



INVERCLYDE ALLIANCE BOARD

MONDAY 4 OCTOBER 2021 – 1PM

This meeting is by remote online access only through videoconferencing facilities. The joining details will be sent prior to the meeting.

In the event of connectivity issues, the *join by phone* number in the WebEx invitation can be used.

Please note this meeting will be recorded.

BUSINESS

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minute of Previous Meeting** (copy attached)
3. **Matters Arising**
4. **Inverclyde Local Outcome Improvement Plan Progress Report – May to September 2021**
Report by Chair of LOIP Programme Board (copy attached)
5. **Covid 19 Partnership Recovery Plan Update**
Report by Interim Head of Service Public Protection & Covid 19 Recovery (copy attached)
6. **Proposal to extend the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)**
Report by Chair of LOIP Programme Board (copy attached)
7. **Nomination for Alliance Board Vice Chair**
Report by Service Manager, Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnerships (copy attached)
8. **Active Inverclyde Strategy** (copy attached)
Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
9. **HM The Queen Platinum Jubilee 2022/City Status** (copy attached)
Report by Head of Organisational Development, Policy and Communications
10. **Local Child Poverty Action Report Year 3** (copy attached)
Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
11. **Community Learning and Development 3 Year Plan 2021-24** (copy attached)
Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
12. **Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership** (copy attached)
Report by Interim Corporate Director (Chief Officer) Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)
13. **Programme of Alliance Board Meetings 2022** (copy attached)
Report by Interim Head of Legal Services
14. **Date of Next Meeting – Monday 6 December 2021**

INVERCLYDE ALLIANCE BOARD

MONDAY 14 JUNE 2021 – 1PM

BY VIDEO CONFERENCE

Present: Councillors S McCabe (Chair), G Brooks, L Quinn and E Robertson (Inverclyde Council), Chief Superintendent D Duncan (Police Scotland), Mr A Comrie (Strathclyde Partnership for Transport), Ms K Wallace (NatureScot), Ms S Kelly (Skills Development Scotland), Mr R Turnock (River Clyde Homes), Ms C Elliot (CVS), Ms J Ross (NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde), Ms S Rae (West College Scotland) and Mr R Cowan MP.

In attendance: Mr A Fawcett, Ms R Binks, Mr S Jamieson, Mr A McEwan, Ms A Hunter, Ms L Carrick, Mr C MacDonald, Mr G Barbour (Inverclyde Council) and Ms L Long (Inverclyde HSCP).

The meeting was held by video conference.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Ms M Toal (Department for Work and Pensions), Ms A MacPherson (NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde), Ms L Connelly (West College Scotland), Ms S Kearns (Scottish Government), Mr M McNab and Mr S McNab (Inverclyde Council).

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of the meeting of 15 March 2021 was submitted and approved.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no separate matters arising.

INVERCLYDE LOCAL OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT – FEBRUARY TO APRIL 2021

There was submitted a report by the Chair of the Programme Board providing an update on the progress which has been made in implementing the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017-2022.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress made in implementing the LOIP 2017-2022 be noted;
- (2) that the Cultural Partnership's new delivery plan and the Arts Action Plan be approved; and
- (3) that the local economy delivery plan be approved.

PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

Inequalities

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the delivery and progress which has been made in implementing the Strategic Inequalities priority of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017-2022 and including a flash report.

Decided: that the progress made in implementing the Strategic Inequalities priority of the LOIP be noted.

Cultural

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Inverclyde Council providing an update on the delivery and progress which has been made in implementing the Cultural Heritage priority of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017-2022 and including a flash report.

Decided: that the progress made in implementing the Cultural and Heritage priority of the LOIP be noted.

Repopulation

There was submitted a report by the Chair of the Repopulation Partnership Group providing an update on the delivery and progress which has been made in implementing the Repopulation priority of the Local Outcome Delivery Plan (LOIP) 2017-2022 and including a flash report.

Decided: that the progress made in implementing the Repopulation priority of the LOIP be noted.

COVID 19 PARTNERSHIP RECOVERY PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Chair of the Programme Board presenting the 2021-22 Partnership Recovery Plan to the Alliance Board for approval.

Decided:

- (1) that the Inverclyde Partnership Recovery Plan 2021-22 be approved; and
- (2) that the Board agree to receive updates on progress against the plan from September onwards.

LOCAL OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

There was submitted a report by the Chair of the Programme Board providing a draft version of the Inverclyde Local Outcomes Report (LOIP) Annual Report 2020/21.

Decided: that the Inverclyde Local Outcomes Report (LOIP) Annual Report 2020/21 be approved.

INVERCLYDE ALLIANCE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REFRESH

There was submitted a report by the Service Manager Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnership presenting an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for approval.

Decided:

- (1) that the revised MOU be approved;
- (2) that invites be extended to Visit Scotland; Sport Scotland; Historic Environment Scotland and SEPA to become members of the Board;
- (3) that the role of Vice-Chair be considered and nominations be progressed; and
- (4) that the MOU be reviewed on a yearly basis.

INVERCLYDE CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2020/23

There was submitted a report by the Chair of Inverclyde Children's Services Partnership seeking approval on the development of a new integrated Inverclyde Children's Services Plan 2020/23.

Decided: that an integrated Children's Services Plan 2020/23 developed in line with the statutory requirements of the Children and Young Persons Act 2014 be approved.

At the conclusion of business the Chair referred to the retirement of Mr A Fawcett, Chair of the Programme Board. The Chair conveyed his appreciation and thanks on behalf of the Board and wished him a happy retirement.

Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	4th October 2021
Report By:	Louise Long, Chief Executive Chair of LOIP Programme Board	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Andrina Hunter Service Manger Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnerships	Contact No:	01475 712042
Subject:	Inverclyde Local Outcome Improvement Plan Progress Report – May to September 2021		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Alliance Board with a progress report on the implementation of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017-2022.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report provides details of the progress made between May and September 2021 in implementing the priorities within the LOIP.

- 2.2 This report provides an update on progress in the four priority areas of the LOIP:

- Population
- Local Economy
- Inequalities
- Environment, Culture and Heritage

- 2.3 While progress with the delivery of the LOIP continues to be impacted by the pandemic, progress has been made in the last quarter and some of the highlights include:

- The Population Partnership Group has now been established to become the Population and Economic Partnership Group with updated membership.
- The Population Plan is due to be refreshed and a separate workshop session is being arranged.
- The Discover Inverclyde website content is increasing with outward promotion of Inverclyde nationally.
- The recent mid-year 2020 population data was presented to the Population Partnership Group predicting a 1% decrease.
- The Economic Action Plan is now being delivered with all actions on track apart from the establishment of the IREP Group. This is being established.
- The Inequalities Partnership Plan requires to be refreshed.
- Good progress has been made in rolling out the Distress Brief Intervention (DBI) Initiative with Police Scotland officer now being trained to deliver level 1 interventions to anyone in

distress and referring onto Level 2 which is provided by SAMH as appropriate.

- The Environment Partnership have completed most of the actions within their current delivery plan and are now working on the development of a new plan.
- The Cultural Partnership has been a key partner in delivering the Summer of Fun activities and a bid by partners to become a Scottish Climate Beacon for COP26 was successful.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Alliance Board:

1. Notes the quarterly progress update.

Louise Long
Chair, Programme Board
Chief Executive, Inverclyde Council

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Inverclyde's LOIP was formally agreed by the Alliance Board on the 11th of December 2017. This progress report provides details of the progress that has been made in implementing the LOIP during the period May to September 2021.

4.2 Oversight and delivery of the LOIP priorities sits with the:

- Population and Economy Partnership,
- Inequalities Partnership
- Environment Partnership
- Cultural Partnership

4.3 This report provides and updates on the progress made across all priorities in the last three month period.

The following flash reports are appended to this report:

- Population Partnership Appendix 1
- Economic Partnership Appendix 2
- Inequalities Partnership Appendix 3
- Environment Partnership Appendix 4
- Cultural Partnership Appendix 5

5.0 PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

5.1 Population Partnership Update

While progress with the delivery of the LOIP continues to be impacted by the pandemic, progress has been made in the last quarter and some of the highlights include:

- There is now a refreshed, collective membership covering Population and Economy priorities (agenda now covers both initiatives).
- The Population Plan is due to be refreshed and a separate workshop session is being arranged.
- The Discover Inverclyde website content is increasing with outward promotion of Inverclyde nationally.
- The recent mid-year 2020 population data was presented to the Population Partnership Group predicting a 1% decrease.
- The Local Development Plan was recently subject to consultation and will influence the development of the Private Housing Strategy.
- The Eastern Gateway initial proposals are currently under review by officers and the Greenock Town Centre Housing Study is out to tender.

5.2 Local Economy Partnership Update

- Covid remains a challenge which may be exacerbated when furlough ceases and when grant support ends now restrictions have eased, however there has been positive developments and the Council and its partners continue to strive to protect and enhance the local economy.
- In 2020/21 Inverclyde had a strong business start-up rate which exceeded the wider Renfrewshire target despite the impact of Covid.
- The Council and its partners are also supporting job seekers into employment through employability programmes, skills development programmes and modern apprenticeships.
- The Local Employability Partnership, which brings together employability stakeholders is currently in the process of being re-established and this will ensure better engagement and

delivery of programmes to meet local employability need.

5.3 **Inequalities Partnership Update**

The Inequalities Partnership Plan continues to deliver on a range of areas:

- The Inequalities Partnership Plan requires to be refreshed and actions previously related to employability now being covered by the Economic Partnership.
- The Communication and Engagement Groups continue to meet and two Locality Planning Groups in Port Glasgow and Inverkip and Wemyss Bay being arranged.
- The Child Poverty local Action Plan Report has been submitted to the Scottish Government and will be the subject of a separate report to the October Alliance Board
- The Distress Brief Interventions continues to be developed with more partners being trained in level 1 interventions with referrals to level 2 partner SAMH increasing. Police Scotland are the latest partners to be training and feedback from officers regarding DBI is very positive.
- The Drug Death figures for 2020 have recently been published with 33 people sadly losing their life. There is no change from the 2019 figure. Work is ongoing through the Alcohol and Drug Partnership to deliver actions in the Drug Death Prevention Strategy.

5.4 **Cultural Partnership Update**

The Cultural Partnership Group has continued to meet and work towards a range of plans and initiatives:

- Inverclyde Culture Collective project recruited a new Activities Co-ordinator and launched the first 7 paid opportunities for creative practitioners to carry out project activity;
- Cultural partners made a strong contribution to the overall programme of events put on for Inverclyde's "Summer of Fun", with various activities ranging from art, music, theatre and comic workshops, craft sessions, storytelling, stay and plays, and library sessions;
- Creative Carbon Scotland confirmed in June 2021 that Inverclyde would be 1 of 6 Scottish Climate Beacons, providing a c.£30K grant to fund project activities. The application was submitted by a consortium of Inverclyde cultural partners led by the Beacon Arts Centre and including Belville Community Garden, RIG Arts, Inverclyde Libraries and others;
- The Watt Institution launched 2 new exhibitions in relation to the Year of Coasts and Waters 2021, "Greenock and the Sea" guest curated by Dr Emma Bond of St Andrews University and "The Lost Clyde", a retrospective of the work of Greenock artist James Watt, curated by the artist's daughter, the internationally acclaimed artist Alison Watt.

5.5 **Environment Partnership Update**

The Environment Partnership have completed most of the actions within their current delivery plan and are now working on the development of a new plan. The Partnership is waiting to find out the outcome of a funding application in relation to the Inverclyde Green Connections Programme, a project which aims to improve connectivity and deliver positive on the ground change in Greenock and Port Glasgow. If the funding application is successful, this will inform the actions that are taken forward in the new delivery plan. It is expected that the Programme will help with the identification of collaborative actions where all partners can add value. If the bid is unsuccessful the group will consider other funding opportunities to take this forward and we continue to undertake joint actions that will help deliver the outcomes we are seeking. For example a contractor has been appointed to undertake a Peatland Restoration Feasibility assessment which will identify actions that will contribute to addressing the climate emergency.

The partnership have agreed that their new delivery plan will seek to achieve the following outcomes and specific actions are still being developed:

- Derelict land will be transformed in key communities to provide multiple benefits for people and nature
- Those living in the most deprived localities in Inverclyde will be more physically active and enjoy improved wellbeing
- Inverclyde residents will have access to good quality and multifunctional greenspace close to where they live
- There will be an increase in the number of Inverclyde residents who take part in walking and cycling for everyday journeys and recreation
- Inverclyde's contribution to climate change will be well on its way to ending by 2045 and the transition to a just and net zero economy will be well established. It should be noted that this outcome requires to be taken into account by each of the Partnerships as all partners will need to contribute towards the SG target to become NetZero by 2045 and all action we take as Community Planning Partners should contribute towards this where possible.

6.0 LOCALITIES

- 6.1 The six Communication and Engagement Groups are established across the six localities in Inverclyde and will focus on building community capacity and refreshing the locality plans. Two Locality Planning Groups are arranged in Port Glasgow and Inverkip and Wemyss Bay for the end of September 2021.

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 Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-2022.

Population Partnership Flash Report

May to September 2021
Lead Officer – Richard Turnock

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
1. Marketing and Communication Activity			- Develop place promotion branding under the 'discover Inverclyde' theme being developed by the local area tourism partnership group 'Tourism Inverclyde' and expand the focus on Inverclyde as a place to visit, live and do business and support events. - Review role of a relocation service to provide support to those moving into Inverclyde. - Seek out opportunities to lever in additional support including financial and logistical from partners to promote Inverclyde's place offer - Support tourism and visitor development in	- Marketing & communications plan completed and approved with funding in place and approved within year 1 – (to March 2020) - Individual campaigns launched by end year1 (March 2020)	Discover Inverclyde continuing to be promoted and outward promotion across Scotland and wider continues. Towns and Villages being supported to develop their presence through Recovery Plan funding	 Green – On Track
					There have been no major events	

			Inverclyde to encourage increased day visitors in line with Glasgow City Region tourism target 5. Actively seek out high profile, cost effective promotional advertising, sponsorship and marketing opportunities to position Inverclyde as a positive destination for visitors, residents and business. 6. Create and implement a developer engagement plan to support growth in the housing market. 7. Create and deliver a business growth marketing campaign focussed on Inverclyde to supplement existing national Business Gateway promotional activity.		where we have been able to promote Inverclyde. Next year we will be looking to build back up again and look to draw people in from further afield. Greenock Ocean Terminal is an area we will continue to grow. 105 ships are booked in this year. The marketing plan was to take the Discover Inverclyde brand and promote it within catchment areas where people come from for day visits to Inverclyde. Looking to build this back up again. This was achieved prior to lockdown last March and a Housing Engagement event was held at the Beacon. Business Gateway Inverclyde are now on Facebook and can put out local information and establish links as to how we can support them.	
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Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
2. Growing the Housing Market			8. Develop a private housing strategy with targets Review private housing land supply Identify development opportunities East Greenock/ Port Glasgow - Eastern Gateway. Recruitment to communications team leader position including remit to fulfil the local developer/investor liaison contact role.	Housing strategy with identified sites/ annual targets – March 2020 Private sector confirmed interest and engagement – December 2019 Development briefs for priority opportunities – June 2019 Local masterplans completed – March 2020	Eastern Gateway Report received and the Council are now considering the issues that it raised. The Greenock Town Centre Housing Study is out to tender. The private housing strategy and housing land supply is tied in with the Local Development Plan. Local Development Plan consultation now closed and. The changes to the Scottish National Planning Framework will impact on current plans.	

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
3. Growing Local Jobs and Enabling Infrastructure			1. Increased resources for council business development support (including business gateway) for local SMEs growth	New business service with business plan approved and funding secured. – July 2019	The number of new business start - ups continues to exceed target. 215 in 2020/21. This action is also in Economy Plan	
			2. Complete review of public sector opportunities in terms of employment; procurement; community benefit; and local physical assets		The Council has taken this into account in its annual procurement strategy. Not as many contracts are being given out due to the pandemic.	
			3. Progress studies in partnership with trunk road authority in terms of accessibility.		Engagement required with Transport Scotland.	
			4. Review business property portfolio and identify opportunities for small business.		Continue to support local businesses by putting support out. There has been a slight drop but will continue to provide support.	
			5. Inverclyde enterprise Initiative high growth start programme.		This programme is working to bring companies into Inverclyde.	
					The Councils £6 million Job Programme will create a number of graduate places which will be available to the 3 rd sector. The Council are looking to create 210 jobs in Inverclyde and partners are looking to make bids.	

			6. Review potential to create further jobs and opportunities within the third sector economy.			
			1. Strategic skills investment plan and actions. 2. Work with DYW to expand education/business links. 3. Review option of a relocation office to provide support to those moving into Inverclyde. 4. Work with HSCP to review opportunities for older work 5. Close working with the college to increase college roll in support of repopulation principles.	• Local Skills Investment Plan developed and agreed – December 2019 • Associate action plan with funding commitments - December 2019 • Feasibility study into relocation office completed by March 2020	This action will be refreshed The local New Scots Population will continue to grow with additional families due to arrive over the coming weeks and months.	
4. A Region for People of all Ages						

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status
5. A Centre for Culture and Leisure			Review opportunities for increasing employment in culture and leisure sector and align the strategy and culture and leisure offer in line with repopulation aspirations and marketing activity	- Review of opportunities completed/ plan signed off and funded – October 2019 - Associated Action Plan - October 2019	Consortium partners Inverclyde Council, CVS Inverclyde, Beacon Arts Centre, RIG Arts and Kayos Theatre Group were awarded £275,000 for an 18 month programme of activity (March 2021 – September 2022) by Creative Scotland's new Culture Collective funding stream; Discussion that this action should move to Culture and heritage	

Economy Partnership Flash Report

May to September 2021

Lead Officer – Stuart Jamieson

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
Promote business starts	Tripartite business gateway contract	Inverclyde business start ups exceed the wider Renfrewshire rate	Promotion of Services	Annual review	215 Business Starts in 2020/21 exceeded target Work continues to promote		
Property development / assistance	We want to ensure that premises are available both to indigenous companies and incoming businesses	Premises are available to suit a variety of different needs	Promotion of available properties through property searches and assistance in works	Reduce number of voids	We continue to monitor the impact of Covid on the property portfolio and to date the impact on Inverclyde Council and RiPH Properties has been limited through successful intervention		
Employability	Inverclyde Council and partners ensure that effective IREP engagement takes place	Better engagement	Regular meetings and partnership working	Effective engagement amongst partners	The IREP Group required to be re-established. Officers are in process of organising.		
Employability Pipeline	Inverclyde Council has 4 employability contracts to deliver end-to-end pipeline	Impact of Covid and other factors reduced to ensure maximum opportunities	Contract delivery on an annual basis	Contract monitoring	Since the emergence of Covid, deployment of programmes has been challenging however enthusiasm exists to ensure that clients'		

	activity	for all			opportunities are maximised.		
Jobs Recovery Plan	Programme commenced in April 2021	Full delivery of programme by April 2023	Deployment of comprehensive Jobs Recovery Programme	Regular reporting to Committee and Alliance.	The programme has just commenced		
Workforce Development	Skills gaps exist within the workforce	Skills gaps have been removed from workforce	Engagement and delivery of programmes to ensure the workforce becomes more productive and efficient	Delivery of programmes Regular monitoring	West College Scotland deliver a wide range of support programmes		
Modern apprentices	West College Scotland and Inverclyde Council deliver modern apprenticeship programmes	Modern apprenticeships programmes are maximised for client use	Regular liaison within IREP	Regular reporting on modern apprenticeship numbers	Comprehensive programmes are currently deployed which maximises modern apprenticeship opportunities for the people of Inverclyde which are being developed and expanded		

Inequalities Partnership Flash Report

May to September 2021

Lead Officer – Allen Stevenson

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
Establish Locality Plans/Groups in the areas where there are greatest inequalities	Engagement has taken place across the 6 locality areas.	Locality Plans will be established for all areas and Locality Groups will be created in each.	- Engage with communities - Develop models	By end of Jan 2020 each Locality Plan will be published on the Inverclyde Council Website. By April/May 2020 the localities with the greatest inequalities will have had one meeting	All Communication & Engagement Groups are established with facebook pages and ongoing engagement. Two LPGs are being held in Sept 2021. One in the east-Port Glasgow and one in the west-Inverkip and Wemyss Bay.		High

