

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Chief Executive

Housing, Environment and Economic Development Committee: 7 May 2008

Subject: Single Outcome Agreements

1. Purpose

- 1.1** This report advises the Committee of the progress in developing West Dunbartonshire's Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and requests Member's comments on the new SOA by 30 May 2008.

2. Background

- 2.1** The Scottish Government is in the process of introducing Single Outcome Agreements. These will reflect an entirely new relationship between local and national government and they significantly change the way in which accountability will work - including the removal of ring-fencing and the signing up of the entirety of the public sector to a restricted set of national priorities.
- 2.2** The new initiative was introduced in the Concordat in November 2007. As a consequence the Council is required to produce an SOA based on the new National Outcomes showing local outcomes and local measures, targets and actions, which will show how the Council is contributing to national outcomes. The intention is that the SOA will help focus the Community Plan and the council's corporate plans. At this stage, it is envisaged that the SOA will sit alongside the corporate plan and the Community Plan and thus complement them.
- 2.3** The defined timetable required us to produce a first draft 'Council' SOA by 31st March and then integrate as much partner agreement as possible by end June 2008 thereafter re-submit the revised document. A full 'Community Planning Partnership' SOA is then required by March 2009.
- 2.4** A report on the SOA initiative was submitted to Council on 30th January and the 1st Draft SOA was submitted to Council on the 26th March. The full SOA comprises an introduction section and 15 templates - one for each of the new National Outcomes.
- 2.5** Appendices 1-7 show the current version of the SOA templates that are thought to be of most relevance to the remit of this Committee.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1 It was agreed at the 26th March Council meeting that each Service Committee be involved in the consultation process as part of the development of the West Dunbartonshire SOA.
- 3.2 Partner consultation events have taken place between 15-28th April and revisions have been made to the templates as a result. These updated versions of the templates will be circulated to members.
- 3.3 The next version of the SOA will be presented to the CPP Board and Council in June prior to submission to the Scottish Government at the end of June.
- 3.4 Members of the Committee are asked to consider the following questions in relation to the SOA templates:
- Do the **context statements** give a fair and balanced view?
 - Are there any **local outcomes** missing or any that should be excluded?
 - Can the **local outcomes** be prioritised? (e.g. by ranking them as very high, high, moderate etc)
 - Are any **indicators** missing or require clarification?
 - Are the proposed **targets** realistic and what targets could be proposed for those yet set
 - What **actions** are required from Council (and by partners) to achieve the outcomes
 - What **actions** (or 'asks') are needed from the Scottish Government to assist in achieving the outcomes

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1 There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications at this stage

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** The reputation of the Council will suffer if a draft Single Outcome Agreement for 2008/09 is not completed and agreed by the Council by June 2008. This could have implications for the next funding settlement.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1** The body of the SOA is comprised of 15 templates – one for each National Outcome. Elected Member comments on the specific outcomes relating to the remit of this Committee is requested.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1** Members of the Committee are requested to provide any comments on the SOA templates by 30th May 2008

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David McMillan
Chief Executive
Date: 18 March 2008

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Appendices: 1 - 7: SOA templates

Background Papers: Concordat Document November 2007

Reports to Council on SOA 30 January 2008 and 26 March 2008

Wards Affected: All