

West Dunbartonshire Council
Report by Chief Executive
Council Meeting : 26 November 2008

Subject: Community Plan Progress Report

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This report presents a progress report on the 2007-2017 Community Plan

2. Background

- 2.1. The Community Plan 2007-11 was endorsed by the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board in 2007 with a commitment to report progress on a regular basis to all stakeholders. This is the first such progress report.
- 2.2. This report was submitted to the CPP Board on 24th November
- 2.3. The implementation of the new Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) has changed the scope of community planning and has created a new planning process, which needs to be integrated into the planning cycle for the Partnership and the Council.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1. The current Community Plan has been entered into the Council's performance management system – Covalent. Each of the 6 Themes has been set-up in the new system and a hierarchical series of priorities, objectives and indicators developed from the respective narrative sections of the plan document. Some of this process has necessarily been somewhat interpretative but the 'Scorecard' developed in Covalent does give a good overall representation of the Plan.
- 3.2. The Councils Corporate Plan (08-12) and the SOA have been entered as 'Scorecards' into Covalent. There are significant 'structural' similarities between the Plans – with the main themes, priorities and objectives appearing across the plans. The indicators in the Community Plan all exist in either (or both) the SOA and the Councils Corporate Plan.
- 3.3. Presently there are 59 indicators in the Community Plan scorecard (compared to 112 in the current SOA and 223 in the Councils Corporate Plan). This reflects the relative strategic nature of the three plans and their current hierarchical relationships.

- 3.4.** The progress report from Covalent is shown as Appendix 1. The current status and progress of the indicators is also available on the Councils website under [Community and Living/Community Planning](#). This shows the most up-to-date indicator values, status and trends and directly reflects the current indicator data in the Covalent system.
- 3.5.** Currently we see the SOA fitting in 'below' the level of the Community Plan and 'above' the various partner's corporate/business plans (see Figure 1 below). The Community Plan presents a 10-year vision for West Dunbartonshire; whereas the SOA has a shorter (3-4 year) timeframe – and it includes national objectives which may not have been identified as local priorities.
- 3.6.** The new guidance does not give explicit instructions to Councils or CPPs on how to integrate SOAs into the planning system locally. The options range from dispensing completely with both a Community Plan and a Council Corporate Plan (i.e. just having an SOA linked to service-level plans to retaining the full suite of plans).
- 3.7.** One option that could be considered is a re-vamp of the Community Plan to concentrate on the key priorities for the area containing only 10-12 high-level outcome indicators with long-term (10 year) targets – ie a future vision for the area articulated in terms of key measurable outcomes. Such a set of indicators could be:
- Overall crime index
 - Quality of life perception
 - Ecological footprint
 - Public housing passing quality standard
 - Healthy life-expectancy
 - Composite secondary educational attainment
 - Employment rate
 - Average income
 - Net business growth
 - Population growth
- 3.8.** This new community plan could sit 'above' the SOA and would concisely articulate what the area would look like in a 10-year time-frame. It could be a very brief and easily communicated document.
- 3.9.** It would be similar in hierarchical terms to the Scottish Government's 'Purpose' statements – which sit above the 32 SOAs. The Purpose (equivalent to a 'vision' or 'mission' is articulated in terms of Economic Growth, Productivity, Cohesion, Sustainability, Solidarity, Participation and Population – each with relevant key indicators. More information on the 'Purpose' can be found on the Scottish Government's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/scotPerforms/purposes>)

4. Conclusions

- 4.1. A progress report on the current 2007-17 Community Plan has been prepared for Member's consideration and comment.
- 4.2. There are various options in terms of the future of the Community Plan. The favoured option is to produce a high-level 10-year vision statement with 10-12 high-level outcome indicators.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1. That Members of the Council review and comment on the Community Plan progress report.
- 5.2. That Members of the Council review and comment on the future plans for developing the Community Plan.

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Date: 17 November 2008

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Appendix 1: Community Plan Progress Report

Background Papers: [Community Plan 2007-11](#)

Wards Affected: All Wards