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
Drug Action Plan	A report was submitted to Inverclyde Alliance Board on 7 October 2019 to provide with details of actions identified at the Inverclyde Alliance drug action planning seminar held on 19th August 2019 and to seek approval from the Alliance Board to take forward actions identified by partners at the drug action planning seminar.	Aim is to reduce drug prevalence in Inverclyde	Refresh Alcohol Drug Partnership membership Eliminate Stigma Campaign Develop multi-agency collaboration (MAC) Consultation with young people Create Pathway for young people into service Establish Recovery Strategy including employability/housing offer Fire/Rescue support activities and join Multi- Disciplinary Collaborative Police Scotland explore opportunity within schools HSCP develop recovery services	Explore data/reporting Consultation service users, families Better Relationship with young people, Police Scotland, Fire & Rescue Consistent framework across agency on prevention/education Education/CLD consistent prevention strategy	Latest drug deaths published. In 2020 there were sadly 33 drug-related deaths in Inverclyde. While Inverclyde has seen no rise in the number of drug-related deaths from 2019, remaining at 33; as outlined by the 5 year average rate of 36.7; Inverclyde remains the third highest rate only compared to Glasgow City at 39.8 and Dundee at 43.1. Work is ongoing: • The inclusion of the 3rd sector to distribute Naloxone (through the Lord Advocate's decree during Covid). • The development of the information sharing protocols with key partners to ensure assertive outreach within 48 hours to anyone who has had a non-fatal overdose. • Work to support those most at risk into treatment and try to keep them established within treatment services.		Medium

Health Inequalities	Lower life expectancy than Scottish average	Aim to improve life expectancy	Support development of long term conditions pathway Improve access to support Reduce poverty Increase employment	• Pathways and additional support for long term conditions such as COPD, Diabetes • Develop pathways and employability support • Decrease number of people living in poverty • Reduce drug prevalence	•The reduction in waiting times into ADRS treatment services; the ongoing work to support service users onto appropriate doses of treatment; and the introduction of Buvidal (longer lasting injection) which may change prescribing practices. •The review of all drug deaths on a multiagency basis to determine any learning and improvements in practice. •The test of change of Care Navigators to work intensively with the most vulnerable service users known to Homelessness; ADRS and Criminal Justice.		High
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						emotional support; social isolation and wellbeing. Anti poverty funding allocated to provide range of initiatives including development of food pantry; employability for people affected by drug and alcohol. Etc.			
Child Poverty	A local Child Poverty Action Group has been established to take forward actions that will mitigate Child Poverty in line with the legislation.	Aim to reduce number of children living in poverty	Child Action Programme Board and associated action plan	All partners working together to address actions in Child Poverty Plan.	Child Poverty Action Plan is submitted to Scottish Government.			Medium	
Fuel Poverty	High levels of poverty impact of vulnerable group		Welfare Programme Board initiative to support fuel poverty	Reduction in residents living in fuel poverty.	Progress made – additional funding given through anti-poverty monies to IHeat to support people over 75.				
Employability	A local Regeneration and Employment Partnership has been established.		Recovery from Covid, increase employability opportunities	Economy Strategy	Covid has had significant impact on the economy. Inverclyde Alliance has developed recovery plans to support economic recovery. Discussion required to remove this action as now covered through Local Economy plan				

Income/Debt management	Financial Inclusion Partnership established to take forward aspects of Income/Debt Management	High levels of residents experiencing problems with debt	Reduce citizens in Inverclyde who are in debt	Financial Strategy in place. Link to economy workstream and employability.	Covid has significantly impacted on individuals, additional funding has been given to financial inclusion to support people. Additional funding in place to support and role out welfare advice in GP practices.		
Mental Health	A local Mental Health Programme Board has been established 5-year Mental Health Strategy developed	Higher prevalence of mental health in Inverclyde	Reduce levels of mental health increase inclusion and reduce social isolation	Engage with communities. Undertake actions within 5-year Mental Health Strategy. Develop strategy commission services including social prescribing	Distress Brief Intervention commissioned and in place in October. High levels of third sector engagement supporting people during the pandemic. GP's, key MH staff and Police have all now been trained in Level 1 and Level 2 referrals to SAMH increasing. Good feedback received from both users and partners.		

Environment Partnership Flash Report

May to September 2021

Lead Officer – Kerry Wallace

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status Tolerance Level
Connectivity	It is currently difficult for Inverclyde residents to engage in active travel with gaps in provision and poor infrastructure.	We want to create pleasant and safe walking and cycling routes which make it easier for people of all ages to choose to walk and cycle as part of their everyday lives. (the importance of this has been heightened as a result of COVID-19)	Improve cycle paths and walking routes through the development of: Active Travel Strategy by Summer 2018	Statistics from Community Tracks; and Statistics from Bike Bothy. Further measures will be identified in the Active Travel Strategy (ATS) and the Cycling Strategy.	<u>Behaviour Change Actions</u> – The 2019/20 Smarter Choices Smarter Places (SCSP) Programme finished on 31st March 2020. The Bothy (Cycling UK) provide a range of events to promote walking and cycling. <u>Community Tracks</u>. The Council has 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	Complete 

					project is currently on hold. Community Tracks have established a Community Cycling Forum to inform the ATS Delivery Groups (i.e. Behaviour Change and Infrastructure). The first meeting was held on 30th Jan 2020. <u>Infrastructure</u> The Council was awarded £25,000 of Sustrans funding to carry out detailed design for a place making project (including active travel elements) along West Blackhall street. The design was completed in June 2019 and approved by the Council in Sept 2019. Work on a Sustrans funding bid for implementation is ongoing The Council was awarded £25,000 of Sustrans funding to carry out a feasibility study on active travel links from Greenock Town centre into West Blackhall street. A consultant has been appointed, with the study due to be undertaken in early 2020. The Council and the Inverclyde Community Development Trust are in the process of developing a cycling/pedestrian route through Gourrock Pierhead. A meeting of all stakeholders was held in mid
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Feb 2020.

The Inverclyde Community Development Trust appointed a consultant to carry out a preliminary design study on various improvements to the NCN75 between Octavia Park and Gourrock train station (completed Nov 2019). The study is currently being reviewed by the Trust and the Council's Roads service

The Council is investigating options for arterial active travel routes into Greenock (ongoing).

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status Tolerance Level
Healthier Lifestyles	The majority of individuals living and working within Inverclyde are not physically active enough to benefit their health. This reduction in activity levels has taken place over a number of years and can be attributed to various factors ranging from increased car use to the very design of our local communities. Only four in ten (39%) adults met the current physical activity recommendations and just over a third (35%) of secondary school pupils meet the target of taking 60 minutes or more of physical activity on five or	We want to increase physical activity and promote healthy lifestyles amongst individuals and families across Inverclyde through sustained positive changes to both their lifestyle and natural environment.	Create and establish links between health and environment professionals to enable a partnership to be established by Autumn 2018.	Completed membership from HSCP links to the Environment Partnership. Carry out an exercise to analyse opportunities for community involvement in environmental projects that improve health.	Completed – HSCP now a member of this group. Active Inverclyde Strategy being developed Inverclyde Life could be a digital platform to raise awareness of and promote opportunities for individuals and communities to become involved and prioritise	Complete Ongoing

	more days per week. (Inverclyde Child and Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey 2013).		Develop a Community Food Growing Strategy by April 2020.	By April 2020 there will be an Inverclyde Council Food Growing Strategy inclusive of the partners who also provide opportunities for food growing to take place.	Inverclyde Council has produced a draft Local Food Growing Strategy which explains how the Council and its community planning partners will support community growing across Inverclyde.	Complete 
Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status Tolerance Level
Land Use and Management	The percentage of derelict land has increased from 17% to 51% in 2016. 80% of the increase in derelict land relates to two large sites, the Former Inverkip Power Station site and Valley Park, Spango Valley, being identified as	Improve the built environment so that all communities in Inverclyde can enjoy both a quality local environment and a healthy and active lifestyle.	Develop a Greenspace Strategy by Winter 2018.	By periodically measuring the number of people within a 5 minute walk of a good quality useable greenspace (this is line with a new national indicator on access to greenspace). Performance measures: The number of	Development of the Greenspace Strategy has been paused until the Scottish Government publishes new guidance, expected in late 2021, on how Local Authorities should meet the new duties for the preparation and publication of open space strategies and play sufficiency assessments established in the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. This approach will provide the opportunity for development of Greenspace Strategy to take account of the new guidance and	RED – Incomplete 

	derelict.				people within 400m of quality green space. % of derelict land reduced in Inverclyde.	ensure consistency with the national approach.	
				Review vacant and derelict land sites in light of Greenspace Strategy to identify opportunities to plug gaps in greenspace provision for community benefit by Spring 2019. Identify a Strategic Habitat Network for Inverclyde by Autumn 2018.			Complete Green 
						The GCV Green Network partnership completed the Strategic Habitat Network in the Aug 2019.	Complete Green 

Cultural Partnership – Flash Report

May to September 2021

Lead Officer – Ruth Binks

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
Heritage Strategy	ICP to commission development, publication and promotion of a Heritage Strategy for Inverclyde.	Production of a long term strategy for the development of heritage in Inverclyde to help the ICP plan effectively for the future and gain greater leverage with external funding bodies. Partnership working to develop, enhance and deliver the strategy building a network and legacy.	Tender for heritage consultant Sept 2018; Contract award Oct/Nov 2018; Anticipated submission Jan/Feb 2019. Strategy and associated action plan are published, promoted and feed into ICP's forward planning mechanisms. Spring 2019 onwards.	Action plan priorities and objectives taken forward with identified outcomes being successfully implemented.	The <u>Heritage Strategy</u> was approved by Inverclyde Alliance on 17 June 2019 and was formally launched on 5 Feb 2020 to tie in with the re-opening of the Watt Institution. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, NLHF general funding streams were temporarily halted in March 2020 to divert all funds to mitigating Covid-19 impacts on the heritage sector. The relevant funding stream re-opened in February 2021 with a focus on Covid recovery until March 2022. Funds to procure a consultant to work up a funding bid (c. £250K) have been secured from Council recovery funding, and bid match funding has been secured from Council earmarked reserves. Council officers will be working on the bid between August 2021		

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Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
Arts and Creativity Strategy	Inverclyde's Arts & Creativity Strategy launched in 2017 but did not contain an Action Plan to take the Strategy forward. Arts & Creativity sub-group implemented with representation from a range of partner organisations and individual artists.	Arts & Creativity Strategy and action plan being implemented with actions being delivered; Arts sub-group feeding in to overall Cultural Partnership and cultural delivery plan for the area.	Recruitment of Arts Co-ordinator for Inverclyde, funded by remaining Place Partnership funds. Maintain regular meetings of the Arts & Creativity sub-group, ensuring representation across Inverclyde CPP.	Meetings take place consistently and attendance by all partners remains high. Regular review of members of partnership.	Alliance Board approved the <u>Arts Action Plan</u> running alongside the Arts & Creativity Strategy on 14 June 2021. Inverclyde Council, in partnership with CVS Inverclyde, Beacon Arts Centre, RIG Arts, and Kayos Theatre Group successfully applied to Creative Scotland's '<u>Culture Collective</u>' funding stream for £275K over 18m to assist with delivery of many of the aspirations on the Arts Action Plan and also Covid-19 recovery. The project will run from March 2021-September 2022, overseen by the Culture Collective Steering Group and the Cultural Partnership. Reports on progress will be part of Cultural Partnership reporting as the project progresses. In May-July 2021, Inverclyde Culture Collective hired an Activities Co-ordinator to support the Creative Producer in overseeing project activity and launched the first 7 of several paid opportunities for creatives, including an Artist-in-Residence		

and a Writer-in-Residence for Inverclyde.

The Creative Industries Co-ordinator at CVS Inverclyde has: arranged a series of 4 online training workshops to support the arts and creative industries locally ; has produced a digital resource detailing resources, opportunities and funding available to the creative community; has collaborated with RIG Arts to manage a training project for young people which will provide training in photography, filing and video production with the opportunity to go on and work on a professional film shoot; has organised a series of film shoots platforming local artists in their studio space on Discover Inverclyde; and has hired a graphic designer to brand the overall project supporting the creative industries. The project ends in August 2021.

RIG Arts have been working on socially engaged creative projects supporting wellbeing, climate challenge, creative industries, heritage, and regeneration. The next quarter will see their workshops return to in-person with social



distancing measures continuing to be in place. Project development will be looking at various heritage projects, planning for *Galoshans* 2021 and working on Sustrans/Inverclyde Council public art project (see below).

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
Great Place Scheme	Inverclyde awarded c. £200K under HLF's Great Place Scheme to undertake activities aimed to strengthen networks between heritage, civic and community organisations, enhancing the role heritage plays in the future of each place participating in the scheme.		The approved purposes of the project are: -Project Officer to be appointed to project manage all aspects of GPS and associated budget, and link together existing heritage assets in Inverclyde. -Young Heritage Apprentices - 2 consecutive apprentices appointed through Inverclyde Council's "The Recruit" programme to work at the Watt Institution on heritage activities. -Artists residences:	Community engagement and participation in heritage will increase; will be visible through higher levels of cultural participation reported in the SHS.	All approved purposes have been achieved with the exception of the 3rd artists' residency – see Sustrans project below. Project formally extended to Oct 2021 in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, however project staff have finished their contracts. Staff in Inverclyde Council Cultural Services are managing the final months of the project. 3rd residency = <u>GPS</u> working with <u>Sustrans</u> on a collaborative project to commission a piece of art and related community engagement on the National Cycle Network by the waterfront. RIG Arts working with artist Tragic O'Hara were commissioned to carry out Phase 1 (community engagement) and also Phase 2 to engage further with the community and produce/install the artwork on the waterfront. Planning permission is currently being sought for 3 separate pieces of public art on the NCN75 with fabrication/installation to begin		

			commission 3 artists to animate spaces and places, celebrate 'lost' heritage and input into proposed public realm improvements. -Produce a long-term strategy for the development of heritage in Inverclyde to help the Cultural Partnership plan effectively for the future.		shortly. The GPS Officer worked alongside heritage groups to sensitively document the pandemic in Inverclyde to record and archive personal stories and experiences for future generations. An exhibition, ' <u>Lockdown Life</u> ', initially at the Watt Institution, is being designed and will be exhibited before the end of the year.		
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Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
Festivals and Events	Develop calendar of current and emerging AC&H festivals and events including those within individual communities.	Work to develop, create, deliver and support AC&H events across Inverclyde, both by ICP members themselves, and by building capacity within communities. Effective use of public spaces and venues to support co-ordination of events.			Cultural partners made a strong contribution to the overall programme of events put on for Inverclyde's "Summer of Fun", with various activities ranging from art, music, theatre and comic workshops, craft sessions, storytelling, stay and plays, and library sessions. Feedback from all sessions has been excellent, although the unusually good weather earlier in the summer did have an impact on numbers at cultural events which were mainly held inside.		

Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including timescale)?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
Key Cultural Venues	Central Greenock has 2 major cultural venues: the Watt Institution, and the Beacon Arts Centre, and a third which will open in early 2022 - the Wyllie Gallery. Inverclyde's 6 public libraries also provide cultural spaces within communities.	All 4 centres are represented at the Cultural Partnership and will work together to maximize cultural opportunities for the people of, and visitors to, Inverclyde.		Each centre will report increasing visitor numbers. Cultural participation in Inverclyde will increase.	The <u>Watt Institution</u> re-opened to the public on 28 April 2021. 2 new exhibitions launched in relation to the Year of Coasts and Waters 2021, guest curated by Dr Emma Bond of St Andrews University and the internationally acclaimed artist Alison Watt respectively. The Watt welcomed a Digital Learning & Engagement Officer (funded by Museums Galleries Scotland) who will increase outreach capacity at the Watt, and the venue is now the host for monthly Fair Trade fairs in the Watt Hall. The <u>Beacon Arts Centre</u> – Highlights from the previous quarter include: A substantial amount of community-engaged recruitment, including a Creative Producer, Community Engagement Officer, Creative Aging Co-ordinator, and a Community Programme Co-ordinator. Launching Creatability Summer School. Running several programmes and workshops for “Summer of Fun”. Hosting touring fund shows. Venue being used for various filming projects.		

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	creating a society more focused on wellbeing. It can contribute creatively to the challenges of climate change and climate justice. Inverclyde successfully bid to be a "Climate Beacon" with funding from Creative Carbon Scotland, in an application led by the Beacon Arts Centre and involving various cultural partners including Inverclyde Libraries, RIG Arts, Belville Community Garden amongst others.	part of Inverclyde's recovery from Covid.	attitudes, concepts, and skills to help Inverclyde achieve carbon net zero. In the lead up to COP26, the project partners will host and present participatory, interactive and social events to engage local communities in discussions on climate change.	highlight the climate emergency and environmental issues. Awareness of climate issues is raised in Inverclyde.			
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Inverclyde Alliance

AGENDA ITEM NO: 5

Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	4 October 2021
Report By:	Martin McNab Interim Head of Service Public Protection and Covid 19 Recovery	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Andrina Hunter	Contact No:	01475 712042
Subject:	Covid 19 Partnership Recovery Plan Update		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To update the Alliance Board on the progress of actions contained within the Inverclyde Alliance Partnership Recovery Plan.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 A refreshed Partnership Recovery Plan was developed and approved by the Alliance Board in June 2021. Nine key outcome areas were identified covering Education, Culture and Sport; Health and Wellbeing; and Economic Recovery.
- 2.2 Good progress has been made across all areas of the outcome areas with a range of activities and initiatives highlighted within the report. Appendix 1 provides a full progress update in relation to each outcome.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Alliance Board notes the progress made against the Partnership Recovery Plan actions.

Martin McNab
Interim Head of Service Public Protection and Covid 19 Recovery

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Alliance Board approved a one year Partnership Recovery Plan in June 2021. In March 2021 the Council set aside £4m through its budget process to fund Covid recovery initiatives, both within the Council and in the wider community. In addition to the Council funding, a range of national and core funding is also being utilised to fund some of the initiatives outlined in the recovery plan.

4.2 **The Partnership Recovery Plan has 9 key outcomes:**

Education, Culture and Sport

- All Young People in Inverclyde have a successful return to their education and any gaps in attainment or experience are addressed.
- Educational establishments have taken forward the lessons learned from Covid-19 to provide an improved and more flexible curriculum – especially with regard to digital provision.
- Inverclyde has held a series of arts, cultural and sporting events to promote the area – especially the outdoors. The events will promote both physical and mental health and wellbeing
- Tourism to the area will have increased and Inverclyde will have benefited from positive promotion.

Health and Wellbeing (formerly Humanitarian)

- The Inverclyde community is supported to reconnect socially to recover from the impact of Covid -19
- The Inverclyde community is supported emotionally to recover from the impact of Covid-19

Economic

- Support local businesses to recover from Covid-19.
- The Inverclyde community is supported to become more physically active to recover from Covid-19
- The Inverclyde Community is supported into employment to recover from Covid19

5.0 PROGRESS TO DATE

5.1 Good progress has been made to date across all nine outcome areas. Appendix 1 provides a progress update related to each outcome.

Key highlights include:

Education, Culture and Sport

- Recovery teachers have been recruited and are in place across the schools.
- The initial feedback and evaluation from the Summer of Fun is that it was a huge success.
- Extra staff are being recruited for Duke of Edinburgh.
- A Creative producer and activities co-ordinator have been appointed and a programme steering group set up to develop the culture and arts programmes.
- Plans to develop the MELIORA are underway and an implementation group has now been set up with partners and work will develop to discuss ideas for local events with localities.
- The council is currently recruiting, as part of the Covid recovery funding, a new temporary tourism officer who will focus on supporting the tourism Inverclyde group priority areas.
- Recruitment to the position of events officer (part time) to provide support for town centre retailers and regeneration forums is underway.
- The Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations will link into the ongoing recovery initiatives and planned Meliora events. This will include:
 - Lighting of the Lyle Hill Beacon on Thursday 2 June 2022 connecting with places across the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, UK Overseas Territories and Capital Cities of the Commonwealth.
 - A bid for city status
 - Tree planting linked to the Queen's Green Canopy.
 - It is expected that as other initiatives to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, such as the Big

Jubilee Lunch which encourages street parties, will have individual guidance developed and it is proposed that these are encouraged by distributing the guidance to community councils, community groups, churches and other local organisations to encourage the community to celebrate and to take part.

5.2 Health and Wellbeing

- The Inverclyde Cares Programme is in place and a development session has taken place with 40 partners.
- A meeting with the Scottish Government has been arranged in September to access additional funding for memorials.
- Additional Community Connector posts within YourVoice have been advertised.
- Criteria for access to funding to support activity/ sport is being developed in partnership with third sector. These include
 - access to equipment;
 - access to Community funding for activity programmes; and
 - Purchase of gym/ leisure passes.
- Further extension to the horticulturist support capacity in place within the community and support to enable food preparation & cooking plans.
- The Wellbeing Campaign has been developed across 3rd sector and communities and is due to begin October/November.
- A Social Worker for early interventions for schools has been recruited.
- The Council Helpline remains open 7 days a week to support people self isolating.

