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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> January 2014</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Aubrey Fawcett, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration &amp; Resources and Alan Puckrin Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration &amp; Resources</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>R316/14/AF</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Aubrey Fawcett</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 749822</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Riverside Inverclyde Operating Plan</b>		

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise Members of progress in respect of the development of the Inverclyde Economic Development and Regeneration Single Operating Plan which is a single plan between Riverside Inverclyde (ri) and Inverclyde Council's Regeneration Services. Members are also advised of other matters being progressed by ri.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Members will be aware that Committee agreed in June 2013 to the recommendations outlined in ri's Midterm Review which included the preparation of a new single operating plan that would guide the activities of ri and the Council's regeneration teams. Significant progress has been made in this regard and work is on-going with a view to submitting the final detail for Members' consideration in March 2014.
- 2.2 Progress has also been made in respect of other matters outlined in the Review, which is outlined in paragraph 5.4.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that Committee:
- Notes progress in relation to the development of the Inverclyde Economic Development and Regeneration Single Operating Plan and overall progress in relation to other matters;
  - Notes that a Members Briefing will be held in February 2014 to discuss and consult on the emerging plan proposals and that a further report outlining the detail of the Final Draft Operating Plan will be brought back to Committee in March 2014 for Members' consideration.

**Aubrey Fawcett - Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and**

**Alan Puckrin - Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The recent review of ri and regeneration services in Inverclyde recommended that a formal model of single working between ri and the Council's Regeneration Team should be put in place. The aim is to maximise the impact of all regeneration and economic development activities in the area, in the current and future climate of reduced public and private funding, by enabling the Council and ri to focus their combined resources and efforts on a narrower set of priority projects and investments.
- 4.2 Members agreed that a range of issues should be considered/addressed including:
- A new approach to regeneration in Inverclyde;
  - Improving ri's governance;
  - Improving ri's monitoring and reporting;
  - Review of salaries and job responsibilities;
  - Improving the Council's business support services;
  - Various aspects associated with the transfer of land to the newly established JWD LLP.

## 5.0 PROGRESS

- 5.1 A significant proposal outlined in the Midterm Review was the preparation of a new single operating plan which would guide the regeneration activities of the Council and ri. The new Plan will effectively replace two existing documents:
- Inverclyde Economic Regeneration Action Plan (current version 2011 to 2014) which is guided by the wider Inverclyde Regeneration.
  - ri's Business Plan (2012-2017).
- 5.2 The emerging Single Operating Plan will clarify and focus on a narrower set of realistic priority projects and activities, capable of delivering the maximum possible impact within the lower levels of public funding. The development of the new Plan will provide an opportunity to re-consider and challenge constructively the priorities set out in current Plans, to ensure they are realistic and deliverable, and capable of addressing the opportunities and challenges present in Inverclyde. It will create a focal point for effective joint working between the Council's Regeneration Team and ri, encouraging the two teams to work together towards shared goals and priorities, helping to break down current organisational barriers, clarifying the respective roles of each organisation, and eliminating duplication in service delivery where it exists. In short, it will help to maximise the efficiency and collective impact of the two organisations, in the face of increasingly scarce resources.
- 5.3 The work to date on the Single Operating Plan includes the following considerations:
- Establishing six objectives for Inverclyde involving:
    - Growing the business base
    - Increasing Inverclyde's capacity to accommodate private sector jobs
    - Boosting skill levels and reducing worklessness
    - Accelerating the regeneration of strategic employment sites
    - Renewal and regeneration of the most disadvantaged areas
    - Working in partnership
  - The colocation of Riverside Inverclyde and Inverclyde Council regeneration teams;
  - A common monitoring and reporting format will be introduced;
  - From an investment perspective ri will focus mainly on physical regeneration projects;
  - Inverclyde Council's Regeneration team will focus mainly on business support, employability and investment attraction; and,
  - Areas of marketing, external sources of funding, and property management will continue to be shared. A review will be undertaken over the next 6 months to determine where synergies can be realised and the most appropriate lead organisation.
- 5.4 Progress has also been made in respect of other matters outlined in the Midterm Review including:
- a. An improvement plan has been prepared to guide and monitor the implementation of

proposals contained in the Midterm Review.

- b. Administration support has been put in place to assist in the implementation of ri's regeneration activities.
- c. Development Manager's Post advertised and appointment is in progress.
- d. Adverts for new Board Directors and Chair have been issued and an independent Chair for the Nominations Committee has been appointed.
- e. The Chief Executive's job profile and person specification has been reviewed and considered by the ri Board on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2013. It is envisaged that the advert will be placed by the end of January 2014, interview process completed by end of March 2014 and successful candidate in post by May/June 2014.
- f. ri's Board and Committee compositions reviewed and amendments approved by the Board. The Articles of Association have been altered to reflect the change and the Policy and Resources Committee will be advised separately in this regard.
- g. Detailed dialogue with Peel on-going in relation to James Watt Dock LLP.
- h. ri Staff contracts have been reviewed and updated to reflect current employment status.

## 6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Overall good progress has been made in respect of the recommendations as outlined in the Midterm Review. It is intended that a Members Briefing will be held in February 2014 to discuss and consult on the emerging plan proposals in detail and that a further report outlining the detail of the Final Draft Operating Plan will be brought back to Committee in March 2014 for Members' consideration.

## 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 7.1 Financial Implications

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					

## 8.0 CONSULTATIONS

### 8.1 Regeneration and Planning

The Head of Regeneration and Planning has been consulted on this report.

#### Finance

The Head of Finance has been consulted on this report.

#### Legal

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services has been consulted on this report.

#### Human Resources

The Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources and Communications has been consulted on this report.

#### Equality & Diversity

There are no apparent equality or diversity issues.

#### Population

The proposals contained in the emerging Single Operating Plan should assist in establishing an enhanced environment which should attract and retain residents within the area.