

AGENDA ITEM NO:

| Report To:       | Alliance Board  | Date:       | 15 June 2020 |
|------------------|---|-------------|--------------|
| Report By:       | Aubrey Fawcett<br>Chair of Programme Board                    | Report No:  |              |
| Contact Officer: | Lynsey Logsdon  | Contact No: | N/A          |
| Subject:         | Inverclyde Local Outcome Improve<br>Quarterly Progress Report | ment Plan   |              |

## 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Alliance Board with an update on the progress that has been made in implementing the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (IOIP) 2017-2022.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report provides details of the progress that has been made between February and April 2020 in implementing the priorities within the LOIP.
- 2.2 The LOIP contains three priorities and these are Population, Inequalities and Environment, Culture and Heritage. This report provides details of the progress made by the Population Partnership, Cultural Partnership and the Environment Partnership. A flash report for the Cultural Partnership and the Environment Partnership 1 of this report.
- 2.3 The key achievements of the Population Partnership this quarter include:
  - A very successful housebuilder event was held in February.
  - There were two reports published in March and April 2020 providing the latest data and information on Inverclyde midyear population estimates and the population projections, a briefing session was delivered to elected members on 1 June 2020.
- 2.4 The key achievements of the Cultural Partnership this quarter include;
  - In February, the inaugural Invercive Film Festival took place. 19 events were held across 3 days with participation from 747 people, a particularly good figure considering the pandemic had already started.
  - Public libraries have continued to offer services online during the pandemic, including eBooks and audiobooks, Bookbug and Crafternoon sessions, online book groups and techy tips, and various other promotions including VE Day.
  - Outreach Education Packs have been developed and sent to primary schools and shared with teachers. The packs provide home based activities and focus on learning about local heritage using the collections at the Watt Institution.
- 2.5 The key achievements of the Environment Partnership this quarter include;
  - A range of events to promote walking and cycling were provided by The Bothy (Cycling UK) and Community Tracks.

- The Council accepted a SCSP grant offer of £73,000 for 2020/21. This will be used to promote and support sustainable travel in selected council workplaces, schools and health centers. It will also deliver engagement activities to support the ongoing development of active travel infrastructure Greenock Town Centre. Due to the impact of Coronavirus this project is currently on hold.
- A Review of vacant and derelict land sites was completed. This will inform the implementation of the Greenspace strategy once it has been completed.
- 2.6 The Reducing Inequalities priority is being developed and delivered through the Locality Planning process. There is a report on the agenda of this meeting providing an update on this work.
- 2.7 It should be noted that limited progress has been made with the implementation of the LOIP during the last quarter due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Priority Partnerships have been unable to meet due to the pandemic.

#### 3.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Alliance Board:

I. Notes the progress that has been made in implementing the LOIP between February and April 2020.

Aubrey Fawcett Chair, Programme Board Chief Executive, Inverclyde Council

#### 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Inverclyde's IOIP was formally agreed by the Alliance Board at its meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2017. This progress report provides details of the progress that has been made in implementing the LOIP during the last quarter.
- 4.2 The Population Partnership, Environment Partnership and the Cultural Partnership have all been established and meet on a regular basis.
- 4.3 The inequalities priority will be delivered through the Locality Planning Partnerships and a Strategic Implementation Group has been established to oversee this process. Further detail of the progress made with regard to locality planning is the subject of a separate report on the agenda of this meeting.
- 4.4 This report provides details of the key achievements made by the Population Partnership, Cultural Partnership and the Environment Partnership.
- 4.5 It was agreed by both the Programme Board and the Alliance Board that flash reporting is adopted as the method of reporting progress on the delivery of the LOIP. The purpose of the flash report is to provide a high level overview of the key achievements during the last quarter, the challenges faced during the last quarter and details of the key actions that will be taken forward in the next quarter. In addition, flash reports will provide details of the rag status of the actions being delivered by each Partnership so that the Programme Board and Alliance Board can clearly see how each Partnership is performing against their objectives.
- 4.6 A flash report for the Cultural Partnership and Environment Partnership is contained within Appendix 1 of this report.

#### 5.0 **Population Partnership Update**

A presentation was scheduled to be delivered to the Alliance Board in March 2020 by the Population Partnership. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic this meeting was cancelled. It is the intention of the Population Partnership to deliver this presentation to a future meeting of the Alliance Board. It is also proposed that officers engage with Members through a Webex briefing.

The Repopulation strategic investment framework and action plan committed £0.5m towards tackling repopulation issues. The Action Plan included a range of interventions across themes and progress is summarised below:-

#### Marketing and Communication

The marketing and public relations team has been strengthened and was due to launch 'Discover Inverclyde' in March. This initiative brought together disparate marketing activities to create a single platform to promote Inverclyde for residents, visitors, business and events. It is a significant step towards a 'one stop shop' approach across the public and private sector in respect of promoting Inverclyde. The launch will be revisited once current 'lock down' arrangements are lifted. A very successful housebuilder event was held in February. The level of interest in Inverclyde was reflected in the number of companies who attended. Once the construction industry begins to return to more normal operations we will engage further and create a forum for house builders to interact with the Council and our partners.