5.3 Economic

- Three interventions have been deployed under the furlough scheme ranging from £25k to £5k.
- The rent relief scheme has been promoted by economic development officers to potentially affected businesses.
- The closing date to recruit the economic development officer (Town Centres) has now closed with an appointment imminent.
- Three enquiries are being supported through the Brexit /Covid intervention.
- The pay and display suspension is programmed to remain in place till the end of the financial year.
- The working group has considered a series of projects to improve the facilities within Clyde Muirshiel and these works have now been instructed.
- Proposals on the Park upgrade works will be presented to the Council's Environment and Regeneration Committee.
- Jobs Recovery Plan has now commenced with a range of interventions.
- An inception meeting on the economic business case activity is scheduled for September 24th.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Legal: none at present
Finance: none at present
Human Resources: none at present
Equality and Diversity: none at present
Repopulation: none at present
Inequalities: none at present

7.0 **CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 n/a

8.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 Inverclyde Alliance Partnership Recovery Plan

High Level Outcomes for: Education, Culture and Sport		ECS1 - All young people in Inverclyde have a successful return to their education and any gaps in attainment or experiences are addressed					
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans
ECS 1.1	Ensuring that guidelines continue to be followed for a safe return to education	Schools, Early Years establishments and WCS ensure all risk assessments are in place and national guidance is followed. College establishing blended and on campus learning provision for all students - including the school college partnership		Head of Education/WCS	April -21 - August 22	Core	IC Organisational plan
ECS1.2	Attainment gap continues to reduce	The attainment challenge continues to address gaps in educational attainment through targeted interventions.		Head of Education	April 21 - June 22	Core	IC Organisational plan/Attainment Challenge plan/Service Improvement plan
		Recovery teachers and support is in place in all establishments - including a process to quality assure use of allocation		Head of Education	April 21 - June 22	SG funding /1140	IC Organisational plan/Attainment Challenge plan/Service Improvement plan
		Recovery programmes at all levels are in place - including the school college partnership programme and WCS		Head of Education/WCS	April 21 - June 22	WCS Deferral funding. Education recovery funding	IC organisational plan
ECS1.3	Summer of fun	A summer programme is in place to give young people and students opportunities for experiential activities. This is in addition to all other summer programmes that would normally take place.		Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	July/August 21	SG funding - expected (Further details needed)	Children's Services Plan
ECS 1.4	Free School Meals	Earlier implementation of Universal P4-7 School Meals		Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Aug21 to March 22	Recovery Funding up to £192k	Children's Service Plan/CDIP
ECS 1.5	Duke of Edinburgh and increased outdoor experiences	Ensure that Duke of Edinburgh Opportunities and outward bound type activities are available to all secondary pupils. Not only to catch up with missed experiences during COVID-19 but also to provide extra opportunities to support Mental Health		Service Manager Communities	June 2021 - March 2023	Recovery Funding £200K	CLD Strategic Plan
What will success look like?		Every young person in Inverclyde will have had the opportunity to catch up on missed experiences. The Attainment gap linked to deprivation will continue to be reduced and young people will be provided with support to catch up on any missed learning.					
Progress Update		1.1 Successful return to school and following revised government guidance. 1.2 Recovery teachers have been recruited and are in place. School PEF plans are being revised to ensure recovery is taken into account. 1.3 the initial feedback and evaluation from the Summer of Fun is that it was a huge success. 1.5 Extra staff are being recruited for Dof E.					

High Level Outcomes for: Education, Culture and Sport		ECS2 - Educational establishments have taken forward the lessons learned from COVID-19 to provide an improved and more flexible curriculum - especially with regard digital provision					
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans
ECS 2.1	Curriculum	The curriculum has been adapted to ensure a focus on health and wellbeing and to explore different ways of learning and teaching		Head of Education	April 21 - June 22	PEF/Attainment Challenge/1140	Service Improvement Plan/CDIP/organisational plan
ECS 2.2	Digital Strategy	Agree an ambitious educational digital transformation strategy which will take place over the next 10 years		Head of Education	April 21 - June 31	Budget process from 22/23	Organisational Recovery plan
		College - ensuring all students are digitally equipped and given the skills and support to ensure that they can access online and blended learning.		WCS	April 21 - June 22	WCS core fund	WCS Recovery Plan
What will success look like?		All learners in Inverclyde benefit from a curriculum and approaches to learning that is progressive and has learned lessons from the experiences of COVID 19					
Progress Update		2.1 The service improvement plan will be taken to Education and Communities committee in August 2.2 Engagement has taken place with schools and other services about digital strategy and this is being finalised. 2.2 College continues to follow national guidance and providing support for online learning					

High Level Outcomes for: Education, Culture and Sport		ECS 3 - Inverclyde has held a series of arts, cultural and sporting events to promote the area - especially the outdoors. The events will promote both physical and mental health and wellbeing						
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans	
ECS 3.1	Culture recovery	Culture Collective - a series of cultural activities held in the community to support COVID 19 recovery		Head of Educational Resources Culture and Communities	Sep-22	Creative Scotland	LOIP (new action)	
		Money for lights for Gourock Amphitheatre to support events linked to Culture Collective		Interim Head of Property Services	Dec-21	Recovery Funding £45k	LOIP	
		Sports and physical activity strategy will be resumed post COVID -19. Launch of Strategy		Head of Educational Resources Culture and Communities	Jul-21	Recovery Funding £10k	CDIP	
ECS 3.2	Sports and Physical Activity recovery	Signage for Rankin Park to promote tennis and biking areas		Interim Head of Property Services	Sep-21	Recovery Funding £10k	Sports Strategy	
		Undertake development phase of the Green Connections Programme, Initially focussing on five priority project areas, knitted together by NCN75, the Programme aims to progress previous strategy work to detailed design, costing and delivery stages.		Nature Scot	June 21-Dec 22	Bid to Sustrans	LOIP (but not yet progressed because of funding	
ECS 3.3	Hold an outdoor festival May/June 2022 (MELIORA)	Establish working group to bid for further funding and links across Inverclyde. Festival of the outdoors to be held May/June 2022. Big IL event. Any money for charity to be raised for the Inverclyde Community fund to fund projects.		Corporate Director Education, Communities and OD	June 21-Aug 22	Recovery Funding £350k	Link to Economic town centre events bid	
ECS 3.4	Supporting Community	Allocation of money to localities for recovery events		Head of Educational Resources Culture and Communities	June 21-Aug 22	Recovery Funding £120k	LOIP/CLD Strategic Plan	
		Small grants and waiver of fees to support small organisations to restart		CVS	June 21-March 22	Recovery Funding £10k	LOIP	
What will success look like?		A large event has taken place that has helped to promote Inverclyde beyond its borders and also has raised morale through a focus on health and the environment. A series of events has taken place as part of a co-ordinated strategy to improve mental and physical health and wellbeing through culture and the arts. Employment opportunities have been created linked to both culture and sport					A series of events	
Progress Update		3.1 A Creative producer and activities co-ordinator have been appointed and a programme steering group set up. The first batch of artist callouts for freelance artists have been set up. 3.2 the Sports and Physical Activity Strategy is being taken to the September Alliance Board for approval. 3.3 Awaiting outcome of funding bid for Green Connections. 3.3 Paper taken to Policy and Resources and Education and Communities outlining the 3 main projects for the MELIORA. An implementation group has now been set up with partners. 3.4 Next step is to discuss ideas for local events with localities						



High Level Outcomes for: Education, Culture and Sport		ECS 4 - Tourism to the area will have increased and Inverclyde will have benefitted from positive promotion					
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans
ECS4.1	Tourism and marketing	Tourism and visitor marketing support and delivery to embed the 'discover Inverclyde' call to action and co-ordinate tourism and visitor promotion to further increase profile through place marketing by creation of a two year marketing/tourism post and associated marketing budget (£150K); support for the work of Inverclyde tourism group as the front face of tourism in Inverclyde for visitors and cruise passengers (£30K) and the creation of new interpretation and marketing material, aligned to 'discover Inverclyde' call to action for a range of locations including Lunderston Bay, Greenock Cut, and the new Cruise Visitor Centre (£40K)		Service Manager Corporate Communication, Tourism and H&S	June 21 - June 23	Recovery funding £220K	Health and wellbeing; Sports Strategy; Environment and Regeneration
		Contribution to support city region-wide marketing campaigning with a funding allocation of £25K per year for two years contingent on other areas contributing funding to support wider marketing. If no opportunities available across wider city region funding would revert back to support additional Inverclyde-led or local partnerships tourism marketing.		Chief Executive	June 21 - June 23	Recovery funding £50k	Environment and Regeneration
What will success look like?		Increased tourists visit Inverclyde.					
Progress Update		The council is currently recruiting, as part of the covid recovery funding, a new temporary tourism officer in the council's communications, tourism and health & safety service. The post, supported by the wider team, will focus on supporting the tourism Inverclyde group priority areas. The group includes representatives from the local tourism sector with recently expanded membership including accommodation and hospitality providers and the Inverclyde Chamber of Commerce. Recent tourism and destination marketing activity include the creation of new digital video content for consumers and businesses as part of Scottish Food and Drink fortnight and a partnership currently underway with the Greenock Telegraph to create a food and drink magazine for circulation in the newspaper and in local venues to support and promote the sector. New town and village marketing video content is being finalised in partnership with Scotland's Towns Partnership to provide marketing content to encourage visitors, aligned to the 'discover' theme and call to action. The high profile promotion of Inverclyde's walking and cycling routes in partnership with Newsquest as part of the Scottish Walking and Cycling Magazine circulated in The Sunday Herald, in a range of local newspapers and in retailers across the west of Scotland. Plans are also being developed to create a new cruise industry event, in partnership with The Inverclyde Tourist Group and the discover Inverclyde website www.discoverinverclyde.com content continues to be developed with new pages in place for the rangers service from Clyde Muirshiel, updated content for walks and cycling routes The council's communications, tourism and health and safety service is currently recruiting to the position of events officer (part time) to provide support for town centre retailers and regeneration forums (where they are in place) to create new and support existing town and village events to encourage footfall. The council chairs the Glasgow City Region Tourism and Destination Marketing Portfolio Group and has included, as part of its tourism recovery, a budget to contribute to joint marketing across the city region. The offer has been made at the most recent portfolio group meeting and council areas are currently reviewing their budget and capacity to contribute. If they are able to joint marketing would be developed and officers will ensure it is aligned to one or more of the seven tourism actions set out in this report. If city region partners are unable to support joint marketing, the budget, as set out in the tourism recovery plan, would revert back to support local marketing activity.					

High Level Outcomes for: Health and Wellbeing		HW 1 - The Inverclyde community is supported to reconnect socially to recover from the impact of COVID.					
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans
HW1.1	Creating a social movement that promotes kindness and neighbourly communities	Establish Inverclyde Cares Programme Board .Potential to link with SG Commemorating Covid 19 fund for memorials		Corporate Director/CO HSCP	June 21- March 2022	IJB funding and Recovery Funding £40k	HSCP Strategic Plan
		Listening to communities, establishing communication/engagement.		Service Manager CLD and Communities	June 21- March 2022	IJB	LOIP and CLD 3 year strategy
HW1.2	Supporting people to reconnect who have remained at home during COVID	Additional investment in community connectors to support people to join groups, re-engage with communities.		Your Voice	June 21- March 22	Recovery Funding £60k	HSCP Strategic Plan
		Community Connectors provide passes for leisure for access to physical activity		Corporate Director/CO HSCP	June 21- March 22	Recovery Funding £50k	Health and Wellbeing
		Development of Food to Fork to promote gardening inline with food growing strategy.		HSCP/3rd sector	June 21 - March 22	Recovery Funding £30k	Food Growing Strategy as part of Community Empowerment Act
What will success look like?		People across Inverclyde are actively supported in their recovery from Covid and their wellbeing is promoted.					
Progress Update		1. Inverclyde Programme in place, a development session has taken place with 40 partners. A short life working group with community member led by Compassionate Inverclyde met on 18th August. A meeting with the Scottish Government has been arranged in September to access additional funding for memorial. 2. All 6 local groups meet virtually and 2 local groups meeting virtually in September. 3. Additional Community Connector posts advertised. 4. Criteria for access to funding to support activity/ sport is being developed in partnership with third sector - three strands of funding: - Access to equipment - Community funding -gym/ leisure passes. 5. Extension of horticulturist support, food prep & cooking plan					

High Level Outcomes for: Health and Wellbeing		HW2 - The Inverclyde community is supported emotionally to recover from the impact of COVID					
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans
HW2.1	Mental Health Support	Target school aged children to access counsellors and mental wellbeing support in schools and promotion through the curriculum		Head of Education	April 21 - June 22	Scottish government funding	Children's Services Plan
		Provide referral pathways for all children, young people and families to access early intervention mental wellbeing support		Service Manager Children & Families, Specialist Children's services	April 21 - June 22	Scottish government funding	Children's Services Plan
		Develop training for early year practitioners to support families in the early years		Early years QIM	April 21 - June 22	Early years funding	Children's Services Plan
		Develop Trauma informed training and practice for professionals.		Principal Educational Psychologist/MH Programme Board	April 21 - June 22	Core	Children's Services Plan/IJB Strategic Plan
HW2.2	Early Intervention	Implement Staff Wellbeing Plan across all Health & Social Care Workforce		Corporate Director/CO HSCP	Mar-22	IJB £50K	Interim Workforce Plan
		Develop a Wellbeing Campaign to ensure communities know where to go to access the right support and the right time		3rd sector-TBC	April 21 - June 22	Recovery Funding £35k	LOIP/Strategic Plan
		Develop consistently high early intervention for children and young people through early help to ensure children and young people get the right support at the right time.		Head of Education/Head of Children and Families	April 21 - June 23	Anti Poverty fund	Children's Services Plan
		Council Helpline remains available to support community members who are isolating due to COVID		Interim Head of Public Protection & Recovery	April 21 / March 22	Council Recovery Plan	Council Organisational Plan
What will success look like?		People across Inverclyde feel supported emotionally in their recovery from Covid 19.					
Progress Update		HW2.1 - (1) 124 referrals for 20/21 for Wellbeing Service for children. HW2.1 (2) A Wellbeing Campaign has been developed across 3rd sector and communities due to begin October/November. HW2.2 Social Worker for early interventions for schools recruited. HW2.2 Helpline remains open 7 days a week to support people self isolating.					

High Level Outcomes for:Economic Recovery		ER1 - The Inverclyde Community is supported Economically to recover from the impact of Covid-19.					
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans
ER 1.1	Furlough Extension	Provide support to the business community to extend the Furlough scheme where they have been unable to reopen.		Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery	April 21 - April 22	Core (former West Scotland Loan Fund) (Capped at £1.75k)	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.2	Rent Relief Scheme	Create a rent relief scheme for business who are unable to meet their legal commitments to provide significant importance to the economy.		Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery	April 21 - April 23	Recovery Funding £150k	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.3	Town Centre Promotion	Create three events in each location to promote Town Centre Activity in Kilmacoll, Port Glasgow, Greenock and Gourock for local traders.		Interim Director Environment & Economic Recovery	June 21 - March 23	Recovery Funding £200k	Local Development Plan
ER 1.4	Digital Marketing	Provide support to local businesses to ensure that their Marketing Strategy online is fit for purpose.		Interim Director Environment & Economic Recovery	June 21 - March 23	Core + Recovery Funding - £150k	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.5	Impact of Brexit and Covid on Stock	To provide specialist support to local businesses to remove barriers to gaining access to stock affected both by Covid and Brexit including import and export advice.		Interim Director Environment & Economic Recovery	April 21 - March 22	Recovery Funding - £50k	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.6	Extension to Discretionary Grant Scheme	To extend discretionary grant scheme support beyond existing Scottish Government intervention.		Interim Director Environment & Economic Recovery	April 21 - March 22	Recovery Funding - £500k	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.7	Business Support Schemes	To continue the delivery of the Scottish Government Business Support Schemes		Interim Service Directors Regen&Planning/Corporate Services &Org. Recovery	April 21- March 22	Scottish Government Funding	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.8	Town Centre Parking	Extension of Pay and Display suspension in town centre car parks		Head of Roads and Environmental Shared Services	May 21- March 22	Recovery Funding £349k	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.9	Workforce Development	Provision of fully subsidised training to eligible large and small orgs. to up-skill re-skill their existing workforce. Training will enable employers to address key skills gaps within their workforce:allow them to become more productive and efficient, as well as helping with recovery.		Assistant Principal: Enterprise and Skills West College Scotland	April 21 - December 21	£1m (West Region)	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.10	Workforce Development	Provide support to local businesses to train their staff via a Modern Apprenticeship (MA) gaining industry experience, skills, workplace training and recognised vocational qualifications		Assistant Principal: Enterprise and Skills West College Scotland	April 21 - March 22	£450k (West Region) approved	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.11	Workforce Development	Working with the Council maximise job opportunities for local people within NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde.		Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development NHS GGC.	June 21 - March 23	£25k Core funding	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.12	Workforce Development	Develop a wraparound programme with Inverclyde Council to provide job coaching to support employment in NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde.		Director of Human Resources & Organisational Development NHS GGC.	June 21 - March 23	£25k Core funding	Business Recovery Scheme
ER 1.13	Workforce Development	Provide 10 additional job coaches to the Inverclyde offer from DWP.		Customer Service Leader WS IA&B DWP	April 21 - March 22	DWP Core Funding	Business Recovery Scheme
What will success look like?		The impact of Covid on the business community of Inverclyde is minimised whilst the support for individual businesses is maximised.					
Progress Update		Three interventions have been deployed under the furlough scheme ranging from £25k to £5k. The rent relief scheme has been promoted by economic development officers to potentially affected businesses. Recruitment of the part time town centre event post is underway and discussions are ongoing with traders and Town Centre regeneration Forums. The closing date to recruit the economic development officer (Town Centres) has now closed with an appointment imminent, promotion of the digital marketing support will fall to this individual however any inquiries will be dealt with by existing economic development staff. Three enquiries are being supported through the Brexit /Covid intervention. Whilst a number of UK / Scottish Government schemes remain open we have exhausted most of the eligible claim base interventions, it is in the coming weeks / months that the importance of the Councils schemes will prevail. The pay and display suspension is programmed to remain in place till the end of the financial year. £1m of funding has been fully committed and is supporting employees to gain valuable training, learning, skills and qualifications to support economic recovery. To date the College has committed resources to over 100 companies supporting 1,000 employees to enhance their productivity and sustainability as well as their organisation. A further £1.2m has been committed to WCS by SFC to support this activity to the end of July 2022. Also during the reporting period, WCS provided support to 23 businesses from across the region to start, train and progress 71 people in a Modern Apprenticeship (MA). Specifically, the College provided support to Inverclyde businesses to start and train 21 of their staff via an MA, in addition WCS has supported businesses from across the West region to start and train 21 people from Inverclyde in an MA. The training investment secured to support existing and start new MAs during this period is valued at £338,850. The College is continuing to respond to employer demand and are requesting additional places in Health and Social Care, Administration, Chemicals and Biotechnology Related, Engineering and Energy; and Management to meet economic recovery requirements.					

High Level Outcomes for: Economic Recovery		ER 2 - The Inverclyde community is supported to become more physically active to recover from Covid 19					
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans
ER 2.1	Investment in Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park	Provide Investment to the existing facilities at Lunderston Bay, Corrales and Path infrastructure to promote physical activity and healthy pastimes.		Interim Head of Property Services	April 2021- March 2022	Recovery Funding - £250k (Naturescot £72k)	Sports Strategy, health and wellbeing
ER 2.2	Investment in Council Parks Estate	Upgrade facilities at Kilmacolm, Coronation and King Street Parks to support outdoor activities		Head of Roads and Environmental Shared Services	April 2021- March 2022	Recovery Funding- £200k	Sports Strategy, Health and Wellbeing
What will success look like?		Given the increased demands on our outdoor spaces, during Covid this investment will future proof the facilities in the short to medium term ensuring they remain accessible to the people of Inverclyde.					
Progress Update		The working group has considered a series of projects to improve the facilities within Clyde Muirshiel and these works have now been instructed. Proposals on the Park upgrade works will be presented to the next meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee.					

