

# **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Report by Chief Executive**

**Social Work & Health Improvement Committee: 15 April 2009**

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**Subject: Single Outcome Agreements**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** This report presents the latest draft of the new Single Outcome Agreement (SOA)

### **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. We are required to produce an SOA based on the new National Outcomes showing local outcomes and local measures, targets and actions, which will show how we are 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 first West Dunbartonshire SOA was submitted to the Scottish Government in June 2008. It was previously the subject of a report to the Community Participation Committee in April 2008.
- 2.4** The defined timetable this year requires us to produce a first draft Community Planning Partnership SOA by the end of February, and then finalise and agree it by end-May 2009 and submit the agreed document.
- 2.5** Appendix 1 shows the current version of the SOA (version 3) for West Dunbartonshire. It is acknowledged that more work is required to refine the indicators, targets and actions.

### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** It was agreed by the Council meeting that the each main Council Committee be involved in the consultation process as part of the development of the West Dunbartonshire SOA.

**3.2** The next version of the SOA will be presented to the CPP Board and Council prior to submission to the Scottish Government at the end of May.

**3.3** 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?
- Are the proposed priority **local outcomes** a fair reflection of local priorities?
- 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 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 and the CPP will suffer if a Single Outcome Agreement is not completed and agreed by the Council and CPP by May 2009. This could have implications for the next funding settlement.

#### **7. Recommendations**

**7.1** Members of the Committee are requested to provide any comments on the SOA by the end of April 2009.

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**David McMillan**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Date: 20 March 2009**

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**Appendix:** Draft Single Outcome Agreement 2009 (v3)

**Background Papers:** Concordat Document November 2007  
Reports to Council on SOA 30 January 2008 and 26 March 2008

**Wards Affected:** All Wards