

**A meeting of the Inverclyde Council will be held on Thursday 8 June 2023 at 4pm.**

**Members may attend the meeting in person at Greenock Municipal Buildings or via remote online access. Webex joining details will be sent to Members and Officers prior to the meeting. Members are requested to notify Committee Services by 12 noon on Wednesday 7 June 2023 how they intend to access the meeting.**

**In the event of connectivity issues, Members are asked to use the *join by phone* number in the Webex invitation and as noted above.**

**Please note that this meeting will be live-streamed via YouTube with the exception of any business which is treated as exempt in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.**

**Further information relating to the recording and live-streaming of meetings can be found at the end of this notice.**

IAIN STRACHAN  
Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services

## **BUSINESS**

1. <b>Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	
2. <b>Minutes of Meetings of The Inverclyde Council, Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels and Boards</b>	
Inverclyde Council (20 April 2023)	(pp 119-124)
General Purposes Board (Special) (21 April 2023)	(pp 125)
Audit Committee (25 April 2023)	(pp 126-128)
Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel (27 April 2023)	(pp 129 -131)
Planning Board (3 May 2023)	(pp 132 -138)
Local Review Body (3 May 2023)	(pp 139-142)
Environment & Regeneration Committee (4 May 2023)	(pp 143-147)
Inverclyde Council (Special) (4 May 2023)	(pp 148-149)
Education & Communities Committee (9 May 2023)	(pp 150-154)
General Purposes Board (10 May 2023)	(pp 155-156)
Inverclyde Council (Special) (18 May 2023)	(pp 157-158)
Inverclyde Council (Special) (18 May 2023)	(pp 159-160)
Policy & Resources Committee (23 May 2023)	(pp 161-165)
Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel (25 May 2023)	(pp 166-168)

<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>		
3.	<b>Appointment of Chair and Membership of the Integration Joint Board</b> Report by Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services	p
4.	<b>Administrative Arrangements: Cycle of Council, Committee, Sub-Committee, Panel and Board Meetings to June 2024</b> Report by Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services	p
5.	<b>2023/33 Financial Strategy - Update</b> Report by Chief Financial Officer	p
6.	<b>Pledge to Make Inverclyde Council a Trauma Informed Organisation</b> Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	p
7.	<b>Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries – Provisional Proposals for Constituencies</b> Report by Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services	p
<b>REMITTS FROM COMMITTEES</b>		
8.	<b>The Stopping Up of Road and Footpath, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022 – Remit from Environment and Regeneration Committee</b> Report by Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services	p
<b>NOTICE OF MOTION</b>		
9.	<b>River Clyde Homes – Notice of Motion by Councillor McVey</b> Report by Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services	p
<p><b>The documentation relative to the following item has been treated as exempt information in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, the nature of the exempt information being that set out in the paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act as detailed in the minute of the relevant Committee, Sub-Committee or Board.</b></p>		
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>		
10.	<b>Business in the Appendix</b>	
<p>The reports are available publicly on the Council's website and the minute of the meeting will be submitted to the next standing meeting of the Inverclyde Council. The agenda for the meeting of the Inverclyde Council will be available publicly on the Council's website.</p> <p>Please note: this meeting may be recorded or live-streamed via YouTube and the Council's internet site, where it will be capable of repeated viewing. At the start of the meeting the Provost/Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded or live-streamed.</p> <p>You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during any recording or live-streaming will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy, including, but not limited to, for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available via the Council's internet site or YouTube.</p>		

If you are participating in the meeting, you acknowledge that you may be filmed and that any information pertaining to you contained in the recording or live-stream of the meeting will be used for webcasting or training purposes and for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available to the public. In making this use of your information the Council is processing data which is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. If you are asked to speak at the meeting then your submission to the committee will be captured as part of the recording or live-stream.

If you have any queries regarding this and, in particular, if you believe that use and/or storage of any particular information would cause, or be likely to cause, substantial damage or distress to any individual, please contact the Information Governance team at [dataprotection@inverclyde.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@inverclyde.gov.uk)

Enquiries to – **Diane Sweeney** – Tel 01475 712147

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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Council</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 June 2023</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital &amp; Customer Services</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>LS/035/23</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Iain Strachan</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712710</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Appointment of Chair and Membership of the Integration Joint Board</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to request the Council to confirm the appointment of the Chair and membership of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board ("IJB).
- 1.3 At its meeting of 19 May 2022, the Council appointed four of its Elected Members to serve on the IJB.
- 1.4 The Integration Scheme between the Council and the NHS Board sets out the local arrangements for the appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair of the IJB. The next Chair of the IJB is to be a member appointed on the nomination of the Council.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Council:
1. appoints Councillor Moran as Chair of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board; and
  2. confirms the membership of the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board as set out in Paragraph 5.2 of this report, for a term of office of two years.

**Iain Strachan**  
**Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services**

### **3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

- 3.1 The Inverclyde Integration Joint Board was established by Parliamentary Order on 27 June 2015 following approval of the Inverclyde Integration Scheme by the Scottish Ministers and has been fully operational since August 2015. The approved Integration Scheme between the Council and Greater Glasgow & Clyde NHS Board states that the Council shall appoint four voting representatives to serve the IJB.
- 3.2 These representatives and their named proxies were appointed by the Council at its meeting on 19 May 2022 as follows:-
1. Councillor Moran with Councillor Jackson as proxy;
  2. Councillor McCluskey with Councillor Cassidy as proxy;
  3. Councillor Robertson with Councillor Reynolds as proxy;
  4. Councillor Quinn with Provost McKenzie as proxy.
- 3.3 Councillor Moran was also appointed as Vice Chair of the IJB on 19 May 2022.
- 3.4 At its meeting on 20 April 2023, the Council agreed to appoint Councillor Brennan as the proxy for Councillor Moran on the IJB.

### **4.0 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

- 4.1 The Integration Scheme and the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Integration Joint Boards) (Scotland) Order 2014 (“the Order”) also make provision for the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair of the IJB. Article 4 of the Order provides for the Chair to be appointed by the NHS Board or the Council from among the voting members nominated by the NHS Board and the Council. The Vice Chair is appointed by the authority who did not appoint the Chair.
- 4.2 In terms of the Order, the appointment to Chair and Vice Chair must alternate regularly. Paragraph 2.2 of the Integration Scheme states that the Chair and Vice Chair positions will rotate every two years between the NHS Board and the Council, with the Chair being from one party and the Vice Chair from the other.
- 4.3 The Order also states that the NHS Board or the Council may change the person appointed by them as Chair or Vice Chair during an appointing period.
- 4.4 The position of Chair of the IJB has been held by an NHS Board nominee since June 2021. As this two year term of office is coming to an end, the position of Chair of the IJB, from the end of June 2023, is now to be held by a Council nominee.
- 4.5 Councillor Moran was appointed Vice Chair of the IJB by the Council in May 2022 with an expectation that he would take over as Chair at the point when positions would rotate in terms of the Integration Scheme. For the purposes of continuity of Council representation and experience, it is recommended that Councillor Moran is appointed as Chair of the IJB.

### **5.0 MEMBERSHIP OF THE IJB**

- 5.1 Councillor Robertson has intimated her decision to swap her membership on the IJB with her current proxy, Councillor Reynolds. This means that Councillor Reynolds becomes the member of the IJB, with Councillor Robertson as her proxy.
- 5.2 The following sets out the membership of the IJB from the end of June 2023, should the recommendations in this report be approved:

1. Councillor Moran with Councillor Brennan as proxy;
2. Councillor McCluskey with Councillor Cassidy as proxy;
3. Councillor Reynolds with Councillor Robertson as proxy;
4. Councillor Quinn with Provost McKenzie as proxy.

## 6.0 PROPOSALS

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Council notes the arrangements for appointing the Chair and Vice Chair of the IJB, appoints Councillor Moran as Chair of the IJB and confirms the membership of the IJB as detailed at Paragraph 5.2.

## 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk	X		
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		X	
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing			X
Environmental & Sustainability			X
Data Protection			X

### 7.2 Finance

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

One off Costs

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

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

### 7.3 Legal/Risk

The Order makes provision for the persons who must be included in the membership of the IJB and their terms of office, this includes a set number of Elected Members nominated by the Local Authority. The appointment of Chair as set out in this report will comply with the terms of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2104, the Order and the Integration Scheme.

## 7.4 Human Resources

There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

## 7.5 Strategic

There are no strategic implications arising from this report.

## 7.6 Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty

### (a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required.

### (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty

## 8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Chief Officer of the Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

## 9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 N/A

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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Council</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 June 2023</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital &amp; Customer Services</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>LS/052/23</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Iain Strachan</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712710</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Administrative Arrangements: Cycle of Council, Committee, Sub-Committee, Panel and Board Meetings to June 2024</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to set out for approval the schedule of Committee cycles for the period to June 2024.
- 1.3 The timetable is based on a cycle of five meetings of the thematic executive committees, the Petitions Committee, the Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel, the Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel and the Council. It is proposed that the August meetings of the Planning Board and the Audit Committee are reinstated, which would mean six meetings for the Audit Committee, albeit the June 2024 meeting is a special meeting to consider the Council's unaudited accounts. The Planning Board and the General Purposes Board, as regulatory committees, have set dates each month for the determination of applications and associated business. The Inverclyde Licensing Board, as a separate legal entity, will set its own meeting dates for 2023/24 at its June 2023 meeting, but four provisional dates have been included in the timetable.
- 1.4 In line with arrangements in previous years, the timetable has been designed to avoid, as far as practicable, the holding of the Council and Committee meetings during the school holidays, the week before Christmas and, additionally this year, the first partial working week after the Christmas holidays.
- 1.5 As in previous years, a number of pre-agenda meetings, the August Planning Board and Policy & Resources Committee and the April 2024 Planning and General Purposes Board meetings are scheduled to take place during the school holidays. However, it is not proposed to make changes to the dates of these for the reasons set out at paragraph 3.4 of the report.
- 1.6 The report also proposes that a private meeting be arranged between the Audit Committee and the Council's Chief Internal Auditor and external auditors, further to the Audit Committee approving an improvement plan at its meeting on 25 April 2023, which resulted from a self-assessment exercise carried out by the Committee following the issue of updated CIPFA guidance on Audit Committees.



## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Council is asked to approve the proposed cycle of the Council/Committee/Sub-Committee/Scrutiny Panel/Board meetings for the year to June 2024 as set out in the report and appendix.
- 2.2 The Council is asked to note that a private meeting will be arranged between the Audit Committee and the Council's Chief Internal Auditor and external auditors, further to the Audit Committee improvement plan approved by the Committee at its meeting on 25 April 2023. This meeting will be arranged in advance of the Council's consideration of its audited accounts and following the 2023 Summer recess.

**Iain Strachan**  
**Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services**

### **3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

- 3.1 Each year the Council at its meeting in June approves the schedule of Committee cycles for the period to June of the following year.
- 3.2 The timetable is based on a cycle of five meetings of the thematic executive committees, the Audit Committee, the Petitions Committee, the Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel, the Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel and the Council. The Planning Board and the General Purposes Board, as regulatory committees, have set dates each month for the determination of applications and associated business.
- 3.3 In line with arrangements in previous years, the timetable has been designed to avoid, as far as practicable, the holding of the Council and Committee meetings during the school holidays, the week before Christmas and, additionally this year, the first partial working week after the Christmas holidays.
- 3.4 As in previous years, a number of pre-agenda meetings, the August Planning Board and Policy & Resources Committee and the April 2024 Planning and General Purposes Board meetings are scheduled to take place during the school holidays and it is not proposed to make changes to the suggested dates of these for the following reasons:
  - (a) the pre-agenda meetings are an integral part of the Committee process and changing those in any material way would result in a need to change the dates of the Committee meetings themselves which would have a knock-on effect on the rest of the timetable;
  - (b) the additional Policy & Resources Committee held in August is arranged with the specific purpose of dealing with items arising during the summer recess period which cannot wait until the resumption of the Committee timetable;
  - (c) the Planning and General Purposes Boards have a date set aside each month for the determination of applications and associated business and it is necessary to continue to hold these meetings on the dates set out to allow the business to be disposed of. It is proposed, however, to move the January 2024 date of the Planning Board back one week, from Wednesday 3 January to Wednesday 10 January 2024, to avoid the first partial working week of the year. This has a subsequent knock-on effect on the General Purposes Board which would normally be scheduled for the second Wednesday in January and would be moved from Wednesday 10 January to Wednesday 17 January 2024.

### **4.0 PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 It is proposed that the timetable will run as follows:
  - (a) the Planning Board will meet on the first Wednesday and the General Purposes Board on the second Wednesday of each month, except for January when it is proposed that the meetings will be moved back one week to avoid the first partial working week of the year. For operational reasons the August meeting of the Planning Board has been reinstated and accordingly there will be no scheduled meeting in July for the Planning Board, and July and August for the General Purposes Board;
  - (b) all ordinary meetings of the thematic executive Committees (excepting the Education & Communities Committee), the Audit Committee, the Petitions Committee, the Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel, the Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel, the Planning Board and the General Purposes Board will normally be held at 3pm;
  - (c) the ordinary meeting of the Council will take place at 4pm; and
  - (d) the Social Work and Social Care Scrutiny Panel meetings will take place on a Tuesday rather than a Thursday at the request of the Convener.

- 4.2 For operational reasons the August meeting of the Audit Committee has been reinstated with a special meeting to be held at the end of June 2024 to review the Council’s unaudited annual accounts. There will therefore be six Audit Committee meetings in total in the Committee cycle.
- 4.3 In addition, at its meeting on 25 April 2023, the Audit Committee approved an improvement plan to give effect to certain actions identified following a self-assessment exercise carried out by the Committee following the issue of updated CIPFA guidance on Audit Committees. One of the agreed actions was to facilitate a private meeting of the Audit Committee with the Council’s Chief Internal Auditor and external auditors, KPMG, during 2023/24 and future years. It is proposed that this meeting will be arranged in advance of the Council’s consideration of its audited accounts, and likely following the 2024 Summer recess, and following the Committee’s June 2024 meeting, at which the Council’s unaudited accounts will be considered.
- 4.4 It is anticipated that consideration of the audited annual accounts will revert to the September meeting of the Council, having previously been considered at a Special meeting in November due to the Covid pandemic.
- 4.5 The Inverclyde Integration Joint Board (IJB) will be asked at their meeting on 26 June 2023 to agree to convene six meetings of the Board and three meetings of the IJB Audit Committee in the period to June 2024, and the proposed dates are included in the provisional timetable.
- 4.6 The timetable again also includes proposed dates for the Petitions Committee established by the Council in 2015, although these meetings will of course only be convened when there is relevant business to consider.

## 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk		X	
Human Resources	X		
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty			X
Children & Young People’s Rights & Wellbeing			X
Environmental & Sustainability			X
Data Protection			X

## 5.2 Finance

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

One off Costs

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

### Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

#### 5.3 **Legal/Risk**

There are no legal or risk implications arising directly from this report

#### 5.4 **Human Resources**

There are no human resources implications arising directly from this report, other than the need for officers to be able to facilitate and attend the meetings of the dates and times proposed.

#### 5.5 **Strategic**

There are no strategic implications arising directly from this report

#### 6.0 **CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Corporate Management Team has been consulted on this report.

#### 7.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 N/a

# PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Committee/Inverclyde Council	August/September 2023					October/November/December 2023						
	Submission Date - 9am	Pre- Agenda Date	Issue Agenda	Date of Meeting	Submission Date - 9am	Pre- Agenda Date	Issue Agenda	Date of Meeting	Submission Date - 9am	Pre- Agenda Date	Issue Agenda	Date of Meeting
Policy & Resources Committee	Friday 21 July	Tuesday 1 August 12 noon	Friday 4 August	Tuesday 15 August 3pm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Audit Committee	Friday 28 July	Monday 7 August 10am	Friday 4 August	Tuesday 22 August 3pm	Friday 29 Sept	Monday 9 Oct 10am	Friday 13 Oct	Tuesday 24 Oct 3pm				
Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel	Friday 28 July	Tuesday 8 August 3pm	Friday 11 August	Tuesday 29 August 3pm	Friday 29 Sept	Tuesday 10 Oct 3pm	Friday 13 Oct	Tuesday 31 Oct 3pm				
Environment & Regeneration Committee	Friday 4 August	Tuesday 15 August 10am*	Friday 18 August	Thursday 31 August 3pm	Friday 6 Oct	Tuesday 17 Oct 2pm	Friday 20 Oct	Thursday 2 Nov 3pm				
Education & Communities Committee	Friday 11 August	Monday 21 August 3pm	Friday 25 August	Tuesday 5 Sept 2pm & 4pm	Friday 13 Oct	Monday 23 Oct 3pm	Friday 27 Oct	Tuesday 7 Nov 2pm & 4pm				
Petitions Committee	-	-	Friday 1 Sept	Thursday 14 Sept 3pm	-	-	Friday 3 Nov	Thursday 16 Nov 3pm				
Policy & Resources Committee	Friday 25 August	Tuesday 5 Sept 10am*	Friday 8 Sept	Tuesday 19 Sept 3pm	Friday 27 Oct	Tuesday 7 Nov 10am*	Friday 10 Nov	Tuesday 21 Nov 3pm				
Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel	Friday 25 August	Monday 4 Sept 10am	Friday 8 Sept	Thursday 21 Sept 3pm	Friday 27 Oct	Monday 6 Nov 10am	Friday 10 Nov	Thursday 23 Nov 3pm				
Inverclyde Council	Monday 11 Sept	Monday 18 Sept 2pm	Thursday 21 Sept	Thursday 28 Sept 4pm	Monday 20 Nov	Monday 27 Nov 2pm	Thursday 30 Nov	Thursday 7 Dec 4pm				
IJB Audit Committee	Friday 1 Sept	Monday 11 Sept 2pm	Friday 15 Sept	Monday 25 Sept 12 & 1pm	NO MEETING							
Inverclyde Integration Joint Board	Friday 1 Sept	Monday 11 Sept 3pm	Friday 15 Sept	Monday 25 Sept 2pm	Friday 20 Oct	Monday 30 Oct 3pm	Friday 3 Nov	Monday 13 Nov 2pm				

\*At 10am for operational purposes – to avoid clash with Committee/Board the same day. \*\* Avoid Public Holiday. Submission and pre-agenda dates for December 2023/January 2024 are set to avoid holding meetings in the last working week of December and the first working week of January

# PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Committee/Inverclyde Council	January/February 2024				March/April 2024			
	Submission Date - 9am	Pre- Agenda Date	Issue Agenda	Date of Meeting	Submission Date - 9am	Pre- Agenda Date	Issue Agenda	Date of Meeting
Audit Committee	Friday 1 Dec	Monday 11 Dec 10am	Friday 15 Dec	Tuesday 9 Jan 3pm	Friday 9 Feb	Monday 19 Feb 10am	Friday 23 Feb	Tuesday 5 March 3pm
Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel	Friday 1 Dec	Tuesday 12 Dec 3pm	Friday 15 Dec	Tuesday 16 Jan 3pm	Friday 9 Feb	Tuesday 20 Feb 3pm	Friday 23 Feb	Tuesday 12 March 3pm
Environment & Regeneration Committee	Friday 1 Dec	Tuesday 12 Dec 10am	Friday 15 Dec	Thursday 18 Jan 3pm	Friday 16 Feb	Tuesday 27 Feb at 2pm	Friday 1 March	Thursday 14 March 3pm
Education & Communities Committee	Friday 15 Dec	Monday 8 Jan 10am*	Friday 12 Jan	Tuesday 23 Jan 2pm & 4pm	Friday 23 Feb	Monday 4 March 3pm	Friday 8 March	Tuesday 19 March 2pm & 4pm
Petitions Committee	-	-	Friday 19 Jan	Thursday 1 Feb 3pm	-	-	Friday 8 March	Thursday 21 March 3pm
Policy & Resources Committee	Friday 12 Jan	Tuesday 23 Jan 10am*	Friday 26 Jan	Tuesday 6 Feb 3pm	Friday 1 March	Tuesday 12 March 12 noon	Friday 15 March	Tuesday 26 March 3pm
Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel	Friday 12 Jan	Monday 22 Jan 10am	Friday 26 Jan	Thursday 8 Feb 3pm	Friday 1 March	Monday 11 March 10am	Friday 15 March	Thursday 28 March 3pm
Inverclyde Council	Monday 29 Jan	Monday 5 Feb 2pm	Thursday 8 Feb	Thursday 15 Feb 4pm	Monday 8 April	Monday 15 April 2pm	Thursday 18 April	Thursday 25 April 4pm
IJB Audit Committee	No Meeting				Friday 1 March	Monday 11 March 2pm	Friday 15 March	Monday 25 March 1pm
Inverclyde Integration Joint Board	Friday 15 Dec	Monday 8 Jan 3pm	Friday 12 Jan	Monday 22 Jan 2pm	Friday 1 March	Monday 11 March 3pm	Friday 15 March	Monday 25 March 2pm

\*At 10am for operational purposes – to avoid clash with Committee/Board the same day. \*\* Avoid Public Holiday. Submission and pre-agenda dates for December 2023/January 2024 are set to avoid holding meetings in the last working week of December and the first working week of January

# PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

May/June 2024					
Committee/Inverclyde Council	Submission Date - 9am	Pre- Agenda Date	Issue Agenda	Date of Meeting	
Audit Committee	Friday 12 April	Monday 22 April 10am	Friday 26 April	Tuesday 7 May 3pm	
Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel	Friday 12 April	Tuesday 23 April 3pm	Friday 26 April	Tuesday 14 May 3pm	
Environment & Regeneration Committee	Friday 19 April	Tuesday 30 April 2pm	Friday 3 May	Thursday 16 May 3pm	
Education & Communities Committee	Friday 26 April	Tuesday 7 May 10am**	Friday 10 May	Tuesday 21 May 2pm & 4pm	
Petitions Committee	-	-	Friday 17 May	Thursday 30 May 3pm	
Policy & Resources Committee	Friday 10 May	Tuesday 21 May 10am*	Friday 24 May	Tuesday 4 June 3pm	
Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel	Friday 10 May	Monday 20 May 10am	Friday 24 May	Thursday 6 June 3pm	
Inverclyde Council	Monday 27 May	Monday 3 June 2pm	Thursday 6 June	Thursday 13 June 4pm	
Audit Committee (ACCOUNTS)	-	-	Friday 7 June	Thursday 27 June 3pm	
Inverclyde Integration Joint Board	Friday 19 April	Monday 29 April 3pm	Friday 3 May	Monday 13 May 2pm	
IJB Audit Committee	Friday 31 May	Monday 10 June 2pm	Friday 14 June	Monday 24 June 1pm	
Inverclyde Integration Joint Board	Friday 31 May	Monday 10 June 3pm	Friday 14 June	Monday 24 June 2pm	

\*At 10am for operational purposes – to avoid clash with Committee/Board the same day. \*\* Avoid Public Holiday. Submission and pre-agenda dates for December 2023/January 2024 are set to avoid holding meetings in the last working week of December and the first working week of January

## PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

PLANNING BOARD				
Submission Date - 9am	Pre- Agenda Date	Issue Agenda	Date of Meeting	
Thurs 20 Jul	n/a	Tue 25 Jul	Wed 2 Aug 3pm	
Thurs 24 Aug	n/a	Tue 29 Aug	Wed 6 Sep 3pm	
Thurs 21 Sep	n/a	Tue 26 Sep	Wed 4 Oct 3pm	
Thurs 19 Oct	n/a	Tue 24 Oct	Wed 1 Nov 3pm	
Thurs 23 Nov	n/a	Tue 28 Nov	Wed 6 Dec 3pm	
Thurs 14 Dec	n/a	Tue 19 Dec	Wed 10 Jan 3pm	
Thurs 25 Jan	n/a	Tue 30 Jan	Wed 7 Feb 3pm	
Thurs 22 Feb	n/a	Tue 27 Feb	Wed 6 Mar 3pm	
Thurs 21 Mar	n/a	Tue 26 Mar	Wed 3 Apr 3pm	
Thurs 18 Apr	n/a	Tue 23 Apr	Wed 1 May 3pm	
Thurs 23 May	n/a	Tue 28 May	Wed 5 Jun 3pm	

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD				
Submission Date - 9am	Pre- Agenda Date	Issue Agenda	Date of Meeting	
-	-	-	-	
Fri 25 Aug	n/a	Thurs 31 Aug	Wed 13 Sep 3pm	
Fri 22 Sep	n/a	Thurs 28 Sep	Wed 11 Oct 3pm	
Fri 20 Oct	n/a	Thurs 26 Oct	Wed 8 Nov 3pm	
Fri 24 Nov	n/a	Thurs 30 Nov	Wed 13 Dec 3pm	
Fri 15 Dec	n/a	Thurs 4 Jan	Wed 17 Jan 3pm	
Fri 26 Jan	n/a	Thurs 1 Feb	Wed 14 Feb 3pm	
Fri 23 Feb	n/a	Thurs 29 Feb	Wed 13 Mar 3pm	
Fri 22 Mar	n/a	Thurs 28 Mar	Wed 10 Apr 3pm	
Fri 19 Apr	n/a	Thurs 25 Apr	Wed 8 May 3pm	
Fri 24 May	n/a	Thurs 30 May	Wed 12 Jun 3pm	

\*At 10am for operational purposes – to avoid clash with Committee/Board the same day. \*\* Avoid Public Holiday. Submission and pre-agenda dates for December 2023/January 2024 are set to avoid holding meetings in the last working week of December and the first working week of January



## **PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

### **LICENSING BOARD DATES:**

Thursday 7 September 2023 – 10am  
Thursday 7 December 2023 – 10am  
Thursday 7 March 2024 – 10am  
Thursday 6 June 2024 – 10am

### **ALLIANCE BOARD DATES:**

Monday 2 October 2023 – 1pm  
Monday 4 December 2023 – 1pm  
(Meeting dates after this will be set in December 2023)

### **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS and COUNCIL HOLIDAY#**

Autumn Holiday – Monday 25 September 2023  
Christmas – Monday 25 & Tuesday 26 December 2023#  
New Year – Monday 1 & Tuesday 2 January 2024#  
Good Friday – Friday 29 March 2024#  
Easter Monday – Monday 1 April 2024#  
Spring Holiday – Monday 22 April  
May Day – Monday 6 May 2024#  
Victoria Day – Monday 3 June 2024  
Fair Saturday – Saturday 29 June 2024  
(# Inverclyde Council Holidays)

\*At 10am for operational purposes – to avoid clash with Committee/Board the same day. \*\* Avoid Public Holiday. Submission and pre-agenda dates for December 2023/January 2024 are set to avoid holding meetings in the last working week of December and the first working week of January

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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Council</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 June 2023</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Chief Financial Officer</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>FIN/33/23/AP</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Alan Puckrin</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712090</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>2023/33 Financial Strategy- Update</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to present the updated Financial Strategy to the Council for review and approval. The report reflects the Office for Budget Responsibility's (OBR) latest assessment of the medium-term outlook and the Spring Statement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the updated Medium Term Financial Strategy from the Scottish Government issued 25 May 2023.
- 1.3 All funding models and appendices have been updated and reviewed with a short commentary on each included in the body of the report.
- 1.4 The Strategy clearly sets out the continued considerable financial challenges facing the Council in the short, medium and longer term and acts as a starting point for the development of the Revenue and Capital Budgets to be approved in March 2024.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Council approve the latest update to the Council's Financial Strategy and note the continued significant challenges arising from the global and UK economic position as reflected in the Scottish Government's Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 2.2 It is recommended that the Council note the mid-range estimated 2024/27 funding gap of £18.1 million set out in table 4a in the Financial Strategy.
- 2.3 It is recommended that the Council agree to the allocation of an extra £100,000 per year to fund increased prudential borrowing over the period 2026/31 to help address the capital funding challenges faced by the Council.

**Alan Puckrin**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

### 3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 The latest six monthly review of the Financial Strategy takes into account the approved 2023/24 Budget, the latest forecasts from the OBR and the impact of the current levels of inflation and interest rates. The report reflects the impact of the Chancellor's Spring Statement and includes a summary of the main messages from the Scottish Government's Medium Term Financial Strategy issued on 25 May.
- 3.2 It can be seen from table 3 in paragraph 7.7 that the 2023/26 estimated funding gap is £12.6 million before any decision on whether to increase Council Tax over 2024/26. This reflects the "flat cash" settlement for Local Government for the period 2022/26 indicated by the Scottish Government as part of the Resource Spending Review in May 2022.
- 3.3 Table 4a confirms that based on this latest information and the local assessment of certain figures by the Chief Financial Officer, the mid-range scenario shows that the Council faces a net potential funding gap of £18.1 million over the 2024/27 period part of which relates to eliminating the use of Reserves to help balance the budget by 2026/27. In line with Best Practice, Tables 4b and 4c illustrate scenarios for the 2024/27 funding gap based on different assumptions around Government Grant income, inflation and budget pressures. These tables show potential funding shortfalls of £13.2 million to £22.6 million.
- 3.4 Table 5 in paragraph 7.12 shows that, overall the 2023/26 Capital Programme has a £2.9 million funding shortfall which is within the 5% over commitment limit set by the Council. As the Scottish Government has also confirmed a "flat cash" settlement for capital until 2026 at least, the Council will need to consider any investment in new projects very carefully and also review existing assets to ensure those remaining can be adequately maintained. A proposal to increase resources in the medium to longer term forms part of the recommendations.

### 3.5 Funding Models

All funding models and appendices have been updated and are within appropriate affordability parameters in the medium/longer term. A commentary on each is given below.

- 3.6 **Appendix 4- General Fund Reserves** - The estimated level of unallocated reserves at 31 March 2023 is £5.26million which is £1.26 million above the minimum recommended level. The 31 March position will be confirmed post the 2022/23 accounts audit.
- 3.7 **Appendix 5 – Capital Fund** – Due to a delay in the finalisation of a sale of a key site, the Capital Fund is showing a deficit of £315,000 as at 31 March 2023. Whilst this is unusual it is allowable provided there is a clear route to bring the Fund back into surplus. It can be seen from Appendix 5 that several large receipts are due in 2023/24 to achieve this requirement.
- 3.8 **Appendix 6 – Repairs & Renewals Fund** – The 5 separate sub-funds within the Repairs & Renewals Fund are all projecting to remain in surplus over the rest of this decade. Officers will investigate how best to utilise the Energy Efficiency Fund balance as part of the Net Zero strategy whilst the Leisure Strategy balance is expected to reduce further from 2025/26 onwards as more 3G pitches are refreshed/replaced.
- 3.9 **Appendix 7 – Insurance Fund** – The Insurance Fund balance shows a significant reduction over the next decade due to both the Council contribution to the Scottish Child Abuse Redress Scheme and two £100,000 internal insurance premium "holidays" ending in 2027/28 and 2029/30 respectively, approved as part of previous budgets. In the event the Council faces unexpected calls on the fund over the next 5 years, these decisions may require to be reviewed.

- 3.10 **Appendix 8 – City Deal** – With one of the main projects effectively complete and the second on site and progressing well, there is greater certainty on the costs the Council will incur. Less certainty exists on the timing of the grant due from the UK and Scottish Governments as this is dependent upon both the overall programme passing the 5 yearly milestone assessments and the progress of projects in other Councils. Based on the assumptions made, it can be seen that whilst the model is projected to fall into a deficit position this year, the deficit never becomes material and reduces from 2027/28 onwards.
- 3.11 **Appendix 9 – Loans Charges** – Loans charge projections continue to be in a more uncertain state than has been the case for the last 15 years due to the sudden increase in interest rates and the Councils plans to borrow £45million over the next 3 years as the Council’s cash backed reserves reduce and capital expenditure exceeds Scottish Government grants. The model remains in surplus over the next decade based on officer assumptions.

#### 4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The estimated medium term funding gap shown in Table 4a has decreased by £2.5million since the December update due to a more optimistic assumption around protection from the Floor and £1.0million in savings in 2024/25 being approved as part of the March Budget. The assumptions underpinning this estimate will be kept under close review.
- 4.2 In order to provide greater certainty around the medium/longer term resources available to the capital programme, it is proposed that the Council agree to provide a year on year £100,000 revenue increase to fund increased prudential borrowing from 2026/27 until 2030/31 to enable available capital resources to be increased by £1.5million per year over that period.

#### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendations are agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial	X		
Legal/Risk	X		
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)	X		
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty			X
Children & Young People’s Rights & Wellbeing			X
Environmental & Sustainability			X
Data Protection			X

#### 5.2 Finance

One off Costs

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

## Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

<b>Cost Centre</b>	<b>Budget Heading</b>	<b>With Effect from</b>	<b>Annual Net Impact</b>	<b>Virement From (If Applicable)</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
Loans Charges		2026/27	£100,000		To fund £1.5m/ year prudential borrowing over 2026/31

### 5.3 Legal/Risk

Section 11 of the Financial Strategy contains a list of risks identified by the Chief Internal Auditor and associated mitigations in relation to the overall financial position of the Council and the assumptions used in arriving at the figures presented.

### 5.4 Human Resources

There are no HR implications.

### 5.5 Strategic

The Financial Strategy is a key strategic document and forms part of the Council's Performance Management Framework feeding into the development of Council Plan and Committee Delivery & Improvement Plans.

## 6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The contents of the Strategy and associated appendices have been endorsed by the Corporate Management Team.

## 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None



Financial Strategy

2023/24 – 2032/33

June, 2023

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## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Short-Term Issues

Appendix 2 - Medium-Term Issues

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Appendix 4 - General Fund Reserves

Appendix 5 - Capital Fund

Appendix 6 - Repairs & Renewals Fund

Appendix 7 – Insurance Fund

Appendix 8 – City Deal

Appendix 9 – Loan Charges



## 1.1 Foreword

This latest revision of the Council's Financial Strategy has been prepared at time when the impact of the pandemic, global economics, supply issues and most recently the impact of the war in Ukraine are resulting in financial and economic pressures without precedent in recent decades and the impact on the community and the country's finances will be felt for many years.

Given the challenging economic situation, and the significant financial issues we will face over future years, it is essential that the Council updates its Financial Strategy regularly to ensure it provides a practical framework within which policy choices can be identified, debated and approved.

The approval of this revised Financial Strategy demonstrates that we are clear both about the outcomes we want to achieve for our communities and the financial challenges that need to be addressed if we are to successfully deliver on these outcomes.

To provide a clear, consistent strategic direction for the Council the following outcomes were agreed for the Financial Strategy – it will ensure that:

- **the Council has a comprehensive, sustainable, balanced budget;**
- **the Council reviews the level of Council Tax annually in the context of the Financial Strategy, to determine an appropriate level in the best interests of the people of Inverclyde;**
- **resources are allocated and deployed to facilitate delivery of the outcomes in the Council Plan/Partnership Plan and Committee Delivery Improvement Plans;**
- **all key strategic decisions on the allocation and deployment of resources are made within the appropriate financial context;**
- **Members can take full account of the impact of decisions on the overall financial resources of the Council in the short, medium and long term;**
- **there is a high level of confidence in the financial management of the Council;**
- **the Council has flexibility to address new policy requirements, or significant changes to existing policies, within overall available financial resources;**
- **resources are invested effectively, efficiently and on a sustainable basis;**
- **there is continued improvement in the delivery of major projects;**
- **there remains a focus on securing efficiencies across the organisation;**
- **the Council continues to invest in improving service quality, delivering new infrastructure, enhancing service levels and upgrading existing assets;**
- **there is an increased level of understanding on behalf of the wider community with regard to the finances of the Council.**

The primary financial challenge facing the Council over the coming period, given the continued pressure on public sector budgets, will be to stay within the approved revenue budget and deliver a capital programme that continues to maintain the required level of investment in key infrastructure whilst contributing to the Net Carbon Zero targets and support the needs of the local community.

The 2023 Scottish Government Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) has confirmed a very challenging core settlement for Local Government over the 2023/28 period. Whilst discussions are on going regarding the Fiscal Framework and the associated “New Deal for Local Government” it is unlikely that this will offset the potential pressures flagged up in the MTFS.

Given the difficult position the Council faces on capital expenditure, it is essential that future capital expenditure proposals are largely self-financing through the use of Government grants, the release of other capital assets, as well as delivering efficiencies which will secure ongoing revenue savings.

The Council has also approved corporate policies to charging and income generation – including maximising external funding to supplement existing resources and support service delivery. The Council increased the level of income generated by charging as part of previous Budgets but the need to further increase charges will need to be reviewed in coming months/years.

We also need to ensure that the Financial Strategy continues to support the Council Plan directly, the Partnership Plan and effectively link this Strategy to our Committee Delivery Improvement Plans.

The Financial Strategy is a dynamic document and will be monitored on an ongoing basis by the Corporate Management Team and it will continue to be formally reviewed by the Council twice yearly, in June and in December.

This Financial Strategy is key to the future success of the Council – it is about making sure we have sufficient resources in place when required to deliver the outcomes we realistically can achieve for the communities of Inverclyde.

**Councillor Stephen McCabe**  
**Leader of the Council**

**Louise Long**  
**Chief Executive**

## 2.0 Why have a Financial Strategy?

- 2.1 The purpose of our Financial Strategy is to provide clear direction, supported by a practical framework and explicitly defined parameters, on how the Council will structure and manage financial resources in the medium to long term to ensure they are deployed effectively to achieve corporate objectives.
- 2.2 This is not just another financial process – the Financial Strategy is integral to our Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework which underpins the achievement of the outcomes identified in the Corporate Plan, and is an integral part of the Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans.
- 2.3 The requirement to develop a medium to long term financial strategy covering the next three to ten years (and in some areas longer) is a vital component of decision making.
- 2.4 The Council has taken into account guidance from CIPFA when developing the Financial Strategy as well as best practice from other local authorities.
- 2.5 Our ambition is to maintain a single, coherent Financial Strategy that brings together the corporate objectives of the Council along with all the relevant financial information in a clear, accessible document.
- 2.6 The value of such a Strategy is that it enables the Council to develop a better understanding of the wider policy and financial environment within which it operates, identify and respond flexibly to opportunities and threats, manage and mitigate risks and ensure that financial resources are contributing to achieving corporate objectives.
- 2.7 The Strategy will also provide information to a range of stakeholders:

**Table 1 – Stakeholder Information**

For the Council and Elected Members	to decide how available financial resources will be used
For Chief Officers, managers and employees	To help optimise the available resources and reinforce their roles in financial management arrangements
For residents	to show how the Council's Financial Strategy impacts upon service provision
For Council Tax payers	to demonstrate how the Council looks after public resources
For partners	to share the Council's vision and help identify opportunities for joint working and resource deployment.