#### Growing the Housing Market

The Local Development Plan has been adopted and includes provision for over 5000 new houses. A consultant has been appointed to carry out an integrated land use study for the area to the east of Port Glasgow. The study will create a draft masterplan for housing which can be discussed with Scottish Government in the context of agreeing capital grant for regeneration housing as part of a strategy which will include both private and public sector housing development. Similar briefs for studies are being progressed for Greenock and Port Glasgow town centres.

#### Growing Local Jobs

Significant focus has been placed on supporting local business through maximising public spend towards local companies. The Local Government Benchmarking Indicator shows Inverclyde to retain 31% of spend amongst local SME's . This is the 12<sup>th</sup> highest in Scotland. It reflects significant efforts across procurement including running a construction forum, arrangement meet the buyer programmes, offering business support and guidance on public procurement, running 'quick quote' procurements for spend under £100k which includes 50% local suppliers in the invite to bid and breaking contracts into sizes which suit local firms. All of this is carried out within European procurement rules. A sub group within the Repopulation Group is progressing Community Wealth Building. A key plank of this is directing public spend to local companies which the Council is already doing. Our partners are also focusing on this. West College Scotland is supportive of the approach, albeit their supply base needs to be considered over a wider area as it covers Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire. The third sector in Inverclyde is already heavily involved in community wealth building, a good example is the employability programme which is delivered by 'The Trust'.

#### Culture and Leisure

The Repopulation Investment Framework includes culture and leisure as a driver of regeneration. Through this a major project involving the enhancement and linking of derelict land, open spaces and heritage facilities through a blended funding bid to Sustrans and Heritage Scotland. Sustrans have already indicated that this is a bid they would potentially support and provide 100% funding towards the development of a detailed proposal. This project has the potential to improve access to heritage and open spaces for residents as well as contributing to the basket of attractions that makes Inverclyde unique as a location to work and live.

#### Strategic Projects

In support of repopulation the three City Deal projects are progressing, albeit Covid has had an impact since March this year. At Ocean Terminal, following approval of final business plans, work proceeded on site and the floating pontoon is nearly complete at a cost of around £12m. The terminal building had commenced, but the contractor went into Administration following lock down. Officers are working on options to move forward. At Inverkip, discussions continue with Scottish Power to finalise the roads improvements on the A78 to allow progression to final business case and a start on site. This has been delayed due to Covid and timescales are being revised in consequence. At Inchgreen officers are in active discussions around the purchase of land, the locating of a fish proceeding plant, the fabrication of small vessels and options for commercial use of the dry dock.

#### Statistics

There were two reports published in March and April 2020 providing the latest data and information on Invercelyde midyear population estimates and the population projections, a briefing session was delivered to elected members on 1 June 2020 and the full in-depth report is outlined later in this briefing note. Whilst we have the ongoing issue of overall population decline year on year due to more deaths than births, it is encouraging to note that there was net positive inward migration. The Repopulation Group recognises the role played by the wider community planning initiatives to reduce poverty, improve health and increase life expectations and works in support of this.

## 5.0 Cultural Partnership Update

- In March 2020, Invercive Council working with CVS Invercive and Creative Invercive, successfully obtained c. £26K in funding from Creative Scotland to establish and run a network for local creative practitioners and businesses. The award by CS has not received any press at this time due to the pandemic, and the project start date has been put back until at least July 2020 for the same reason.
- RIG Arts have been progressing projects where possible throughout the pandemic. This includes weekly online art workshops, sewing, repair & textile workshops, and looking for funding to help adapt the RIG Arts studio and Broomhill Art Flat to accommodate social distancing in response to Covid-19 safety measures.
- The Great Place Scheme Officer has produced Outreach Education Packs which have been sent to primary schools and shared with teachers. The packs provide home based activities and focus on learning about local heritage using the collections at the Watt Institution. They

have background information and images from the Watt institution, reading passages, links to relevant websites, resources and activities to support creative learning for families.

- In February, the inaugural Invercive Film Festival was held. The Waterfront Cinema and partners used funding from Regional Screen Scotland as a proof of concept with the intention of holding a bigger film festival in 2021. In 2020, 19 events were held across 3 days with participation from 747 people, a particularly good figure considering the pandemic had already started.
- Public libraries have been continuing to offer services online during the pandemic, including eBooks and eAudiobooks, Bookbug and Crafternoon sessions, online book groups and techy tips, and various other promotions including VE Day.

