activity which is CWB in action but not to scale and depth to truly deliver an inclusive economy
4. Existing inequalities amplified by pandemic – sharpened focus on the need to bring CWB efforts organisation wide and into mainstream
5. Fife Recovery and Reform priority – (2020)

# Approach

1. Secured SG support to engage with CLES
2. Fife Report & Action Plan, to share learning and benefit across the wider Tay Cities Regional Partners
3. CLES – Strategy Assessment, Stakeholder Interviews FC, Fife Partnership, Community Organisation Workshop
4. EM Working Group Sessions – learning together
5. Stakeholder Engagement – services / anchor institutions

# EM Working Group Sessions

1. Learning from Preston City Council
2. Procurement
3. Real Living Wage
4. Community Benefit Clauses
5. Plural Ownership of the Economy – Focus on Community Asset Transfer

# Procurement – Learning From Preston



How we built  
community  
wealth in Preston  
Achievements and lessons



## Procurement spend retained within Preston:

- 2012/13 - £38.3 million
- 2016/17 - £112 million

## Procurement spend retained within Lancashire:

- 2012/13 - £288.7 million
- 2016/17 - £488.7 million

Unemployment 2014: 6.5%

Unemployment 2017: 3.1%

£200 million back in the economy

4000 more employees on the Real Living Wage

Reduction in in-work poverty



# Procurement - Fife Position

## FC Spend Local and SME Status

	2019-20 £M	%
Total Fife Council Spend*	518.658	
Total spend with Fife Suppliers (KY postcode)	196.639	37.91

## Companies with Fife Base - HQ

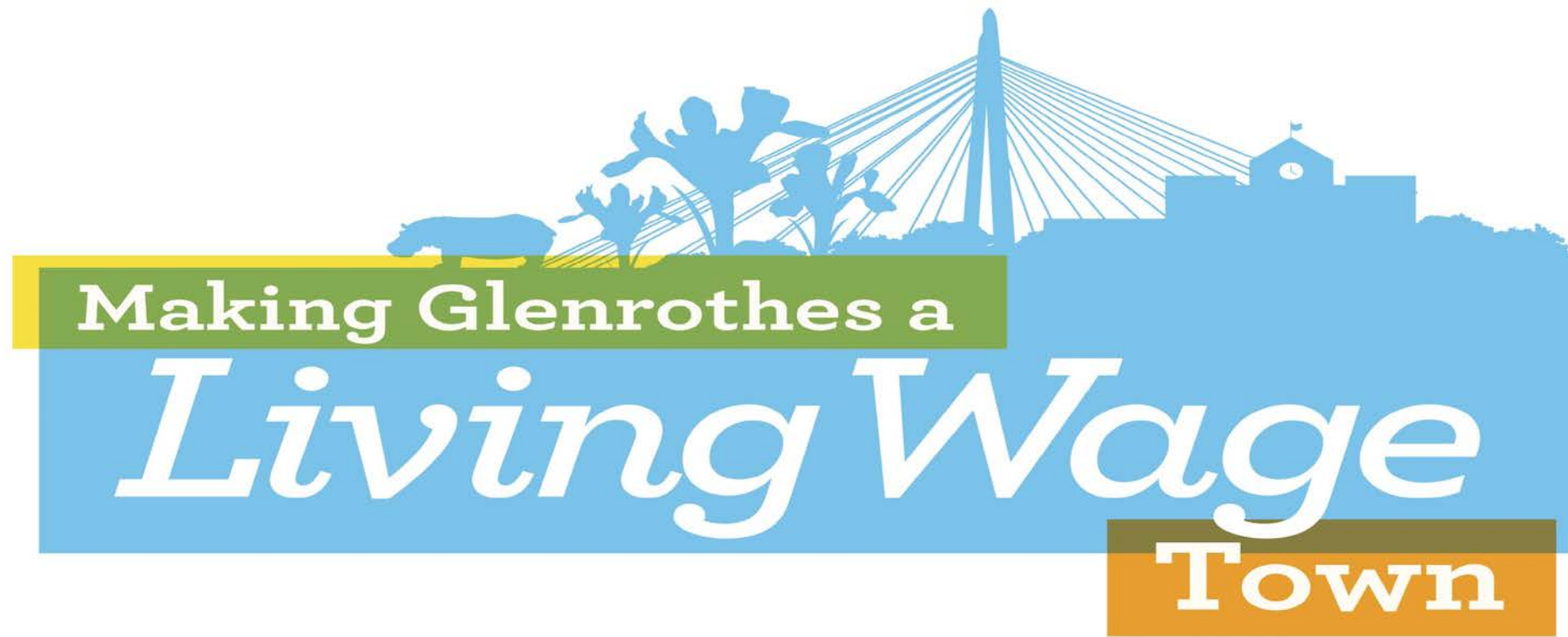
No. of companies with HQ based in Fife	26
Spend with these Fife based companies	£35.773m
Approx. average employment of Fife residents	93%