- 2.8 Inevitably some of the information of the Financial Strategy will be based on forecasts and these will change over time - the Strategy is reviewed regularly so that the Council can respond proactively to any such changes.
- 2.9 The inclusion of information in the Financial Strategy does not infer approval and all financial projections and issues will have to be subject to approval through the budget process.
- 2.10 The Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework continues to develop links between the strategic planning and budgeting processes. This allows services to plan ahead, taking into account the resources available and proactively identify opportunities to achieve efficiencies or secure alternative funding sources. This process also encourages the development of joint resourcing opportunities within the Inverclyde Alliance.

### 3.0 Financial Summary

- 3.1 On 2 March 2023 the Council agreed the 2023/24 Revenue Budget. The Council also took strategic decisions on the use of Reserves and agreed the 2023/26 Capital Programme which took into account the latest Government Grant settlement information.

**Table 2 – Short Term Summary – Approved Revenue and Capital Budgets**

	2023/24 £million
<u>General Fund Revenue Budget</u>	229.046
<u>Financed by</u>	
Government Grant (Including NDR)	(190.719)
Council Tax	(35.327)
Approved Contribution from General Reserve	(3.000)
	0
<u>Capital Programme (2023/24)</u>	
Approved Spend	22.10
<u>Financed by</u>	
Government Grants	8.23
Capital Receipts	0.89
Other Grants/CFCR	5.13
Prudential Borrowing	6.21
Resources Carried Forward from prior year	11.82
Surplus in Resources in 2023/24	10.18

## 4.0 Overall Economic Position

### *UK Context*

- 4.1 The Covid pandemic elicited a fiscal response from the UK Government which was without precedent in peace time. The UK Government borrowed large sums of funding to support the economy, households and frontline services battling against the virus and to help protect as many jobs as possible as part of the recovery. The Autumn Budget in October 2021 set out the plans to bring the UK Budget back into some form of balance as part of the 2022/25 Spending Review.
- 4.2 The Spring Statement in March 2022 reported a much changed position due to the emergence of higher and more persistent inflation, some linked to the anticipated impact of the war in Ukraine. This necessitated a change of thinking on tax and spend with higher inflation, lower growth and higher interest levels forecast for the 2022-2025 period.
- 4.3 Following the Autumn Statement on 17 November which increased personal and company taxation, the March 2023 Spring Budget contained a number of announcements including continued energy support for families, increased childcare investment and extra defence spending.
- 4.4 The longer term economic picture remains challenging due to low levels of potential future growth which in turn restricts the scope for tax cuts or spending increases.
- 4.5 Inflation is not forecast to fall as low as previously forecast and interest rates still may reach 5.0% later this year and will decrease more slowly. Public sector borrowing is forecast to be lower than previously forecast.
- 4.6 The Office of Budget Responsibility (OBR) March 2023 forecasts are shown in the table below.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
GDP (real) annual % change	4.0	(0.2)	1.8	2.5	2.1
Inflation (CPI) annual % change	9.1	6.1	0.9	0.1	0.5
Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.1	4.4	4.3	4.2
Public Sector Borrowing	152	132	85	77	64
Debt as a % of GDP	89	92	94	95	95
Interest Rates %	2.3	4.2	3.5	3.2	3.1

### *Scottish Context*

- 4.7 After a challenging Local Government grant settlement in 2023/24, indications are that there is limited prospects for improvements in the overall level of funding to the Councils. In the absence of real term funding increases then a reduction in the ring fenced/mandated funding would give Councils greater flexibility to target funding where it is needed at a local level.

4.8 On 25 May the Scottish Government published its Medium Term Financial Strategy covering 2023/28. The headlines from the Strategy were:

- Cash and Real Terms increases in funding over 2024/28 however this being outstripped by increases in spending resulting in an estimated funding gap of just over £1 billion in 2024/25.
- In 2024/25 there is a one off £0.7 billion negative tax reconciliation relating to 2021/22.
- Capital resources are expected to decline in cash and real terms with the gap between capital spending plans and resources of almost £1 billion by 2025/26.
- Assumption for pay is 2.0% from 2024/25 but the intention set out in the May 2022 strategy that the pay bill is held at the same level i.e: increased wages paid by reduced employee numbers, has been relaxed.
- Health spend assumed to grow by 4% per year putting more pressure on remaining portfolios including Local Government.

4.9 Looking further ahead the Scottish Fiscal Commission (SFC) published its Fiscal Sustainability Report in April. This looks at economic, demographic, spending, funding and fiscal sustainability projections to 2072/73. Key messages from the SFC report include:

- Scotland population is projected to fall from a peak of 5.55 million (2030) to 5.1 million (2072/73) whilst the UK population increases to 2060.
- Scotland's GDP is projected to grow by an average of 1.2%, marginally below the UK growth rate.
- Overall public spending is projected to grow by 1.8% a year with Health making up 50% of total spending by 2072/73 compared to 35% in 2027/28. Education share of overall spending is projected to fall from 18% to 11% over the same period.

4.10 Due to the above the SFC estimate a growing funding gap rising to 2.5% of total spending by 2072/73 meaning constant reductions in spending or increases in taxation throughout the next 50 years.

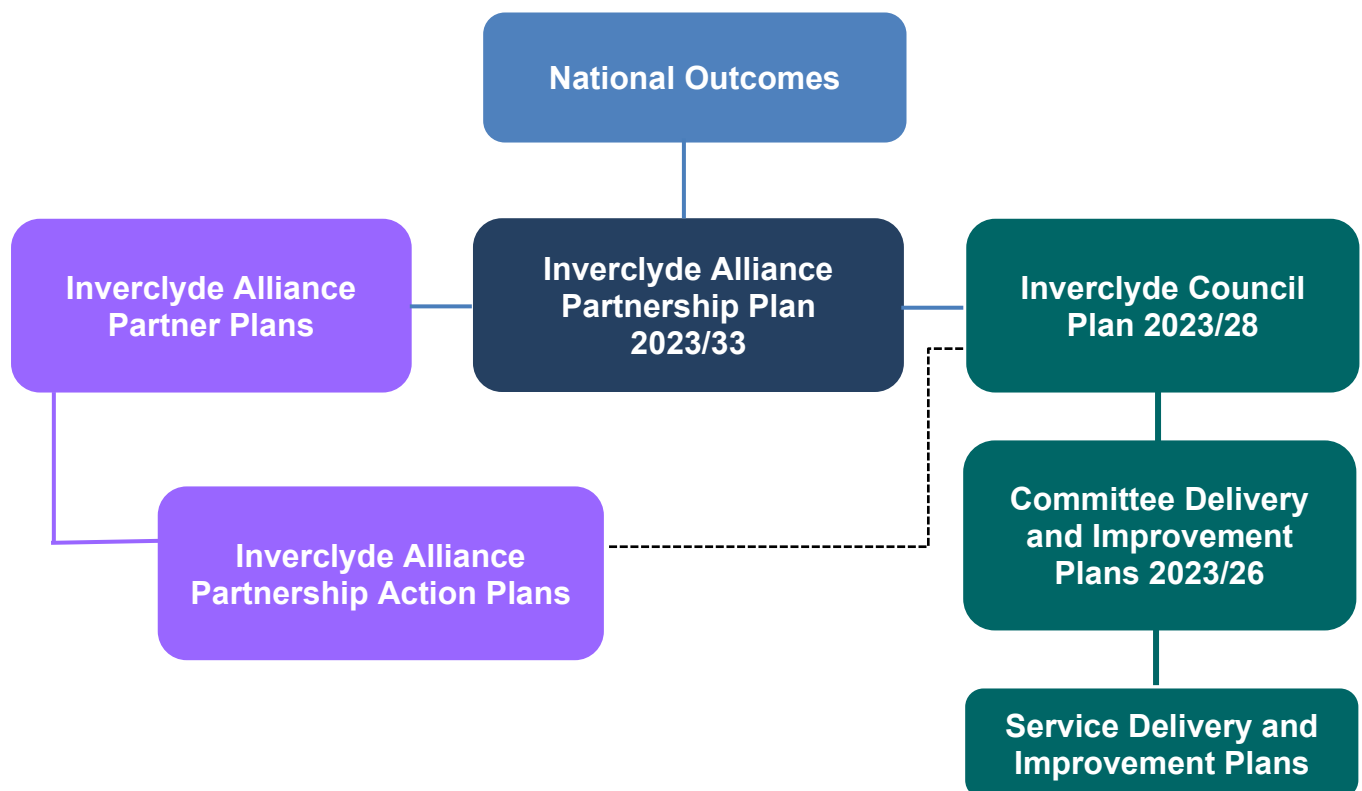
4.11 It is important to note that high level analysis over such an extended period leads to uncertainties (both upside and downside) in the projections. However, the following statements from the SFC summarise the challenges ahead.

**“given the magnitude of the fiscal gap and the findings resulting from our analysis , this report needs to be considered across the public sector in Scotland when planning the future delivery and funding of public services and in making decisions now to help prepare for the future”**

**“our assessment suggests that the Scottish Government will face significant challenges in funding the future provision of devolved public services in Scotland”**

## 5.0 Local Context

- 5.1 The local environment within which the Council operates has changed significantly in recent years and will alter further in future years due to the impact of national legislation and policy, further economic turbulence, societal changes and developing customer expectations.
- 5.2 The overall strategic framework within which the Council operates is outlined in the Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework (SPPMF). The Framework was refreshed towards the end of 2022 as part of the Council's development work for the new Inverclyde Alliance and Inverclyde Council strategic plans. The SPPMF consists of a new ten year Partnership Plan 2023/33 and a five year Council Plan 2023/38, underpinned by Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans, Service Delivery and Improvement Plans and the Financial Strategy.
- 5.3 The new Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework, approved in early 2023, is shown in the diagram below.



- **National Outcomes** are set by the Scottish Government and sit within a National Performance Framework. These 11 outcomes are an overarching guide for the local community planning partnership document, the Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan.
- The **Inverclyde Alliance Partnership Plan 2023/33** is a high level strategic partnership document setting out the vision and direction for the Inverclyde area over a ten year period, as agreed by all the Inverclyde Alliance partner organisations and communities. The outcomes are based on evidence of the key issues and challenges for the Inverclyde area and through community engagement. They set out what we want to achieve for all the communities of Inverclyde.
- The **Partnership Action Plans** are currently being developed and will set out the Partnership actions and projects which will contribute to the achievement of the Partnership Plan outcomes. The **Council Plan 2023/28** is a public facing document and sets out the ways in which Inverclyde Council hopes to improve the lives of the people of Inverclyde through the delivery of a range of high level outcomes. The outcomes within the Plan are structured across the themes of People; Place and Performance.
- The **Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans 2023/26** contain strategic service delivery actions for the Council's Policy and Resources, Education and Communities and Environment and



Regeneration Committees, aligned to the delivery of the overarching Council Plan. The Committee Plans will be reviewed on an annual basis. In addition, the HSCP has developed a Strategic Plan 2019/24 which supports the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board.

- **Service Delivery and Improvement Plans** sit beneath the Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans in the planning structure and will be developed for each Head of Service. These Plans, which will be refreshed annually and will set out the operational tasks and activities for each Council Service.

### *Outcomes for Inverclyde*

The focus of the Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework is on addressing the main challenges facing the area. The Inverclyde Alliance Partnership Plan 2023/33 builds on the achievements of the Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017/23 to deliver the Vision: **Success For All – Getting It Right for Every Child, Citizen and Community**. The Plan focuses on the themes of Empowered People, Working People, Healthy People and Places, A Supportive Place, and a Thriving Place.

#### THEME 1: EMPOWERED PEOPLE

- Communities can have their voices heard, and influence the places and services that affect them
- Gaps in outcomes linked to poverty are reduced

#### THEME 2: WORKING PEOPLE

- More people will be in sustained employment, with fair pay and conditions
- Poverty related gaps are addressed, so young people can have the skills for learning, life and work
- Businesses are supported and encouraged to reduce their carbon footprint and develop green jobs

#### THEME 3: HEALTHY PEOPLE AND PLACES

- People live longer and healthier lives
- Supportive systems are in place to prevent alcohol and drug misuse
- Our natural capital is looked after, and we are effectively adapting and mitigating the effects of climate change

#### THEME 4: A SUPPORTIVE PLACE

- Vulnerable adults and children are protected and supported, ensuring they can live safely and independently
- We recognise where people are affected by trauma, and respond in ways that prevent further harm and support recovery
- Public protection and community safety are improved through targeting our resources to reduce the risk of offending and harm

#### THEME 5: A THRIVING PLACE

- Growth in our working age population by encouraging people to stay here, and attracting new people to settle here
- Development of strong community-based services that respond to local need
- Homes are energy efficient and fuel poverty is reduced
- Increased use of active travel and sustainable transport options
- Easy access to attractive and safe public spaces, and high-quality arts and cultural opportunities

- 5.4 A key challenge for the Inverclyde Alliance, and the public agencies, operating in Inverclyde, over the next five years will be to ensure better alignment between available resources, across all agencies, and the outcomes and priorities identified in the Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan.

## 5.5 Demographics and Population

The most significant challenge facing Inverclyde is depopulation and associated demographic change. The fundamental issue for the Council is that at some point, if the decline in population continues, then the area could become no longer sustainable as a unit of administration which would have an associated impact on other services such as health, police and fire. In recent years, the population decline in Inverclyde has been largely driven by fewer births than deaths in the area. This continued to be case between mid-2020 and mid-2021, although the gap between the two decreased slightly compared to the previous year. The Inverclyde Alliance will continue to have a focus on Repopulation through the delivery of the thematic priority: A Thriving Place.

- 5.6 In the 2011 Census the population for Inverclyde was 81,485, a decrease of 3.2% from 84,200 in the 2001 census. The most recent population estimates place Inverclyde's population in mid-2021 at 76,700, a decrease of -0.5% from 77,060 in 2020. The population of Inverclyde accounts for 1.4% of the total population of Scotland. Population estimates from the Census 2022 results will be published until later in 2023/24, however the local response rate for Inverclyde was 84.2%, which is a cause for concern.
- 5.7 The latest mid-year population estimates (2021) show that 16% of Inverclyde's population is aged between 0 – 15 years, which is slightly less than the percentage for Scotland, 17%. 62% of the population is aged 16 – 64 years, compared to 64% in Scotland. 22% of Inverclyde's population is aged 65 years and older compared to 20% in Scotland.
- 5.8 Since 1985, Inverclyde's total population has fallen overall whilst Scotland's population has risen over this period.
- 5.9 Official population projections continue to forecast a long term decline in Inverclyde's population. By 2043 the population of Inverclyde is projected to be 65,517, a decrease of -16.2% compared to the population in 2018. The population of Scotland is projected to increase by 2.5% per cent between 2018 and 2043. It should be noted that the 2018 based population projections were produced prior to the pandemic.
- 5.10 Over the 25 year period the age group that is projected to increase the most in size in Inverclyde is the pensionable and over age group with a 9.9% increase. In Scotland, it is estimated that there will be a projected 23.2% increase in the pensionable age population by 2043.
- 5.11 The population aged under 16 in Inverclyde is projected to decline by 25.6% over the 25 year period, compared to a 10.5% decrease nationally.
- 5.12 Between SIMD 2016 and SIMD 2020, the number of Inverclyde data zones in the 5% most deprived in Scotland increased from 11 to 21. This equates to 18.4% of all 114 Inverclyde data zones in the 5% most deprived category and is the second highest local share in Scotland. Inverclyde also has the second highest local share of data zones in the 20% most deprived in Scotland, with Glasgow having the highest.
- 5.13 Demographic change will have significant impact on services as funding allocated from the Scottish Government is partly based on the population of an area. Even with additional allocations to take account of deprivation the budget is expected to reduce in real terms over the next five years.
- 5.14 In terms of indicators of deprivation the profile for Inverclyde differs from the national picture, these include:
- 3.8% of working age benefit claimants are claiming unemployment benefits. Of this, a higher proportion of 18 – 24 year olds (6.3%) are claiming than 25 – 49 year olds (4.7%) or 50+ year olds (2.3%). (As at March 2023).
  - Economic inactivity rates in Inverclyde are slightly lower than the national rate, 21.6% compared to 22.9% (Jan 2022 – Dec 2022). The economic inactivity rate in Inverclyde has been lower than the Scottish average since October 2020.
  - The percentage of workless households in Inverclyde is 15% compared to 18.6% in Scotland (January – December 2021)

- Median earnings for full time workers living in the area (Gross Weekly Pay) increased between 2021 and 2022 from £568.00 to £633.90. The Scottish average was £640.30.
- Working age people account for 62% of all people in Inverclyde (2021 mid-year population estimates). This is 2% lower than for Scotland as a whole.

5.15 The projected population changes will have an impact on all service areas, particularly Education and Social Care, where there will be a need to actively manage the transition from current service delivery arrangements to new models that are built around the needs of the future population.

5.16 The deprivation profile will have major implications for services as research indicates that those most vulnerable to poverty are more likely to require greater interventions and experience greater levels of health inequalities and a targeted focus to move individuals out of poverty will come at a significant cost to public agencies.

5.17 The predicted demographic changes also have other implications. A decline in younger economically active people and a growth in the older, more vulnerable age group can mean there will be fewer informal carers which could result in a higher dependency on the services provided by the Health & Social Care Partnership.

#### *The public sector landscape in Inverclyde*

5.18 The public sector landscape in Inverclyde has changed significantly over the last 10-15 years. The development of this mixed economy of public service provision presents new challenges for the Council as it seeks to ensure that outcomes are achieved and that resources are being deployed effectively and efficiently. This is particularly relevant in the context of the Partnership Plan where there will need to be a robust appraisal of whether existing service delivery arrangements across all partner agencies can effectively deliver on the agreed outcomes.

5.19 Whilst the Council has to tackle the problems associated with poverty, health inequalities and deprivation now, it also has to look to the future, and ensure that effective intervention is put into place now, to prevent further problems from developing, which will ultimately require expensive interventions. Investment in the lives of our children and young people early on in their lives will result in a better outcomes and quality of life for them as they grow up in the Inverclyde area.

5.20 The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill placed duties on the Council and its partners to provide new rights for community bodies. The Council and its partners are responding to this in a number of ways including the development of locality planning; introduction of participatory budgeting and asset transfer.

#### 5.21 *Riverside Inverclyde*

Riverside Inverclyde remains a joint initiative between the Council and Scottish Enterprise to regenerate the Clyde Waterfront. It was originally scheduled to run from 2006/7 until 2017/18.

Following a governance review in 2018 it was agreed by the Council and Scottish Enterprise to change the operational governance model due to the reduction in major regeneration projects being progressed by Riverside Inverclyde. The revised arrangements became operational in the summer of 2019. RiPH continued a positive trading performance through-out Covid-19 but the longer term impact on RiPH requires to be assessed.

#### 5.22 *River Clyde Homes*

River Clyde Homes is a not-for-profit housing organisation, which is run by a Board of Tenants, Council nominees and community members. It is regulated by the Government to ensure that it manages housing in the best interests of the tenants of Inverclyde, and the community as a whole.

The transfer to River Clyde Homes of all the Council housing stock was based on significantly

more money being available to invest in homes and neighbourhoods and give tenants a real say in the decisions that are made about their housing, with tenants on the Board influencing policies and investment decisions. The Council and RCH plus other agencies continue to work together to address the challenges brought on by low demand stock, increased investment needs and a declining population.