High Level Outcomes for: Economic Recovery		ER3 - The Inverclyde community is supported into employment to recover from Covid 19 Jobs Recovery					
Outcome	Development Area	Actions/Milestones	RAG	Who is Responsible	Timescale	Resources Required	Links to Other Plans
ER 3.1	Job Recovery Plan	Delivery of 210 employment opportunities within Inverclyde Council and the wider Community.		Interim Director Environment & Economic Recovery	April 2021- March 2022	£6m (already approved)	Economic Recovery
ER 3.2	Economic Business Case	Joint Commissioning of Economic business case via City Region Intelligence Hub		Chief Executive	April 2021- March 2022	£25k (already approved)	Economic Recovery
What will success look like?		210 Individuals employed within the Council and wider community					
Progress Update		Works have begun or are about to begin in all of the interventions within the Jobs recovery Plan - detailed activity reports will be provided to the Councils Environment and Regeneration Committee. An inception meeting on the economic business case activity is scheduled for September 24th					



Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	4th October 2021
Report By:	Louise Long, Chair of LOIP Programme Board	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Andrina Hunter Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnership Manager	Contact No:	01475 712042
Subject:	Proposal to extend the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Alliance Board to extend the current Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) (2017-22) for a further year until March 2023.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Inverclyde LOIP was developed in 2017 and set out three main priorities and action plans related to:
- Population
 - Inequalities
 - Environment, Culture and Heritage
- 2.2 One of the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 is that Community Planning Partnerships review their LOIP and revise the plan as necessary. A review of Inverclyde's LOIP 2017-22 was carried out in 2020 and an additional priority of the Local Economy added.
- 2.3 Since the review, Inverclyde has been impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic, although the full longer term impact is still unknown at this point. Recovery plans have been developed and will support the local community to recover over the next year.
- 2.4 In light of the fairly recent refresh of the LOIP, the impacts of Covid 19 pandemic on delivery, and the need to ensure full community consultation and engagement; it is proposed that the current LOIP lifespan is extended for a further year until March 2023.
- 2.5 To enable longer term priorities and delivery of actions, consideration should be given to the future LOIP having a longer time span, a minimum of 10 years, with regular reviews and refresh built in as part of the governance. The extension to the timeframe reflects that the causes of inequality locally are deep rooted and so sustained, positive change can only be achieved in the longer term.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Alliance Board:
- Approves the LOIP Programme Board's proposal to extend the current LOIP until March 2023; and

- Notes the LOIP Programme Board's intention to develop a longer term LOIP should set out a vision and priorities for a longer time frame.

Louise Long
Chair, Programme Board
Chief Executive, Inverclyde Council

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Community Planning element of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, placed responsibility on Inverclyde Alliance to develop a Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). Inverclyde's LOIP 2017-22 was developed in 2017 and formally approved by the Inverclyde Alliance at its meeting on 11 December 2017.
- 4.2 The LOIP set out a 10 year vision '*Nurturing Inverclyde: Getting it right for every Child, Citizen and Community*' with a five year plan (2017-22) containing three strategic priorities identified:
- Population
 - Inequalities
 - Environment, Culture and Heritage
- 4.3 A review of Inverclyde's LOIP 2017-22 was carried out in 2020 to ensure that it was up to date in terms of legislation and policy development; that it contained the latest statistical information; and consultation and engagement with the community to enable an assessment to be made regarding whether the current three priorities were still the right ones for Inverclyde.
- 4.4 The review concluded that the current priorities were still very much key issues for Inverclyde. However, the data and feedback from communities indicated that consideration should be given to making "the local economy" a priority for the remainder of the lifetime of the plan. A new delivery plan has been developed and the Population Partnership Group remit expanded to include Economy.
- 4.5 The current LOIP is due to end in March 2022, with a new LOIP requiring to be developed and approved by the Alliance Board preferably at its March 2022 board meeting.

5.0 IMPACT OF COVID

- 5.1 The Covid 19 pandemic which commenced in March 2020 has already had a profound impact on the Inverclyde community. Initially all partners moved to business continuity plans and focussed on the immediate support required by communities through the different phases of lockdown and into recovery.
- 5.2 Research published by the Scottish Government suggests that outcomes associated with health, economy, work, business and culture will all have been deeply set back by Covid-19. It is also anticipated that the longer term impact on the labour market will result in increased poverty levels. Education and children outcomes are also expected to be negatively affected, although the extent of this will take longer to fully emerge. The findings in relation to outcomes for communities and the environment are more mixed with each being impacted in both positive and negative ways and again, it will only be in the fullness of time that the true impact becomes clear.
- 5.3 It is already apparent that due to the disproportionate nature of the pandemic, inequalities have been exacerbated for many people. A number of groups have been particularly affected, including households on low incomes or in poverty, low paid workers, children and young people, older people, disabled people, minority ethnic groups and women. Many people will fall into more than one group and so the impact on them will be magnified.
- 5.4 The Inverclyde Alliance developed a Partnership Recovery Plan (2021/22) focussed on the three key areas of Education, Culture and Sport; Health and Wellbeing; and the Economy. These plans set out a range of actions to be delivered over the next year to support Inverclyde's recovery.

6.0 THE FUTURE LOIP

- 6.1 As stated above the LOIP is due to end in March 2022, and in order to develop a new LOIP within the timescales work requires to commence throughout 2021 to ensure sign off at the required governance structures.
- 6.2 The LOIP Programme Board considered the rationale for extending the plan beyond its current lifespan.

Rationale to consider extension to the current LOIP

- The review of the current LOIP was undertaken recently in 2020, a full consultation and review was undertaken at that point therefore the LOIP is still very current.
 - The new Local Economy priority which commenced in April 2021 will only have one year to embed and deliver within the current timeframe.
 - Covid 19 has impacted on delivery timescales for a range of plans and actions.
 - The Strategic Needs Assessment which will help inform the LOIP is being updated. The full impact of Covid 19 is not yet able to be evidenced - there is a time lag with both local and national performance data. This may highlight new and emerging priorities emerging for Inverclyde.
 - Consultation with key stakeholders and communities on new priorities is vital- Covid 19 ways of working will impact on traditional methods of full consultation.
- 6.3 The Community Empowerment Act 2015 is not prescriptive in terms of the planning cycle for LOIPs as long as partnerships can show they are regularly reviewing their priorities and plans. Reviews of other LOIPs have shown many of them are much longer term 10-15 years LOIPs as they are aware a longer term vision and delivery is required to meet the challenges.

7.0 PROPOSAL

- 7.1 The current LOIP end in March 2022, officers' recommendation to the LOIP Programme Board to extend the LOIP for a further year until March 2023 due to all the considerations set out in section 6.2 was approved.
- 7.2 The LOIP Programme Board also approved that the next LOIP should be for a longer time period of a 10-15 year plan. The extension to the timeframe reflects that the LOIP priorities are based on evidence of local need and that many of the issues that the partnership is working to address, such as, poverty; unemployment, health inequalities and depopulation are entrenched and so, positive change can only be achieved in the longer term.
- 7.3 Moving to a 10 year plan will also allow the Alliance to assess more accurately whether positive change is being sustained. LOIPs must clearly state what will be different for communities in 10 years and the alignment of the vision and Plan will enable the Alliance to strengthen its performance framework by setting out indicators and targets for the short, medium and longer term.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Legal: none at present
Finance: none at present
Human Resources: none at present
Equality and Diversity: none at present
Population: repopulation is a priority within the Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan.
Inequalities: inequalities is a priority within the Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan.

9.0 CONSULTATIONS

9.1 N/A

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-2022

Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	4th October 2021
Report By:	Andrina Hunter Service Manager Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnerships	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Andrina Hunter	Contact No:	01475 712042
Subject:	Nomination for Alliance Board Vice Chair		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to advise the Alliance Board on the nominations for Alliance Board Vice Chair.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Alliance Board agreed an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the June 2021 Board meeting. The MOU sets out a governance framework to help support Community Planning in Inverclyde. It details the context for community planning in Inverclyde, including the legislative requirements and the guiding principles which underpin the work of Inverclyde Alliance, the area's Community Planning Partnership. The Alliance's core structures are outlined in the document, along with the format of meetings, how the Alliance will be supported and the expectations of the partners organisations that make up the Alliance.
- 2.2 The MOU states that a vice-chair for the Alliance Board should be in place, however this position has not been filled for a number of years. The role of the Vice Chair will be to deputise for the Chair on any occasion.
The Chair of the Alliance Board has responsibility for:
- Determining non-critical decisions such as submission of data returns, replying to correspondence, or attending national events on behalf of the partnership;
 - Agreeing the agenda and reports for each meeting;
 - Ensuring the efficient conduct of each meeting; and
 - Ensuring robust discussion takes place before any decisions are made.
- 2.3 Approval was given at the June 2021 Alliance Board meeting to seek nominations from a partner agency for the position of Vice Chair, with nominations initially to be sought from one of the statutory community planning partners –Inverclyde Council; NHSGGC; Police Scotland; Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; and Scottish Enterprise.
- 2.4 A formal request for vice chair nomination was sent to each of the statutory partners following the June 2021 meeting. If more than one nomination is received the MOU decision making section sets out the process for agreeing:
...while it is desirable that decisions will be reached by broad consensus, those which are not will be decided by a show of hands vote by the members of the Board. If the Board is unable to reach a decision, the Chair will have the deciding vote.
- 2.5 To date, a nomination for Vice Chair has been received from Police Scotland. This nomination, plus any further nominations received either before or at the meeting, will be the subject of discussion at the October 2021 Alliance Board meeting. Following discussion at this meeting it will be the intention to approve the relevant partner officer as the new vice chair.

- 2.6 On a related matter, Visit Scotland has accepted the recent invitation from the Alliance Board to become a member and has indicated that representation from the organisation will commence from the next meeting.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Alliance Board:
1. Notes the process for nominating to the position of Alliance Board Vice Chair;
 2. Notes the nomination from Police Scotland;
 3. Agrees to receive any further nominations at the October 2021 Alliance Board meeting; and
 4. Seeks to approve the new Vice Chair from the nominations received.

Andrina Hunter
Service Manager Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnership

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Legal: none at present
- Finance: none at present
- Human Resources: none at present
- Equality and Diversity: none at present
- Repopulation: none at present
- Inequalities: none at present

5.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 N/A

6.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Inverclyde Alliance Memorandum of Understanding

Report To:	Alliance Board	Date:	4 October 2021
Report By:	Ruth Binks Corporate Director of Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report	
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	712828
Subject:	Active Inverclyde Strategy		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Active Inverclyde Strategy to the Alliance Board for approval.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The purpose of the Active Inverclyde Strategy is to provide a framework for community planning partners in Inverclyde to work together to increase participation in physical activity, including sport.

- 2.2 Physical inactivity is one of the leading causes of premature death in Scotland. Evidence shows that even small increases in activity can help to prevent and treat chronic diseases and improve quality of life. The Active Inverclyde Strategy therefore has a key role to play in improving the health and wellbeing of the population of Inverclyde.

- 2.3 The Active Inverclyde Strategy concentrates on four main themes that reflect the areas we believe are pivotal to achieving a reduction in health inequalities and an increase in levels of physical activity. These are:

- Active People;
- Active Communities;
- Active Partnerships; and
- Active Environment

- 2.4 The Active Inverclyde Strategy will be accompanied by a more detailed action plan that will be developed in consultation with local communities. This will ensure that the actions taken to increase participation on physical activity, including sport, reflect the needs of communities.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Alliance Board:

- approves the Active Inverclyde Strategy; and
- notes that an action plan will subsequently be developed with community partners

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director of Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The purpose of this strategy is to provide a framework for community planning partners in Inverclyde to work together to increase participation in physical activity, including sport. A range of key stakeholders have been engaged in the development of this strategy including elected members, Inverclyde Leisure, Inverclyde HSCP, **sportscotland**, and other local services.

4.2 Physical inactivity is one of the leading causes of premature death in Scotland and evidence shows that even small increases in inactivity can help to prevent and treat chronic diseases and improve quality of life. Not only that, but evidence shows that physical activity, through recreation or sport, has a positive impact on physical and mental health and wellbeing. There are therefore many benefits of increasing participation in physical activity.

4.3 Inverclyde faces a number of challenges in terms of lower life expectancy than the Scottish average; that children in Inverclyde are at a slightly higher risk of weight problems compared to the national average; and levels of physical activity are lower amongst the population of Inverclyde.

The levels of deprivation in Inverclyde is a particular challenge as those living in deprived areas have a much lower life expectancy when compared to those living in the least deprived areas. This is reflected nationally where evidence shows that adults who live in the most deprived areas of Scotland are less likely to meet physical activity recommendations, compared with the least deprived areas.

These existing challenges have been compounded by the Covid-19 pandemic which has had a profound impact on the health and wellbeing of the population of Inverclyde. The Active Inverclyde Strategy will play a key role in helping us to address these challenges.

4.4 Although the Inverclyde area faces a number of challenges, it also has many strengths in relation to its outdoor environment, the number and quality of its leisure facilities and the number of grass-roots sports clubs which exist. The Active Inverclyde Strategy aims to capitalise on these strengths in order to achieve its vision for the people of Inverclyde. This vision is that the residents of Inverclyde have the support, encouragement and opportunities to lead healthy, active lives through physical activity, including sport.

4.5 The Active Inverclyde Strategy concentrates on four main themes that reflect the areas we believe are pivotal to achieving a reduction in health inequalities and an increase in levels of physical activity. For each theme, the strategy provides details of why these priorities have been chosen; the key challenges; what we want to achieve; and what action we are going to take. The key themes are

- Active People;
- Active Communities;
- Active Partnerships; and
- Active Environment

4.6 Stakeholder engagement will inform the development of a detailed action plan that will contain greater detail of the actions and initiatives that will be implemented by partner organisations. The engagement will focus on the four active Inverclyde themes in order to identify gaps and future areas for development. This will lead to the development of a SMART action plan containing specific, measureable, attainable, relevant and time-based actions.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Legal: none at present
Finance: none at present
Human Resources: none at present
Equality and Diversity: An equality impact assessment has been undertaken and is an appendix in the Active Inverclyde Strategy.
Population: The Active Inverclyde Strategy will contribute to the achievement of the population priority.
Inequalities: The Active Inverclyde Strategy will contribute to the achievement of the inequalities priority.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

n/a

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 In



Inverclyde Alliance

Active Inverclyde Strategy

Contents

1. Foreword	3
2. Introduction	4
3. Context	6
4. Challenges	7
5. Strengths and opportunities	11
6. Governance / Structure	14
7. Our themes	15
• Active People	
• Active Communities	
• Active Partnerships	
• Active Environment	

Foreword

Councillor Stephen McCabe, Leader of Inverclyde Council and Chair of Inverclyde Alliance

As Chair of the Inverclyde Alliance, the Inverclyde Community Planning Partnership, I am delighted to introduce the Active Inverclyde Strategy.

Physical inactivity is one of the leading causes of premature death in Scotland. Evidence shows that even small increases in activity can help prevent and treat chronic diseases and make improvements to a person's quality of life. With stark health inequalities continuing to exist in life expectancy and other health outcomes across communities in Inverclyde, it is vital we do all we can to ensure Inverclyde residents are supported to be active on a regular basis. This strategy is one of main ways in which we can achieve this.

There is evidence that adults in the most deprived areas of Scotland are least likely to meet physical activity targets. With parts of Inverclyde having the highest levels of deprivation in Scotland, it is critical that as a community planning partnership we focus our efforts on helping more people to be more active, more often.

As a Community Planning Partnership we recognise that we face a number of challenges and the Covid-19 pandemic has also had a profound impact on the health and wellbeing of the population of Inverclyde. Nevertheless, it has also highlighted the value our citizens place on physical activity, either through recreation or sport and the positive impact this has on physical and mental health, and wellbeing.

There has also been significant investment in Inverclyde's leisure facilities which has resulted in them being amongst the best in Scotland, while our open space, dramatic views and coastline are a few of the area's biggest assets. We also have 3 community sports hubs, a wide range of sports clubs and voluntary groups and a strong local Active Schools network.

Through this Active Inverclyde Strategy we will work to ensure that the people of Inverclyde have the support, encouragement and opportunities to lead healthy, active lives through physical activity, including sport. We are committed to improving outcomes for all our citizens, but particularly those living in our most deprived communities and our most vulnerable residents. This Active Inverclyde Strategy will help us to achieve that.

Councillor Stephen McCabe
Chair of Inverclyde Alliance Board
Leader of Inverclyde Council

I fully support the Active Inverclyde Strategy and welcome the contribution it will make in bringing together community planning partners to create, promote and enhance opportunities for Inverclyde residents to increase their participation in physical activity, including sport. We look forward to engaging further with local groups to look at innovative ways of improving levels of participation in physical activity and sport. Overall, I believe the Strategy will make a positive contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of communities across Inverclyde.

Councillor Ronnie Ahlfeld
Inverclyde Council Sports Champion

Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this strategy is to provide a framework for community planning partners in Inverclyde to work together to increase participation in physical activity, including sport. A range of key stakeholders have been engaged in the development of this strategy including elected members, Inverclyde Leisure, Inverclyde HSCP, **sportscotland**, and other local services. The Active Inverclyde Strategy will be accompanied by a more detailed action plan that will be developed in consultation with local communities. This will ensure that the actions taken to increase participation on physical activity, including sport, meet the needs of communities.

Our vision

'The people of Inverclyde have the support, encouragement and opportunities to lead healthy, active lives through sport and physical activity'.

Mission statement

'Working together at all levels we will positively challenge attitudes and behaviours and support residents to enjoy physical activity, including sport as part of their day-to-day lives'.

What are the aims of the strategy?

Physical inactivity is one of the leading causes of premature death in Scotland. Evidence shows that even small increases in activity can help to prevent and treat chronic diseases and improve quality of life.

This strategy aims to reduce inequalities by increasing opportunities for all our residents to improve physical activity whether that be exercise, sport, play, dance, and active living such as walking, housework and gardening, as a means to promote and embed a culture of inclusion and participation.

The Active Inverclyde Strategy concentrates on four main themes that reflect the areas we believe are pivotal to achieving a reduction in health inequalities and an increase in levels of physical activity: **Active People; Active Communities; Active Partnerships; and Active Environment**. Central to this strategy is the involvement of all clubs, organisations, agencies and participants involved in the development and delivery of physical activity, including sport in Inverclyde.

What do we want to achieve?

- A reduction in health inequalities;
- The development of physical confidence and competence from the earliest age;
- Inactive residents become more active;
- Active residents stay active throughout life;
- Improved active infrastructure, people and places;
- Increased wellbeing and resilience in communities through physical activity and sport (taking into consideration the impact of Covid-19);
- Increased opportunities to participate, progress and achieve in sport; and

- Enhanced facilities and environment due to new investment.

How will we achieve success?

We will work with all partner organisations to identify the actions we need to take in order to achieve our vision. An action plan will be developed to sit underneath this strategy which will provide details of the actions that will be implemented to achieve each of the four themes. These will be developed in collaboration with local communities (geographical and/or of interest), clubs and groups, Sport Governing Bodies, Schools and Third Sector organisations. The action plan will initially focus on recovery from the impact of Covid-19, building on the learning during the pandemic and will be regularly monitored, reviewed and updated with progress reported to all relevant stakeholders.

Context

Local Policy

The Active Inverclyde Strategy will help Inverclyde's Community Planning Partnership to achieve its vision:

'Nurturing Inverclyde: Getting it right for every Child, Citizen and Community'

Inverclyde's Outcomes Improvement Plan (OIP) 2017/22 sets out the strategic priorities that the community planning partners in Inverclyde will focus on in order to achieve this vision. This should in turn improve the wellbeing and quality of life of the residents of Inverclyde, with a particular focus on reducing inequality and poverty.

The Active Inverclyde Strategy will contribute to the achievement of the following priorities:

- **Population**
The provision of high quality sports facilities and the opportunity to take part in a wide range of physical activities will help to make Inverclyde a more attractive place in which to work and live;
- **Inequalities**
A range of measures will be implemented to encourage Inverclyde residents to lead healthier lifestyles by taking part in physical activity, including sport, which will help to reduce health inequalities; and
- **Environment, Culture and Heritage**
The physical environment is one of Inverclyde's greatest assets and it has a key role to play in helping residents to lead healthier lifestyles. The Active Inverclyde Strategy will focus on ensuring that our open space and our community and sports facilities are of the highest standard in order to encourage participation in physical activity.

National Policy

The Active Inverclyde Strategy will contribute to the following national policies.

