
Report To:	Policy and Resources Committee	Date:	26/05/09
Report By:	Corporate Director Improvement and Performance	Report No:	POL/25/09/PW/KB
Contact Officers:	Kenny Bambrick Miriam McKenna	Contact Nos:	01475 712394 01475 712042
Subject:	Inverclyde Single Outcome Agreement, Interim Report and Qualitative Assessment		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with the final version of the Inverclyde Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) which has been developed in collaboration with all partners.
- 1.2 This report also presents the Interim Report and Qualitative Assessment which will also be submitted to Scottish Government.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This final version of the SOA has been developed through the SOA Delivery Group in discussion with Scottish Government. The SOA was approved by the Inverclyde Alliance at the meeting held on 29th April 2009.
- 2.2 It was submitted to the Scottish Government for agreement on 1st May 2009.
- 2.3 The Qualitative Assessment and Interim Report have been developed to highlight progress to date in regard to the outcomes set out in the SOA, and to identify the process that has been gone through to develop Inverclyde's full partnership SOA.
- 2.4 Progress is already highlighted in the SOA, and the Interim Report brings this together in one short document in order that the Scottish Government has a summary of what has been achieved over the last year which impacts on the local outcomes.
- 2.5 The SOA was discussed with David Wilson, the Scottish Government Director assigned to Inverclyde, and feedback was both positive and encouraging with support for the approach taken by Inverclyde Alliance.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- a. Note the final version of the Single Outcome Agreement
- b. Note the content of the Interim Report and Qualitative Assessment
- c. Note that further progress on the delivery of the SOA will be reported through the Corporate Performance Report (CPR)

**Paul Wallace
Corporate Director
Improvement and Performance**

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Single Outcome Agreement represents an agreement between the Inverclyde Alliance, our local Community Planning Partnership, which includes organisations within the public, private and third sectors and the Scottish Government.

The SOA was developed by members of Inverclyde Alliance whose current Board membership includes:

- **Community Councils Forum**
- **Greenock Chamber of Commerce**
- **Inverclyde Council**
- **Inverclyde Community Health Partnership**
- **James Watt College**
- **Job Centre Plus**
- **Scottish Enterprise**
- **Skills Development Scotland**
- **Strathclyde Fire and Rescue**
- **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport**
- **Strathclyde Police**
- **The Voluntary Sector**

4.2 The purpose of the Single Outcome Agreement is to improve the prospects of Inverclyde as a place and to secure a better future for Inverclyde's people. The SOA has been designed to deliver and achieve particular results, accelerating progress in narrowing inequalities and building a stronger Inverclyde by achieving a number of strategic outcomes. Our strategic focus is on addressing the major challenges facing the area:

- Depopulation/Population change
- Coping with de-industrialisation
- Poverty, Deprivation and Area Renewal
- Employment
- Health and Health Inequalities
- The Natural, Built and Physical Environment

Our aim is to narrow the gap of inequality and poverty that exists within parts of Inverclyde and between Inverclyde and other parts of Scotland. Narrowing the gap of inequality and poverty is a principle which underpins everything that we will do in delivering this SOA. At the same time we are ambitious and will seek opportunities to make Inverclyde a better place to live.

4.3 The Interim Report sets out what progress has been made in regard to the delivery of the National and Local Outcomes set out in the Inverclyde SOA. It needs to be stressed that not all results can be directly or indirectly attributable to the Single Outcome Agreement as most, if not all, the programmes and supporting projects were planned in advance of the SOA being designed and delivered. However, the purpose of this report is to show how as a Council/public sector partners we have performed for the year 2008/09.

4.4 The purpose of the Interim Report is to enable Councils collectively to demonstrate the local progress and achievements they have made so far in the implementation of their SOAs (even if that is only activities and inputs at this stage) and how the SOA approach has made it easier for Councils and their local partners to work together in pursuit of better outcomes for local communities.

4.5 It is also emphasised that the Interim Report is required for one year only, with the first full report being required in September 2009 and then on an annual basis thereafter.

- 4.6 The qualitative assessment explains how Inverclyde Council, through the Alliance, has developed the SOA. The information contained in the qualitative assessment will be important in helping the Scottish Government and local government demonstrate the credibility and the benefits of the SOA approach. The assessment is not a report or audit and it does not have to be submitted to any body. The qualitative assessment is simply the consideration by the local partners, with the lead Scottish Government Director, of what has been achieved and what still needs to happen, in terms of improving the SOA and the effectiveness of the SOA approach. It will help to ensure that the mutual understanding that has been built up in the development phase of SOAs on all sides is maintained going forward.
- 4.7 The qualitative assessment covers the developmental aspects of the SOA, including what has happened to ensure that partners and communities are engaged in the SOA and that public bodies play their expected roles. It also highlights what has already happened as a result of the SOA approach, including improvements in local working.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance

There are no known financial implications.

5.2 Human Resources

There are no known HR implications.

5.3 Legal

There are no known legal implications.

5.4 Equality / Diversity

An Equality Impact Assessment will be carried out on the SOA. This will be a high level, light touch report as the SOA does not have the level of detail that the Delivery Plans will have, therefore, any potential impacts identified will be speculative. The SOA is a performance management framework for partnership working and will therefore not be subjected to a full-blown Equality Impact Assessment. The plans which underpin the SOA will be impact assessed.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Policy and Resources Committee should consider the issues highlighted in this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Inverclyde Single Outcome Agreement 'Tackling Poverty, Sustaining Growth, 2008 – 2011'.