#### 5.23 *Inverclyde Leisure*

Inverclyde Leisure is a 'company limited by guarantee', not having share capital and recognised by HMRC and OSCR as having charitable status. In October 2001, the Trust was asked to take responsibility for the management and delivery of Inverclyde Council's sport and recreational services.

The Leisure Trust works in close partnership with Inverclyde Council and other internal and external agencies in order to develop the optimum service for residents and visitors to Inverclyde and so to ensure the Trust's Mission Statement is implemented.

The Council's Community Facilities transferred to Inverclyde Leisure in April 2010 and the transfer of the management of Outdoor Leisure Facilities to Inverclyde Leisure took place in April 2015. Members agreed in November 2019 to the transfer of Whinhill Golf Course to Inverclyde Leisure from 2020/21 Season. Inverclyde Leisure has revised its Business Planning process and a new Business Plan is reviewed annually by the Council. The Council's percentage contribution to the Leisure Trust had reduced considerably but the recent increases in utility costs and reductions in income due to Covid required a significant increase in funding from 2023/24.

#### 5.24 *Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)*

The Council and Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board established an integrated Community Health and Care Partnership (CHCP) in October 2010. This resulted in greater partnership working and efficiencies in line with the Government's stated objective of integrating aspects of Health & Social Care.

The Public Bodies (Joint Working) Act 2014 resulted in the creation of a HSCP Integrated Joint Board (IJB) during 2015/16 and required a revised Governance and Financial framework. The IJB is a separate legal entity and receives resources from and delegate resources to the Council and Health Board.

The financial integration became live in April 2016 at a time of continued increasing demands on Council Budgets as the Partnership focuses on building community resources to support the delivery of health and social care services, including the acute sector. To date this arrangement has proven successful with the finances of the IJB being well managed with reserves increased in order to meet the demographic demands.

The impact of the Feeley review into the provision of Adult Social Care and proposals to create a National Care Service has the potential to have a major impact on the delivery model of the Inverclyde IJB and in particular its governance and financing. This is likely to also impact upon the Council and is being closely monitored by officers.

## **6.0 Financial Management**

### *Corporate Governance*

- 6.1 The Council positively promotes the principles of sound corporate governance within all aspects of its activities. From a financial management perspective the Council adheres to the CIPFA Financial Management Code. Formal adoption of the code by the Council was approved early 2023.
- 6.2 Corporate governance is about the structures and processes for decision-making, accountability, controls and behaviour throughout the Council. It is based around key principles of openness, equality, integrity and accountability.
- 6.3 The fundamental principles of corporate governance should be reflected in the various dimensions of Council business, including;
- Ensuring a community focus underpins the Council's vision and priorities;
  - Ensuring the effective delivery of local services on a sustainable basis;
  - Establishing effective management structures and processes which include clearly defined roles and responsibilities for officers;
  - Developing and maintaining effective risk management systems that form part of the Council's strategic decision making process;
  - Ensuring high standards of propriety and probity in the stewardship of the Council's funds and the management of the Council's affairs;
  - A commitment to openness in the Council's affairs and the provision of full, accurate and clear information to all stakeholders.
- 6.4 The Chief Financial Officer has been designated as "the proper officer" and is responsible for advising the Council on all financial matters.
- 6.5 The Financial Regulations were refreshed and approved in February 2022 and are an essential component of the corporate governance of the Council.
- 6.6 The Financial Regulations are designed to facilitate the smooth running of the Council, protect its interests and the interests of members and officers, and ensure the proper administration of all the Council's financial affairs, including, Partnerships, The Common Good and Sundry Accounts.
- 6.7 Head Teachers must also comply with the Financial Regulations, with the exception of virement which is defined in the Devolved Management of Resources Scheme.

### *Roles and Responsibilities*

- 6.8 It is important to set out clearly the roles and responsibilities of the key parties involved in the Financial Strategy and the management of overall financial resources of the Council.

### *Elected Members*

- 6.9 Elected Members, through full Council and Committees are responsible for considering and approving budgets and the Financial Strategy for the Council. Approved budgets must be financially balanced and demonstrate value for money and sustainability.

- 6.10 Throughout the year Committees receive reports which allow progress against approved budgets to be scrutinised. All members receive appropriate training in the areas of Financial Strategy, Local Government Finance and key specialist areas such as Treasury and Risk Management.

*Corporate Management Team*

- 6.11 The Chief Executive, Directors, Section 95 Officer, Monitoring Officer and Head of Organisational Development, Policy and Communications form the CMT, chaired by the Chief Executive, who are responsible, individually and collectively, for ensuring effective financial management across the organisation.
- 6.12 As Budget Holders the Directors are responsible for the budgets delegated to deliver the services within their Directorate in line with the priorities of the Council. Whilst they may delegate this responsibility within their Directorate they remain accountable in exercising overall financial control.
- 6.13 The CMT set aside time each reporting cycle to consider corporate financial matters including employee costs, key budget lines, earmarked reserves and savings delivery progress.

*Section 95 Officer*

- 6.14 The Section 95 Officer has a statutory role to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for the proper administration of the financial affairs of the Council. He has the authority to comment and advise CMT, Chief Executive and Elected Members on all financial matters.

*Heads of Service*

- 6.15 Heads of Service are individually responsible for ensuring that the services within their remit are delivered in line with the agreed policy, and support the strategic direction of the Council. As Budget Holders they are responsible for the budgets delegated to them to deliver their service in a manner which demonstrates value for money in line with the priorities in the Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans.

*Budget Managers*

- 6.16 Responsibility for budgetary control lies with the Directors and as delegated budget holders, their Heads of Service and Service Managers. In recognition of the need to ensure budget holders are appropriately supported and trained, Finance Services delivers training to all Heads of Service and Managers on Financial Governance and budgetary control issues.

*Financial Support to Services*

- 6.17 Each Directorate has a dedicated Finance Manager and Principal Accountant who prepare and monitor the Directorate budget as well as providing a full range of financial advice to the Directorate.

*Internal Audit*

- 6.18 Internal Audit provide assurance to Elected Members, the Chief Executive and management that the internal processes of the Council are being managed appropriately in line with the overarching policies and outcomes are being delivered in an efficient and effective manner.

### *External Audit*

- 6.19 The role of External Audit is to provide assurance to the Auditor General and the Accounts Commission that the Council has spent public money properly to deliver outcomes in an efficient and effective manner. They also provide assurance to the Elected Members, the CMT and general public that the Council's performance is reported in accordance with the financial standards and presents a fair account of the Council's activities.

### *Managing the Budget*

- 6.20 Committees receive five budget monitoring reports throughout the year. These are jointly prepared by the Section 95 Officer and the relevant Director.
- 6.21 The Corporate Management Team receive and discuss a budget overview every budget monitoring cycle covering key budget lines, employee costs, earmarked reserves, progress on the approved savings and key projects with financial implications.
- 6.22 All Services receive detailed budget information five times per year and in addition receive system generated budget reports in intervening months plus having access to real time information held on the Council's Finance Management System.
- 6.23 The Council operates a risk based approach to budget monitoring ensuring that focus is given to larger and more volatile budgets. The identification of key budgets is agreed annually between Directorates and Finance.

## **7.0 Financial Outlook**

- 7.1 Key financial issues are known or anticipated events and activities that have to be addressed within overall financial resources in the short-term (within 2 years), medium-term (within 4 years) or longer (over 4 years).
- 7.2 Events and activities include efficiencies, planned savings, changes to service priorities and delivery, and known potential pressures. The financial impact of an event or activity may be one-off, recurring or time-limited.
- 7.3 The 2023/24 Budget was based on the Council receiving Revenue Grant/Non-Domestic Rates Income of £ 190.719m.
- 7.4 When the Council's own projection of Council Tax Income based on 96.8% collection rate (£35.327m) and the use of reserves is added then the income for the Council in 2023/24 is projected to be £229.046m.
- 7.5 The Financial Strategy covers the period 2023/33 in terms of identifying potential issues, but the revenue forecasts are limited to the period which can be reasonably forecast. A new requirement from 2019/20 was the production and approval of a Capital Strategy which covers a period of 10 years plus. This examines a number of long term issues including the sustainability and affordability of borrowing and investment decisions.
- 7.6 The Council has agreed a Reserve Strategy which requires a minimum unallocated General Fund Reserve of approximately 2% of turnover. Based on the 2023/24 Budget this equates to £4.0 million. The overall position of the Reserves shown in Appendix 5 and has been updated to reflect the latest projections. The Reserve Strategy was reviewed and approved by the Policy & Resources Committee in March 2023. Earmarked Reserves and the level of unallocated reserves are reviewed annual as part of the budget process.
- 7.7 The projected budget position in the short to medium term, is set out in the following tables and notes for both revenue and capital. Details of the short, medium and long-term issues identified in consultation with Services are contained at Appendices 1, 2 and 3.



Table 3

Finance Strategy - May 2023

	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2025/26</u>
	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>
Base Budget for Prior Year	218.230	226.046	225.546
<u>UPLIFTS FROM PRIOR YEAR</u>			
<u>Inflation (Note 1)</u>			
Pay Inflation	7.836	3.400	3.500
Other Inflation	5.400	1.500	1.000
	<u>13.236</u>	<u>4.900</u>	<u>4.500</u>
<u>Budget Increases (Note 2)</u>			
General Pressures	1.860	0.500	0.500
Increased Prudential Borrowing	0.100	0.100	0.100
	<u>1.960</u>	<u>0.600</u>	<u>0.600</u>
<u>Adjustments (Note 3)</u>			
Other Adjustments Applied	0.313	0.000	0.000
New Funding Per SG Settlement	2.304	0.000	0.000
Reduced Use of Reserves	1.000	1.000	1.000
One off Share of £120m Grant	-1.858	0.000	0.000
Share of Capital £120.6m for Pay Award	-1.867	0.000	0.000
Net Revenue Budget Before Savings	<u>233.318</u>	<u>232.546</u>	<u>231.646</u>
<u>Funded by: (Note 4)</u>			
Revenue Grant/NDR Income	190.719	190.219	189.719
Council Tax Income (Net of CTR)	35.327	35.327	35.327
	<u>226.046</u>	<u>225.546</u>	<u>225.046</u>
Annual Budget Before Savings (Surplus)/Deficit	<u>7.272</u>	<u>7.000</u>	<u>6.600</u>
Cumulative Budget Gap before Savings	<u>7.272</u>	<u>14.272</u>	<u>20.872</u>
<u>Savings Applied (Cumulative)</u>			
Savings Approved December 2020 Full Council	-0.027	-0.027	-0.027
Savings Approved December 2021	-0.030	-0.030	-0.030
Savings Approved February 2022 Full Council	-0.084	-0.084	-0.084
Adjustments Approved August 2022 P&R	-0.135	-0.135	-0.135
Savings Approved September 2022 P&R	-0.608	-0.608	-0.608
Savings Approved November 2022 P&R	-0.610	-0.635	-0.635
Savings Approved December 2023 Full Council	-2.748	-3.399	-3.399
Savings Approved January 2023 P&R	-1.940	-1.940	-1.940
Savings Approved March 2023 Full Council	-1.090	-1.431	-1.438
Approved Budget (Surplus)/Deficit	<u>0.000</u>	<u>5.983</u>	<u>12.576</u>

## Finance Strategy Notes – June 2023

### Note 1 Inflation

- a) Pay – The allowance for pay inflation is an allowance available over the 3 year period to fund all pay related pressures including the annual pay award, impacts of living wage, increases in employers national insurance/pension costs, and movement in service bottom up employee budgets. Figures for 2023/25 reflect proposals identified in the 2023/24 budget set March 2023, excluding the Social Work estimated pay award for 2023/24 onwards, and reflects recent information resulting from the negotiated pay award. As a result, an allowance of 6% is included for 2024/26. 2023/24 budget figures includes funding allocated for 2022/23 after the approved budget was set.
- b) Other Inflation – Inflation had been at a low rate until recent times and as such the allowances have been greatly reduced. However, there has been a significant increase in inflation over the last 12 months and the allowance is now exceeded leading to significant increases in sums added to 2023/24.

### Note 2 Budget Increases

- a) General Pressures – Reflects allowance identified in the 2023/24 budget set March 2023.
- b) Increased Prudential Borrowing – Reflects decisions taken at the 2023/24 budget set March 2023.

### Note 3 Adjustments

- a) Other Adjustments – Reflects budget decisions taken December 2022.
- b) New Funding – Reflects new funding received as part of the Settlement March 2023. The majority of the funding relates to new funding for Health & Social Care Partnership and empty property relief.
- c) Reduced Use of Reserves – As part of the 2021/22 budget process, the Council approved use of reserves to fund the 2021/23 budget. The 2023/24 budget process approved to reduce the use of reserves by £1 million until 2026/27. The 2023/24 budget uses £3 million of reserves to balance the budget.
- d) One Off Share of Grant – In 2022/23, the Council received a one-off share of £120 million grant from the Scottish Government. This is now included within the General Revenue Grant from 2023/24 onwards.
- e) Share of Capital Grant £120.6m – The Scottish Government agreed to part fund the 2022/23 pay award from a capital grant for 2 years. It is expected that the Council will receive its share of the £120.6 million in the General Revenue Grant from 2025/26 onwards.

### Note 4 Funded By

- a) Reflects 2023/24 Finance Settlement included in Scottish Government Circular 3/2023. The Scottish Government held back £0.655m of funding in relation to teachers pay. The 2024/25 figures are estimated based on continuing grant loss due to Depopulation.
- b) Council Tax Income is shown net of Council Tax Reduction (CTR) Scheme. Grant is included within Council General Revenue Grant for CTR. Figures reflect decision to increase Council Tax by 5.0% on 2 March 2023. No uplift has been assumed for year 2024/25 or 2025/26.

## *Other Short to Medium Term Revenue Issues*

The significant risk associated with the short to medium term budget position will be around inflation allowances, including utilities, contracts and any unresolved pay award plus increasing demand for certain services. Close monitoring and regular reporting to Committee will ensure officers report any significant variances at the earliest opportunity. The Medium Term Financial Strategy by the Scottish Government has provided greater clarity regarding the challenges faced by the Council over the medium term. In light of this the Council Strategy is to provide clarity on service levels, investment and job security at the earliest possible time.

### *7.8 Long Term Revenue Issues*

Looking beyond 2026 becomes increasingly difficult with uncertainty around the level of funding likely to be available.

The incremental impact of current major initiatives have been fully incorporated the overall Budget.

Post 206/27 the main issues impacting on the revenue budget will be:

- **Funding will be impacted by future population change/demographic shifts and any changes to the way local government in Scotland is funded.**
- **Decisions of the Scottish Government regarding any protection afforded to Local Government or other parts of the Budget plus the use that is made available tax raising powers including the future of non-domestic rates.**
- **The current global UK and Scottish economic situation and the resultant speed with which inflation will return to pre-covid/Brexit levels.**
- **The current “cost of living crisis” will continue to impact on Council Services from both a demand and funding perspective.**
- **Health and Social Care integration is due to undergo further changes but the fundamental fact is that there is not enough money in current budgets to meet increasing demand.**
- **Pension costs influenced by the impact of auto-enrolment, the changes to LGPS and Teachers Pensions, plus costs associated with the Council resizing its workforce in order to balance its budgets.**
- **Costs associated with sustainability including waste disposal and recycling, energy and fuel costs and general procurement inflation due to increased global demand for raw materials.**

7.9 The fundamental issue for the Council is that at some point if the squeeze on the public sector finances and the decline in population continues then this will have an associated impact on other local services such as health, police and fire.

7.10 Table 4 shows the high level estimate of the 2024/27 budget gap based on the above. In line with good practice tables 4b and 4c provide two further scenarios based on different assumptions. Table 4b represents an “optimistic” scenario and Table 4c representing a “pessimistic” scenario. These figures are heavily caveated due to the major uncertainty caused by Covid and the changing position in the short/medium term impact of inflation, the economy and funding for the Public Sector.

**Table 4a****2024/27 Budget Gap - Mid-Range Scenario**

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2024/27
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Block Grant Increase	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Continuing Impact of Depopulation	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
Inflation - Pay	3.4	3.5	2.4	9.3
- Non-Pay	1.5	1.0	1.0	3.5
Pressures				
- General Pressures	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
- Prudential Borrowing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3
Savings Approved to March,2023	(1.0)	0.0	0.0	(1.0)
Reduced Use of Reserves	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0
Funding Gap	6.0	6.6	5.5	18.1

a/ £3.0m from Reserves used in 2023/24 is reduced by £1.0m/year over 2024/27.

b/ Reduced impact of depopulation assumes 0.3% Floor for 2024/27

c/ Pay & Non-Pay inflation and Pressures excludes HSCP

d/ Assumes no new Prudential Borrowing above that already contained in the Loans Charges Model.

e/ Includes no Council Tax increase (3% annual increase would raise £1.0 million per year)

f/ The increase in Block Grant excludes hypothecated funding increases as these are ring fenced for specific purposes

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Key Assumptions	%	%	%
GRG/NDRI Cash Movement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pay Inflation	3.0	3.0	2.0

**Table 4b****2024/27 Budget Gap - Optimistic Scenario**

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2024/27
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Block Grant Increase	(0.5)	(1.0)	(1.0)	(2.5)
Continuing Impact of Depopulation	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
Inflation - Pay	3.4	2.4	2.4	8.2
- Non-Pay	1.0	0.6	0.6	2.2
Pressures				
- General Pressures	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
- Prudential Borrowing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3
Savings Approved to March,2023	(1.0)	0.0	0.0	(1.0)
Reduced Use of Reserves	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0
Funding Gap	5.0	4.1	4.1	13.2

a/ £3.0m from Reserves used in 2023/24 is reduced by £1.0m/year over 2024/27.

b/ Reduced impact of depopulation assumes 0.3% Floor for 2024/27

c/ Pay & Non-Pay inflation and Pressures excludes HSCP

d/ Assumes no new Prudential Borrowing above that already contained in the Loans Charges Model.

e/ Includes no Council Tax increase (3% annual increase would raise £1.0 million per year)

f/ The increase in Block Grant excludes hypothecated funding increases as these are ring fenced for specific purposes

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Key Assumptions	%	%	%
GRG/NDRI Cash Movement	0.25	0.50	0.50
Pay Inflation	3.0	2.0	2.0

**Table 4c****2024/27 Budget Gap - Pessimistic Scenario**

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2024/27
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Block Grant Decrease	0.0	0.5	0.5	1.0
Continuing Impact of Depopulation	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0
Inflation - Pay	4.5	3.5	2.4	10.4
- Non-Pay	1.5	1.0	1.0	3.5
Pressures				
- General Pressures	0.8	0.8	0.8	2.4
- Prudential Borrowing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3
Savings Approved to March,2023	(1.0)	0.0	0.0	(1.0)
Reduced Use of Reserves	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0
Funding Gap	7.9	7.9	6.8	22.6

a/ £3.0m from Reserves used in 2023/24 is reduced by £1.0m/year over 2024/27.

b/ Reduced impact of depopulation assumes 0.6% Floor for 2024/27

c/ Pay & Non-Pay inflation and Pressures excludes HSCP but assumes some demand pressures from HSCP

d/ Assumes no new Prudential Borrowing above that already contained in the Loans Charges Model.

e/ Includes no Council Tax increase (3% annual increase would raise £1.0 million per year)

f/ The movement in Block Grant excludes hypothecated funding increases as these are ring fenced for specific purposes

Key Assumptions	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	%	%	%
GRG/NDRI Cash Movement	0.0	(0.25)	(0.25)
Pay Inflation	4.0	3.0	2.0

2024/25 pay assumption allows for 2023/24 pay shortfall

## 7.11 Short to Medium Term Capital Projections

The Council agreed a 3 year Capital Programme covering 2023/26 in March 2023. A 5% overprovision was built in to allow for increased resources/project cost reductions.