## 6.0 Environment Partnership Update

One of the Environment partnership's key objectives is to create pleasant and safe walking routes. As part of their work on this:

The Bothy (Cycling UK) delivered:

- A physical presence in Gourock train station for the provision of active travel advice.
- 29 x pop up events to promote active travel
- 15 x led cycle rides
- 15 volunteer ride leaders trained
- 29 x cycling training sessions
- 8 x cycling galas
- Roll out and promotion of Cycle Friendly Business programme
- 72 x health walks
- 34 x volunteer walk leaders trained.

Some of the activities delivered by Community Tracks included:

- 25 x workshops, including Dr Bike sessions, maintenance classes, and 'fix your own bike' classes
- Management of bike banks at 10 existing primary schools and development of banks at a further 5 primary schools
- Development of a monthly training programme in bicycle repair and recycling
- 23 x e-bike demos
- 25 x led cycle rides
- Promotion of active travel at 9 community events
- Engagement with 13 community groups to promote active travel

The Council accepted a SCSP grant offer of £73,000 for 2020/21. This will be used to promote and support sustainable travel in selected council workplaces, schools and health centers. It will also deliver engagement activities to support the ongoing development of active travel infrastructure Greenock Town Centre. In a change from previous years, the SCSP will now be delivered by the Council's Roads service. Due to the impact of Coronavirus this project is currently on hold.

Land use and management is a key area of activity for the Environment Partnership and as part of their work on this:

- A desktop analysis of the edited Greenspace maps was completed. Site visits were completed for 3 of the 11 Local Context areas in Inverclyde. Site visits were halted in March due to Coronavirus lockdown restrictions and it is currently not known when they can resume or the project finished.
- A Review of vacant and derelict land sites was completed. This will inform the implementation of the Greenspace strategy once it has been completed.

## 7.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Legal: none at present Finance: none at present Human Resources: none at present Equality and Diversity: none at present Repopulation: repopulation remains a key priority within the Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan. Inequalities: the Locality Partnerships will be working specifically to tackle inequalities on a geographic basis.

#### 8.0 CONSULTATIONS

8.1 n/a

## 9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 Inverciyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-2022

# Appendix 1 - Cultural Partnership – Flash Report May 2020 Lead Officer – Tony McEwan

| Area of<br>activity  | Where are we now?  | Where do we<br>want to be?   | How will we<br>get there<br>(including<br>timescale)?   | How will we<br>know we<br>are getting<br>there?   | Progress   | RAG<br>Status | Tolerance<br>Level |
|----------------------|--|--|---|---|--|---------------|--------------------|
| Heritage<br>Strategy | ICP to commission<br>development,<br>publication and<br>promotion of a<br>Heritage Strategy for<br>Inverclyde. | Production of<br>a long term<br>strategy for<br>the<br>development<br>of heritage in<br>Inverclyde to<br>help the ICP<br>plan effectively<br>for the future<br>and gain<br>greater<br>leverage with<br>external<br>funding<br>bodies.<br>Partnership<br>working to | Tender for<br>heritage<br>consultant Sept<br>2018; Contract<br>award Oct/Nov<br>2018;<br>Anticipated<br>submission<br>Jan/Feb 2019.<br>Strategy and<br>associated<br>action plan are<br>published,<br>promoted and<br>feed into ICP's<br>forward<br>planning<br>mechanisms. | Action plan<br>priorities and<br>objectives<br>taken<br>forward with<br>identified<br>outcomes<br>being<br>successfully<br>implemented. | The Heritage Strategy was<br>approved by Inverclyde Alliance<br>on 17 June 2019 and was<br>formally launched on 5 Feb<br>2020 (delayed from Nov 2019<br>due to General Election) to tie<br>in with the re-opening of the<br>Watt Institution.<br>Work has begun on a bid to the<br>National Lottery Heritage Fund<br>(NLHF) for funds to support the<br>building of capacity across the<br>heritage sector in Inverclyde.<br>However, due to the Covid-19<br>pandemic, NLHF general<br>funding streams have been<br>temporarily halted and all<br>funds diverted to mitigating |               |                    |