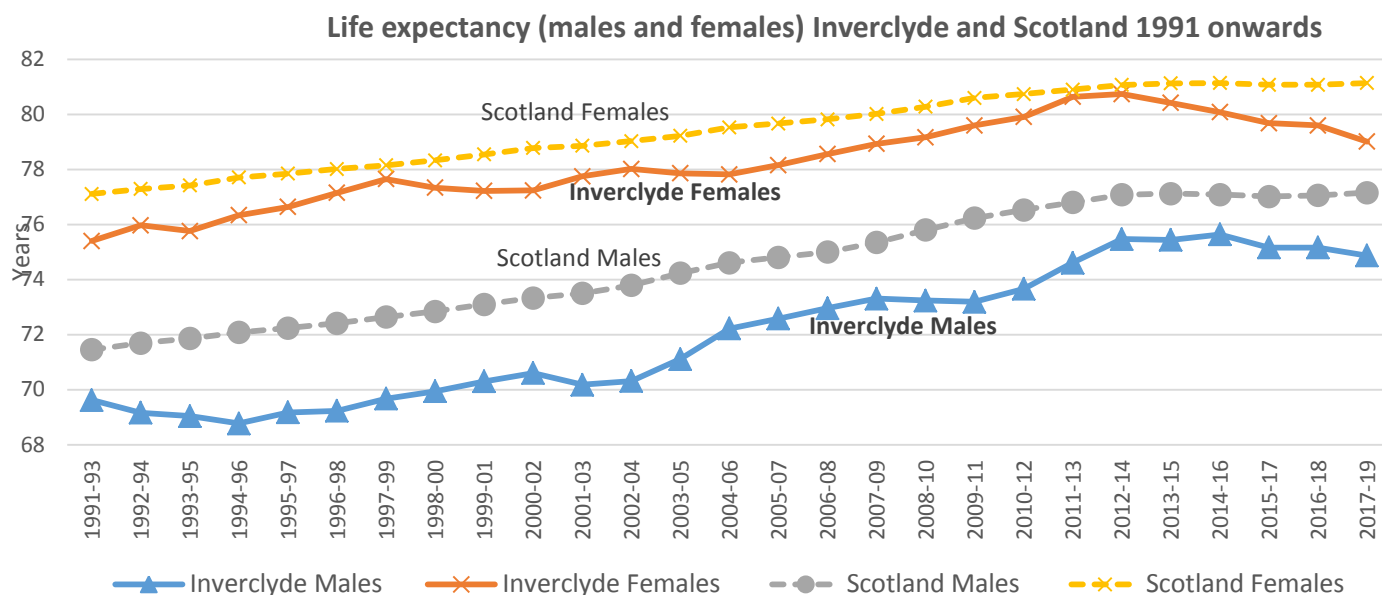
- **The Active Scotland Outcomes Framework** which sets out the Scottish Government's vision for a Scotland where more people are more active more often. The Active Inverclyde Strategy will contribute to the following Active Scotland outcomes:
 - We encourage and enable the inactive to be more active;
 - We encourage and enable the active to stay active throughout life;
 - We develop physical confidence and competence from the earliest age;
 - We improve our active infrastructure people and place;
 - We support wellbeing and resilience in communities through physical activity and sport; and
 - We improve opportunities to participate, progress and achieve in sport.
- The **National Performance Framework** outcome 'we are healthy and active'.
- One of the six **Public Health Priorities for Scotland** is being physically active.
- Alignment to COSLA's "**The Positive Contribution of Physical Activity and Sport to Scotland**", which demonstrates the impact that physical activity can have on health and wellbeing and across multiple policy outcomes.

Challenges

Life Expectancy

There has been a further decrease in life expectancy for both males and females in Inverclyde following an improvement in recent years and life expectancy in Inverclyde remains slightly lower than the Scottish average. Most recent data however for the period 2017/19 shows a small decline in life expectancy for both males and females, reversing the recent improvement trend, as shown in the chart below.

Covid-19 is expected to result in a decrease in life expectancy globally with a disproportionate effect on those affected by deprivation, consequently, there is a high risk that health inequalities in Inverclyde will be exacerbated for many years to come.

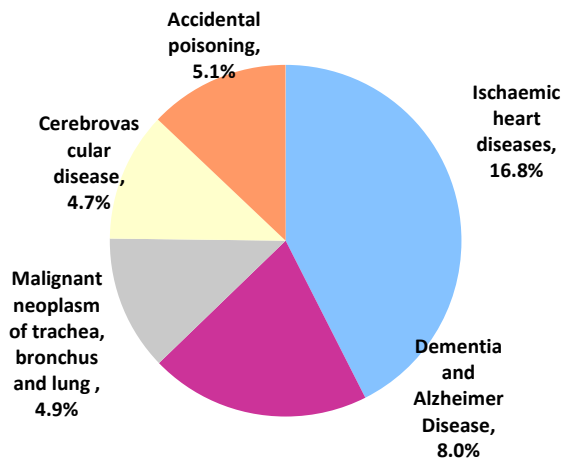


Source: [Life Expectancy | National Records of Scotland \(nrscotland.gov.uk\)](https://nrs.scot.nhs.uk/nrscotland.gov.uk)

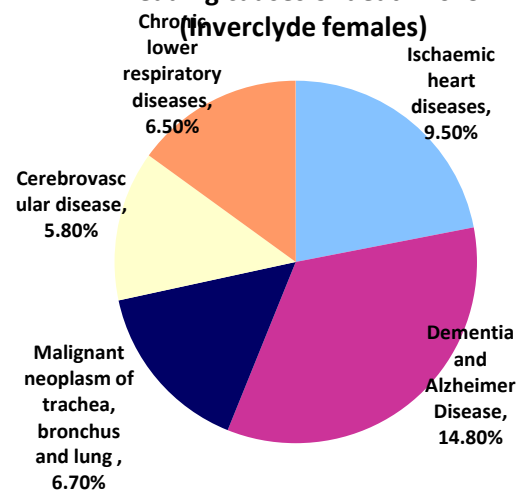
Leading Causes of Death

In Inverclyde, the leading cause of death for males in 2018 was ischaemic heart diseases (15.6% of all male deaths), followed by dementia and Alzheimer's disease (9.7%). In Scotland overall, the leading cause of death for males was also ischaemic heart diseases (13.9%), followed by dementia and Alzheimer's disease (7.6%). The leading cause of death for females in 2018 was dementia and Alzheimer's disease (16.6% of all female deaths), followed by chronic lower respiratory diseases (8.6%). In Scotland overall, the leading cause of death for females was also dementia and Alzheimer's disease (14.4%), followed by ischaemic heart diseases (8.8%).

**Leading causes of death 2019
(Inverclyde males)**



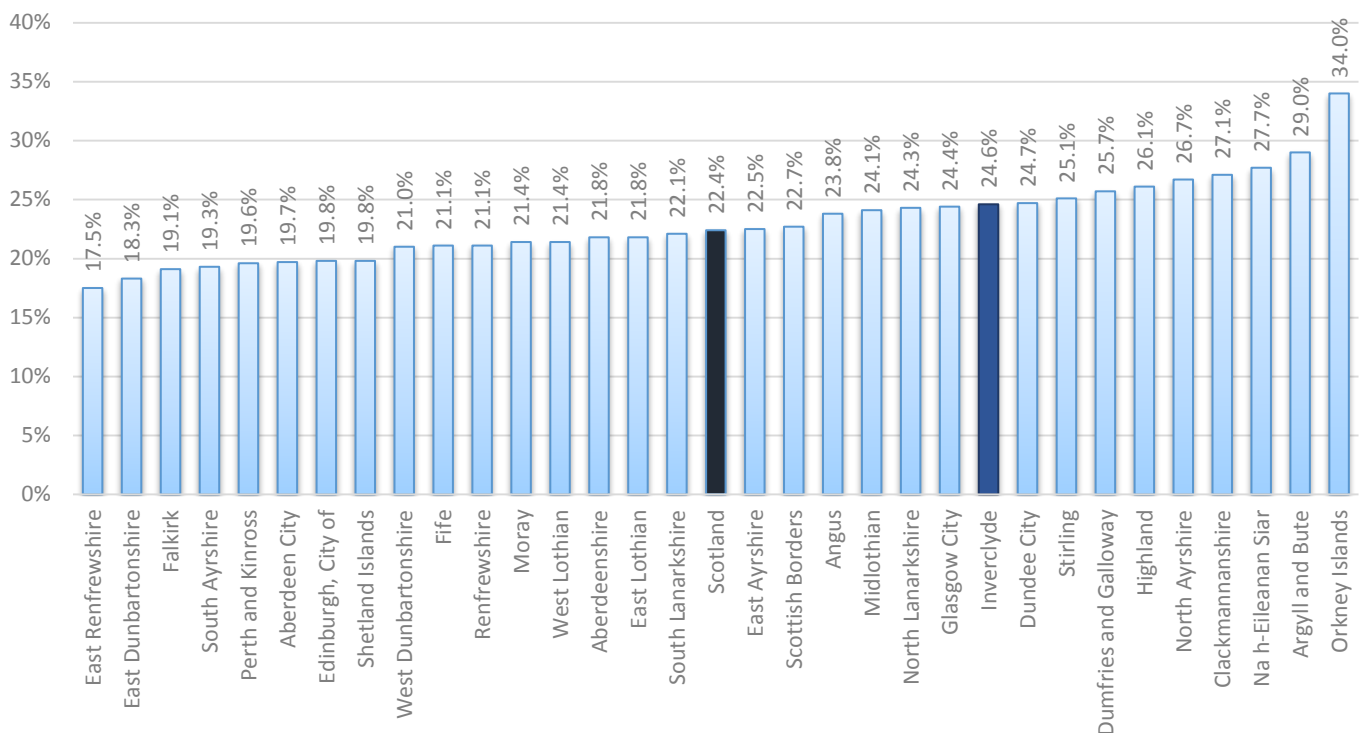
**Leading causes of death 2019
(Inverclyde females)**



Child Weight and Growth

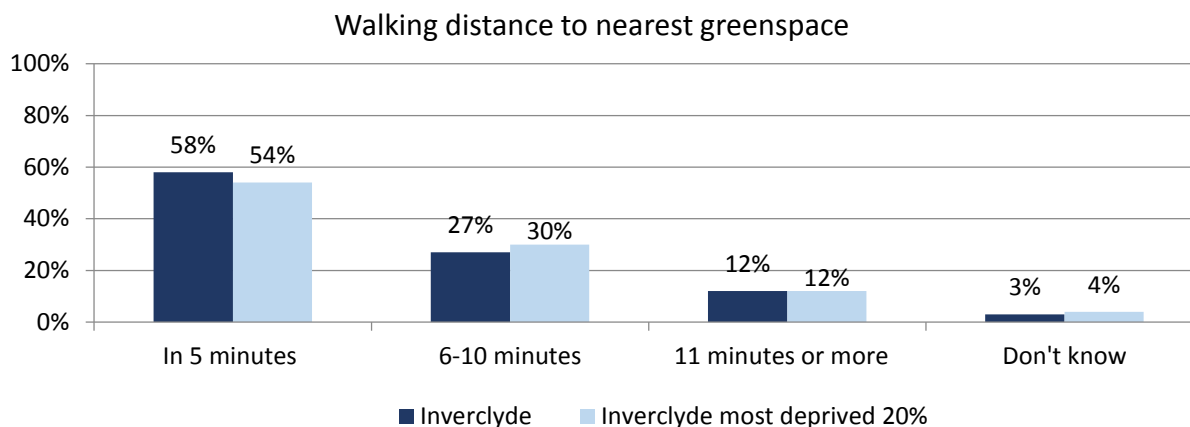
Child weight and growth can be used as a marker of their general nutritional and physical health. The chart below shows the percentage of children in Primary 1 in Inverclyde and other Scottish Councils who are at risk of being overweight or obese in 2018/19. Children in Inverclyde are at a slightly higher risk of weight problems compared to the national average, although it is not statistically significant difference.

% of P1 school children at risk of overweight and obesity combined; school year 2018/19 (epidemiological categories)



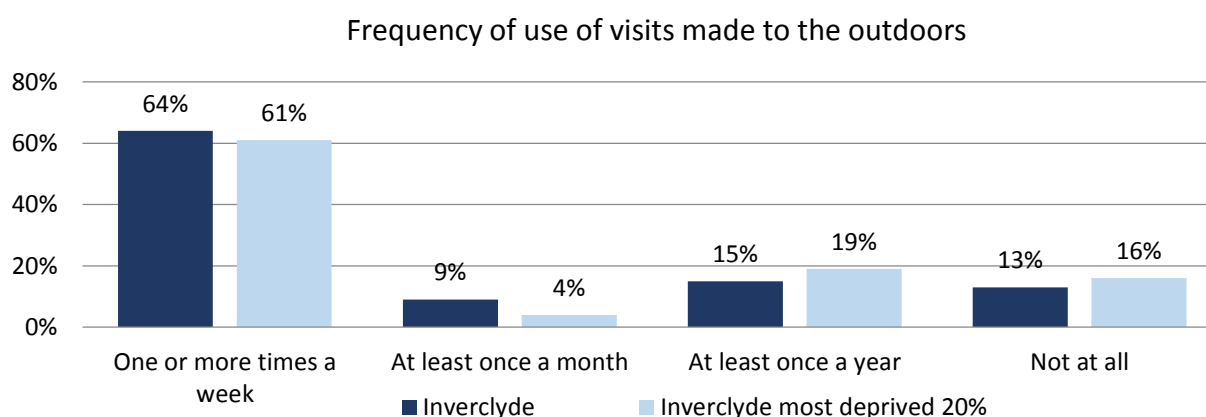
Access to Open Space

According to the Scottish Household Survey 2018, almost 60% of Inverclyde residents live within 5 walking minutes to the nearest greenspace, whilst 85% of Inverclyde residents live within 10 minutes walking distance to the nearest greenspace. Walking distance to the nearest greenspace for those living in the 20% most deprived areas in Inverclyde is not statistically different to the overall figures for Inverclyde.



Source: Scottish Household Survey Local Authority Tables 2018
<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/LATables2018/Inverclyde>

There is a slight difference in the frequency of visits to the outdoors made by those living in the 20% most deprived areas compared to the rest of Inverclyde.



Source: <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002/LATables2018>

Deprivation

The Scottish Government published the Scottish Index of Multiple (SIMD) Deprivation on 28 January 2020, the Scottish Government's official tool for identifying places in Scotland suffering from deprivation. For the purposes of SIMD 2020, Inverclyde has been split into 114 data zones.

- According to the SIMD 2020, the most deprived data zone in Scotland is located in Greenock, specifically Greenock Town Centre.
- The number of data zones in Inverclyde that fall into the category of the most deprived 5% in Scotland has increased by 11, from 11 to 22.
- The number of data zones in Inverclyde that fall into the category of the most deprived 20% in Scotland has increased by 1 from 50 to 51.
- In SIMD 2016, no Port Glasgow data zones featured in the most deprived 5% in Scotland, however, 5 Port Glasgow data zones have moved into this category in SIMD 2020.

The level of deprivation in Inverclyde is a particular challenge as those living in deprived areas have a much lower life expectancy when compared to those living in the least deprived areas. In addition, evidence shows that adults who live in the most deprived areas of Scotland are less likely to meet physical activity recommendations, compared with the least deprived areas.

Participation in physical activity

There is a range of evidence that shows levels of physical activity are lower amongst the population of Inverclyde. For example:

- the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde 2017/18 Health and Wellbeing Survey shows those in Inverclyde were less likely to meet the target of 150 minutes or more of physical activity per week compared to the NHSGGC total (48% Inverclyde; 58% NHSGGC) (**NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde 2017/18 Health and Wellbeing Survey**);
- between 2013 and 2019, 48% of the Inverclyde population reported doing at least one sport, excluding walking. This increases to 78% if walking is included. The national average is 53%, excluding walking and 79% including walking (**Scottish Household Survey**);
- 10% of young people aged 13-15 met the target of taking 60 minutes or more of moderate physical activity on seven days per week. Scottish figure is 18% (**Inverclyde Council Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey 2019**); and
- Girls were more likely than boys to report barriers to doing physical activity (67% girls; 54% boys) (**Inverclyde Council Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey 2019**).

Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the health and wellbeing of the population of Inverclyde. Not only has Inverclyde suffered from higher death rates, but the pandemic has impacted disproportionately on people in poverty, low-paid workers, children and young people, older people, disabled people, minority ethnic groups and women. Mental health has also been negatively impacted with many people reporting a deterioration in their mental health and wellbeing. While the pandemic is undoubtedly a major challenge, particularly as there continues to be uncertainty over the eventual trajectory of the pandemic, an improvement in levels of physical activity will be a key part of recovery due to the benefits it has for both physical and mental health.

Strengths and Opportunities

Whilst Inverclyde as an area faces a number of challenges, it also has many strengths and we will seek to capitalise on these in order to achieve our vision for the people of Inverclyde to have the support, encouragement and opportunities to lead healthy, active lives through physical activity, including sport.

Outdoor and Open Space

Inverclyde has some of the most breathtaking countryside in Scotland and this is undoubtedly one of the area's biggest assets. It is often cited in numerous public consultations as being what people like most about living in Inverclyde.

There are a number of local trails and paths available to walkers, cyclists and runners for walking, wheeling, cycling and running. In addition to this, the area is served by some excellent cycle paths and routes, with Cycle Route 75 running through the area. Our Duke of Edinburgh programme is one of the highest performing in the country and introduces young people to the outdoor environment on their doorstep, offering new experiences in outdoor learning.

There are a number of local parks and green spaces which offer recreational and leisure opportunities for a wide range of ages and interests. Our position on the Clyde Estuary offers local people access to water sports as well as boating and yachting opportunities.

Leisure Facilities

There has been significant investment in Inverclyde's leisure facilities over the years which has resulted in them being amongst the best in Scotland. There is a range of facilities available across Inverclyde, including parks and pitches, sports facilities, health and fitness facilities, swimming pools, community halls, golf course, ice facilities and an athletics stadium which are run by Inverclyde Leisure. Inverclyde also has unique facilities such as Gourock outdoor heated pool which not only offers a first class leisure experience to residents of Inverclyde but is also a popular visitor attraction.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, leisure facilities across Inverclyde were experiencing an increase in usage, largely due to the improvements in facilities and the development of key products and services by Inverclyde Leisure. In addition to a wide range of facilities, Inverclyde Leisure also offers a diverse range of opportunities to the local communities including group fitness classes, cardiac rehab, swimming lessons, fitness gyms, indoor carpet bowling, soft play and badminton. Inverclyde Leisure also operate high quality facilities such as pitches within the Inverclyde Council school estate. A key element of the recovery from Covid-19 will be increasing attendance at sport and leisure facilities to pre-pandemic levels.

Community Sports Hubs

Inverclyde has three community sports hubs: Gourock, Ravenscraig and Port Glasgow.

Community Sport Hubs create an opportunity to bring together sports clubs and key partners to develop sport within local communities. The aim of the initiative which is delivered in partnership with sportscotland is to develop community-led approaches with a variety of clubs working together to create sustainability, as well as to build sporting opportunities within the community, whether that be participating, coaching or officiating. The hubs are based in local facilities such as sports centres, community centres, schools or playing fields and are operated by the sports clubs & community organisations. They are led by local volunteers with support from Inverclyde Council, sportscotland and others.

The hubs engage with the community through schools programmes, open days (pre covid) and social media. The hubs provide a natural progression for children & young people to transition from school physical activity into a club setting, leading to life-long participation in sport. Sport and physical opportunities available through the community sports hubs include netball, athletics, hockey, bowls, golf, yachting, archery, football and cricket.

Clubs/Groups

Inverclyde has a large number of clubs and groups. In 2019/20 there were 104 recorded sports clubs, with 35% located within SIMD deciles 1 and 2. Locally, there is a strong pathway for school to club sport. In order to ensure that we are providing the best sporting pathways for our children and young people, clubs must complete a club accreditation process through Active Schools/Sports Development if they wish to link in with schools. Through this initiative we are able to ensure that all clubs have the required policies and procedures in place to ensure that it is a safe and high quality environment for all participants, coaches and officials. At present 25 clubs, representing 15 different sports, are accredited. These include clubs offering basketball, judo/martial arts, golf, dance, bowling, tennis, rugby, football and swimming. The majority of the clubs (13) are based within central Inverclyde and as we move to the periphery the number of clubs decreases. All of these clubs are required to complete an annual update.

There is a huge network of volunteering in Inverclyde with regards to sports and physical activity. Without the contribution of volunteers, opportunities would be much reduced and less varied. Within Inverclyde the growth/development of volunteering is underpinned by **sportscotland's** Volunteering in Sport Framework, which puts the volunteer at the centre of sport building capacity and enabling volunteers to develop confidence and skills which are transferable into other aspects of their lives.

Active Schools

Inverclyde Council works in partnership with **sportscotland**, the National Agency for Sport, to invest and support our local Active Schools network. Inverclyde is part of a national programme with engagement from all 32 local authorities. Active Schools aims to provide increased high quality opportunities for pupils to take part in sport and physical activity before school, during lunchtime and after school, and to develop effective pathways between schools and sports clubs in the local community. Active Schools co-ordinators work with primary, secondary and additional support needs schools and have a key role in developing a network of volunteers to deliver activity sessions. Beyond the school environment Active Schools co-ordinators work with a range of partners including local sports clubs, sports development officers, community sport hubs, colleges and universities to provide pathways to support young people to stay involved and make progress in sport.

Inverclyde is exceeding the national average in the following performance measures:

- Percentage of female participants;
- Percentage of school roll who participate ; and
- Percentage of deliverers who are volunteers.

Schools

Inverclyde is committed to achieving the national guidelines of 2 hours of quality PE for every primary pupil and 2 periods per week for pupils in S1-4, thus giving young people the opportunity to engage in sport and physical activity in a safe environment, where they achieve physical, social and emotional benefits. There are also extensive opportunities for young people to experience leadership programmes in primary and secondary schools, including playmakers, sports/dance leaders, legacy leaders, Young Ambassadors and Sports Councils. Such programmes allow young people to gain experience of volunteering in the delivery of sport within schools and local communities.