## 7.12 Long-Term Capital Projections

There is greater certainty around capital spend for the post 2023/24 period due to the fact that asset management plans will continue to utilise nearly all available funding i.e. Schools, Operational Properties, Roads, Lighting, Vehicles, Open Spaces and ICT, whilst the 5 year Scottish Government Capital Funding Plan indicates that in the period to 2026, core Local Government Capital Grant will be frozen at 2021/22 levels. This will leave the Council £3 million/year short against the core investment requirements.

Given the difficult position the Council faces on revenue expenditure, it is essential that future capital expenditure proposals are largely self-financing through the release of other capital assets, use of Reserves as well as delivering efficiencies which will secure ongoing revenue savings.

Even were Local Government Capital Grants to increase in the longer term, given the major revenue financial pressures the Council needs to seriously consider using any increase in grant to reduce prudential borrowing/use of reserves rather than identifying new projects.

**Table 5 - Capital Programme 2022/2025 (Medium Term Capital Projections)**

Table 5

<u>Expenditure/Projects by Committee</u>	<u>2022/23</u> £m	<u>2023/24</u> £m	<u>2024/25</u> £m	<u>2025/26</u> £m	<u>Totals</u> £m
Policy & Resources	0.64	0.72	2.64	2.64	6.64
Environment & Regeneration	12.39	15.29	15.57	9.61	52.86
School Estate	2.53	1.50	4.27	4.00	12.30
Education & Communities (Exc School Estate)	1.16	1.41	0.32	0.05	2.94
CHCP	0.56	3.18	6.20	0.00	9.94
	17.28	22.10	29.00	16.30	84.68
<u>Financed By</u>					
Government Grant	8.65	8.23	6.00	6.00	28.88
Sales/Contributions	0.07	0.89	0.32	0.32	1.60
Other Income	4.80	3.19	0.00	0.00	7.99
Revenue	0.39	1.94	5.81	3.26	11.40
Prudential Borrowing	0.34	6.21	7.96	2.57	17.08
Resources Carried Forward	14.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.85
	29.10	20.46	20.09	12.15	81.80
Shortfall in Resources					<u>2.88</u>

### Notes

1 As per May 2023 P&R Committee

## 8.0 Treasury Management

- 8.1 Inverclyde Council has adopted the CIPFA “Treasury Management in the Public Services – Code of Practice” which sets out good practice for treasury management governance. The Council complies with legal and regulatory requirements in relation to Treasury Management activities and has appointed consultants to provide advice on Treasury Management issues, including technical issues and the formulation of views on interest rates.
- 8.2 In complying with the Code of Practice, the Council produces a Treasury Management Practices document which sets out how the Council will manage and control its Treasury Management activities. This document is submitted to Committee for approval every three years with approval also being sought for any amendments in the intervening period.
- 8.3 The requirements for Treasury Management reporting following the implementation of the revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice has resulted in the following:
- An annual Treasury Management Strategy submitted at the start of the financial year and which includes the Council’s Prudential Indicators and covers issues such as the economic situation, the prospects for interest rates, and the Council’s borrowing and investment strategy for the coming year.
  - A mid-year review of the Strategy which include details of the Council’s debt and investment position, activity undertaken during the quarter, and performance to date against the Council’s Prudential Indicators and agreed policy limits.
  - An Annual Report for Treasury Management which is submitted to Members before the end of September each year and which advises Members of the Treasury Management activities during the previous financial year.
  - Since 2018/19 there is the requirement to produce a Capital Strategy which is also reviewed annually.

It should be noted that whilst all the above reports will go to the Policy & Resources Committee for initial scrutiny, all now require to go before the Full Council for approval.

- 8.4 Table 6 below shows the Council’s debt and investments position as at 31/03/23.

**Table 6 – Council’s Debt and Investment Position – 31/03/23**

The Council’s treasury portfolio position at 31/03/23 comprised:

		Principal		Average Rate
		<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	
Fixed rate funding	PWLB	79,414		3.52%
	Market	45,000	124,414	
Variable rate funding	PWLB	0		4.90%
	Market	59,771	59,771	
<b>TOTAL DEBT</b>			<b>184,185</b>	<b>3.97%</b>
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>			<b>26,127</b>	<b>3.36%</b>



## 9.0 Reserves

9.1 A key aspect of the consideration of the Financial Strategy is the position of the General Fund Reserves. The Reserves Strategy was last reviewed and approved by the Policy & Resources Committee in March 2023.

9.2 Reserves can be held for three main purposes:-

- A working balance to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows - this forms part of General Reserves.
- A contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies which also forms part of General Reserves.
- A means of building up funds, often referred to as earmarked reserves, to meet known or predicted liabilities.

9.3 The Reserves Strategy is based on the core General Fund Reserve being maintained at a level of 2% of turnover. A turnover of just over £200 million results in a core General Fund Reserve of £4.0 million. In the event that the Reserves are projected to fall below this level then Members must have a clear route for bringing Reserves back up to the level over the subsequent three financial years.

9.4 The Reserves Strategy also assumes the continued use of earmarked reserves. In this way, earmarked reserves can be separated from the core General Fund Reserve which should allow Members to more transparently track the underlying reserves position. Earmarked Reserves are reviewed annually as part of the budget process.

9.5 Within Inverclyde Council the main Reserves/Funds comprise; General Fund Reserve, Insurance Fund, Capital Fund and Repairs & Renewals Fund. The latest projected position is shown below.

9.6 (a) General Fund "Free" Reserves – This Reserve represents the Council's contingency for unforeseen/unquantifiable events. The level of the Reserve is determined by the Reserve Strategy whilst the projected balance is reported to each Policy and Resources Committee. See Appendix 4.

Balance 31/03/23 = £5.264 million

(b) Insurance Fund – The Insurance Fund balance is required to meet Insurance Liabilities not covered by external Insurance Policies. The balance on the Fund is reviewed every 3 years by an independent actuary who comments upon not only the balance of the Fund but also the on-going internal contributions to the Fund. See Appendix 7.

Balance 31/03/23 = £4.228million

(c) Capital Fund – The Capital Fund is a Fund into which Capital Receipt income can be paid and used to fund either capital investment or repay the Principal element of debt repayments. The balance and planned usage of the Capital Fund is incorporated into the Financial Strategy. See Appendix 5.

Projected Balance 31/03/23 = £(0.315) million

(d) Repairs & Renewals Fund – The Repairs & Renewals Fund consists of sums received from external parties or allocated directly from Council resources which are thereafter released on a phased basis to maintain specific assets. Use of specific allocations to the Fund are agreed by Policy & Resources Committee and the overall position will be reported as part of the Financial Strategy. See Appendix 6.

Projected Balance 31/03/23 = £3.061million

## **10.0 Monitoring, Reporting and Review Processes**

- 10.1 The Financial Strategy should be a dynamic, relevant document and will be monitored on an ongoing basis by Finance - it will also be formally reviewed twice yearly, in May and then in November.
- 10.2 The formal review of the Financial Strategy will be reported to CMT and Full Council on a six monthly basis – there will also be capacity to review the Strategy as and when required, particularly when a new issue arises or the impact of major policy or initiative becomes clearer.
- 10.3 The Financial Strategy will only be revised if there are material changes to estimates, projections or policy which will have a financial impact however issues which may impact will be flagged up in the regular General Fund Budget reports to Policy & Resources Committee.
- 10.4 The deminimus level for a major impact requiring immediate review is 50% of the core General Fund reserves, £2.0 million, subject to the opinion of the Section 95 Officer.
- 10.5 The financial management principles and expectations have been communicated and are understood by all Chief Officers and budget holders.
- 10.6 The Financial Strategy has been drawn up with the full involvement of the CMT and, will be communicated throughout the organisation.

## 11.0 Risk Management

- 11.1 The Council has developed a Corporate Risk Register, Directorate Risk Registers and individual service risk registers where appropriate.
- 11.2 Further work has also been undertaken to develop a Risk Register for the Financial Strategy and the required actions to mitigate risks – these are set out in the table below.
- 11.3 The risk assessment below considers the risks to our financial position arising out of matters considered in this Financial Strategy and utilises the same methodology used for the Corporate, Directorate and Service Risk Registers.

Risk	Management of Risk
<p>The Financial Strategy does not reflect in financial terms the objectives set out in other strategic plans of the Council.</p>	<p>The Financial Strategy provides a high level overview of the various strategic plans the Council has signed up to – it acknowledges that there will inevitably be financial implications arising from the Council Plan but it is not possible to quantify all of these at present.</p> <p>The Financial Strategy is updated as further information becomes available regarding these strategic plans.</p>
<p>The strategic planning process will identify a range of additional budget pressures over and above those currently considered in this Financial Strategy.</p>	<p>The Strategic Planning Guidance identifies that Committee Delivery and Improvement Plans (CDIP) should reflect the resources allocated – the need for additional resources to achieve a particular priority should be specifically identified via the Financial Strategy prior to the preparation of the CDIP.</p>
<p>Forecasts within the Financial Strategy are not accurately determined or reviewed on a regular basis.</p>	<p>The Budget and Financial Strategy set out the expected levels of expenditure and income for the future. The forecasts are arrived at through careful consideration of historic trends and actual expenditure levels and any factors which may have an impact in the future.</p> <p>Three scenarios are included in the Strategy based on Pessimistic, Mid-Range and Optimistic. This provided a broad range of potential outcomes.</p> <p>Throughout the financial year, the Council regularly monitors its financial performance against its budgets and will revise them where necessary, subject to remaining within the agreed overall budget for the Council.</p>
<p>There is a continuing need to deliver significant cuts and efficiencies over the medium to long term. Robust and detailed plans will be required on an operational level to ensure that this risk is mitigated and savings are duly delivered.</p>	<p>The risks relating to the delivery of savings will be mitigated by robust monitoring and financial control through the budget monitoring process, with action plans being required to find compensating savings for any overspends identified.</p> <p>Individual savings are reviewed by Change Boards and lead officers on a regular basis with material issues reported to the CMT and if required, Committee.</p>

<p>Income budgets not achieved or become unsustainable.</p>	<p>Chief Officers are consulted on proposed increases in income budgets/fees and charges and have the opportunity determine the levels of individual charges to achieve the budgeted income target.</p> <p>Equally, income budgets are monitored throughout the financial year and where a shortfall in income is anticipated, this is highlighted in reports to Committee.</p> <p>Proposals to increase fees and charges are reviewed in line with the Council's Charging Policy prior to reporting to Committee.</p>
<p>The Council has insufficient capital resources to sustain capital commitments.</p>	<p>The Council has already identified through the Financial Strategy a reduced reliance on capital receipts and Government Grants in the medium term.</p> <p>The combination of reduced funding and the economic position mean that the Council has to focus on maintaining key infrastructure whilst utilising prudential borrowing for specific capital projects.</p> <p>The Council has Asset Management Plans for all its assets with all the above issues captured within the Financial Strategy.</p> <p>The Council produces a Capital Strategy which looks at the longer term need, funding &amp; sustainability of the capital programme.</p>
<p>Bankruptcy of a major supplier or customer which could result in the Council having to pay twice for the same service or see artificially inflated prices if a replacement service needs to be obtained at very short notice.</p>	<p>The Council has reviewed its procurement process and a procurement manual has been developed which includes supplier financial appraisal at PQQ stage. This will ensure that the financial position of new contractors is vetted prior to ITT stage and entering into any large contracts.</p> <p>The Council only pays in advance for Services by exception.</p> <p>Regular reviews of financial position are undertaken for key suppliers on an ongoing basis.</p>
<p>Legislative changes are not anticipated and the financial impact is not addressed through the budget process of Financial Strategy.</p>	<p>Chief Officers are required to highlight the impact of legislative changes through the strategic planning and budgeting process and the likely resource requirement.</p> <p>In addition COSLA has a key role in assessing the financial impact of changes in legislation and lobbying for Councils to be funded appropriately.</p>

<p>Interest rates on borrowing may be higher than forecast.</p>	<p>Regular review of treasury management decisions. Prudent assumptions on likely interest rates have been incorporated into Financial Strategy. Borrowing is spread to reduce impact of short-term changes.</p>
<p>Reserves are required to fund unanticipated budget shortfalls and fall below minimum recommended level.</p>	<p>Reserve Strategy is in place which clearly states that there must be a clear route to bring reserves back up to the minimum level over the subsequent 3 financial years.</p>
<p>Revenue implications of capital programme/projects are not fully anticipated.</p>	<p>All capital projects identify revenue implications and link into Council priorities. All capital projects are subject to a robust approval process which includes a review of revenue implications.</p>
<p>The current significant deterioration in the economic outlook and the impact this has on the local community has an unsustainable impact on Council budgets.</p>	<p>There is regular reporting to Members on the budget position and forecasts. Cosla continues to lobby Scottish and UK Governments for funding. Directors of Finance share common information and assumptions.</p>

## Appendix 1

### Short-Term Issues (2023/25)

The tables in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 have been developed through ongoing consultation with the CMT to highlight the issues to inform the Financial Strategy and future budget setting.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Issues Identified</u>	<u>Issues &amp; Potential Impacts</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>	<u>Responsible Officer</u>	<u>Timescale to report back</u>
Corporate	Inflation	Uncertainty over the length of inflation pressures are not fully clear over the period.	Inflation allowances are regularly reviewed. Regular monitoring and reporting to CMT/Members.	Alan Puckrin	Ongoing
Social Care	Relationship with Service Providers.	Managing provider expectations whilst in a period of uncertainty over the future of the National Care Home Contract along with expectations from those providers out with this contract to fund inflation/impact of pensions/living wage.	Monitor development and report as required.	Kate Rocks	Ongoing
	Children's Services	Significant demand in the system will lead to increased costs.	Strategy put in place as part of the 2022/23 Budget. Monitor and report as required.	Kate Rocks	Ongoing
Education & Communities	Inverclyde Leisure – Reduction in Income and increased Utility costs.	A major source of income for IL comes from its fitness gyms. Competitors have moved into the area and this plus Covid legacy and current exceptional increases in utility resulted in a significant increase in Council Funding.	Regular monitoring of income levels and utility costs required to reduce level of Council funding.	Ruth Binks	January 2024.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Issues Identified</u>	<u>Issues &amp; Potential Impacts</u>	<u>Action to be Taken</u>	<u>Responsible Officer</u>	<u>Timescale to report back</u>
Corporate	<p>Reductions in other public sector partner's funding streams</p> <p>Removal of key services from Council control.</p> <p>Increased cost for externally provided contracts and services due to the Living Wage.</p> <p>Potential changes to funding of Local Government</p> <p>Cost of retaining current built asset base.</p> <p>Pay &amp; Grading</p> <p>Equal Pay</p>	<p>As Public Sector funding reductions continue, partners are reducing their contributions to key Council priorities.</p> <p>Scottish Government could review Public Sector landscape which could result in loss of large parts of the Council remit and resultant impact on corporate viability.</p> <p>There is a clear desire to ensure suppliers of Council Services pay the Living Wage. This could add significant costs to the Council if passed on by suppliers.</p> <p>Scottish Government to review Council Tax and will potentially review NDR.</p> <p>Increasing property costs (utilities/NDR) plus costs associated with Net Zero mean the current asset base is potentially unsustainable.</p> <p>If the "bottom loading" of pay settlements continues then it is likely the Council will require to revisit the Pay &amp; Grading model.</p> <p>No provision for outstanding claims.</p>	<p>Continue dialogue with partners.</p> <p>Keep track of developments and report to Committee as required.</p> <p>Monitor developments and report to Committee when required.</p> <p>Monitor National developments and report as required.</p> <p>Officers to present options with financial/operational implications to MBWG and thereafter relevant Committees.</p> <p>2023/24 Pay Award is manageable un current model.</p> <p>Offers issued and payments made to address the vast majority of outstanding claims. Provision will continue to be monitored and reviewed taking account of relevant legal judgements and advice from the Council's legal advisors.</p>	<p>All Directors</p> <p>Louise Long</p> <p>Corporate Management Team</p> <p>Alan Puckrin</p> <p>Stuart Jamieson/ Louise Long</p> <p>Steven McNab</p> <p>Steven McNab</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>From 2024/25 Budget.</p> <p>Ongoing issue.</p> <p>On Going</p>

<u>Service</u>	<u>Issues Identified</u>	<u>Issues &amp; Potential Impacts</u>	<u>Action to be Taken</u>	<u>Responsible Officer</u>	<u>Timescale to report back</u>
	Capital Accounting – Potential changes.	If the Scottish Government agreed to move to depreciation accounting rather than loans charge accounting this would significantly increase the costs to the recurring budget.	Monitor developments, respond to consultations and actively engage in lobbying by professional bodies.	Alan Puckrin	Ongoing.
Social Care	Review of future of Adult Social Care  Impact of inclusion of elements of the Acute Health Services within the IJB Budget.  Childrens Services Funding Pressures.	Potential major impacts on IJB and Council Budgets if not appropriately funded.  Potential for the Council to have to meet a proportion of any overspend caused by increasing pressure on Health Budgets.  Covid has had a considerable impact on demand for support within Children & Families. Identified one off funding will only address the short term pressure. A fundamental review of service delivery is needed.	Member's developments, contribute to relevant forums and report as required.  Regular monitoring of the IJB Strategic Plan and financial projections added to supporting robust financial scrutiny by the IJB.  Develop proposals to change service delivery and report back via CMT to Council and IJB.	Kate Rocks  Kate Rocks  Kate Rocks	Late 2023  Ongoing  Ongoing
Environment & Regeneration	Biodegradable Waste diversion from Landfill.	From January 2025 all biodegradable waste is to be diverted from landfill. The financial implications could be significant.	Monitor and develop options and report to Committee via CMT.	Stuart Jamieson	Autumn 2023



**Long-Term Issues (Post 2027 Onwards)**

**Appendix 3**

<u>Service</u>	<u>Issues Identified</u>	<u>Issues &amp; Potential Impacts</u>	<u>Action to be Taken</u>	<u>Responsible Officer</u>	<u>Timescale to report back</u>
Corporate	Depopulation and Change of Demographics	Continued loss of grant income, over provision of infrastructure. Viability of area under threat.	Population/Demographic trends to be monitored and reported to the Council and Alliance on a regular basis.	Morna Rae	Ongoing
Social Care	Impact of National Care Service	Cost, disruption and impact on rest of the Council.	Monitor and report to Council/IJB.	Louise Long/Kate Rocks	Ongoing
Education & Community	School Estate.	Plans will be required for commencement of a new School Estate Plan from the late 2020's. This will have significant financial and policy challenges.	Commence consideration at the appropriate time and factor into any investment plans.	Ruth Binks/Stuart Jamieson	Ongoing.
Environment & Regeneration	Regeneration of Greenock and Port Glasgow Town Centres.  Net Zero Carbon Strategy  Closure of major local employer.	Reports to Committee have identified significant investment needs within the Greenock and Port Glasgow Town Centre areas. Whilst contributions will be sought from Partners and the Private Sector the Council will require to provide a large amount of the funding.  To achieve the required targets will require significant capital investment not currently included in financial plans beyond 2025/26.  Could further increase rate of depopulation and would significantly impact of areas regeneration efforts.	Develop a funding model with clear outputs and funding sources.  Prepare detailed delivery plan and obtain funding approval for delivery.  Work with all partners to identify areas of risk and mitigating actions.	Stuart Jamieson  Stuart Jamieson  Stuart Jamieson	Ongoing  December 2023  As required.