|                                    |  | deliver the<br>strategy<br>building a<br>network and<br>legacy.   |   |  | <ul> <li>writing there is no indication</li> <li>when these funds may re-open.</li> <li>Progress reports on this bid will</li> <li>be brought to future</li> <li>Programme Board/Alliance</li> <li>Board meetings.</li> <li>One funding stream which</li> <li>NLHF are still supporting is</li> <li>their Digital Confidence Fund</li> <li>for community groups. 2</li> <li>groups in Inverclyde (Inverclyde</li> <li>Heritage Network and the</li> <li>Greenock Burns Club), have</li> <li>applied to the fund for</li> <li>assistance with training and</li> <li>digitisation respectively and</li> <li>will hear if they have been</li> <li>successful in early June.</li> </ul> |               |                    |
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| Area of<br>activity                | Where are we<br>now?   | Where do we<br>want to be?  | How will we<br>get there<br>(including<br>timescale)?   | How will we<br>know we<br>are getting<br>there?  | Progress  | RAG<br>Status | Tolerance<br>Level |
| Arts and<br>Creativity<br>Strategy | Inverclyde's Arts &<br>Creativity Strategy<br>launched in 2017<br>but did not contain<br>an Action Plan to<br>take the Strategy<br>forward.<br>Arts & Creativity<br>sub-group<br>implemented with<br>representation from | Arts &<br>Creativity<br>Strategy and<br>action plan<br>being<br>implemented<br>with actions<br>being<br>delivered;<br>Arts sub-group<br>feeding in to | Recruitment of<br>Arts Co-<br>ordinator for<br>Inverclyde,<br>funded by<br>remaining Place<br>Partnership<br>funds.<br>Maintain<br>regular<br>meetings of the | Meetings<br>take place<br>consistently<br>and<br>attendance<br>by all<br>partners<br>remains high.<br>Regular<br>review of | Arts Co-ordinator appointed<br>March 2019 and contract<br>extended until at least January<br>2021; Arts sub-group<br>established Sep 2019; sub-<br>group currently working on<br>producing an action plan to sit<br>alongside Arts & Creativity<br>Strategy. Updates on progress<br>will be brought to future<br>meetings of IOIP Programme<br>Board.   |               |                    |

| a range of partner | overall Cultural   | Arts &                        | members of   |   |   |  |
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|                    |  |                               |  | RIG Arts have been progressing  |   |  |
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|                    | a range of partner<br>organisations and<br>individual artists. | organisations and Partnership | organisations and<br>individual artists.Partnership<br>and cultural<br>delivery planCreativity sub-<br>group, ensuring<br>representation | organisations and<br>individual artists.Partnership<br>and cultural<br>delivery plan<br>for the area.Creativity sub-<br>group, ensuring<br>representation<br>acrosspartnership. | organisations and<br>individual artists.Partnership<br>and cultural<br>delivery plan<br>for the area.Creativity sub-<br>group, ensuring<br>representation<br>acrosspartnership.In March 2020, Inverclyde<br>Council working with CVS<br>Inverclyde and Creative<br>Inverclyde, successfully | organisations and<br>individual artists.Partnership<br>and cultural<br>delivery plan<br>for the area.Creativity sub-<br>group, ensuring<br>representation<br>across<br>Inverclyde CPP.In March 2020, Inverclyde<br>Council working with CVS<br>Inverclyde, successfully<br>obtained c. £26K in funding<br>from Creative Scotland to<br>establish and run a network for<br>local creative practitioners and<br>businesses. The award by CS<br>has not received any press at<br>this me due to the pandemic,<br>and the project start date has<br>been put back until at least July<br>2020 for the same reason.RIG Arts have been progressing<br>projects where possible<br>throughout the pandemic. This<br>includes weekly online art<br>workshops, sewing, repair &<br>textile workshops, and looking<br>for funding to help adapt the<br>RIG Arts totio and Broomhill<br>Art Flat to accommodate social<br>distancing in response to Covid-<br>19 safety measures. Many<br>projects remain on hold until<br>the end of the lockdown and a<br>couple of staff members have |

| Area of<br>activity      | Where are we<br>now?   | Where do we<br>want to be? | How will we<br>get there<br>(including<br>timescale)?   | How will we<br>know we<br>are getting<br>there?   | Progress   | RAG<br>Status | Tolerance<br>Level |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|---|--|---------------|--------------------|
| Great<br>Place<br>Scheme | Inverclyde<br>awarded c. £200K<br>under HLF's Great<br>Place Scheme to<br>undertake<br>activities aimed to<br>strengthen<br>networks between<br>heritage, civic and<br>community<br>organisations,<br>enhancing the role<br>heritage plays in<br>the future of each<br>place participating<br>in the scheme. |                            | The approved<br>purposes of<br>the project<br>are:<br>-Project<br>Officer to be<br>appointed to<br>project<br>manage all<br>aspects of<br>GPS and<br>associated<br>budget, and<br>link together<br>existing<br>heritage<br>assets in<br>Inverclyde.<br>-Young<br>Heritage<br>Apprentices -<br>2 consecutive<br>apprentices<br>appointed<br>through<br>Inverclyde<br>Council's "The<br>Recruit"<br>programme to<br>work at the<br>Watt<br>Institution on | Community<br>engagement<br>and<br>participation<br>in heritage<br>will increase;<br>will be<br>visible<br>through<br>higher levels<br>of cultural<br>participation<br>reported in<br>the SHS. | Project Officer is currently<br>working from home to re-<br>shape the remaining months<br>and funds of the Great Place<br>Scheme in light of the Covid-<br>19 pandemic.<br>HA1 appointed through 2018<br>"The Recruit" programme.<br>Placement finished and<br>qualification obtained. HA2<br>appointed through 2019 "The<br>Recruit" programme.<br>Placement & College work<br>ongoing. Now virtual due to<br>Covid-19. |               |                    |