School of football provides a further opportunity for young people to engage in sports during the curriculum. The partnership between Greenock Morton Community Trust, Education and the Scottish FA since 2013 has seen 350 young people from S1/2, of which 15% were female, complete the programme.

Third Sector Projects

A number of third sector projects exist to improve health and physical activity. For example, the Inverclyde Bothy provides a sustainable programme of cycling and walking activities for staff and patients of Inverclyde's Health and Social Care Partnership to promote physical and mental wellbeing, to combat loneliness and isolation and promote active travel, whether this be for work or leisure. The programme also offers cycling tuition and cycle and walk leader training. Participants in the cycling activities can use the bikes for leisure beyond the programme of events. Overall, the programme encourages participants to continue cycling and walking, meaning it will have a lasting impact on the physical and mental health of all participants as well as having a positive environmental impact on Inverclyde.

Covid-19

The pandemic and subsequent 'lock-downs' led many people to become more physically active by taking up activities such as walking and cycling. It is of critical importance that we capitalise on this and that appropriate infrastructure is put in place in order to encourage and sustain this positive behavioural change post lockdown. Communities have told us that providing more walking and cycling routes is important to them as they wish to continue to their participation in these activities.

Governance

Role of Inverclyde Alliance Board in relation to the Active Inverclyde Strategy

The Alliance Board is Inverclyde's Community Planning partnership (CPP) and it has overall responsibility for overseeing the development and implementation of the Active Inverclyde Strategy. A report on progress made with the implementation of the strategy will be submitted to Inverclyde Alliance Board on an annual basis to enable the Community Planning Partnership to scrutinise performance.

Role of the CLD Strategic Implementation Group Sub-Group

A sub-group of the CLD Strategic Implementation Group will be established in order to implement the strategy. The sub-group will be responsible for taking forward actions and proposals, as well as monitoring and reviewing the strategy, thus ensuring that the agreed outcomes are being achieved. Sub group membership will involve Inverclyde Council, **sportscotland**, Inverclyde Leisure, Inverclyde Health and Social Partnership and other stakeholders from the physical activity and sport community in Inverclyde.

Role of Communication and Engagement Groups in relation to the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24

The role of Communication and Engagement Groups is to enable local communities to be engaged in the development and implementation of the Active Inverclyde Strategy. These groups also have responsibility for enhancing local democratic decision making at a community level, to ensure the services that are needed are delivered within each of the localities. A local communication and engagement group representing young people will also be developed.

Development of an action plan

Stakeholder engagement will inform the development of a detailed action plan that will contain greater detail of the actions and initiatives that will be implemented by partner organisations. The engagement will focus on the four active Inverclyde themes in order to identify gaps and future areas for development. This will lead to the development of a SMART action plan containing specific, measureable, attainable, relevant and time-based actions.

Monitoring and evaluation

The Sub-group will have responsibility for regularly monitoring and reviewing the strategy to ensure that it is achieving its objectives. The sub-group will also have responsibility for reporting progress on an annual basis to the Alliance Board, as well as all relevant networks.

Our Themes

The Active Inverclyde Strategy concentrates on four main themes that reflect the areas we believe are pivotal to achieving a reduction in health inequalities and an increase in levels of physical activity. Central to this strategy is the involvement of all clubs, organisations, agencies and participants involved in the development and delivery of physical activity, including sport in Inverclyde. We will work with those key stakeholders to develop an action plan which ensures that the correct actions are taken in order to help us achieve our objectives.

Active People:

Understanding the people within Inverclyde is essential for shaping the services we provide. By considering the personal circumstances of individuals and recognising how their needs change throughout life, we will seek to support residents in leading active and healthy lives.

Active Communities:

Effective local networks of organisations, clubs, schools and businesses provide opportunities for individuals to become active across the Inverclyde area. Maximising available resources, working with and empowering communities and collaborating with various groups will help us to develop inclusive opportunities that increase participation in physical activity.

Active Partnerships:

Working at local and national levels with our strategic partners, networks and participants we will maximise the opportunities for physical activity, including sport, in Inverclyde, ensuring that our priorities are reflected in other emerging plans and strategies.

Active Environment:

Ensuring our streets, housing areas, open spaces and sports facilities are of the highest standard possible and receive ongoing development and investment are key to supporting activity in Inverclyde. Improving access to our community facilities, utilising more venues and spaces, and ensuring activity is designed into new developments will maximise opportunities for physical activity, including sport across Inverclyde.

Theme 1: Active People

Why is this a theme?

People are our top priority and it is essential that we develop and deliver physical activity, including sport opportunities, which are relevant to their needs throughout the various life stages, in order to enable them to get active and remain active.

According to the latest official statistics from the National Records of Scotland the population of Inverclyde is **79,160** people.

A diverse and changing population requires a range of physical activity and sport opportunities to be accessible across our communities. A variety of opportunities which balance being active, taking part and having fun with opportunities for competition and pursuing excellence is required.

What are the challenges/considerations?

Physical inactivity presents a big health risk to Individuals. It leads to greater risks of developing life limiting illness, diabetes, heart disease, cancer and depression. Physical inactivity is a risk to particular groups within our community.

- **Children and young people:**

Obesity is a growing issue both nationally and locally. Children in Inverclyde are at a slightly higher risk of weight problems compared to the national average and this has potentially serious implications for their health later in life. There is therefore a need to promote healthy, active lifestyles from early years onwards. **(JSNA)**

The Inverclyde Council Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey 2019 gathered current demographic information on the secondary school pupil population, reporting trend data on key areas including health & wellbeing. The majority of young people across the authority are active but not enough to meet the recommended target of 60 minutes or more per day. **(Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey 2019)**

- **Women and girls:**

Women and girls in Inverclyde are shown to be less likely to achieve recommended physical activity targets. In total, 45% of women met the physical activity target whilst just over half of men did. We need to better understand why this happens and put measures in place to increase the % of those meeting the recommended targets. Girls in Inverclyde are more likely than boys to report barriers to doing physical activity (67% girls; 54% boys). **(Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey 2019) (HSCP Strategic Needs Ass. 2019)**

- **People with disabilities:**

In 2019 there were 499 adults with learning disabilities and 108 adults diagnosed with Autism in Inverclyde. The Scottish Health Survey suggests that disabled people face barriers to participation in sport and physical activity. The survey suggests that a lower percentage of disabled people meet the recommendations for physical activity, compared to non-disabled people. People with disabilities, including young people, represent a key target group for the Active Living strategy and consideration will be given to the different types of disability and how this impacts on accessibility and participation. **(HSCP Strategic Needs Ass. 2019) (Scottish Health Survey 2019).**

- **Older People:**

The NRS population projections suggest that the percentage of the population in older age groups across Scotland is due to rise, with those aged 75 and above going from about one in ten in 2012 to nearly one

in five of the population by 2037. We know that physical activity, including sport can play a significant part in reducing social isolation and loneliness amongst older people as well as reducing the risk of diabetes, dementia, heart disease, falls, joint/back pain and some cancers. We also know that older age groups are less likely to achieve the recommended target for physical activity. **(HSCP Strategic Needs Ass. 2019)**

- **Mental Health:**

There is a slightly higher percentage of people in Inverclyde with a mental health condition in comparison with the Scottish average. Health issues that are included within the area of mental health range from common problems such as dementia, stress and depression, to more severe issues like schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses. Being active improves psychological wellbeing, boosts self-esteem, plays an important role in maintaining a healthy weight and improves mood and sleep quality (Active Scotland Framework). Whilst being active can improve mental health and wellbeing it is widely recognised that mental ill health can act as a barrier to being physically active.

What do we want to achieve?

- Reduction in health inequalities;
- Inactive residents become more active;
- Active residents stay active throughout life; and
- Increased wellbeing and resilience in communities through physical and sport (taking into consideration the impact of Covid-19).

What are we going to do?

When we design physical activity and sport opportunities we will design them around the people who will use them and we will engage with those people to ensure that we are creatively supporting opportunities for all Inverclyde residents.

We aspire to be able to design flexible resources in partnership that can be tailored to all individuals' needs and abilities to ensure that they are accessible to everyone. By creating a culture of inclusion and creating opportunities to work in partnership, we will ensure that the people of Inverclyde have the optimum resources to support their health and wellbeing journey throughout their life to:

- Increase physical activity levels amongst residents living in the least active and deprived areas of Inverclyde;
- Increase physical activity levels amongst groups of people where inactivity inequalities are the greatest e.g. those with a disability, older people and women and girls;
- Consult and involve our residents in developing, delivering and monitoring the impact of the strategy;
- Develop new opportunities for people to engage in sport and physical activities as coaches, officials and/or volunteers, building local capacity; and
- Invest in and develop elite pathways locally.

Theme 2: Active Communities

Why is this a theme?

There are a diverse range of communities across Inverclyde, both in a geographic sense as well as communities of interest, especially when it comes to sport and physical activity. We have a vibrant network of clubs and organisations that support and encourage all our communities to be active and have fun by offering a range of activities and opportunities. Many of them are managed and operated by dedicated volunteers whilst others are run commercially. There are a wide range of facilities (both indoor and outdoor) in our communities and we must seek to support and enable wider access, working together to remove any identified barriers.

What are the challenges/considerations?

- **Access to Opportunities:**

We need to build strong communities who actively encourage everyone to be physically active either through clubs, health professionals or community champions. We want these active advocates to be part of the effort to tackle health inequalities and increase participation in sport and physical opportunities. We need to ensure that opportunities are accessible, inclusive and relevant to the needs of local communities.

- **Sustainability:**

Volunteers, clubs and organisations are the lifeblood of our communities and make a significant contribution to sport and physical activity across Inverclyde. We need to work together with our local volunteers, clubs, organisations and neighbouring areas to support this network, ensuring sustainability and building capacity for the future where possible. As grant funding becomes more competitive we need to ensure a collaborative approach to maximising resources in Inverclyde ensuring that all aspects of sport and physical activity can grow and develop.

- **Capacity Building:**

As lifestyles become busier, time for volunteering becomes difficult. To their credit there are a vast number of volunteers across Inverclyde who continue to dedicate many hours to developing and delivering sport and physical activity to others. We must ensure that this workforce grows supporting them to share their skills, knowledge and experience to the benefit of others. We need to celebrate their achievements and highlight them as role models. The Covid-19 pandemic led to an increase in the number of volunteers across Inverclyde and we need to capitalise and build on that going forward.

- **Community Engagement:**

There is a vast range of sport and opportunities to take part in physical activity available across Inverclyde and we must ensure we are promoting these effectively. Establishing and strengthening our communication with a wider range of community organisations will increase our reach to more of our citizens in terms of encouraging and supporting them to achieve the recommended targets with regards to physical activity. We must seek to imbed the sport and physical activity agenda into our locality planning approach in order for us to understand and respond to the needs of our citizens and/or communities.

What do we want to achieve?

- Reduction in health inequalities amongst communities; and
- Community-based initiatives which are having an impact on people's wellbeing and activity levels are supported to develop and improve.

What are we going to do?

- Engage with communities to identify the barriers that prevent residents from being more active and/or participating in physical activity including sport;
- Increase and sustain opportunities for people to engage in physical activities, including sport as coaches, officials and/or volunteers, building local capacity;
- Ensure the voices of targeted groups and individuals are represented across all partnerships and in the design of physical activities and sport opportunities;
- Tackle inactivity using effective local networks which engage with and empower local people to increase their activity levels including Community Sports Hubs & wider voluntary sector; and
- Celebrate success and champion our sports competitors and volunteers to instil pride and raise awareness.

Theme 3: Active Partnerships

Why is this a theme?

Inverclyde is well served by strong existing networks and through collaboration we will reduce inactivity and increase participation in physical activity, including sport across Inverclyde. We have well established networks in more traditionally recognised sports but also wish to create a culture where new and emerging activities and sports are accessible with clear routes to participation and pathways for progression.

We will continue to invest in and develop partnership working at both local and national levels and seek the involvement of partners such as:

- Sport Governing Bodies;
- Sportscotland;
- Schools;
- Community Groups and Organisations;
- Local Clubs;
- Inverclyde HSCP;
- Third Sector Organisations;
- Inverclyde Leisure; and
- Community members who have experience and knowledge in developing sport

What are the challenges/considerations?

- **Communication:**

Regular and open communication with the range of stakeholders/partners involved in the work which underpins this strategy is critical to long term success. Partners must be informed of progress relating to the strategy and have the opportunity to provide feedback. Communication should be appropriate and facilitated using a range of approaches and methods relevant to the needs of stakeholders, including the use of digital technologies. We should seek to engage and communicate with new stakeholders throughout the lifetime of the strategy.

- **Trust:**

Effective partnerships rely on a high level of trust between all partners. This includes developing an accurate understanding of the shared vision, agenda and accountability and clarity about specific roles and responsibilities so as to avoid duplication of effort. Partners need to be clear about shared risk and reward and should support other partners when necessary. This level of trust often has to develop through time, enabled by a culture of openness, respect and mutual benefit.

Demonstrating Impact:

Mechanisms are required to demonstrate the impact and value of partnership working. This is dependent on a clear understanding of the shared objectives, roles and responsibilities, and an openness and willingness to engage. The partnerships relevant to this strategy should ensure that:

- Shared objectives and targets are set and agreed;
- Targets are SMART;
- Mechanisms are in place to measure and report on progress;
- Evidence is collected to illustrate success;

- All progress is measured and regularly reported to partners; and
- Shared success is celebrated.

What do we want to achieve?

- Improved active infrastructure, people and places;
- Increased wellbeing and resilience in communities through physical activities and sport (taking into account the impact of Covid-19);
- Increased opportunities to participate, progress and achieve in sport; and
- Enhanced facilities and infrastructure due to new investment.

What are we going to do?

- Identify the strategic partners, networks and champions required to create robust and meaningful partnership working;
- Ensure the voices of targeted groups and individuals are represented across all partnerships;
- Tackle inactivity using effective local networks which engage with and empower local people to increase their activity levels including Community Sports Hubs;
- Ensure physical activity and sports priorities are reflected in other emerging plans and strategies;
- Influence and secure further investment in our sports infrastructure; and
- Ensure linkages with all relevant local and national policy and frameworks.

Theme 4: Active Environment

Why is this a theme?

The physical landscape of our communities is changing every day and creating space and facilities for everything our communities need is a constant challenge. Investment has been made in our leisure facilities, housing, school estates and parks and open spaces. We need to protect and continue to develop and continue to invest in such spaces to ensure the needs of our communities are met.

The Scottish Government's Programme for Government 2020-21 commits to working with local government to take forward the Scottish Government's ambition for 20 minute neighbourhoods. The principle of 20 minute neighbourhoods is a place-based approach to reduce inequality and meet net zero carbon emission targets. With a focus on providing people with connected and walkable places to live, it supports a lifestyle where it is easier for everyone to choose to live, work and play more locally. Where people can access their essential daily needs within a walkable distance from their home and communities are supported to thrive. (Improvement Service). In relation to this strategy this includes access to local parks and playgrounds, green spaces, sport and recreation facilities, safe streets and spaces and safe cycling networks.

The application of Place Standard principles, offers a strong starting point towards the 20 minute neighbourhood ambitions.

What are the challenges/considerations?

- **Maximising Assets:**

Despite facing significant budget reductions, major improvements have been made to our sports and open spaces infrastructure in recent years and we need to ensure that the legacy of this is maintained and remains sustainable. It is important that we maximise usage of our existing assets whilst also providing access to previously untapped resources such as schools and open spaces. Given the clear links between being outdoors and good mental wellbeing, we are well positioned to use our outdoor environment to promote physical activity and good mental wellbeing. Spaces need to be accessible, safe and suit a range of needs.

- **Developing Infrastructure:**

We are required to ensure that our facilities and spaces are fit for purpose and meet the needs of a growing and aging population. We have to ensure that all aspects are taken into account. For example, transport infrastructure allows for journeys to be made by walking, running and cycling. At present 33% of secondary pupils in Inverclyde use active travel (walking and cycling) to get to and from school, whilst 41% use public transport and 26% use private personal transport.

- **Targeting Resources:**

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) data published in early 2020 shows that high levels of multiple deprivation is a significant issue in Inverclyde with some areas requiring significant regeneration. We are also acutely aware that in addition to numerous other challenges, there is a direct relationship between greater levels of inactivity and areas of deprivation. We need to tackle this by engaging our partners to strategically and

collaboratively focus resources in these areas to support individuals to become more active and stay active throughout life.

What do we want to achieve?

- Improved active infrastructure, people and places;
- Enhanced facilities and infrastructure due to new investment;
- Inactive residents become more active; and
- Active residents stay active throughout life.

What are we going to do?

- Design and implement a sustainable active travel plan for all education establishments and communities across Inverclyde;
- Increase physical activity in all parks and open spaces;
- Harness the opportunity that digital innovation can bring to increasing physical activity;
- Build 'Active Design' principles into all new developments including offices and housing;
- Create safer active places and active communities through active design to improve infrastructure necessary to enable greater use of existing assets for physical activity; and
- Influence planning and secure further investment in our sports infrastructure.



Inverclyde Alliance

AGENDA ITEM NO:9

Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	4 October 2021
Report By:	Head of Organisational Development, Policy and Communications	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	George Barbour	Contact No:	01475 712385
Subject:	HM The Queen Platinum Jubilee 2022/City Status		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight to members of the Inverclyde Alliance the opportunity to bid for City Status for Greenock as part of the wider Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Culture Secretary for the UK has announced changes to the May Bank Holiday weekend in 2022 to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's 70th anniversary as monarch and a range of national celebrations.
- 2.2 The council has agreed to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee - the first time any British monarch has reached this historic milestone, with a closure of offices and schools on Thursday 2 and Friday 3 June 2022 to mark the occasion.
- 2.3 In addition, there will be events to mark the occasion including the lighting of the Beacon at Lyle Hill and encouraging the community to mark the occasion through the four days of celebrations.
- 2.4 The council is also examining the proposal, as part of the Platinum Jubilee, to bid for City Status for Greenock.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Members:

- (1) Note that plans are being put in place for Inverclyde to support the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and to review the opportunity to submit a bid as part of the Civic Honours competition proposing Greenock becomes Scotland's eighth City.

STEVEN MCNAB

HEAD OF ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Her Majesty The Queen celebrates 70 years as Monarch – the first time any British Monarch has reached this historic milestone.
- 4.2 The UK Government has announced that the May Bank Holiday Weekend will be moved to Thursday 2 June and an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3 June will see a four-day weekend to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - the first time any British monarch has reached this historic milestone.
- 4.3 The commemorations are being arranged jointly with The Royal Household and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.
- 4.4 As part of the Platinum Jubilee in 2022 The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) has been launched which invites people to plant a tree for the Jubilee.
- 4.5 It is expected also that large scale activities will be planned to link major cities across the UK complemented by events in communities across the UK and the Commonwealth, allowing people to join together in celebration and thanks at a national and local level.
- 4.6 It is also expected that the celebration plans will also involve the commissioning and creation of a Platinum Jubilee medal for distribution to public service workers, a tradition dating back to the reign of Queen Victoria when a medal was cast to commemorate her 50th anniversary on the Throne.
- 4.7 The Royal Family has announced that as part of the celebrations a range of events will be planned including:

Thursday 2nd June:

The Queen's Birthday Parade (Trooping the Colour): Over 1,400 parading soldiers, 200 horses and 400 musicians will come together in the traditional Parade to mark The Queen's official birthday, usually held on the second Saturday in June.

Platinum Jubilee Beacons: The United Kingdom's long tradition of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations with the lighting of beacons will be continued to mark the Platinum Jubilee. Beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories. For the first time, beacons will also be lit in each of the capital cities of the Commonwealth countries to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Friday 3rd June:

Service of Thanksgiving: A Service of Thanksgiving for The Queen's reign will be held at St Paul's Cathedral. Further events will be announced in due course.

Saturday 4th June:

The Derby at Epsom Downs: Her Majesty The Queen, accompanied by Members of the Royal Family, will attend the Derby at Epsom Downs.

Platinum Party at the Palace: The BBC will stage and broadcast a special live concert from Buckingham Palace that will bring together some of the world's biggest entertainment stars to celebrate the most significant and joyous moments from The Queen's seven decade reign. Members of the public will be invited to apply to attend this special event and details of the ballot for UK residents to secure audience tickets will be released in due course.

Sunday 5th June

The Big Jubilee Lunch: Every year since the idea began in 2009 The Big Lunch has encouraged communities to celebrate their connections and get to know each other a little bit better, coming together in a spirit of fun and friendship. In 2022 The Big Lunch will bring the Jubilee celebrations into the heart of every community.

