

## REPORT TO BANFF AND BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 26 NOVEMBER 2019

### USE OF DELEGATED POWERS BY CHIEF OFFICER BY REASON OF SPECIAL URGENCY

#### **1 Reason for Report / Summary**

- 1.1 Travel was arranged at short notice to enable Cllr Doreen Mair to join a small delegation undertaking a learning journey to seafood training establishments in Humberside on 13 August 2019 and Billingsgate on 14 August 2019.

#### **2 Recommendation**

**Banff and Buchan Area Committee is recommended to:**

- 2.1 acknowledge the use by the Director of Infrastructure Services of delegated powers in order to enable Cllr Mair to travel.**

#### **3 Purpose and Decision Making Route**

- 3.1 Prior to the use of delegated powers by the Director of Infrastructure Services, The Chair, Vice Chair and Opposition spokesperson were consulted.

#### **4 Discussion**

- 4.1 The purpose of the visit to seafood training establishments in Humberside and Billingsgate on 13-14 August 2019 was to inform collaborative project work underway in NE Scotland to enhance the performance of the seafood value chain. In addition to Cllr Mair, the travelling party comprised Donna Fordyce, Head of Industry Engagement at Seafood Scotland; Peter Cook, Director, Agriculture Food and Drink at Opportunity North East and Derek McDonald, Aberdeenshire Council, all of whom met travel costs from their own budgets. The cost of travel and accommodation for Cllr Mair was £349.34.
- 4.2 A brief presentation summarising the visit and key points learned is attached as Appendix 1.

#### **5 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk**

- 5.1 This report helps deliver Council Priority 1 – Support a strong, sustainable, diverse and successful economy
- 5.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation is agreed.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Financial	<b>x</b>		
Staffing		<b>x</b>	
Equalities		x	
Fairer Scotland Duty		x	
Town Centre First		x	
Sustainability		x	
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing		x	

- 5.3 This report refers to a small investment in time and resources, ultimately to inform a body of work which, if promulgated and implemented, is expected to have widespread benefits for the Banff and Buchan area and beyond.
- 5.4 An equality impact assessment has been carried out as part of the development of the proposals set out above and no impact has been identified.
- 5.5 No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate or Strategic Level:

## **6 Scheme of Governance**

- 6.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report.
- 6.2 The List of Officer Powers in Section B.1 of Part 2 B of the Scheme of Governance allows the Delegated Officer to take a decision on an urgent matter where it is impractical to convene a meeting of the Committee but it has to be subsequently reported to the relevant Committee. The Area Committee would ordinarily be able to make a decision on this under Section B1.5 of Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance.

**Stephen Archer**  
**Director, Infrastructure Services**

Report prepared by Derek McDonald, industry Support Executive (Rural & Maritime)  
11 November 2019

## **List of Appendices**

- 1. Presentation: Learning Journey to Grimsby and Billingsgate Seafood Schools 13-14 August 2019**

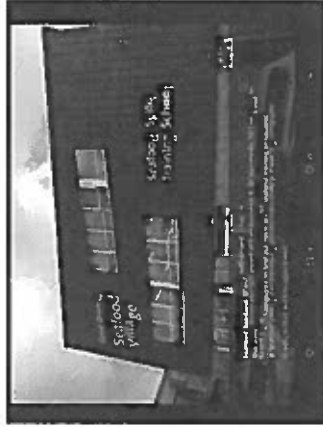
# Learning Journey to Grimsby and Billingsgate Seafood Schools

13-14 August 2019

Donna Fordyce (Seafood Scotland), Peter Cook (Opportunity NE), Cllr Doreen Mair and Derek McDonald (Aberdeenshire Council)

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## Grimsby Seafood Skills Training School



- Est 2013 – funded by Seafish/EFF
- Ivan Jaines-White input pivotal
- Low cost model – rent & training fees
- High unit cost of fish for training
- Trainees drawn from industry (Tesco)
- 10 work stations 2 smokers, classroom
- For businesses lacking in-house facility
- Proximity to training need is key

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## Also visited.....

### Humberside Seafood Institute

- Original concept abandoned
- 2yr incubators now std units
- 2 large laboratories never used
- Morrisons in wings
- Seafish offices (upstairs from sauce company)
- Helpful pointers from meeting with Simon Potten & Richard Wardell (Seafish)

### Grimsby Institute

- Equivalent to NESCOL – delivery of vocational training & higher degrees
- Well invested facilities
- Demo kitchen, training kitchen, student restaurant
- Food freezing tech centre

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## Billingsgate Seafood School



- Est 1999 by Corp of London & Company of Fishmongers
- Premises above Billingsgate Market on Canary Wharf
- 9 staff, led by CJ Jackson and new CEO Stewart McQueen
- Activity includes outreach (schools etc), commercial seafood training (inc fishmongers) and courses for public ('food-lovers')

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## Billingsgate Seafood School



- Strong links with hospitality and fishmonger trades
- Online promotion/booking
- Reputation/word of mouth/CJ!
- Enormous latent market for public facing events (£ grey!)
- Facilities rented out to 3<sup>rd</sup> parties
- Charitable status (M&S bag levy)

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## Billingsgate Seafood School



- Delivery of Company of Fishmonger standards (<1k)
- Erasmus programme
- Del MA for Plumpton College
- Importance of scheduling training
- Bespoke course content
- Deposits/No free courses!
- Seafood/baking/whisky/beer

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## Key findings:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Financial sustainability/efficiency</li><li>• Leadership (Ivan, CJ)</li><li>• Not just seafood</li><li>• Understand local demand</li><li>• Scheduling and bespoke courses</li><li>• Charitable status?</li><li>• Complement NESCo!</li><li>• Support &amp; useful contacts</li><li>• Links with large businesses</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>To do</b></li><li>• Research current training for seafood/f&amp;d/hospitality/food lovers in assoc with NESCo!</li><li>• Large local food business needs?</li><li>• Low-cost operating model/charity?</li><li>• Other services? Laboratory?</li><li>• Follow up contacts</li><li>• Business plan: cap/rev</li><li>• Linkage with ONE food hub</li><li>• Profile! Tie up with prominent companies?</li></ul> |
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