
Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	29 June 2017
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	IC/07/17/WB
Contact Officer:	George Barbour / Miriam McKenna	Contact No:	01475 712385
Subject:	Review of Outstanding Remits		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to elected members on 2 outstanding remits assigned to the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Directorate from previous meetings of Inverclyde Council.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 There are 2 outstanding remits from meetings of Inverclyde Council in 2015 which were remitted to Officers within the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Directorate for action.
- 2.2 The 2 outstanding remits relate to the Scheme for Councillors' Surgeries and the 'Stick Your Labels' Anti-Poverty Campaign.
- 2.3 An update on these outstanding remits is outlined in section 5 of this report.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that members of Inverclyde Council note the position with regard to the 2 outstanding remits from the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Directorate as outlined in section 5 of this report of this report.

Wilma Bain
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 There are 2 outstanding remits from meetings of Inverclyde Council in 2015 which were remitted to Officers within the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Directorate for action and which require to be reported back to Inverclyde Council:

- Scheme for Councillors' Surgeries remitted to the Corporate Communications Manager (04/06/2015 – Para 425(2))
- 'Stick Your Labels' Anti-Poverty Campaign – Action Plan remitted to the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture and Corporate Policy (08/10/2015 – Para 658(2))

The current position in respect of these outstanding remits is set out in section 5 below.

5.0 CURRENT POSITION

5.1 Scheme for Councillors' Surgeries

A budget saving was taken by the Council for 2016/17 from the Council's corporate advertising budget to reduce and remove a range of non-statutory advertising including Councillors' Surgery advertising in the press.

While attempts have been made to contain the saving within the existing budget while continuing to support some non-statutory advertising, a price increase from a media organisation for other public notices part way through the financial year means that this is no longer able to be contained. Because of this price increase, Councillor Surgeries will no longer be advertised from April 2017. Councillors will receive copies of printed and digital notices to highlight surgery times. The printed editions can be used from April 2017 in locations across the ward to inform residents of surgery dates and times. The digital editions can be used to highlight surgeries through web and social media. In addition, the Council's own main social media platforms will be used to highlight Councillor Surgeries and the dates can also be published on the 'events' section of the council website to promote more digital engagement.

Guidance will be issued to all Councillors elected after the Council elections in May 2017.

5.2 'Stick Your Labels' Anti-Poverty Campaign – Action Plan

The 'Stick Your labels' Anti-Poverty Campaign was initially launched in 2010/11 by the Poverty Alliance to challenge the stigma of poverty, and was re-launched in the Scottish parliament in May 2015.

The campaign strives to change attitudes and beliefs about poverty involving organisations large and small as there is a belief that organisations are in a position to have a significant impact on the experience of people on low incomes, to improve their experience. They also have the ability to use their influence – with their staff, their customers and in their public statements to shift public attitudes.

The 'Stick Your Labels' pledges are as follows:

- We will set out our contribution to tackling poverty in Scotland
- We will never use language that may stigmatise people experience poverty
- We will develop actions that help address negative attitudes towards people experiencing poverty.

Inverclyde Council signed up to this campaign and its associated pledges in August 2015.

Tackling poverty underpins our work as a Council and therefore it is deemed by Officers that no specific action plan is required in relation to this anti-poverty campaign.

The Council has established an anti-poverty fund which has been developed from work on Welfare Reform. Part of this fund will be used to employ an officer who will be responsible for developing a progress report for all of the work which is delivered by the Council and its partners which contributes to tackling poverty in Inverclyde, largely through the Single Outcome Agreement, the Outcome Delivery Plans, the Financial Inclusion Partnership and work undertaken in early years and across the schools.

The Child Poverty Bill which is currently making its way through Parliament, once enacted, will require each local authority to draft a Child Poverty Plan, and the officer will be tasked with this job.

Inverclyde Alliance recognises that all of its work contributes to tackling poverty, and the delivery of the SOA and then the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, should make a difference to the outcomes for communities in the area.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

6.1

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Legal

6.2 N/A

Human Resources

6.3 N/A

Equalities

6.4 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

Yes See attached appendix

No This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Repopulation

6.5 N/A

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 None.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 N/A