People are invited to share friendship, food and fun with neighbours as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. A Big Jubilee Lunch can be big or small - street party or picnic, tea and cake or a garden barbeque. The Big Lunch provides tips and ideas for hosting an event.

The Platinum Jubilee Pageant: A pageant featuring over 5,000 people from across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth will take place against the backdrop of Buckingham Palace and the surrounding streets. It will combine street arts, theatre, music, circus, carnival and costume and celebrate the service of Her Majesty's reign, as well as honouring the collective service of people and communities across the country.

- 4.8 A special Jubilee emblem competition, in conjunction with the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Design Museum and the Royal College of Art, has been established with the winning entry becoming the official emblem for the celebrations next year.
- 4.9 In addition, as part of these celebrations, there will be a civic honours competition. This includes competitions for city status and Lord Mayor, or Provost, status.
- 4.10 Any local authority in any part of the United Kingdom, a Crown Dependency or an Overseas Territory, which considers that its area deserves to be granted the rare honour of city status is welcome to enter the competition (the entry guidelines are included at appendix 1).
- 4.11 Local authorities for existing cities in the United Kingdom are welcome to enter the parallel competition for a Lord Mayoralty or Provostship.
- 4.12 The last time the competition was created was to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee in 2012 and three places - Chelmsford, Perth and St Asaph – won city status.
- 4.13 10 years ago 26 towns applied for city status: Bolton, Bournemouth, Chelmsford, Colchester, Coleraine, Corby, Craigavon, Croydon, Doncaster, Dorchester, Dudley, Dumfries, Gateshead, Goole, Luton, Medway, Middlesbrough, Milton Keynes, Perth, Reading, Southend, St Asaph, St Austell, Stockport, Tower Hamlets and Wrexham.

5.0 PROPOSAL FOR CITY STATUS

- 5.1 In 2012 on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee 26 places across the UK bid for city status with many highlighting the opportunity to raise their profile to encourage visitors and investment as reasons for bidding.
- 5.2 As a new Scottish City, if successful, a bid from Inverclyde would give the area a seat at the national Scottish Cities Alliance alongside Inverness, Aberdeen, Dundee, Stirling, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Perth and would be an opportunity for further profile raising for the area.
- 5.3 The Council is currently conducting community engagement across Greenock and with Perth and Kinross Council on their bid for City Status in 2012 to prepare a report to the Policy and Resources Committee in November with a bid proposal for possible submission by the deadline of 8 December 2021.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

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					

6.2 Legal

N/A

6.3 Human Resources

As outlined in the report

6.4 Equalities

Equalities

- (a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES (see attached appendix)
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

- (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

X

YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

NO

6.5 Repopulation

Events including remembrance commemorations are an important part of the council's repopulation place marketing ambitions to encourage visitors from outside of Inverclyde to the area and help to support the promotion and marketing town and village centres. Large scale celebrations of local and national events can support community cohesion and help instil a sense of place in communities. The opportunity to gain City Status for a part of Inverclyde opens up profile raising opportunities and the chance for part of Inverclyde to be represented on The Scottish Cities Alliance.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 Discussions have taken place with union representatives who are generally supportive. The Corporate Management Team (CMT) has reviewed the proposal in particular the potential bid for city status and recognise the potential merits and the reputational issues inherent in a bidding process.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 N/A

APPENDIX 1: PLATINUM JUBILEE CIVIC HONOURS COMPETITION ENTRY GUIDELINES

Her Majesty The Queen has agreed that competitions may be held for a grant of city status and Lord Mayor or Provost status to mark Her Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

1. Any local authority in any part of the United Kingdom, a Crown Dependency or an Overseas Territory, which considers that its area deserves to be granted the rare honour of city status on this very special occasion is welcome to enter the competition by the closing date of 8 December 2021.
2. Lord Mayoralty or Provostship is an exceptional distinction conferred on the Mayoralities or Provostships of a few – usually long-established and important - cities. Local authorities for existing cities in the United Kingdom are welcome to enter the parallel competition for a Lord Mayoralty or Provostship by the same closing date.
3. Applications may only be made by an elected local authority for its entire area or a distinct area within its boundary.
4. Although there are no specific criteria for city status or Lord Mayor or Provost status, the Government is asking local authorities to submit their entries in a standard size and format, as detailed in the application form. This is intended to help local authorities minimise the expense of entering the competitions and to provide the Government with a fair basis for comparison and assessment of the entries received.
5. Local authorities are strongly advised not to exceed the limits of the standard size and format as described in application form.
6. The decisions made by Her Majesty, on Ministerial advice, will be final. Local authorities may be assured that each entry will be considered 'in the round', on the merits of its contents rather than on the standard of presentation. Each local authority will be sent brief comments on its entry when the results of the competitions are announced in 2022. These brief comments on entries will not provide specific reasons on why an application is successful or unsuccessful.
7. Local authorities should not incur any expenditure on lobbyists for the purposes of influencing the competition.
8. Applications are requested to be submitted by email to reach the Cabinet Office by 4pm on the closing date, 8 December 2021, at civichonours@cabinetoffice.gov.uk. Alternatively, applications can be submitted by post if preferred, the address to be used is:
Constitutional Policy Team
Cabinet Office
4th Floor Yellow Zone
1 Horse Guards
London
SW1A 2HQ
9. If submitted by post, entrants are asked to notify the Constitutional Policy Team separately when their entries are dispatched, by sending an email, giving the date of dispatch of the hard copies, the name of the local authority submitting the application, and its full contact details. Entries submitted by post should reach the Cabinet Office by the same time on the closing date as those submitted by email.
10. Acknowledgements will be sent by email when the hard copies have been received. If no acknowledgement is received within 6 working days of the closing date (or of dispatch, if earlier), please send a further email to the above address with 'City status entry enquiry' and the name of the local authority area in the heading.



Inverclyde Alliance

AGENDA ITEM NO: 10

Report To;	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	4 October 2021
Report By:	Ruth Binks Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	01475 715432
Subject:	Local Child Poverty Action Report Year 3		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval from Inverclyde Alliance for the year 3 abridged Child Poverty Local Action Report (CPLAR) 2020/21.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Under the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 there is a requirement for all local authorities and relevant Health Boards across Scotland to reduce child poverty. The Act sets out four national statutory income based targets to be achieved by 2030. The four targets are:

- less than 10% of children are in relative poverty;
- less than 5% of children are in absolute poverty;
- less than 5% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation; and
- less than 5% of children are in persistent poverty.

- 2.2 The Act requires that each local authority and related NHS Health Board must jointly prepare annual Child Poverty Local Action Reports (CPLAR's). The report covers the financial year 2020/21. The Child Poverty annual reports must set out the activity undertaken during the reporting period and the planned actions that will be undertaken to meet the 2030 targets specified in the Act.

- 2.3 The Scottish Government has agreed to accept an abridged version of the Year 3 report to bring the timescales for reporting back in line with monitoring and governing expectations after the delays in 2020, caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

- 2.4 The Inverclyde Child Poverty Action Group focuses on a small number of set themes and establish priorities based on evidence and local data after work was undertaken in partnership with Public Health Scotland. This year's (CPLAR) outlines our most recent actions and key achievements.

- 2.5 The key achievements included in 2020/21 Year 3 Child Poverty Local Action Report are:

- expansion of the Discretionary Housing Policy (DHP) in August 2020. A new criteria was introduced to supplement housing cost support in the private rented sector by up to 100% of the difference between Universal Credit Housing costs or Housing Benefit

- entitlement;
- increase of the Scottish Welfare Fund Crisis Grant payments by 20% to provide greater financial support to those in most need. The number of approved Crisis Grant applications increased in 20/21 by 15% (399 additional grants) with the total value of grants increasing by 50% (£119k additional grant awarded);
- a pre-apprenticeship programme for a second cohort of twelve pupils from across Inverclyde between August 20 and June 21;
- provision of training and development opportunities for several care experienced young people through either a modern apprenticeship or paid work;
- the creation of opportunities for families who were identified as digitally insecure by delivering 570 iPads, 536 Chromebooks and 688 mobile wifi devices from Connecting Scotland; and
- the hosting of 6 locality Community Listening Events in February 2021, to encourage community participation in discussions around services and initiatives which will mitigate poverty, deprivation and inequalities.

The report builds on achievements to date and we remain innovative in our approaches to reduce child poverty and support and improve life chances for the children and families of Inverclyde.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Inverclyde Alliance:

- approves the progress and actions set out in the abridged Year 3 Inverclyde Child Poverty Local Action Report as set out in appendix 1.

Ruth Binks

Corporate Director of Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Under the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 there is a requirement for all local authorities and relevant Health Boards across Scotland to reduce child poverty. The Act sets out four national statutory income based targets to be achieved by 2030. The four targets are:

- less than 10% of children are in relative poverty;
- less than 5% of children are in absolute poverty
- less than 5% of children are in combined low income and material deprivation; and
- less than 5% of children are in persistent poverty.

Scotland is the only part of the UK with statutory targets to reduce child poverty.

4.2 This legislation sets out an agenda for measuring, reporting on and reducing child poverty levels across Scotland. There are a number of statutory requirements which are set out below:

- Four statutory national income targets, to be met in the financial year beginning 1 April 2030;
- It places a duty on local authorities and health boards to report annually on activity taken, as well as planned action to contribute to the reduction of child poverty by 2030;
- Four interim income targets, to be met by Scottish ministers in the financial year beginning 1 April 2023 and 2026;
- Places a duty on Scottish ministers to publish child poverty delivery plans in 2018, 2022, and 2026, and to report progress towards meeting the 2030 targets;
- To report on delivery plans annually; and
- The creation of a Poverty and Inequality Commission from 1 July 2019 with functions related to the child poverty national reduction targets.

4.3 This is Inverclyde's third Child Poverty Local Action Report. It is an abridged report to bring the timescales for reporting back on track and in line with monitoring and governing expectations after the delays in 2020, due to the Covid pandemic.

5.0 DEVELOPING INVERCLYDE'S LAR 2020/21

5.1 The range, role and collaborative engagement with partners delivering activities at a local level to tackle child poverty is reflected in the LAR. However, partners delivering these activities are also involved in the forward planning, review and evaluation element of the reporting structure.

5.2 Inverclyde's Local Child Poverty Action Group worked in partnership with Public Health Scotland in 2019 and identified areas of joint working, looking at data available and prioritising areas to focus on, such a food insecurity, employment and employability and digital connectivity. The joint work produced evidence-based priorities and provided a holistic approach to child poverty. This has been held as good practice by the Improvement Service. Public Health Scotland are developing training for all Local Authorities and their NHS Boards to enable them to implement "Inverclyde method".

5.3 Public Health Scotland provided an update on available published data, in 2021, to be included in the Year 3 report. This will be used to monitor trends over time, identify areas for improvement and report on additional actions to mitigate child poverty.

5.4 There are a number of key achievements included in 2020/21 Year 3 Child Poverty Local Action Report. The partnership:

- expanded the Discretionary Housing Policy (DHP) in August 2020. A new criteria was introduced to supplement housing cost support in the private rented sector by up to 100% of the difference between Universal Credit Housing costs or Housing Benefit entitlement;

- increased the Scottish Welfare Fund Crisis Grant payments by 20% to provide greater financial support to those in most need. The number of approved Crisis Grant applications increased in 20/21 by 15% (399 additional grants) with the total value of grants increasing by 50% (£119k additional grant awarded);
- again run a pre-apprenticeship programme for a second cohort of twelve pupils from across Inverclyde between August 20 and June 21;
- provided training and development opportunities for several care experienced young people through either a modern apprenticeship or paid work;
- created opportunities for families who were identified as digitally insecure by delivering 570 iPads, 536 Chromebooks and 688 mobile wifi devices from Connecting Scotland; and
- in February 2021, hosted 6 locality Community Listening Events to encourage community participation in discussions around services and initiatives which will mitigate poverty, deprivation and inequalities.

5.5 Inverclyde Council facilitated six local community listening event to discuss and engage local residents and stakeholders on their experience of poverty and inequalities. The information from people with lived experience of poverty and from organisations delivering services within the localities, formed the basis of the projects included in the £1 million Anti-Poverty Initiatives. In addition to the Poverty Alliance “Get Heard Scotland” project which engaged, involved and empowered people affected by poverty and got their engagement on the policies in Inverclyde in 2020/21.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Legal: The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act places a legal requirement on Councils and NHS Health Board to produce a Local Child Poverty Action Report.
- 6.2 Finance: There are no financial implications associated with this report at present.
- 6.3 Human Resources: There are no HR implications associated with this report at present.
- 6.4 Equality and Diversity: There are no Equality and Diversity implications associated with this report at present.
- 6.5 Repopulation: A reduction in poverty levels will improve the quality of life for many residents in Inverclyde. Improved satisfaction levels may encourage more young people to stay in the area and may make Inverclyde a more attractive place for those considering moving to the area. Repopulation remains a key priority within the Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan.
- 6.6 Inequalities: Inequalities and poverty are inextricably linked therefore reducing poverty will have an impact of reducing inequalities in the area.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Child Poverty Action Group were fully consulted to produce the abridged year 3 Child Poverty Local Action Report 2020/21.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None

Inverclyde Local Child Poverty Action Report
Year Three
2020-21





Contents

Introduction	3
Governance and accountability	4
Key achievements in year three 2020/21	5
Context	7
Engagement with communities: community listening events 2021	9
£1 million anti-poverty initiatives in Inverclyde	10
Covid-19 recovery	11
Plan on a page	12
Appendix 1: Income from employment	13
Appendix 2: Costs of living	20
Appendix 3: Income from social security and benefits in kind	28



Introduction

This is Inverclyde's third annual Child Poverty Local Action Report (CPLAR) 2020/21 which provides information on activities which have taken place in relation to child poverty in Inverclyde since December 2020. Inverclyde's CPLAR Year 2 was approved by the Inverclyde Alliance Board in December 2020.

The Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 requires all local authorities and relevant Health Boards across Scotland to reduce child poverty. The Act sets out four national statutory income based targets to be achieved by 2030:

- Less than 10% of children live in households that are in relative poverty
- Less than 5% of children live in households that are in absolute poverty
- Less than 5% of children live in households that are in combined low income and material deprivation
- Less than 5% of children live in households that are in persistent poverty

An interim target of 18% relative poverty has been set for 2023 – 24.

The Act requires that each local authority and its associated NHS Health Board must jointly prepare annual CPLARs. This annual report sets out the activities undertaken during the reporting period and those planned to meet the 2030 targets. This report is in line with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde priorities for the year 3 Child Poverty Action Plan.

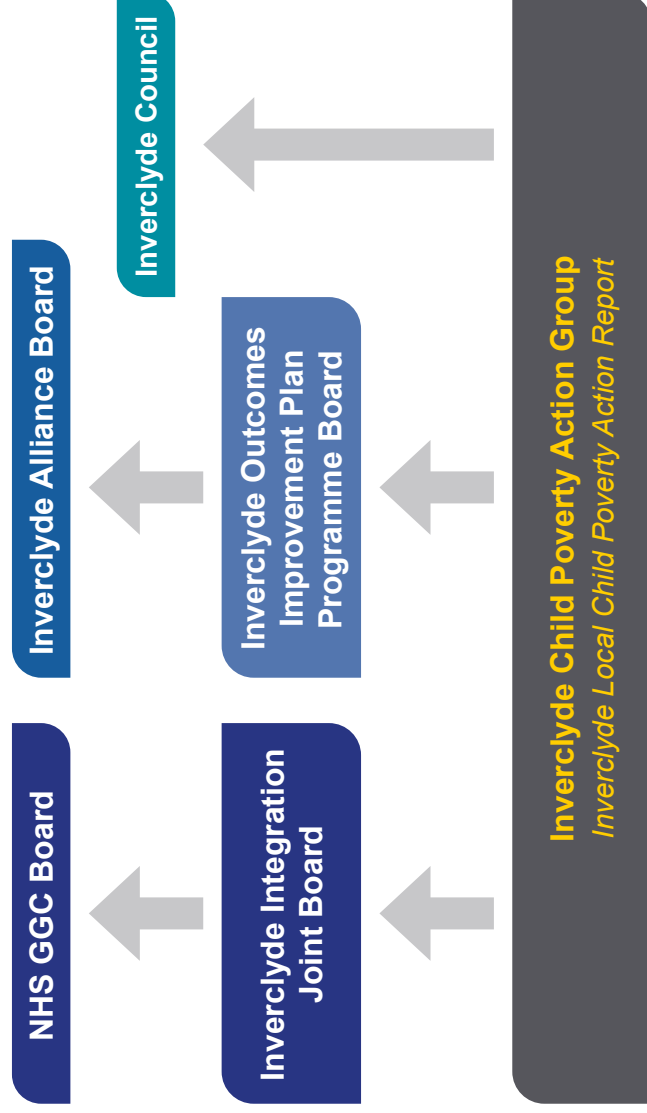




Governance and accountability

The local Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) is a multi-agency collaborative that oversees local development on service provision in Inverclyde in relation to child poverty. The CPAG Chair is an Inverclyde Council Corporate Director.

Governance reports and recommendations from the CPAG are submitted to the Inverclyde Alliance Board for approval which also monitors progress. Inequalities is one of four strategic priorities for the Alliance Board Outcome Improvement Plan.





Key achievements in year three 2020/21

Despite the restrictions of the Covid 19 pandemic, Inverclyde Council and its partners continued to implement services and support for those in our community who are living in poverty.

Prior to the events of COVID-19 Inverclyde Council already had a strong record for enhancing national initiatives or being early adopters of interventions to alleviate poverty.

Inverclyde's Outcome Improvement Plan and its Covid-19 Recovery Plans take cognisance of the need to alleviate poverty, deprivation and inequalities. Many of the services or initiatives designed were in place prior to Covid-19. These include:

- Employment schemes;
- Scottish Welfare Fund/Discretionary Housing Payments;
- Attainment challenge funding;
- Early implementation of universal provision of P4 School Meals;
- More generous qualifying criteria for free school meals and school clothing grants;
- Transport grants for pupils in receipt of free school meals;
- Free internet access in many Council facilities; and
- Heating support/grants for the over 75s.

In addition, Inverclyde Council has since:

- Provided a £100 Council Tax credit to around 3700 households in 2021/22 (Cost £370k);
- Gave an extra £5 per fortnight to qualifying pupils during the lockdown/home working period to assist with the provision of lunches; and
- Enhanced the Scottish Government's qualifying criteria for free school meals which also enabled the families of 620 children to receive the £100 Christmas and Easter payments.

Acknowledging that many families have been adversely affected by unemployment, furlough, ill health, family stress and isolation throughout the Covid pandemic, Inverclyde Council with its partners has:

- Expanded the Discretionary Housing Policy (DHP) in August 2020. A new criteria was introduced to supplement housing cost support in the private rented sector by up to 100% of the difference between Universal Credit Housing costs or Housing Benefit entitlement;
- Increased the Scottish Welfare Fund Crisis Grant payments by 20% to provide greater financial support to those in most need. The number of approved Crisis Grant applications increased in 20/21 by 15% (399 additional grants) with the total value of grants increasing by 50% (£119k additional grant awarded);
- Provided a second apprenticeship programme opportunity for a further cohort of twelve pupils from across Inverclyde between August 20 and June 21;
- Provided training and development opportunities for several care experienced young people through modern apprenticeships or paid work;
- Created opportunities for families who were identified as digitally insecure by delivering 570 iPads, 536 Chromebooks and 688 mobile Wi-Fi devices from Connecting Scotland; and
- Hosted 6 locality Community Listening Events in February 2021 to encourage community participation in discussions around services and initiatives which will mitigate poverty, deprivation and inequalities.



In addition, across NHSGGC, Inverclyde benefited from the following NHS actions:

- Implementation of the NHS GGC Widening Access to Employment Strategy Academy implementation model which changed due to the pandemic. NHSGGC continued its modern apprenticeship programmes, which include young parents as a target group and employability outreach programmes to schools and colleges;
- NHSGGC linked with the Once for All Scotland Procurement approach, which considers child poverty;
- As its role as a key employer: online roll out of staff energy and money advice clinics with 849 staff taking up the service from October 2020 to April 2021; a childcare options algorithm for key NHS workers during the pandemic; covid, child poverty and poverty website; wide dissemination of the national council tax reduction monies available; and new national Home Energy Support Fund to NHSGGC Healthy Working Lives local employers.
- Between Apr-Dec 2020, Inverclyde had 32 recorded health visiting and midwifery (Healthier Wealthier Children programme) referrals to money advice services.
- There has been 25% more primary care embedded money advice referrals.
- The Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods uptake in Inverclyde (Apr – Nov 2020) has increased to 3,940 applications this is a £829,760 gain.
- An estimate of Scottish Child Payment uptake across NHSGGC is now around 70%; Scottish Child Payment application uptake in Inverclyde was 990 (Nov 2020)
- The Special Needs in Pregnancy (SNIP) and Children's Hospital programmes have been maintained, with an enhanced travel poverty intervention for the SNIPs service and emergency food provision being extended.

