STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE



Sub	ject:	Inclusive Growth Knowhow Network	
Date	:	22 November 2019	
Reporting Officer:		John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy	
Contact Officers:		Christine Robinson, Strategy Policy and Partnerships Manager	
Res	tricted Reports		
Is this report restricted?			Yes No X
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?			
After Committee Decision After Council Decision Some time in the future Never			
Call-in			
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?			Yes X No
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1.0	Purpose of Report		
1.1	To inform Members of a proposal to establish an Inclusive Growth Knowhow Network (UK based		
	but with international links) and to seek approval for council to participate in and become active members of this Network. The Network will provide a valuable learning and resource tool for		
	council as we seek to develop our inclusive growth strategy for council and drive inclusive		
	growth for the city.		
2.0	Recommendations		
2.1	The Committee is asked to agree:		
	that Council participates in the Inclusive Growth Knowhow Network (IGKN); and		
	that officers continue to work with the IGKN partners in the run up its official launch next		
	year.		

3.0 Key Issues

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- 3.1 The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF), Metro Dynamics (MD), Centre for Progressive Policy (CPP) and the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) have developed a proposition paper aimed at establishing an Inclusive Growth Knowhow Network based in the UK with international links. The purpose of the network is to equip individuals and organisations leading on inclusive growth with practical 'know how' (evidence, knowledge, expertise) through peer learning. It builds on the foundation of the combined work at place level by these lead partners and the former Inclusive Growth Commission. The proposed mission statement for the Network is:
 - "Members of the Inclusive Growth Knowhow Network across the UK have the commitment, knowhow and tools to develop, deliver and measure inclusive growth.

 Through this, the Network will help to tackle inequalities, alleviate poverty, drive productivity and create sustainable, inclusive local economies."
- 3.3 It is envisaged that the Inclusive Growth Knowhow Network (IGKN), which they are aiming to launch in April 2020, will provide the following:
 - A local inclusive growth network of places
 - Implementation advice / advisors
 - Thematic working groups and workshops
 - A website and online communication tools
 - In the shorter term, the network would comprise up to 12 local areas committed to the inclusive growth agenda. Those areas involved will be required to demonstrate active involvement (to be defined), including relevant senior attendance at the annual workshop, hosting/participation in thematic working groups, and deep place engagement with partner implementation advisers.
- The Councils Strategy, Policy and partnership Manager has been actively engaged with the Inclusive Growth Network partners over the last twelve months in terms of shaping their proposition to provide practical support to local authorities to support the embedding and delivery of inclusive growth.
 - Given the council's role to date in driving the inclusive growth agenda at the Belfast city and regional level, it is important that we continue to be actively involved. Membership of the Network will assist council as we begin to implement our Inclusive Growth Strategy, which is currently out for public consultation, and will further demonstrate Members' commitment to inclusive growth for the city and as part of the Belfast Region City Deal.

3.7 A copy of the proposal, including how it will work and what it aims to do, is attached at appendix 1.

3.8 Financial & Resource Implications

There are no direct financial implication arising from this report. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has committed funding to the IGKN for a period of 4 years with additional in-kind support from Centre for Progressive Policy. Participation offers a significant opportunity to access support and resources from across the ICKN to support the councils inclusive growth ambitions.

3.9 Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment

There are no equality implications contained in this report.

4.0 | Appendices – Documents Attached

Appendix 1: IGKN Proposal Paper