## FC Spend – Wider Local Impact

- Every **£1** spent locally on goods and services with local SMEs generates an additional **63p** for the local economy....**FC third party spend contributed and additional £123.88m**

## Companies with Fife Presence

No. of companies with Fife presence (i.e. depot/branch and/or Fife based employees for Fife contract)	20
i.e. over and above those with HQ in Fife	
Spend with these companies	£42.620m
Approx. average employment of Fife residents	49%



Glenrothes: August 2019 = **9** Accreditations → March 2020 = **18** Accreditations

Fife: August 2019 = **40** Accreditations → March 2020 = **82** Accreditations



# Community Benefit Clauses (CBC)

## Procurement Reform Scotland Act (2014)

**...a community benefit requirement is a contractual requirement imposed by a contracting authority relating to:**

- Training and recruitment, or
- The availability of sub-contractor opportunities, or
- Requirements which are otherwise intended to improve the economic, social or environmental well-being of the authorities area in a way which is additional to the main purpose of the contract which the requirement is included.

# CBC – Fife Experience

Community Benefit Type (Number)	2018/19	2019/20
Jobs	15	134
Apprenticeships	9	116
Qualifications achieved through training	13	50

Approx:  
£18m  
In  
community  
benefits

# Plural Ownership of the Economy - Community Asset Transfer

Community  
Wealth  
Building

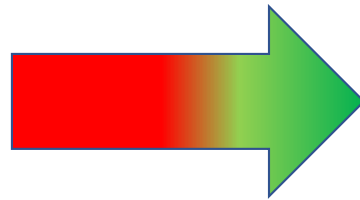
Plural  
Ownership

Land and  
Assets

**Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015**

...enables community bodies to request ownership, lease or management of publicly owned buildings or land

**£1.1m LOSS of capital receipt by Fife Council**

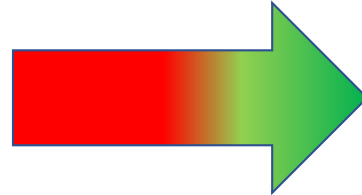


**£1.1m INVESTMENT to Fife communities**

# CAT – Kingdom Brass

## Fife Council 'Loss'

- Property - former Kelty Library
- Capital receipt loss of £91,000



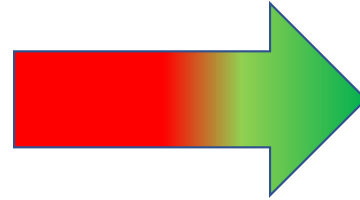
## Fife Community Gain

- Music hub, rehearsal space
- Youth programme
- Access to musical opportunities
- Promotion of social and mental well-being
- £40,000 grant from Creative Scotland
- Building brought into use

# CAT – Kirkcaldy YMCA

## Fife Council 'Loss'

- Property – Gallatown Park Bowling Club and Bowling Greens
- Capital receipt loss of £47,000
- Rental income loss of £1,900 p.a



## Fife Community Gain

- Community hub, bike projects, youth projects, cooking, community café, family activities, training and volunteering opportunities.
- Capital refurbishment of building at a cost of £525,000

# CLES Recommendations

Community wealth building in Fife

Final report – January 2021



# CLES Recommendations

## Theme: Fife as a community wealth building place

1. Develop an economic strategy for community wealth.
2. Establish a Fife anchor network taskforce to drive community wealth building across the partnership.
3. Build a community wealth building culture.
4. Establish a community wealth building working group.
5. All City Region Deal projects should follow the principles of community wealth building.

## Theme: Progressive procurement of goods and services

6. Develop a community benefits procurement framework.
7. Provide community benefits training.
8. Widen out meet the market events.
9. Look to influence others.

# CLES Recommendations

## Theme: Making financial power work for local places

- 10. Support and promote credit unions and the Community Wealth Bank to become financial anchors.
- 11. Identify opportunities to work with the Fife Pension Fund for investment in assets.

## Theme: Socially productive use of land and assets

- 12. Create a strategic asset register and support closer working to deliver this
- 13. Work with the anchor network taskforce to pool land for housing.
- 14. Explore the potential for a green building supply chain.

## Theme: Fair employment and just labour markets

- 15. Undertake an employee mapping exercise and target interventions to the geographies of greatest need.
- 16. Develop an anchor network taskforce workstream related to pressing employment issues.
- 17. Develop a targeted good employment strategy



# CLES Recommendations

## Theme: Plural ownership of the economy

18. Consider a community wealth building hub to inform the continued development of the Council business support offer.
19. Explore opportunities for more public sector involvement in the care market.
20. Explore models for parent-led childcare and community transport providers.

# Fife – Next Steps

- **Develop a partnership delivery approach**
- **CWB underpinning reform**
- **Action across all pillars with initial focus on Procurement practice**
- **Share learning with Tay Cities partners**
- **Embed CWB and community benefits into Regional Economic Action Plan**