| heritage<br>activities.<br>-Artists<br>residences:                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> residency = Surge<br>performance theatre at<br><i>Galoshans</i> 2018.  |  |
|---|--|--|
| commission 3<br>artists to<br>animate<br>spaces and                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> residency = Yvonne Lyon<br>& Annie Mackay arts &<br>music residency to celebrate<br>James Watt bi-centenary in   |  |
| places,<br>celebrate 'lost'<br>heritage and<br>input into<br>proposed | 2019. <u>When Art Tells Tales</u> :<br>Intergenerational project<br>which facilitated the creation<br>of music and art inspired by<br>James Watt.                      |  |
| public realm<br>improvements.   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> residency = GPS in early<br>stages of discussion with<br>Sustrans about a  |  |
|   | collaborative project by<br>commissioning a piece of art<br>and related community<br>engagement on the National<br>Cycle Network by the                                |  |
|   | waterfront. This piece of<br>work is still under<br>consideration due to the<br>Covid-19 pandemic, but it is<br>likely that the community<br>engagement aspect will go |  |
| -Inverclyde<br>Heritage<br>Strategy:<br>produce a<br>long-term        | ahead.<br>See above for more<br>information regarding the<br>Heritage Strategy.  |  |
| strategy for<br>the   |  |  |

| development<br>of heritage in<br>Inverclyde to<br>help the<br>Cultural<br>Partnership<br>plan<br>effectively for<br>the future.<br>Heritage<br>Events:<br>engage large<br>numbers of<br>people in<br>heritage<br>activities<br>through a<br>collaboration<br>of Watt<br>Institution<br>team,<br>commissioned<br>artists and<br>Heritage<br>Apprentices. | The GPS team are working<br>on reshaping the activity plan<br>and remaining months of the<br>project. It is highly unlikely<br>that large-scale heritage<br>events will be able to go<br>ahead as planned.<br>The GPS Officer has<br>produced Outreach<br>Education Packs which have<br>been sent to primary schools<br>and shared with teachers.<br>The packs provide home<br>based activities and focus on<br>learning about local heritage<br>using the collections at the<br>Watt Institution. They have<br>background information and<br>images from the Watt<br>institution, reading passages,<br>links to relevant websites,<br>resources and activities to<br>support creative learning for |  |
|---|---|--|
|   | links to relevant websites,<br>resources and activities to  |  |

| Area of<br>activity        | Where are we now?  | Where do we<br>want to be?  | How will we<br>get there<br>(including<br>timescale)? | How will we<br>know we<br>are getting<br>there? | document the pandemic in<br>Inverclyde to record and<br>archive personal stories and<br>experiences for future<br>generations.<br>Progress   | RAG<br>Status | Tolerance<br>Level |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|---------------|--------------------|
| Festivals<br>and<br>Events | Develop calendar<br>of current and<br>emerging AC&H<br>festivals and<br>events including<br>those within<br>individual<br>communities. | Work to<br>develop,<br>create,<br>deliver and<br>support<br>AC&H events<br>across<br>Inverclyde,<br>both by ICP<br>members<br>themselves,<br>and by<br>building<br>capacity<br>within<br>communities.<br>Effective use<br>of public<br>spaces and<br>venues to<br>support co-<br>ordination of<br>events. |   |   | In February, the inaugural<br><u>Inverclyde Film Festival</u> was<br>held. The Waterfront Cinema<br>and partners used funding from<br>Regional Screen Scotland as a<br>proof of concept with the<br>intention of holding a bigger film<br>festival in 2021. In 2020, 19<br>events were held across 3 days<br>with participation from 747<br>people, a particularly good<br>figure considering the pandemic<br>had already started.<br>Due to Covid-19 it was not<br>possible to submit the funding<br>application for <u>Galoshans 2020</u> .<br>In common with the NLHF,<br>Creative Scotland have closed<br>their Open Fund to new<br>applications and re-focused their<br>support on mitigating the impact<br>of Covid-19 on artists and arts<br>companies. There is currently no<br>timescale for the re-opening of<br>the fund. Scenario planning is<br>currently ongoing to consider |               |                    |

