

REPORT FROM THEME GROUP TWO

The CPP Theme Two group met in December and there was a January LEF meeting.

The working group set up after the October T2G workshop identified the following points:

- There was a blurring of strategic and operational issues
- There was a need for closer working relationships with LEF
- There was a need for a more practical focus on strategic priorities in the LEF strategy.

Subsequently in the revised/refreshed Smart Successful Scotland (the Scottish Executives economic strategy) there is explicit mention that the LEFs will deliver the economic dimension of CPP.

At the December meeting of the Theme Two Group it was agreed that some sort of merger/amalgamation of the two groups (CPP T2G & LEF) should take place as both groups covered similar ground.

Also at the Theme Two meeting:

- The action plans were reviewed and some items closed, some passed to LEF and one passed to Theme Three group.
- A reporting function to CPP by the LEF was proposed.
- It was suggested that membership of the LEF should be increased.

At the January meeting of the LEF this proposal was broadly welcomed as it reduced the number of meetings. The idea that many initiatives would be pursued via short life groups was welcomed and seen as the best way of working. This idea was discussed at the LEF seminar in December and received wide acceptance as a way forward for action.

The issue of membership/attendance at LEF meetings was debated at some length and it was agreed that there would be a review of membership, perhaps establishing a core group and inviting others, as appropriate, for the topics under debate. A paper "What are we trying to achieve" was to be prepared for the next meeting. This would:

- Identify where there are gaps
- Suggest methods of:
- Disseminating routine facts
- Details of hot issues (problems/solutions)

If there is an issue that could be brought to the attention of the LEF, perhaps because you are looking for advice to increase impact, wish to consult businesses, or involve other bodies that you are not already in contact with to achieve some sort of impact, etc. this may be done via me.

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