Finance Strategy  
General Fund "Free" Reserves  
May 2023

	£000
Reserves Balance at 31st March 2022	3,719
<b>Budgeted Contribution to Reserves: Note 1</b>	
2021/22 Outturn Earmarked for 2022/23	16,925
	0
	16,925
Planned Use of Reserves 2022/26 Note 2	(38,044)
Projected Surplus (Deficit) 2022/26 Note 3	22,664
Projected Free Reserves Balance 31st March 2023	5,264

GRG/NDR/Council Tax is approximately £200 million. Recommended minimum level of reserves is 2% / £4 million.

Notes:

- 1/ 2022/23 figures reflect £2.951m use of reserves to fund the revenue budget as approved at 2022/23 budget setting process. 2023/26 figures reflect use of reserves of £4m to fund the revenue budget.
- 2/ Represents decisions taken between March 2018 and March 2023 and based on latest phasings.

<u>Approved Use of Reserves</u>	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	Total £000
March 2018 - £8.858m	(191)	(17)	0	0	(208)
March 2019 - £4m	(30)	0	0	0	(30)
March 2020 - £8.207m	(303)	(291)	0	0	(594)
March 2021 - Use of Reserves	(7,918)	0	0	0	(7,918)
February 2022 - £9.175m	(6,175)	(1,000)	(1,000)	0	(8,175)
March 2022 - £0.140m	(140)	0	0	0	(140)
December 2022 - Finance Strategy	0	(1,677)	0	0	(1,677)
January 2023 -£0.602m	0	(602)	0	0	(602)
March 2023 - £18.7m	0	(4,150)	(8,250)	(6,300)	(18,700)
	(14,757)	(7,737)	(9,250)	(6,300)	(38,044)

- 3/ Figure reflects projected surplus reported to Policy & Resources Committee May 2023 (Period 11) and Budget set full Council March 2023 :

	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £'000	Total £000
Projected Surplus / (Deficit) (Period 11)	1,098	0	0	0	1,098
Scottish Government £120m One off Payment	1858	0	0	0	1,858
Proposed Write back of Covid EMR (Jun 22)	0	0	0	0	0
Service Concession (Jan 23)	0	14748	0	0	14,748
IRI Interest 2023/26 (Jan 23)	0	1100	1200	1200	3,500
Approved Write back EMR's (Dec 22)	1460	0	0	0	1,460
	4,416	15,848	1,200	1,200	22,664

AP/AE  
05/05/23



**Finance Strategy  
Repairs & Renewals Fund**

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2028/29 £'000	2029/30 £'000	2030/31 £'000
<b>Balance B/fwd</b>	(3,369)	(3,061)	(3,078)	(3,069)	(3,061)	(2,961)	(3,000)	(3,040)	(3,042)
<b>Additions:</b>									
a	(134)								
Leisure Strategy									
Affordable Housing Fund	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Energy Efficiency Fund									
<b>Maintenance Payments:</b>									
Environmental Maintenance	34	41	36	36	36	36	37	75	37
Leisure Strategy	394				141				
Former Housing Repairs & Renewals Fund	90	50	50	50					
Affordable Housing Fund									
Energy Efficiency Fund									
<b>Interest</b>									
Environmental Maintenance	(12)	(18)	(12)	(12)	(11)	(11)	(10)	(9)	(8)
Leisure Strategy	(30)	(38)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(27)	(28)	(28)	(29)
Former Housing Repairs & Renewals Fund	(27)	(40)	(29)	(30)	(31)	(32)	(33)	(33)	(34)
Affordable Housing Fund	(4)	(7)	(4)	(3)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Energy Efficiency Fund	(2)	(4)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(4)	(4)
<b>Balance:</b>									
Environmental Maintenance	(520)	(497)	(473)	(449)	(424)	(399)	(372)	(306)	(277)
Leisure Strategy	(1,096)	(1,134)	(1,162)	(1,191)	(1,080)	(1,107)	(1,135)	(1,163)	(1,192)
Former Housing Repairs & Renewals Fund	(1,139)	(1,179)	(1,208)	(1,238)	(1,269)	(1,301)	(1,334)	(1,367)	(1,401)
Affordable Housing Fund	(192)	(149)	(103)	(56)	(57)	(58)	(60)	(62)	(64)
Energy Efficiency Fund	(114)	(119)	(123)	(127)	(131)	(135)	(139)	(144)	(149)
<b>Balance at Year End</b>	<b>(3,061)</b>	<b>(3,078)</b>	<b>(3,069)</b>	<b>(3,061)</b>	<b>(2,961)</b>	<b>(3,000)</b>	<b>(3,040)</b>	<b>(3,042)</b>	<b>(3,083)</b>

**Finance Strategy**  
**Repairs & Renewals Fund**

Notes

- a Future contribution to Leisure Strategy subject to confirmation of available funds.
- b Leisure Strategy commitments:
  - Pitches/MUGA's Lifecycle costs
- c Allocations for Local Housing Condition Survey £90k (agreed E&R Committee October 2021)
- d Contribution towards Acquisitions of Affordable Housing, £150k total allocation (agreed E&R Committee October 2021)
- e Environmental Maintenance is a combined fund used for ongoing maintenance of Greenock Cut, Gallaghers (Port Glasgow) Development and Inverkip Footbridge.
- f It is intended that any unused Repairs budget for the Greenock Ocean Terminal will be transferred to the Repairs and Renewals Fund each year to provide for future major repairs to the facility. This will be included in future Repairs and Renewals models.

**Insurance Fund**

	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2025/26</u>	<u>2026/27</u>	<u>2027/28</u>	<u>2028/29</u>	<u>2029/30</u>	<u>2030/31</u>	<u>2031/32</u>	<u>2032/33</u>
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Opening Balance	4.633	4.228	4.078	3.893	3.673	3.418	3.113	2.873	2.588	2.358	2.083
Contribution to Fund (a)	0.450	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.450	0.450	0.550	0.550	0.550
Payments Made From Fund (b)	(0.087)	(0.410)	(0.430)	(0.450)	(0.470)	(0.490)	(0.510)	(0.540)	(0.570)	(0.600)	(0.630)
MMI Clawback (c)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other (d)	(0.075)	(0.090)	(0.105)	(0.120)	(0.135)	(0.165)	(0.180)	(0.195)	(0.210)	(0.225)	-
	4.921	4.078	3.893	3.673	3.418	3.113	2.873	2.588	2.358	2.083	2.003
Estimated Outstanding Charges at 31 March 2023 (e)	(0.693)										
Balance for Future Claims	4.228	4.078	3.893	3.673	3.418	3.113	2.873	2.588	2.358	2.083	2.003

**Notes**

(a) Amount paid by Services and not paid to external insurers. Currently a £100,000 annual reduction is being applied which ends in 2029/30.

A further £100,000 annual reduction will be applied from 2023/24 for 5 years and ending in 2027/28.

(b) Actuals for 2022/23 and estimates for future years for charges paid from Fund net of interest income.

(c) Movement on allowance for Council contribution to legacy MMI claims (currently being reviewed for 2022/23 year-end). The total allowance at 31 March 2022 was £0.271 million.

(d) Council contribution of £1.5 million to Scottish Child Abuse Redress Scheme (payments to be made over 10 year period).

(e) Estimated cost to Fund of outstanding claims as at 31 March 2023.

### City Deal - As at 30.04.23

Capital	£m 15/22	£m 22/23	£m 23/24	£m 24/25	£m 25/26	£m 26/27	£m 27/28	£m 28/29	£m 29/30	£m Total
Overall Grant	307	48	15	30	60	60	60	60	60	700
<b>Inverclyde's Grant Received/ Estimated</b>	<b>6.910</b>	<b>3.956</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>17.866</b>
<b>Project Spend</b>										
Ocean Terminal	6.966	2.933	0.194	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.093
Inverkip	0.018	0.000	1.732	1.500	0	0	0	0	0	3.250
Inchgreen	0.087	4.621	4.719	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.427
Council Contribution - Inchgreen	0	0	(1,400)	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1,400)
<b>Grant Eligible Costs</b>	<b>7.071</b>	<b>7.554</b>	<b>5.245</b>	<b>1.500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21.370</b>
Annual Grant (Shortfall)/Surplus	-0.161	-3.598	-4.245	-0.500	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	-3.504
Cumulative (Shortfall)/Surplus	-0.161	-3.759	-8.004	-8.504	-7.504	-6.504	-5.504	-4.504	-3.504	Est Debt 31.3.30
<b>Revenue</b>										
Revenue Budget	1,216	320	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	
PMO Central Team Costs	0	(56)	(56)	(59)	(62)	(65)	(68)	(71)	(75)	
Interest Charge	0	(40)	(250)	(227)	(204)	(175)	(150)	(125)	(101)	
Contribution to Inchgreen	0	0	(1,400)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Planned Write Back to Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Balance at Year End</b>	<b>1,216</b>	<b>1,440</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(112)</b>	<b>(158)</b>	<b>(178)</b>	<b>(176)</b>	<b>(152)</b>	<b>(108)</b>	

#### Notes

- 1/ Project spend profiles reflect the latest reported figures to the Cabinet. Costs to be firming up as part of detailed Business preparation for Inverkip. Figures exclude partner contributions. Ocean Terminal cost approval increased by £400k in 2022
- 2/ The Council initially set aside up to £400,000 per year but approved saving an £80k saving in Sept 2019. From 2023/24 it reflects a further £100,000 savings. A £1.4million contribution to the Inchgreen Project is to come from the cumulative balance in 2023/24.
- 3/ Assumes that the City Deal will pass the 2nd milestone in 2024 and as such the UK and Scottish Government will honour their grant commitments.
- 4/ Regional projects have first call on the grant hence why from 2025/26 the Council's level of grant falls. Estimates only at this time as Regional projects are under review. Grant phasing for 2023/24 and beyond is therefore indicative at this stage.
- 5/ The Interest Charge is based on the investment return foregone by the Council on the assumption the capital investment will be funded from cash balances and fully repaid by 2035. Interest rates used , 2022/23 (2.04%), 2023/24 (4.25%), 2024/25 (3.13%), 2025/26 (2.56%) 2026/27 & onwards (2.5%)

**Finance Strategy**  
**Loan Charges**

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Balance B/fwd</b>	337	445	1,544	1,790	1,367	930	654	414	436	532	910
Projected Loan Charges	11,984	17,003	16,756	17,525	17,639	17,578	17,642	17,480	17,506	17,324	16,929
Available Budget	12,092	16,902	17,002	17,102	17,202	17,302	17,402	17,502	17,602	17,702	17,802
Loan Charge Surplus/(Deficit)	108	(101)	246	(423)	(437)	(276)	(240)	22	96	378	873
Other Adjustments:											
Transfer from Reserves Agreed Dec 2022	0	1,200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	1,200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Balance at Year End</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>1,367</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>1,783</b>
Interest Rate (Assumed):	3.84%	4.02%	3.84%	3.79%	3.84%	3.91%	3.96%	4.05%	4.20%	4.24%	4.24%

Notes

Revised projections as at April 2023 and excludes Loan Charges relating to funded models (City Deal, Birkmyre Trust and, for 2022/23, SEMP). General capital grant is applied to core allocations only and not to individually funded models.

a Includes loan charges for new LD Centre based on spend between 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.

£100k annual cost increase from 2023/24 to reflect prudential borrowing of £1.5m.

Projected principal repayments on new projects are calculated on annuity basis.

b Adjustments to Available Budget:

For 2022/23

Budget from 2018/19 onwards reduced by £300k annually to 2022/23 to reflect reduction in Scottish Government grant support resulting from repayment of historic debt.

£400k reduction in budget.

Budget increased by £1,130k due to budget and projected VRP loan charges now included above and not separately budgeted for.

Budget adjusted for £60k reduction in loan charges agreed in February 2022 and for Food Waste Collection saving (£14k reduced).

For 2023/24

Budget increased by £4,715k due to budget and projected SEMP loan charges now included above and not separately budgeted for.

Budget from 2023/24 onwards increased by £100k annually for annual Prudential Borrowing.

Budget adjusted for £5k reduction in loan charges for Food Waste Collection saving.



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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Council</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 June 2023</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director Education, Communities &amp; Organisational Development</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>IC/02/23/RB</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Ruth Binks</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712761</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Pledge to Make Inverclyde Council a Trauma Informed Organisation</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the National Trauma Training Programme (NTTP) and progress towards its implementation in Inverclyde, and to propose that the Council agree to adopt the Leadership Pledge of Support for Inverclyde Council to become a trauma informed organisation.
- 1.3 The Leadership Pledge of Support is coordinated by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and Scottish Government. It is an opportunity to raise awareness of, and demonstrate a shared commitment to, supporting and embedding a trauma informed culture across the workforce and services in Scotland.
- 1.4 It is additionally recommended that the Council strongly supports the attendance of Elected Members and the Corporate Management Team at designated Trauma Informed training events.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Council:
- Note the content of this report;
  - Agree that the Council adopt the National Trauma Training Programme Leadership Pledge of Support;
  - Agree to promote trauma informed practice training for elected members and the Extended Corporate Management Team at designated training events;
  - Agree to continue to support the implementation of the National Trauma Training Programme.

**Ruth Binks**  
**Corporate Director**  
**Education, Communities and Organisational Development**

## 3.0 BACKGROUND

### Prevalence and Impact of Trauma

- 3.1 Trauma is often [defined](#) as “an event, a series of events or a set of circumstances that is experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or life threatening and that has lasting adverse effects on the individual’s functioning and mental, physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.” This could be a single incident such as rape, assault, suicide, sudden bereavement or a serious accident, or complex trauma that takes place over a prolonged period of time, such as child abuse, human trafficking or domestic abuse.
- 3.2 Trauma is common and traumatic experiences have no boundaries with regard to age, gender, socio-economic status or ethnicity. It is estimated that around 60% of the UK population has experienced psychological trauma in their lifetime and the [2019 Scottish Health Survey](#) found that just over one in seven adults reported experiencing four or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). For more vulnerable groups, including people accessing inpatient mental health services, drug and alcohol services and in the justice system, the prevalence is even higher.
- 3.3 Whilst living through trauma is relatively common, the experience and its impact is often hidden. Although many people show remarkable resilience, those who experience trauma are at higher risk of experiencing greater inequalities and poorer outcomes at all stages of their lives, across physical and mental health, education, employment and wellbeing, if they do not have access to the right support at the right time if needed.
- 3.4 There is growing evidence that trauma-informed systems and practice, where the impact of trauma on those affected is understood by staff, and systems are adapted accordingly, can result in better outcomes for people affected by trauma.

### The National Trauma Training Programme

- 3.5 In recognising psychological trauma and adversity as a public health priority, the Scottish Government and COSLA share and support [the ambition for Scotland to have a trauma informed and responsive workforce](#). This means that “universally, across all systems and services, we recognise where people are affected by trauma and adversity, respond in ways that prevent further harm and support recovery, and improve life chances for people affected by trauma”.
- 3.6 To support this ambition, the Scottish Government has committed over £6 million since 2018, to establish a [National Trauma Training Programme](#) (NTTP), led by NHS Education for Scotland (NES), and to support the development of a trauma informed and trauma responsive workforce and services across Scotland. The NTTP provides evidence-based trauma training resources which can help raise awareness, knowledge and confidence among the Scottish workforce, so people are equipped to embed trauma-informed practice throughout services. The programme also recognises the need for trauma related knowledge and skills across the whole workforce, not just for those with a remit to respond directly to the needs of those affected by trauma and promotes the message that “trauma is everybody’s business”.
- 3.7 Broadly, according to the NTTP, services, systems and individuals taking a trauma informed approach need to:
  - **Realise** the prevalence of trauma in the community
  - **Recognise** the impact the experience of trauma can have across the lifespan
  - Recognise **Resilience** and support growth
  - **Respond** in a way that supports recovery and access to life chances

- Resist further harm and re-traumatisation by understanding that trauma memories, feelings and responses may be “triggered” often by innocuous events and relationships
- Recognise that **Relationships** offer the opposite of a “traumatising” relationship by focusing on the trauma informed principles of safety, choice, empowerment, collaboration and trust

3.8 Trauma informed practice can support key priorities [across a number of policy areas](#), such as corporate and human resources, physical health, mental health and social care, alcohol and drugs, child and adult protection, community justice, education, housing and homelessness, environment and infrastructure and employability and economic development. A trauma informed approach is also closely linked with a number of national drivers, such as:

- [The Scottish Government’s Mental Health Transition and Recovery Plan \(2020\)](#)
- [GIRFEC](#)
- [Public Service Reform](#)
- [Equally Safe](#)
- [The Promise plan 2021-24](#)
- [UNCRC](#)

### **The Inverclyde Context**

3.9 Some significant developments in relation to trauma informed approaches across all sectors of the Inverclyde workforce are already underway and are briefly detailed below.

#### ***Early Action System Change Project***

3.10 In 2019, the National Lottery Community Fund Early Action System Change (EASC) programme awarded £682,250 (including £75,000 tests of change monies) to Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) under the Women and Justice theme. The Women Involved in the Criminal Justice System Project aims to develop a system change focused on effective early intervention, and fully involves women with lived experience, ensuring that they co-produce this change.

3.11 Progress of the EASC is governed by the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership and funding is in place until the end of March 2024. Two tests of change have been agreed to improve outcomes for women engaged with services; firstly, the commitment of the HSCP and third sector partners to develop trauma informed and trauma responsive services and staff, and secondly, a commitment to strengthen referral pathways into supportive community resources, making these more accessible and inclusive for women.

3.12 In relation to the first test of change, the initial focus has been on the importance of leadership in driving the agenda forward and, as such, 42 senior managers and leaders from across the HSCP and third sector attended Scottish Trauma Informed Leaders Training (STILT). This is a programme of support available through the NTTP, which consists of a three-hour webinar and follow-up development and planning sessions. Two follow-up sessions were held in July and September 2022 respectively. The project continues to progress towards all staff in services involved in the test of change having accessed appropriate training through the NTTP.

3.13 In terms of the second test of change, a lived experience co-production group of women with experience of the justice system has been regularly engaged and actively contributes to the co-design/re-design of services and systems. A mapping exercise has also been conducted to determine what supportive community resources are available in Inverclyde, where the gaps are and how referral pathways can be strengthened to make these services more inclusive and accessible for women.

