

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING: DEREK MACKAY

Engagement title	Visit to the Elgin Business Park Site
Engagement timings	Tuesday 17 July: 11:45–12:45
Venue and full address	<p>The site is located at: Barmuckity Farm IV30 8QW (The first farm on the right as you leave Elgin on the Aberdeen road)</p> <p>Lunch will be provided at: Springfield Properties Alexander Fleming House 8 Southfield Drive Elgin IV30 6GR</p>
Background/Purpose (including invitation history)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Springfield Properties have invited you to tour the site where the development of a 100 acre business park is underway in Elgin. The development is still in the early stages with supporting infrastructure currently being rolled out. • Construction of the entire business park will support more than 30 full time equivalent jobs in the building industry. When complete it is anticipated there will be a variety of industrial, office, warehousing, hospitality and retail premises in use creating hundreds of jobs. • Elgin Business Park will complement the Enterprise Park Forres, 14 miles to the west, which is targeted at knowledge based companies in the life sciences, business services and engineering sectors. • Springfield Properties received a £1.9m grant from Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) towards the cost of the project. • The event will provide an opportunity to meet key stakeholders from the project and to highlight the support provided by HIE.
KEY MESSAGES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing our economy is a key priority for the SG • This project is a great example of how we can help the local economy grow • I want Moray to be seen as a highly successful and competitive region in which increasing numbers of people choose to live and businesses choose to invest • By complementing the offering Enterprise Park in Forres this business park can help achieve that
Official Support	[Redacted] – Area Manager for HIE Tel. [Redacted]
Media Handling	A press release has been prepared and SG and HIE comms have worked on this together with Springfield’s comms. Local media and STV have been invited. HIE comms support will be in attendance.
Venue Contact	Sandy Adam - [Redacted]
Contents Summary	Annex A : Running Order and Attendee List (page 2) Annex B : Hot Issues Briefing (pages 3-6)

1. Running Order

11:45 - Meet at site for tour and photo opportunity with press (Sandy Adam will welcome you).

12:15 – Informal lunch in the Springfield Properties boardroom after the site visit.

12:45 - Minister departs.

2. Attendees

- **Sandy Adam** (Springfield Properties PLC)
- **Alan Esson** (CEO Saltire Business Parks)
Alan formerly worked for surveyors D M Hall in Aberdeen. He left to join Sandy and set up a property investment fund in 2007. He looks after this investment fund, is CEO of Saltire Businesses Parks, and advises on all Springfield Properties valuations.
- **Victoria P Mungall** (Project Manager for Saltire Business Parks)
Victoria joined Saltire in January 2018 and is responsible for overseeing the delivery of many of the commercial projects.
- **Suzanne MacKintosh** (Architectural Technician for Saltire Business Parks)
Suzanne has recently been employed by the new Springfield Real Estate Management office in Edinburgh. She predominantly produces feasibility studies, as well as Planning and Building Warrant drawings for commercial developments.
- **[Redacted]** – Area Manager, Highlands and Islands Enterprise
- **Jennifer Robertson** – Spey PR Consultants

3. Local Hot Issues

- **Moray Growth Deal** (Briefing at Annex B)
- **[Redacted]**
- **[Redacted]**

MORAY GROWTH DEAL

TOP LINE: Building on the three City Region Deals already agreed and those at an advanced stage of development, the Scottish Government is committed to ensuring 100% coverage of Scotland with Growth Deals. We continue to urge the UK Government to join us in common purpose on this by agreeing a timetable for a Moray Growth Deal as soon as possible.

Lines to Take

- We have made clear our commitment to working with all our cities and regions to unlock investment, and we are keen to engage to understand the opportunities that will drive inclusive economic growth in Moray.
- Recognise Moray Council's ambitions for its area and applaud the collaborative approach it is taking to develop proposals. It is essential that the private sector is fully engaged and that there is a strong focus on inclusive growth.
- Know that SG officials continue to work with Moray Council, supported by our enterprise and skills agencies, to understand your ambitions and help you to consider proposals which will unlock inclusive growth in the local economy.
- Going forward, SG looks to Moray Council to start prioritising projects to narrow down to overarching business case from a board sweep to a focused bid for support.

[If pressed on timescale for Heads of Terms]

- We hope to work with the partners towards a Heads of Terms agreement as soon as possible but this will be dependent on the progress made through tripartite discussions and the availability of detailed information on the proposals.
- For the immediate future, the Scottish Government, as an investor, looks to Moray Council to prioritise those projects moving forward towards drafting a strong bid for funding.

Background

1. The Moray Council has been engaged in dialogue with SG, UKG and key stakeholders on developing the initial basis of a growth deal for the past year. The development of the proposal is progressing and continues to evolve to enable a series of focussed, strategic investments to deliver inclusive growth in Moray.

Progress to date

2. The Council submitted 12 draft Strategic Outline Cases (SOC) to SG and UKG between March and May 2018 for initial comment. These were passed to the relevant lead policy areas across SG for consideration and initial comments have been communicated to the Council as part of an on-going process to help it refine and develop its plans for a growth deal.

3. The 12 SOC's are as follows:

- **Moray College Hubs** - project to develop two Moray College UHI growth hubs.
- **Cultural quarter** - creation of a vibrant city cultural quarter in Elgin.
- **Energy gas pipeline** - a major upgrade of the gas pipeline.
- **Early Years STEM** - deliver flexible spaces to attract and enable 3-8 years old.
- **Infrastructure First Strategy** - an advanced programme of infrastructure developments which support new housing developments.
- **Industry 4.0 Hub** - a focal point for manufacturing in the North of Scotland.

- **Bus Revolution** – provide comprehensive and cohesive public transport links tailored to a largely rural economy by using green fleet and advanced technology.
- **Community Hubs** – provide innovative cross cutting solutions to issues relating to capacity and sustainability across health, social care and related services.
- **Buckie Harbour** – project to redevelop the harbour.
- **Housing Mix Delivery** – to assist with the delivery of affordable housing.
- **Digital Health** – test bed for innovation projects.
- **Creative Wellbeing** – co-design local services, supporting and enabling Moray CPP's overarching aim 'to improve life for those living and working in Moray'

4. UKG officials declined to comment on the SOCs at this early stage and have simply noted the proposals. The next part of the process involved further discussions between SG, UKG and Moray Council officials at a workshop on 7 June in Edinburgh. Moray Council is currently refining and developing its Growth Deal proposition through feedback from the workshop and discussions with SG policy leads. Moray Council is also in the process of prioritising the SOCs.

5. The Council's original goal was to have Heads of Terms signed by summer 2018. However, it has now acknowledged that that was an unrealistic objective and agreed that late 2018 or, more likely, early 2019 is more realistic.

UK G's latest position

6. During a meeting in Parliament on 29 March to discuss City Region Deals and Growth Deals, David Mundell advised Keith Brown that there is internal agreement within UKG to proceed with a Growth Deal for Moray. Scotland Office officials indicated on 1 May that they hope to have early confirmation of the UK Government's public commitment to support a Growth Deal for Moray, although no such confirmation is, as yet, forthcoming. **[Note: This information is not in the public domain.]**

Contact: [Redacted]
Ext: [Redacted]

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