| Area of<br>activity       | Where are we now?  | Where do we want to be?  | How will we<br>get there<br>(including | How will we know we are getting   | offering some elements of the<br>festival, including street theatre,<br>songwriting and coastal poetry<br>walks. This will be guided by up<br>to date risk assessments and<br>Government guidance to ensure<br>the health & safety of potential<br>participants.<br>The <u>Clyde Comedy Festival</u> , and<br>the <u>Comet Festival</u> , both of<br>which were due to run in June<br>2020, have now been cancelled<br>due to the pandemic.<br><b>Progress</b>            | RAG<br>Status | Tolerance<br>Level |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|---------------|--------------------|
| Key<br>Cultural<br>Venues | Central Greenock<br>has 2 major<br>cultural venues:<br>the Watt<br>Institution, and the<br>Beacon Arts<br>Centre, and a third<br>which will open in<br>early 2021 - the<br>Wyllie Gallery. | All 3 centres<br>are<br>represented<br>at the Cultural<br>Partnership<br>and will work<br>together to<br>maximize<br>cultural<br>opportunities<br>for the people<br>of, and<br>visitors to,<br>Inverclyde. | timescale)?                            | there?<br>Each centre<br>will report<br>increasing<br>visitor<br>numbers.<br>Cultural<br>participation<br>in Inverclyde<br>will increase. | The <u>Watt Institution</u> re-<br>opened to the public on 22<br>November 2019 after an<br>almost 3 year closure for<br>refurbishment. Staff were<br>working hard to ensure an<br>increase in visitor numbers<br>and improved programming.<br>In common with all non-<br>essential services, the Watt<br>Institution is currently closed<br>due to Government guidance<br>and staff are working to<br>increase the centre's digital<br>presence and plan for<br>recovery. |               |                    |

|  |  | The <u>Beacon Arts Centre –</u><br>While the venue remains<br>closed and planned<br>performances are being<br>rescheduled, an online<br>creative learning programme<br>has been developed that can<br>be continued post-lockdown<br>should social distancing<br>remain in place. The<br>programme includes<br>storytelling, a book club,<br>sharing of creative resources,<br>and a script surgery for<br>theatre professionals. The<br>Beacon has formed<br>partnerships with various<br>cultural organisations and<br>through these is able to offer<br>virtual contemporary dance<br>classes, discos and quizzes,<br>and will soon be able to offer<br>new pieces of theatre on their<br>online platforms, in<br>association with BBC<br>Scotland.<br>The contractors building the<br>Ocean Terminal have gone<br>into administration due to<br>Covid-19. Officers continue<br>working to support the<br><u>George Wyllie Foundation</u><br>with forward planning for the |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  | museum & gallery.<br>In addition, public libraries<br>have been continuing to offer  |  |

|                   |                                    |                                | services online during the<br>pandemic, including eBooks<br>and eAudiobooks, Bookbug<br>and Crafternoon sessions,<br>online book groups and techy<br>tips, and various other<br>promotions including VE Day. |                        |   |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| The Covid-19 panc |                                    | UK lockdown has made the conti | ctivity very difficult. However, group men<br>work still going on behind the scenes.   | nbers are continuing t | D |
| Next steps: May – | July 2020<br>gely be determined by |                                |  |                        |   |

# Environment Partnership Flash Report (15 May 2020 – Programme Board)

## Lead Officer – Kerry Wallace

LOIP 10 Year Vision - Inverclyde's environment, culture and heritage will be protected and enhanced to create a better place for all Inverclyde residents and an attractive place in which to live, work and visit.

Although this Plan covers the period 2017/22, the Partnership appreciates that due to the complexity of tackling these issues, improvements in outcomes for residents will not be fully evident in the short term.

The outcomes the Environment Partnership expect to have achieved in 10 years include:

- The amount of vacant and derelict land will be reduced and used for alternative uses that will benefit local communities.
- Adults, children and young people living in Inverclyde will be more physically active.
- Inverclyde residents will have greater pride in Inverclyde and a sense of identity and belonging to the area.
- Those living in our most deprived communities will enjoy improved wellbeing through greater access and use of green space.
- The local Green Network will be improved to develop stronger communities, sustainable places and create enhanced habitat connections.
- Public transport will be more accessible and active travel network will be improved to make it easier to get around Inverclyde.

| Area of<br>activity | Where are<br>we now?  | Where do we want to be?  | How will we<br>get there<br>(including<br>timescale)?  | How will we<br>know we are<br>getting there?  | Progress   | RAG<br>Status<br>Tolerance<br>Level |
|---------------------|---|--|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| Connectivity        | It is currently<br>difficult for<br>Inverclyde<br>residents to<br>engage in active<br>travel with gaps<br>in provision and<br>poor<br>infrastructure. | We want to create<br>pleasant and safe<br>walking and cycling<br>routes which make it<br>easier for people of all<br>ages to choose to walk<br>and cycle as part of their<br>everyday lives. (the<br>importance of this has<br>been heightened as a<br>result of COVID-19) | Improve cycle<br>paths and<br>walking routes<br>through the<br>development<br>of:<br>Active Travel<br>Strategy by<br>Summer 2018 | Statistics from<br>Community<br>Tracks; and<br>Statistics from<br>Bike Bothy.<br>Further<br>measures will<br>be identified in<br>the Active<br>Travel Strategy<br>(ATS) and the | Behaviour Change Actions –<br>The 2019/20 Smarter Choices<br>Smarter Places (SCSP)<br>Programme finished on 31st March.The Bothy (Cycling UK) – Details of<br>the events carried out are detailed<br>in pargraph 5.0 of the covering<br>report.Community Tracks – Details of the<br>events carried out are detailed in<br>pargraph 5.0 of the covering report. | Complete                            |