## ***Wider Local Implementation Strategy***

- 3.14 In 2021, the Scottish Government allocated £1.6 million in funding to local authorities to invest in training and staffing that will help to deliver trauma informed and responsive services and will support the involvement of people with lived experience of trauma in the design and delivery of services. Within Inverclyde, this funding was invested in the creation of a Trauma Informed Practice Lead Officer post. The Lead Officer's remit is to develop, implement and monitor a multi-agency strategy for embedding trauma informed practice throughout Inverclyde's workforce and services, in alignment with the NTTP. This post is based within Inverclyde Educational Psychology Service, however there is a clear and necessary expectation that the scope of this work extends across the whole workforce, including HSCP, council and third sector organisations.
- 3.15 Since taking up post in September 2022, the Lead Officer has conducted a scoping exercise to gain a clearer understanding of current levels of knowledge and practice relating to trauma within the Inverclyde workforce. This has identified that while awareness and implementation of trauma informed practice currently varies significantly across services, there is a high level of recognition of the benefits of this approach, both for individuals accessing services and for staff. It also highlighted that the ongoing work of the EASC has laid the groundwork in several service areas, through leaders engaging with STILT, the commitment to staff receiving relevant levels of trauma informed training, and the co-production approach taken.
- 3.16 Through consultation with Inverclyde's Trauma Champion, the Transforming Psychological Trauma Implementation Coordinator (TPTIC) for NHSGG&C and the Improvement Service's Trauma Lead, an implementation framework for the rollout of the NTTP in Inverclyde has been developed. This has been informed by the NTTP [Knowledge and Skills Framework](#) and [Trauma Training Plan](#) and closely aligns with and aims to take learning from the work of the EASC.
- 3.17 The framework includes three key strands of implementation to be prioritised for training to be successfully translated into practice, and a trauma informed and responsive workforce developed:
- **A competent workforce** is achieved through the delivery of appropriate trauma training and supervision to each member of the workforce, providing the necessary knowledge and skills to carry out their role in a trauma informed and responsive way; this also includes consideration for staff wellbeing, and a recognition that each member of the workforce should be appropriately supported, with open discourse about the impact of vicarious trauma and removing the stigma in accessing wellbeing support
  - **Effective leadership** centres on the importance of leaders actively recognising, promoting and sustaining trauma informed principles and practice within their organisation, and in embodying the trauma informed principles within meetings, conversations and in all communications with the workforce
  - **Organisational support** is available for new skills and new ways of working to be developed, taking a "trauma informed lens" to environments, policies, procedures and practice that may be altered to create a service and workplace that best meets the needs of those who have experienced trauma
- 3.18 To support the strategic planning and implementation of this framework, an Inverclyde Trauma Informed and Responsive Practice Strategic Group has been formed, consisting of both strategic and operational representation from organisations across all sectors. This group reports to the Alliance Board via the Inequalities Partnership. Additionally, to ensure that the voices of those with lived experience of trauma are meaningfully included at all stages of this work, it is intended that a Lived Experience Advisory Group will feed into the Strategic Group via the Lead Officer.
- 3.19 Whilst there is a high degree of support and motivation across services that are familiar with and engaged with this work, evidence from other successful implementation areas strongly indicates that to ensure that time spent training and developing a competent workforce leads to sustainable

change, senior leadership and organisational support is required to provide the culture and infrastructure for the workforce to become truly trauma informed and responsive.

#### 4.0 PROPOSALS

4.1 For Inverclyde to continue its progress towards developing a trauma informed and responsive workforce and services, it is vital that leadership commitment is universal and visible. The NES and Scottish Government Leadership Pledge of Support provides organisations with an opportunity to raise awareness of, and demonstrate a shared commitment to, supporting and embedding a trauma informed culture across the workforce and services in Scotland. By adopting the Pledge, the Council would publicly declare its intention to respond to needs and improve outcomes for people in Inverclyde who have experienced psychological trauma. For leaders to fully support this commitment and understand more about what becoming a trauma informed organisation may look like, leaders training should be completed. It is therefore proposed that:

- The Council agree to adopt the Leadership Pledge of Support (see Appendix 1) to commit to the Council becoming a trauma informed and responsive organisation.
- Council strongly supports the attendance of Elected Members and the Extended Corporate Management Team at designated Trauma Informed training events.
- The Council agree to continue to support the implementation of the National Trauma Training Programme.

4.2 The strategic group will continue to monitor the implementation of trauma informed practice across Inverclyde and this will be monitored through the Children’s Services plan, HSPC planning and other service specific workforce plans

#### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		x	
Legal/Risk		x	
Human Resources	x		
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)	x		
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty	x		
Children & Young People’s Rights & Wellbeing	x		
Environmental & Sustainability			x
Data Protection			x

#### 5.2 Finance

One off Costs would be linked to staff time for training, although this will be proportionate to the level of training needed for the role. There are no costs linked to the provision of training.

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

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

**5.3 Legal/Risk**

There are no legal and risk implications directly arising from this report.

**5.4 Human Resources**

The implementation of trauma informed principles and practices will require the rollout of trauma informed training across the workforce. Appropriate levels of training for staff dependent on their roles and responsibilities will be required.

Following on from staff training, development and support, there is an expectation that trauma knowledge will become inherent in all practice, which may result in policy and procedural change across all service areas.

**5.5 Strategic**

Trauma informed practice is in line with the priorities in the new Council and Partnership Plans and will be a significant part of the Children’s Services Plan.

**5.6 Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty**

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

x	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required, a copy of which will be made available on the Council’s website: <a href="https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/equality-impact-assessments">https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/equality-impact-assessments</a>
	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

Has there been active consideration of how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

x	YES – A written statement showing how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed, a copy of which will be made available on the Council’s website: <a href="https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/equality-impact-assessments">https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/equality-impact-assessments</a>
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	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.
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## 5.7 Children and Young People

Has a Children’s Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children’s rights.

## 5.8 Environmental/Sustainability

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
x	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

## 5.9 Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

## 6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 None.

## 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

# **Appendix 1**

## **Inverclyde Council's Leadership Pledge of Support**

Inverclyde Council recognises the widespread impact of psychological trauma on individuals and communities, and we believe it is a priority to ensure that everyone is offered the support and opportunities they need to achieve their fullest potential. We will strive towards a culture, workforce and services that are trauma informed and responsive, by embodying the trauma informed principles of collaboration, choice, empowerment, safety and trust in all that we do.

We will progress towards all members of our workforce being offered trauma informed training appropriate to their role, and aim to develop systems, services and environments that are designed with an understanding of trauma and its impact at their heart.

It is vital that, where relevant, all stages of our work are co-produced in an appropriate manner with people with lived experience of trauma, helping us to better understand how we can prevent further harm and remove barriers for people to access the support they need, when they need it.

We are aware that anyone can be affected by trauma, including people within our own workforce. We will aim to promote and strengthen the resources that are available to support staff wellbeing, helping to ensure all members of our workforce feel safe, supported and valued.



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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Council</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 June 2023</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>LS/056/23</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Iain Strachan</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712139</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries – Provisional Proposals for Constituencies</b>		

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## 1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to inform the Council of the provisional proposals for constituencies received from Boundaries Scotland for the Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries and advise that any consultation responses are required by 17 June 2023.
- 1.3 Boundaries Scotland is an independent advisory non-political public body responsible for carrying out reviews of Scottish Parliament boundaries and to make recommendations for: constituencies and regions for the Scottish Parliament.
- 1.4 The provisional proposals are for a county constituency comprising the Greenock and Inverclyde County Constituency together with an area of Ward 1 which covers principally Kilmacolm and Quarriers Village currently within the Renfrewshire North and West Constituency. The proposed new boundary encompasses the whole of the Inverclyde Council area within one county constituency. The constituency name is proposed to change from Greenock and Inverclyde County Constituency to Inverclyde County Constituency.
- 1.5 The provisional proposals use electorate data taken from the electoral register on 1 September 2022. The total electorate figure for the proposed Inverclyde County Constituency is 60,794.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Council consider the Boundaries Scotland Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries - Provisional Proposals for Constituencies relative to the proposed Inverclyde County Constituency as shown in Appendix 1; and
- 2.2 It is recommended that the Council consider whether it is appropriate to remit to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services to respond to the consultation.

**Iain Strachan**  
**Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services**

### **3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

- 3.1 Boundaries Scotland is an independent advisory non-political public body responsible for carrying out reviews of Scottish Parliament boundaries and to make recommendations for: constituencies and regions for the Scottish Parliament. A link to the Boundaries Scotland website is included here:- <https://boundaries.scot/>.
- 3.2 There are 73 constituencies for the Scottish Parliament. Each constituency returns a single member (MSP) to the Scottish Parliament. In addition, there are 8 regions which each elect 7 List MSPs. The Boundaries Scotland Review cannot change the number of constituencies and regions nor the number of MSPs.
- 3.3 The Boundary Commission for Scotland conducted the First Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries, reporting in 2010. Under the Scotland Act 2016, responsibility for reviews of Scottish Parliament boundaries passed from The Boundary Commission for Scotland to Boundaries Scotland in 2017.
- 3.4 Reviews are governed by Schedule 1 of the Scotland Act 1998 (as amended). Schedule 1 of the Scotland Act 1998 requires Boundaries Scotland to conduct reviews of Scottish Parliament boundaries for constituencies and regions at intervals of every 8 to 12 years.
- 3.5 The First Review of Scottish Parliament boundaries was completed in 2010. The existing boundaries for the Scottish Parliament have been in place since 2011 and used in elections in 2011, 2016 and 2021.
- 3.6 Since the last review, which reported in 2010, there have been significant changes to the electorate, including the extension of the franchise for Scottish Parliamentary elections to those 16 and over. Changes to the population and the electorate have varied across Scotland, with some areas experiencing significant increases and others remaining relatively unchanged or falling. Even areas which have not experienced population growth or reduction may find that the constituency boundaries alter as a result of change required elsewhere to ensure that all constituencies and regions are of a similar electoral size.
- 3.7 The electorate for the Second Review consists of the persons on the register of Local Government electors in force on the start of the Review. The Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries commenced on 1 September 2022 and the electorate data was taken from the electoral register on that date. Boundaries Scotland calculated the electoral quota for the Second Review of the Scottish Parliament Boundaries, i.e. for all constituencies, as 59,902. The Scotland Act 1998 requires that the electorate of constituencies must be as close to the electoral quota as practicable, and that Boundaries Scotland creates constituencies and regions that have broadly the same number of electors. In addition, Boundaries Scotland is also required to follow a number of other rules, including that it takes account of (i) local authority area boundaries, (ii) special geographical considerations and (iii) local ties and any inconveniences caused by the alteration of the existing boundaries.
- 3.8 The Council received a copy of the provisional proposals on 17 May 2023 from Boundaries Scotland. The consultation period for responses expires on 17 June 2023, this one month period being fixed in legislation. Boundaries Scotland will thereafter make provisional proposals for the regions taking into account the deliberations on constituency boundaries. The provisional proposals for regions, along with the revised recommendations for constituencies, will be published and representations invited in the same way as the provisional proposals for constituencies. Boundaries Scotland must submit a report on this review to Scottish Ministers by 1 May 2025. If subsequently approved by the Scottish Parliament, the new boundaries will take effect at the next Scottish Parliament election, expected in May 2026.

3.9 Boundaries Scotland is required to hold a local inquiry if representations objecting to the provisional proposals are received either from a local authority or from a body of 100 or more particular electors for the affected constituency.

#### 4.0 PROPOSALS

4.1 Upon receipt of the provisional proposals from Boundaries Scotland, public display of the proposals has been undertaken in the Customer Services Centre and in the public libraries within Inverclyde, along with awareness raising through the Council's Corporate Communications.

4.2 In the proposals: 21 constituencies are unchanged; one constituency retains its boundaries but with a new name; 26 constituencies have minor changes to boundaries but retain their existing names; and 25 constituencies have both new names and new boundaries.

4.3 The provisional proposals are for a county constituency comprising the Greenock and Inverclyde County Constituency together with an area of Ward 1 which covers principally Kilmacolm and Quarriers Village currently within the Renfrewshire North and West Constituency. The proposed new boundary encompasses the whole of the Inverclyde Council area within one county constituency. The constituency name is changed from Greenock and Inverclyde County Constituency to Inverclyde County Constituency.

4.4 The proposed constituency will have 60,794 electors within the area noted in paragraph 4.3 above and detailed in Appendix 1. This figure is based upon the electorate data referred to in paragraph 3.7 above. Appendix 2 details the boundary of the existing Greenock and Inverclyde County Constituency.

4.5 Comments on the Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries - Provisional Proposals for Constituency Boundaries can be made by the Council and by any member of the public by 17 June 2023.

#### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk	X		
Human Resources		X	X
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)			X
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty			X
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing			X
Environmental & Sustainability			X
Data Protection			X

#### 5.2 Finance

Subject to the decision of the Council, there are no financial implications arising directly from this report. It is to be noted that responsibility for electoral functions in respect of Scottish parliament elections falls to the Returning Officer, as distinct from the Council.

<b>Cost Centre</b>	<b>Budget Heading</b>	<b>Budget Years</b>	<b>Proposed Spend this Report</b>	<b>Virement From</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

### 5.3 **Legal/Risk**

This review has been undertaken by Boundaries Scotland in terms of the Scotland Act 1998. Consultation responses must be submitted by 17 June 2023. The legal and risk implications are set out in this report. It is to be noted that responsibility for electoral functions in respect of Scottish parliament elections falls to the Returning Officer, as distinct from the Council.

### 5.4 **Human Resources**

Subject to the decision of the Council, there are no human resources implications arising directly from this report. It is to be noted that responsibility for electoral functions in respect of Scottish parliament elections falls to the Returning Officer, as distinct from the Council.

### 5.5 **Strategic**

There are no strategic implications arising from this report.

## 6.0 **CONSULTATION**

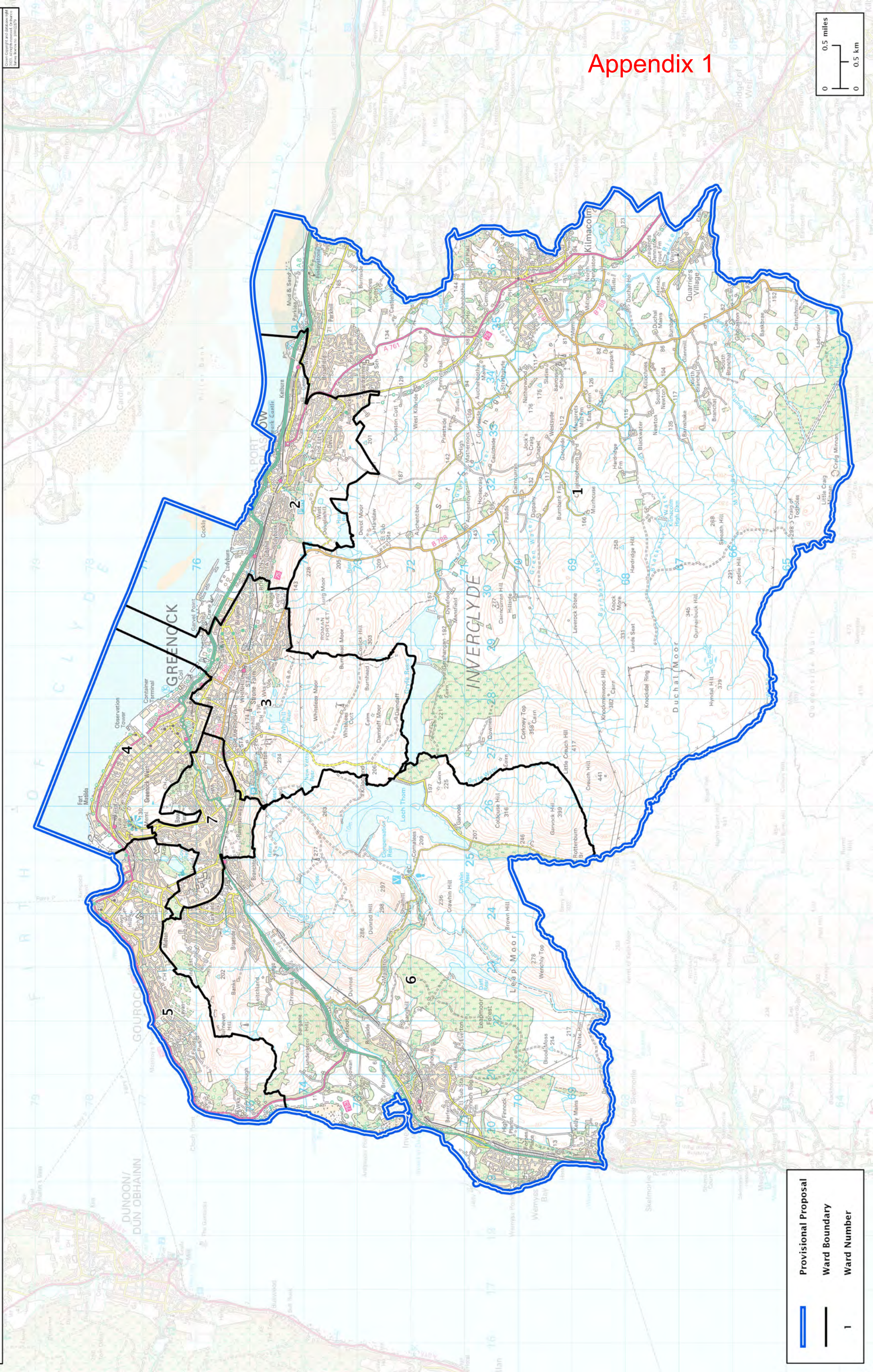
6.1 None.

## 7.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None.

# Second Review of Scottish Parliament Boundaries - Provisional Proposals

## Inverclyde County Constituency - Electorate 60,794



**Provisional Proposal**

**Ward Boundary**

**Ward Number**

1

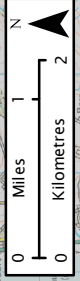
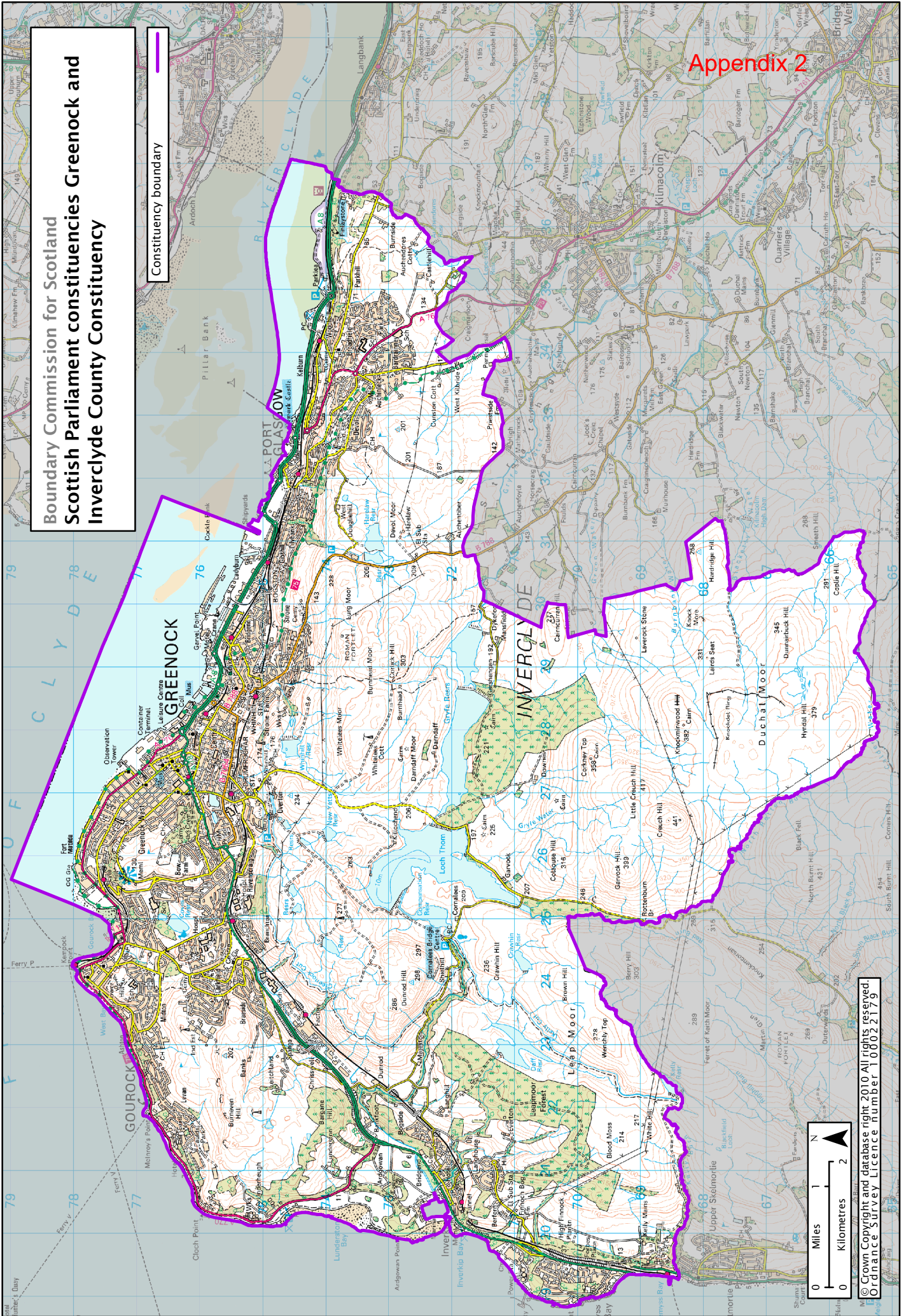
Appendix 1



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**Boundary Commission for Scotland  
Scottish Parliament constituencies Greenock and  
Inverclyde County Constituency**

Constituency boundary



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Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	8 June 2023
Report By:	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services	Report No:	LS/046/23
Contact Officer:	Iain Strachan	Contact No:	01475 712113
Subject:	The Stopping Up of Road and Footpath, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022 – Remit from Environment and Regeneration Committee		

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## 1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to request the Council consider a remit from the Environment and Regeneration Committee.
- 1.3 The Environment and Regeneration Committee at its meeting of 4 May 2023 considered a report by the Director Environment and Regeneration in relation to the Order, "The Stopping Up of Road and Footpath, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022", which was made on 25 October 2022 in terms of Sections 207 and 208 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.
- 1.4 A copy of the report to the Environment and Regeneration Committee is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.5 The Environment and Regeneration Committee decided the following:
- Decided:** that (a) the 'The Stopping Up of Road and Footpath, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022' be approved, and (b) the Order be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for confirmation and thereafter delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services to take all necessary action in connection with the confirmation of the Order.
- 1.6 Further, Part IX, 'Roads, Footpaths and Rights of Way' and Schedule 16 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 set out the steps which a local authority must carry out when promoting a stopping up order ("SUO"); however, they do not detail the steps which must be taken by a local authority between (a) the consultation on an SUO to which there are no maintained objections and (b) the confirmation of the SUO.
- 1.7 Inverclyde Council's Scheme of Administration details functions reserved to the full Council. These include the promotion of byelaws, management rules and any necessary orders. This means that the full Council must consider the confirmation of all SUOs even though they have previously been approved by the Environment and Regeneration Committee.

1.8 This process potentially adds approximately 10 weeks to the timescale for the making of an SUO. It is, therefore, proposed to introduce a new procedure for confirming a SUO which will have the effect of reducing that timescale, namely to authorise the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services to confirm SUOs where there are no maintained objections. This would mean the Council is adopting a similar process for SUOs to which there are no maintained objections as it does for Traffic Regulation Orders, Redetermination Orders and Speed Limit Orders.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 The Council is asked to:-

- (i) Approve the confirmation of 'The Stopping Up of Road and Footpath, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022', and delegate authority to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services to take all necessary action in connection with the confirmation of the Order;
- (ii) approve the use of the proposed procedure and decision making process involved in the promotion of Stopping Up Orders in terms of Part IX, 'Roads, Footpaths and Rights of Way' and Schedule 16 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as set out in paragraph 4.1 of this report;
- (iii) approve the proposed amendments to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) so that the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) is amended to the effect that, where there are no maintained objections to any such Stopping Up Orders, the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services will be authorised to confirm such Stopping Up Orders on behalf of the Council and delegate authority to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services to make those said amendments to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers).

**Iain Strachan**  
**Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital**  
**and Customer Services**



### **3.0 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Local Authorities are empowered to make Stopping Up Orders (SUOs) under Part IX, 'Roads, Footpaths and Rights of Way' and Schedule 16 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.
- 3.2 Schedule 16 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 sets out the steps which a local authority must carry out when promoting an SUO; however, they do not detail what steps must be taken by a local authority between (a) the consultation on an SUO to which there are no maintained objections and (b) the confirmation of the SUO.
- 3.3 Inverclyde Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Administration detail functions reserved to the full Council. These include the promotion of byelaws, management rules and any necessary orders. This means that the Full Council must consider the confirmation of all SUOs even though they have previously been approved by the Environment and Regeneration Committee. The Standing Orders do, however, permit the Committee to determine Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and Speed Limit Orders (SLOs) where there are maintained objections, meaning they do not need to go to full Council, even where there are maintained objections. The Scheme of Delegation (Officers) delegates authority to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services to make TROs, Redetermination Orders (ROs) and SLOs where there are no maintained objections. By way of explanation, ROs with maintained objections cannot be determined by the Council, and must be determined by the Scottish Ministers.
- 3.4 As such, this means that the Council's current governance arrangements require all SUOs to come before both the Environment and Regeneration Committee and The Inverclyde Council, whether there are objections or not. This process can add 10 weeks to the making of an SUO which delays the introduction of the SUO. It should be noted that SUOs, to which there are maintained objections, have to be referred to Scottish Ministers who will decide whether to confirm the SUO or not, in the same way as for ROs.

### **4.0 PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Council confirm 'The Stopping Up of Road and Footpath, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022'. It is also proposed that amendments be made to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) so that (i) the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) is amended to the effect that, where there are no maintained objections to any SUO, the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services will be authorised to confirm such SUO on behalf of the Council and (ii) delegate authority to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital and Customer Services to make those said amendments. As reported to the Council on 20 April this year, it is proposed that there be a full review of the Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation (Officers) later in 2023, with any proposed amendments subsequently brought back to Council for its consideration.
- 4.2 Subject to the decision of the Council, an updated version of the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) will be cascaded to officers and placed on the Council's website.

## 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is (are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk	X		
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty			X
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing			X
Environmental & Sustainability			X
Data Protection			X

## 5.2 Finance

One off Costs

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

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

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

## 5.3 Legal/Risk

The legal implications are set out in this report.

## 5.4 Human Resources

None.

## 6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 None.

## 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>4 May 2023</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Director, Environment &amp; Regeneration</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>ENV022/23/SJ/SM</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Sean Mc Daid</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712412</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>The Stopping Up of Road and Footpath, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of this report is to request the Committee to consider the order The Stopping Up of Road and Footpath, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022 (hereinafter “the Order”) which was made on 25th October 2022 in terms of Sections 207 and 208 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (hereinafter “the Act”) and then to remit the Order to the Inverclyde Council for approval and confirmation. A copy of the Order is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

1.3 Officers are satisfied that it is necessary to authorise the stopping up of the road and the footpath at Arthur Street, Greenock to permit the erection of a Class 3 unit with ancillary drive through and associated works at Ground at Arthur Street, Greenock in accordance with planning permission reference 20/0106/IC which was granted on 11th October 2021 in terms of the Act.

1.4 The Order was made on 25th October 2022 and published in the Greenock Telegraph and Edinburgh Gazette for public consultation on 1st November 2022, with the last date for objections being 29th November 2022. At the end of the consultation period, one objection was received. Further to discussions between the developer and the objector, the objection has now been withdrawn and there are no maintained objections to the Order.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 Approve the Order and agree to remit same to the Inverclyde Council for the confirmation and thereafter grant delegated authority to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to take all necessary action in connection with the confirmation of the Order.

**Stuart W. Jamieson**  
**Director, Environment & Regeneration**

### 3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Planning permission 20/0106/IC was granted on 11th October 2021 for the proposed erection of a Class 3 unit with ancillary drive through and associated works at land at Arthur Street, Greenock. The site referred to in the planning application is to the south-west of the Cartsburn Roundabout and incorporates Arthur Street.
- 3.2 It is a condition of planning permission that the stopping up of the road and footpath at Arthur Street, Greenock is required. The approved development requires 581 square metres or thereby of road and 89 square metres or thereby of footpath at Arthur Street, Greenock to be stopped up. This is shown on the plan accompanying the Order as attached at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 3.3 Local authorities are empowered to make Stopping Up Orders in terms of the Act and in terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, the Head of Regeneration and Planning is responsible for the grant of planning consent and, if necessary, Stopping Up Orders in implementation of same.
- 3.4 Following the making of the Order, the procedures set out in the Act required the Order to be advertised in the Greenock Telegraph and the Edinburgh Gazette, with Notices sent to the landowner and any statutory undertaker who has apparatus on the footpaths which are to be stopped up. If there are no maintained objections to the Order, authority thereafter requires to be sought from the Environment and Regeneration Committee in order to confirm the Order before it comes into effect.
- 3.5 As noted above, one objection was received in relation to the Order; however, it has subsequently been withdrawn. Accordingly, there are no maintained objections to the Order.

### 4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 A copy of the Order which officers are recommending for approval and confirmation is attached at Appendix 1 of this report.

### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk	X		
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty			X
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing			X
Environmental & Sustainability			X
Data Protection			X

#### 5.2 Finance

There are no financial implications arising from this report. The cost of advertising the Order in the newspapers is met by the developer.

### **5.3 Legal/Risk**

The Order complies with the Act as detailed above. The stopping up of the road and footpath as shown in the Order attached at Appendix 1 is required to ensure proper implementation of planning permission 20/0106/IC. Failure to complete the statutory process to stop up the road and footpath will mean that the planning permission could not be lawfully implemented.

### **5.4 Human Resources**

There are no human resources implications associated with the Order.

### **5.5 Strategic**

There are no Strategic implications associated with the making of the Order.

## **6.0 CONSULTATION**

6.1 In terms of the statutory requirements, the Order was advertised in the Greenock Telegraph and the Edinburgh Gazette with full details of the proposals being made available for public inspection during normal office hours at the Customer Service Centre, Municipal Buildings.

## **7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None.

**THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

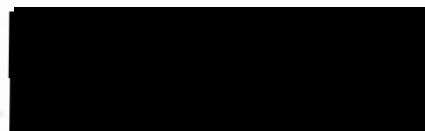
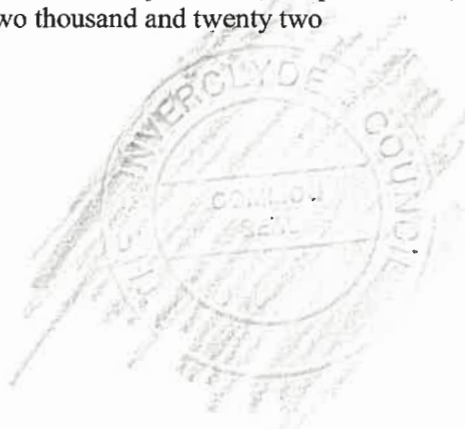
**THE STOPPING UP OF ROAD AND FOOTPATH, INVERCLYDE (ARTHUR STREET,  
GREENOCK) ORDER 2022**

The Inverclyde Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Sections 207 and 208 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, being satisfied that it is necessary to authorise the stopping up of the road and the footpaths hereinafter specified in this Order to permit the erection of a Class 3 unit with ancillary drive thru and associated works at Ground at Arthur Street, Greenock in accordance with planning permission reference 20/0106/IC granted under Part III of the said Act, hereby make the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as “The Stopping Up of Road and Footpaths, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022” and shall come into operation on the date of confirmation or such other date as may be appointed by the Scottish Ministers.
2. In this Order:-  
  
“Road” means the lengths of road in the area of Inverclyde which are specified in the Schedule to this Order.  
  
“Footpaths” means the lengths of footpaths in the area of Inverclyde which are specified in the Schedule to this Order.
3. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.
4. The stopping up of the Road and the Footpaths is hereby authorised.
5. Where, immediately before the date of this Order, there are any rights of statutory undertakers or telecommunications code system operators in respect of any apparatus of theirs which is under, in, over, along or across the Road or the Footpaths, such undertakers shall thereafter without prejudice to the provisions of Section 224 and 225 of the Act, as read with Section 213(5) of the Act, have the same rights in respect of that apparatus as they had immediately before that date.

The person or persons carrying out development which affects the Road and the Footpaths shall be bound and obliged to pay the costs and expenses incurred by the statutory undertakers or telecommunications code system operators who deem it necessary to make special provision (by way of protection or otherwise) for or relocate any apparatus of theirs which is under, in, on, over, along or across the Road or the Footpaths.

SEALED with the Common Seal of The Inverclyde Council and subscribed for and on its behalf by Victoria Mary Pollock, Proper Officer, at Greenock on the Twenty fifth day of October, Two thousand and twenty two



## **SCHEDULE**

### **ROAD TO BE STOPPED UP**



The area of ground to be stopped up extending to Five hundred and eighty one square metres (581m<sup>2</sup>) or thereby Metric Measure is shown outlined in red and coloured blue on the plan docketed "Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, Sections 207 and 208, Stopping Up of Road and Footpaths, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022" annexed and executed as relative to this Order.

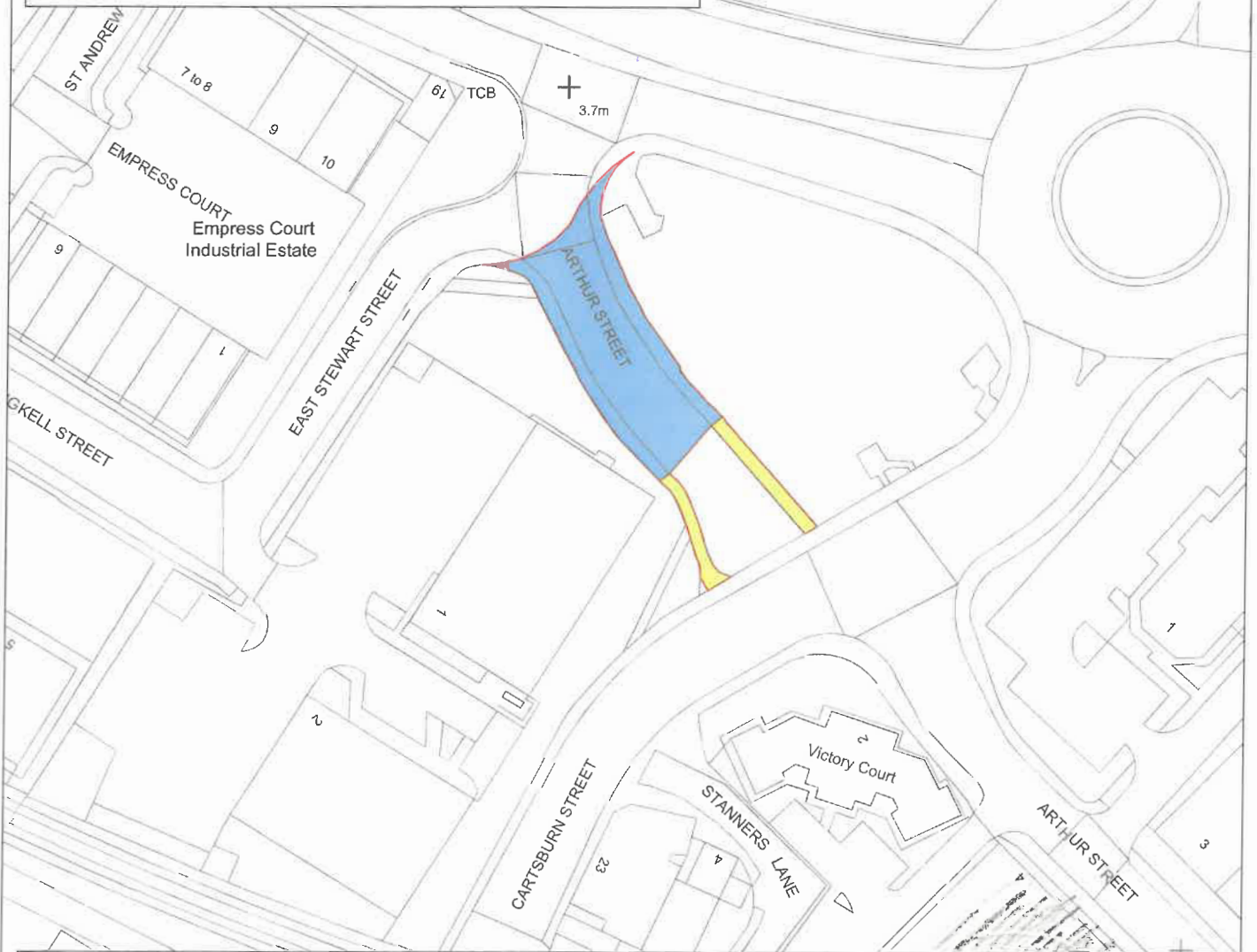
### **FOOTPATHS TO BE STOPPED UP**

The areas of ground to be stopped up extending to Eighty nine square metres (89m<sup>2</sup>) or thereby Metric Measure are shown outlined in red and coloured yellow on the plan docketed "Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, Sections 207 and 208, Stopping Up of Road and Footpaths, Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022" annexed and executed as relative to this Order.



**Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997**  
**Section 207 and 208**  
**Stopping Up of Road and Footpath**  
**Inverclyde (Arthur Street, Greenock) Order 2022**

-  - road / footways (581 square metres or thereby)
-  - footpaths (89 square metres or thereby)



At Greenock ..... 25 OCTOBER 2022 .....

This is the plan referred to in the foregoing Order of even date

Proper Officer .....  Redacted - signature 'V. Pollock' .....

Inverclyde Council  
Regeneration & Planning

SCALE 1:1000  
GMcC OCT 2022





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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Council</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 June 2023</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital &amp; Customer Services</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>LS/057/23</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Diane Sweeney</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712147</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>River Clyde Homes – Notice of Motion by Councillor McVey</b>		

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## 1.0 PURPOSE AND CONSIDERATIONS

- 1.1  For Decision  For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor McVey, countersigned by Councillor McGuire, relative to River Clyde Homes.
- 1.3 The terms of the Notice of Motion are set out in appendix 1 to the report.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion by Councillor McVey.

**Iain Strachan**  
**Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services**

Motion to full Council

This Council has become increasingly concerned about ongoing issues within River Clyde Homes regarding long term repairs to tenants homes, and communal buildings in which River Clyde Homes act as factor, within Ward seven and other areas.

This Council expects River Clyde Homes, as a matter of urgency, to develop and implement a specific action plan to resolve said issues within Ward seven and other areas.

This Council also calls on River Clyde Homes to bring forward plans, at the earliest opportunity, to address the flats at 80 – 86 Neil St. They are now an eyesore and their state of disrepair is damaging to the local community.

This Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to River Clyde Homes to make them aware of the Council's ongoing concerns regarding the above issues.

Proposed – Councillor McVey

Seconded – Councillor McGuire