|     | e Council has accepted a SCSP         |
|-----|---------------------------------------|
| , , |                                       |
|     | ant offer of £73,000 of for           |
|     | 20/21. This will be used to           |
|     | omote and support sustainable         |
|     | vel in selected council               |
|     | orkplaces, schools and health         |
|     | nters. It will also deliver           |
|     | gagement activities to support        |
|     | e ongoing development of active       |
| tra | vel infrastructure Greenock           |
| То  | own Centre. In a change from          |
| pre | evious years, the SCSP will now       |
| be  | delivered by the Council's            |
| Ro  | bads service. Due to the impact       |
|     | Coronavirus this project is           |
|     | rrently on hold.                      |
|     | ommunity Tracks have                  |
|     | tablished a Community Cycling         |
|     | rum to inform the ATS Delivery        |
|     | oups (i.e. Behaviour Change and       |
|     | rastructure). The first meeting       |
|     | as held on $30^{\text{th}}$ Jan 2020. |
|     |                                       |
| Inf | frastructure                          |
|     | e Council was awarded £25,000         |
|     |                                       |
|     | Sustrans funding to carry out         |
|     | tailed design for a place making      |
|     | oject (including active travel        |
|     | ements) along West Blackhall          |
|     | eet. The design was completed         |
|     | June 2019 and approved by the         |
|     | ouncil in Sept 2019. Work on a        |
|     | istrans funding bid for               |
| im  | plementation is ongoing               |
|     |                                       |
| Th  | e Council was awarded £25,000         |
| of  | Sustrans funding to carry out a       |
|     | asibility study on active travel      |
|     | ks from Greenock Town centre          |
|     | o West Blackhall street. A            |
|     | nsultant has been appointed,          |
|     |                                       |

| Area of<br>activity | Where are we now?  | Where do we want to be?  | How will we get there   | How will we<br>know we are   | <ul> <li>with the study due to be<br/>undertaken in early 2020.</li> <li>The Council and the Inverclyde<br/>Community Development Trust are<br/>in the process of developing a<br/>cycling/pedestrian route through<br/>Gourock Pierhead. A meeting of<br/>all stakeholders will be held in<br/>mid Feb 2020.</li> <li>The Inverclyde Community<br/>Development Trust appointed a<br/>consultant to carry out a<br/>preliminary design study on various<br/>improvements to the NCN75<br/>between Octavia Park and<br/>Gourock train station (completed<br/>Nov 2019). The study is currently<br/>being reviewed by the Trust and<br/>the Council's Roads service</li> <li>The Council is also investigating<br/>options for aertial active travel<br/>routes into Greenock (ongoing).</li> <li>The Council is in the process of<br/>tendering for a feasibility study into<br/>a new walking/cycle route between<br/>Inchgreen dry dock and McDonalds<br/>Progress</li> </ul> | RAG                |
|---------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--------------------|
| Healthier           | The majority of  | We want to increase  | (including<br>timescale)?   | getting there?   | Completed Cath Tearns new a  | Tolerance<br>Level |
| Lifestyles          | The majority of<br>individuals living<br>and working<br>within Inverclyde<br>are not physically<br>active enough to<br>benefit their<br>health. This | We want to increase<br>physical activity and<br>promote healthy lifestyles<br>amongst individuals and<br>families across Inverclyde<br>through sustained<br>positive changes to both | Create and<br>establish links<br>between<br>health and<br>environment<br>professionals<br>to enable a<br>partnership to | Completed<br>membership from<br>HSCP links to the<br>Environment<br>Partnership. | Completed – Cath Tearne now a member of this group.  | Complete           |

| reduction in<br>activity levels has<br>taken place over<br>a number of<br>years and can be<br>attributed to<br>various factors<br>ranging from<br>increased car us<br>to the very desig<br>of our local<br>communities.<br>Only four in ten<br>(39%) adults me<br>the current<br>physical activity<br>recommendation<br>and just over a<br>third (35%) of<br>secondary schoo<br>pupils meet the<br>target of taking<br>60 minutes or<br>more of physical<br>activity on five or<br>more days per<br>week. (Inverclyde<br>Child and Youth<br>Health and<br>Wellbeing Surve<br>2013). | be established<br>by Autumn<br>2018.                                 | Carry out an<br>exercise to<br>analyse<br>opportunities for<br>community<br>involvement in<br>environmental<br>projects that<br>improve health.              | Inverclyde Life could be a digital<br>platform to raise awareness of and<br>promote opportunities for<br>individuals and communities to<br>become involved and prioritise   | Ongoing             |
|---|--|--|---|---------------------|
|   | Develop a<br>Community<br>Food Growing<br>Strategy by<br>April 2020. | By April 2020<br>there will be an<br>Inverclyde<br>Council Food<br>Growing Strategy<br>inclusive of the<br>partners who also<br>provide<br>opportunities for | Tuesday 12 November Inverclyde<br>Council Officers met to discuss a<br>number of key issues particularly<br>around allotments. Council officers<br>are due to meet with Wellington<br>Allotment (our allotment<br>association) to discuss waiting lists<br>(currently 13) and the future when<br>the waiting list would be triggered<br>(the starting point is 15 for | AMBER –<br>On track |

| (subject to council ownership and planning).         The food growing strategy will not include private food growing.         Baseline needs to be established and an access point for people to receive information and advise.         The strategy can be launched in April as a working document and reviewed annually. This needs to be reported to both Invercived council Committee and will include an Allotment for Invercived Action plan 2020. A road map will also be included within the report to the Alliance Board. |  |
|---|--|
|---|--|

| Area of<br>activity           | Where are we<br>now?  | Where do we want to be?   | How will we<br>get there<br>(including<br>timescale)?   | How will we<br>know we are<br>getting there?   | Progress  | RAG<br>Status<br>Tolerance<br>Level |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Land Use<br>and<br>Management | The percentage<br>of derelict land<br>has increased<br>from 17% to 51%<br>in 2016. 80% of<br>the increase in<br>derelict land<br>relates to two<br>large sites, the<br>Former Inverkip<br>Power Station<br>site and Valley<br>Park, Spango<br>Valley, being<br>identified as<br>derelict. | Improve the built<br>environment so that all<br>communities in<br>Inverclyde can enjoy both<br>a quality local<br>environment and a<br>healthy and active<br>lifestyle. | Develop a<br>Greenspace<br>Strategy by<br>Winter 2018.  | By periodically<br>measuring the<br>number of people<br>within a 5 minute<br>walk of a good<br>quality useable<br>greenspace (this<br>is line with a new<br>national indicator<br>on access to<br>greenspace).<br>Performance<br>measures:<br>The number of<br>people within<br>400m of quality<br>green space.<br>% of derelict land<br>reduced in<br>Inverclyde. | <ul> <li>Work is ongoing on the<br/>Greenspace Strategy.</li> <li>Desktop analysis of the edited<br/>Greenspace maps is complete.</li> <li>Site visits completed for 3 of the 11<br/>Local Context areas in Inverclyde.</li> <li>Site visits were halted in March due<br/>to Coronavirus lockdown<br/>restrictions and it is currently not<br/>known when they can resume or<br/>the project finished.</li> <li>The Review of vacant and Derelict<br/>land sites has been completed.</li> <li>This will inform the implementation<br/>of the Greenspace strategy once it<br/>has been completed.</li> </ul> | RED –<br>Incomplet<br>e             |
|                               |   |   | Review vacant<br>and derelict<br>land sites in<br>light of<br>Greenspace<br>Strategy to<br>identify<br>opportunities<br>to plug gaps in<br>greenspace<br>provision for<br>community |  |   | Complete<br>Green                   |

|                              |   | benefit by<br>Spring 2019.<br>Identify a<br>Strategic<br>Habitat<br>Network for<br>Inverclyde by<br>Autumn 2018.   | The GCV Green Network<br>partnership completed the<br>Strategic Habitat Network in the<br>Aug 2019.  | Complete<br>Green |
|------------------------------|---|--|--|-------------------|
|                              |   |  |  |                   |
| Challenges this quarter      |   |  |  |                   |
| Food Growing Strategy –      |   |  | advice has this have done 2  |                   |
|                              |   | t for people to receive information and  |  |                   |
| This needs to be reported    | to both Inverclyde Alliance a                           | cument and reviewed annually. – what and the Inverclyde Council Committee ort to the Alliance Board. Has this been shown that the second secon | e and will include an Allotment for Inverclyde Ac  | tion plan         |
|                              | cy – Should be considered b<br>an help meet CPP outcome |  | he document on the benefits of nature to help a  | ddress            |
| Next steps                   |   |  |  |                   |
| identify actions that can be | e carried out and taken forwa                           | ard as a project covering Inverclyde w   | ey have been carried out to identify gaps and o<br>hich will also address a number of outcomes fr<br>undertaking which are contributing to helping a | om all            |