- Training to midwives at Inverclyde Royal Hospital (generic and SNIPs) in February 2020 was provided on the importance of routine enquiry money worries, how to refer and new maternity related social security benefits. However this was not rolled out due to the pandemic, and
- Major increases in staff using our fuel poverty and staff money worries programme (320% increase since last year, 1060 staff used this service). Home Energy Scotland reported 50 warmer homes installs were completed by them in Inverclyde (Apr – Dec 2020).





Context

Inverclyde Child Poverty Action Group (ICPAG) has continued to work in partnership with Public Health Scotland to gather information and data on the local evidence around poverty. This evidence published in February 2020 provided Inverclyde with the key drivers and priorities of child poverty in the area. **An updated report was produced in May 2021.**

The Scottish Indices of Deprivation 2020 highlighted some of the most deprived data zones in Scotland were located in Inverclyde.

According to the End Child Poverty Statistics released on 19 May 2021, Child poverty has risen in every Scottish local authority since 2015, according to new research published by the End Child Poverty coalition. The new data shows the scale of the challenge faced by UK, Scottish and local government if commitments to end child poverty in Scotland are to be met.

The research by Loughborough University, on behalf of the End Child Poverty coalition, shows that, even before the pandemic, levels of child poverty in Scotland ranged from nearly one in six children in the Shetland Islands and East Renfrewshire to nearly one in three in Glasgow - once housing costs are taken into account*

The table below shows that the number of children living in poverty in Inverclyde has increased from 2014/15 by 2.9% in 2019/20.

Local authority	Number 2014/15	2019/20	Percentage 2014/15	2019/20	Percentage point change (2015-20)
Inverclyde	2757	3003	20.9%	23.8%	2.9%

*Estimates of children living in poverty, below 60% median income after housing costs, by Scottish local authority.





Key findings of the Public Health Scotland data profile 2021

The latest data showing the proportion of employees living in Inverclyde earning the Living Wage or more (as shown in figure 1 below) suggests a higher proportion of Inverclyde employees are low paid, compared to Scottish average. In 2019, 68.7% of employees in Inverclyde were paid the Real Living Wage or above, compared to 83.2% in Scotland.

Figure 1

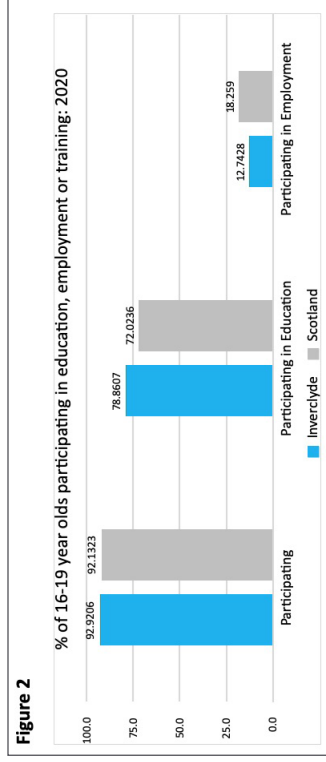


In 2019, 9.4% of employees who work in Inverclyde were paid the National Minimum Wage, compared to 6% in Scotland. Between 2017 and 2019, the proportion of Inverclyde workers who were low-paid appears to have increased, while remaining stable in Scotland.

Young adults in Inverclyde are less likely to have a Modern Apprenticeship compared to Scotland. Figure 2 below shows that the overall participation rates for 16-19 year olds are comparable to other parts of Scotland. However, young people in Inverclyde are less likely to be in employment and more likely to be in education.

In the latest time period (October to December 2020), 82% of crisis grants applications to the Scottish Welfare Fund in Inverclyde were successful. This was significantly higher than the national figure of 68%.

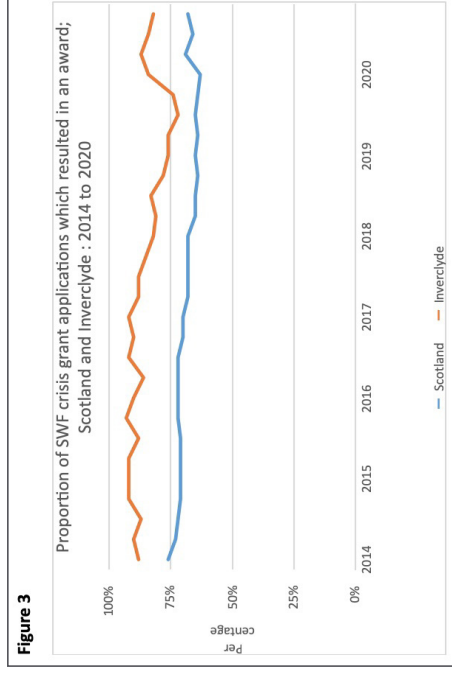
Figure 2



Previously, successful award rates for the Scottish Welfare Fund (SWF) in Inverclyde remained consistently higher than Scotland until 2017 when successful awards declined steadily as Universal Credit launched in Inverclyde and a high level of repeat Crisis Grant applications were refused. Barriers to successful awards were removed increasing the rate of successful applications at the start of 2020 and Inverclyde shifted from underspending to overspending the SWF in 2017/18, reflecting an increase in need. (See Figure 3 below)

Just under 4600 families in Inverclyde were receiving support from Universal Credit or the tax credit system in April 2020. The number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit who are required to seek work and be available for work in March 2021 is 3,045 (6.3% compared to 4.5% in March 2020).

Figure 3





Engagement with communities: Community listening events 2021

Inverclyde Council and Inverclyde HSCP continued to conduct locality engagement events. The local engagement process was delivered as on line community wide survey with more than 600 respondents and a participatory framework known as “Community Listening Events” to engage with communities and key stakeholders in all 6 localities across the local authority area.

Virtual Community Listening Events took place throughout February and March 2021 with the aim of involving people in decision making at the earliest stage and to seek the views of people with lived experience of poverty. The events helped inform the prioritisation of spend from the poverty fund (see page 10). Key themes are listed below.

- The need for employment, life skills and apprenticeships for young people and people who are most marginalised from the job market;
- Mental Health and Isolation was discussed at every community listening event and the stakeholders discussed having safe community spaces would offer local services that were easily accessed and relevant to the community;
- Food and Utility/Energy Insecurity being a concern; and
- The need for more Asset Based Community Support. People within the smaller localities have worked together to develop services and volunteering opportunities to meet the short term needs of the community with kindness and compassion.

The Child Poverty Action Group also collaborated with The Poverty Alliance between August and October 2020 to produce the Get Heard Scotland; Inverclyde report. The Poverty Alliance carried out interviews with 10 organisations who work with people living on low incomes, poverty and deprivation in Inverclyde. These interviews focused predominantly on the impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had both on the organisations themselves and on the people that they work with, with a particular focus on the themes of employment; mental health; digital exclusion, and community support. The full report can be found using this link; https://www.povertyalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/GHS_Briefings_Inverclyde_Feb2021_FINAL.pdf





£1 million anti-poverty initiatives in Inverclyde

Prior to the Covid – 19 pandemic Inverclyde Council and the Integration Joint Board allocated £1 million per year for specific actions to address poverty, inequalities and deprivation.

The Anti-Poverty interventions currently include:

- **Employment support for people most marginalised in the community.** These interventions are targeted at those who live in the data zones with the highest deprivation and who have had challenges with drugs, alcohol and mental health. This programme will provide new and additional support and provide intensive activities and diversionary opportunities to change lives and provide employment opportunities;
- **School Linked Social Workers.** Based on findings from CELSUS linking child neglect and early intervention family support, early intervention support and mentoring for families will be trialled during the next two years;
- **Business Start Up.** This will provide business start-up and business development support in the most deprived data zones. (SIMD 2020);
- **Food Insecurity.** The first Inverclyde Zero Waste Food Pantry opened in early December 2020 and the membership has steadily increased to more than 400 members at the end of March 2021. Inverclyde Council has two annual memberships to Glasgow FareShare to supply food to key stakeholder organisations and to the Inverclyde Zero Waste Food Pantry who distribute to local customers;
- **Fuel Insecurity.** Combining the anti-poverty fund with hardship funding will enhance local partnerships with the third and community sector organisations such as IHeat to provide service support for households who are financially insecure. During Covid -19 pandemic this was increased to £150 of grants because older people were shielding or self-isolating likely to use more gas and electricity.

This will now include people aged over 70. In addition, Inverclyde households will receive support through the Wise Group Energy Crisis Fund (IHeat) to ensure that their energy supply is sustained whilst working with the household to equip them with the tools, skills and knowledge to manage their energy usage in future;

- **Financial Fitness.** In order to get more money to families this service offers support in benefits advice and financial management and provides people with a choice of services for them to seek support and assistance regarding their finances;
- **Starter Packs.** This provides those on the lowest income with a range of household products to assist with their first tenancy; and
- **Early Intervention Support and Mentoring for Families** to provide mentoring and coaching support for families living on low income, and who have challenges with mental health and anxiety.





Covid-19 recovery

Inverclyde Council and its partners worked with Public Health Scotland to analyse and interpret local and national data around child poverty. This not only provided us with the rationale for our priorities but allowed us to swiftly provide humanitarian support in the communities that we knew would be adversely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Child Poverty Local Action Report Year 2 provided an in-depth review of these services and how they supported the Inverclyde Community.

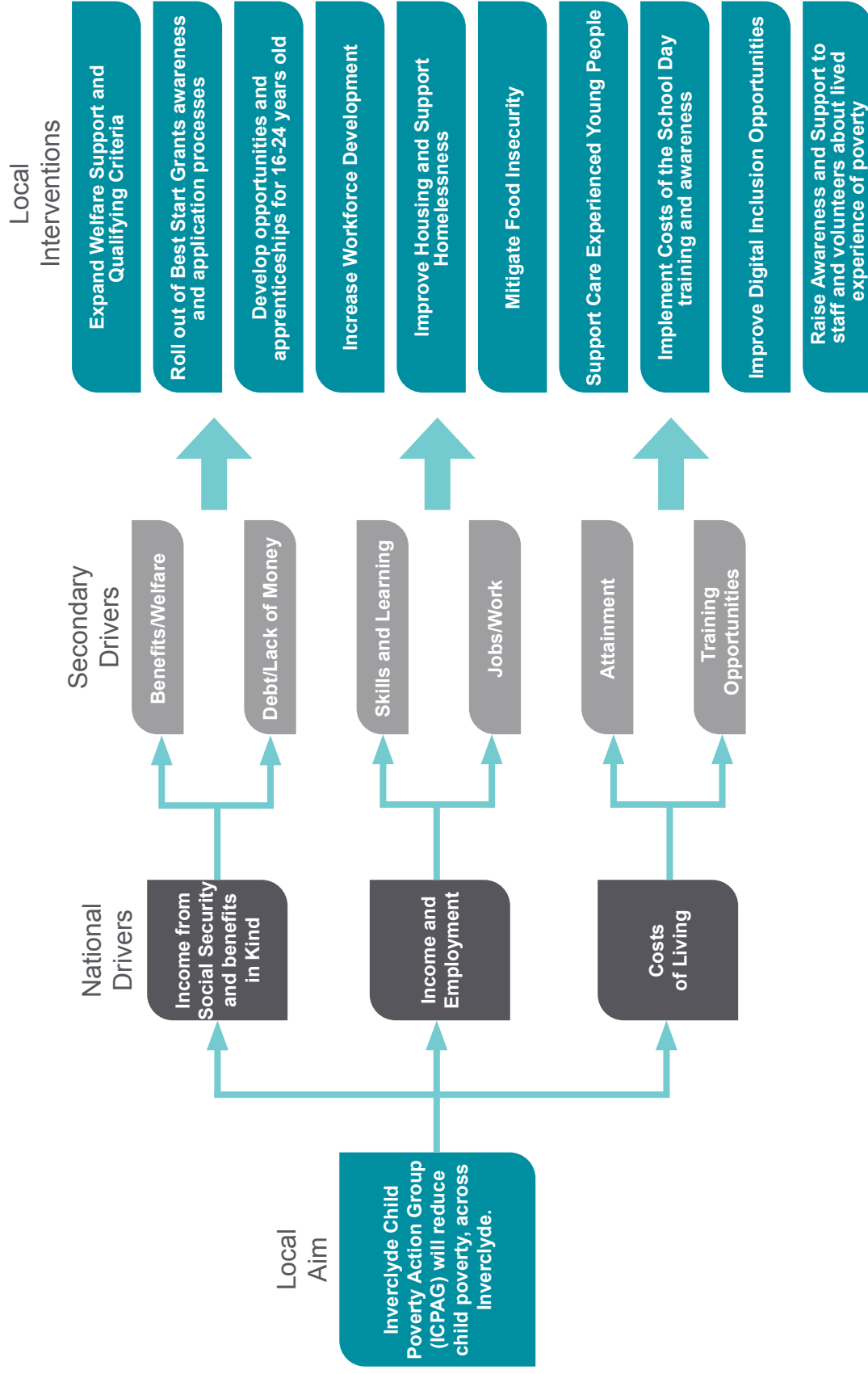
The year 3 Child Poverty Local Action Report is moving those services towards recovery and is closely linked to the Inverclyde Recovery Plans which show how we aim to improve mental health and wellbeing; improve financial security for those most at risk; close the gaps in learning; provide experiences for those who have missed out; and how we will continue to work with communities to empower them to have influence over the decisions that affect them.

The following sections provide our plan on a page and action plan.





Plan on page





Appendix 1 Income from employment

Income from employment						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans
Continue the Apprenticeship programme for young people who are disengaged with learning or at risk of leaving school without qualifications	Head of Regeneration and Planning	£250,000	Inverclyde Council has developed a bridge between school and the success of the Councils existing modern apprenticeship programme. The apprenticeship programme has combined on-site training with local employers and desktop learning between school and with West College Scotland. This programme aims to build confidence and self-esteem, increase learning and enable the young people to be ready for employment and have the skills to apply for jobs when the opportunity arises. The programme also includes creating and maintaining employment for the young people who came through this pipeline for a 2 year period. Initially 12 young people were selected from across the 6 secondary schools. Between August 2020 and June 2021 - The pre-apprenticeship programme was extended for a second cohort of twelve pupils from across Inverclyde. Inverclyde Council has also offered a level 2 apprenticeship to the year 1 cohort during the past of 24 months from August 2020. In June 2021, 10 Young People from Cohort 1 successfully completed the Pre Apprenticeship Programme. All 12 young people from Cohort 2 have now completed the Pre Apprenticeship Programme. Five modern apprentices who were due to finish on the Councils existing modern apprenticeship programme received a two year contract at an entry level post to allow them time to gain further experience and enhance their job prospects.	August 2020 to June 2022	Young People who would be leaving school without an accredited qualification	Inverclyde Council Corporate Plan, Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan, Inverclyde Children Services Plan



Income from employment						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans
Maximises the number of Care Experienced learners participating in education by improving opportunities for personal achievements	Chief Education Officer and Chief Social Work Officer The Young People Attainment Fund	£163,200	Increase the academic achievement of Looked After Children The % of looked after children and young people achieving 1 or more awards at SQA national 4 level increased from 75.0% in 2018/19 to 81.8% in 2019/20. The % of Looked after children and young people leaving school achieving 1 or more awards at SQA national 5 level has increased from 25% in 2018/19 to 45.5% in 2019/20. Increase the number of care experienced children and young people involved in community activities. While community activities have been curtailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 246 children and young people aged between 5-26 years have benefitted through Attainment Fund applications. There has been a focus on improving their health and wellbeing; including wellbeing packs, new hobbies, learning to drive, musical instruments, having a bike for the first time and outdoor adaptive equipment for children with additional support needs. Increase the number of care experience children and young people expressing satisfaction in being involved in these new activities. All have expressed satisfaction of this support over the last year or having something to look forward to once lockdown eases so that they can resume their clubs and not just on-line activities. Similarly, other has been looking forward to learning to drive when lockdown eases.	3, 6 monthly after starting these activities	This action covers all priority groups as the Scottish Attainment Challenge covers all young people living in SIMD 1 & 2 areas within Inverclyde	Attainment Challenge Plan, Inverclyde Council Corporate Plan, Education, Standards and Quality Report, Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan, Corporate Parenting Strategy



Income from employment					
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst
Increase the number of Care experienced young people between the ages of 16 – 24 years who remain in positive destinations	Chief Education Officer and Chief Social Work Officer The Young People Attainment Fund		Increase the number of care experienced young people accessing modern apprenticeships. Six care experienced young people are currently benefiting from either a modern apprenticeship or paid work, with training and developmental opportunities. Track the supports that work to promote sustainability and learn what works. Promote professional and peer networks, inclusive of Proud2Care. Peer networks are in place with a Child's Planning Officer and the Corporate Parenting (Teaching) Team; this is also replicated with Looked after Health Team. There is a Reference Group and Attainment Challenge Implementation Group (ACIG), chaired by the Head of Education Services and Attainment Challenge Project Leader. Both Groups have 3rd sector, library services and HSCP representation; its aim is to mitigate the poverty related attainment gap. MCMC chair a group of professionals aimed at supporting young people with additional support needs through transitions; through early identification and support. The Participatory Support Board (PSB) that screens Attainment Fund applications is multi-agency, inclusive of the Children's Rights Officer, Head teacher, School Health and a CPIO. The development of The Promise (the findings of the of 4 year independent, root and branch review of the care system) published in 2020; will locally be driven by an implementation team, peer networks and Proud2Care. This is a 10 year strategy.		Care Experienced Young People
					Corporate parenting strategy



Income from employment					
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst
Increase the number of Care experienced young people between the ages of 16 – 24 years who remain in positive destinations	Chief Education Officer and Chief Social Work Officer The Young People Attainment Fund		Through our local networks, 18 under 5's and a further 24 families have been further supported from a partnership between Riverclyde Homes, Belville Community Gardens and Home Start to support activities to mitigate the poverty related gap. The professional and peer networks through the Care Experienced Young People Attainment Fund have continued to yield partnerships, and bring in matched funding. This has continued to increase with two Projects being offered in two Primary Schools in August 2021; a partnership with a 3rd sector partner, children and their parent/carer to cook together. Food boxes are being provided, with the aim to promote healthy eating and have fun together. A local primary school Nurture Project (including 28 children) is due to begin in August. Its purpose is to reduce the gap between the highest attaining and lowest attaining children in our school who are care experienced and develop healthy relationships and inclusion with peers and support children to develop resilience. On-line access has also been available to write songs and receive music tutoring. Projects deferred due to COVID-19 will either begin in August 2021 or be concluded. This includes the launch of the Girl Power Mosaic St Michael's Primary School. Film School with Clyde Muirshiel, RigArts and a local Primary School and Holiday art sessions for children with additional support needs to provide respite and fun for families (5 workshops – with 4 children in each). Support has been given for a 3rd sector partner to apply to Inspiring Scotland Community Play Fund for outdoor play equipment to offer outdoor learning opportunities during term time and address food poverty during holidays.		Care Experienced Young People
					Corporate parenting strategy



Income from employment						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans
Improve the number of school leavers going to positive destinations especially in areas of greatest deprivation	Chief Education Officer and Chief Social Work Officer The Young People Attainment Fund		Latest figures published by the Scottish Government revealed that 93% of local secondary students went onto 'positive destinations' during 2019/20: The positive destinations rate is down slightly from the record 95.8 per cent in 2018/19 and 0.3 per cent below the Scottish average. Inverclyde Council since 2009 has performed in excess of 90% for Positive Destination results, (except 2010), however, Inverclyde still ranks 15 out of the country's 32 local authorities for school leaver outcomes. During 2019/20 there were increases in the number of students going into university and college. The number of young people going into higher education after high school went up 0.8 per cent to 45.9 per cent – a new record There was an increase of 1.8 per cent to 31.1 per cent for those going onto further education. The employment rate fell by 4.2 per cent to 13.1 per cent, which is likely to be as a direct result of the Covid-19 pandemic. There were 747 school leavers in Inverclyde during 2019/20.			



Income from employment						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans
Explore a workforce refresh scheme to free up opportunities for advancement for existing employees and ultimately create "entry level" vacancies which we would aim to fill from the target demographic	Head of ODHR	£2.4 million	Covid has made the need to create employment opportunities even greater with large increases in unemployment already and more forecast. Most commentators cite the young as being the ones who will find it hardest to gain employment whilst those who work in the "casual" sector have largely fallen through the cracks of the various support schemes. In addition Covid will cause a proportion of the Council workforce to evaluate their work/life balance and whether the time has come to leave the Council/ reduce hours. The current focus is a campaign that has been launched using the theme 'Inverclyde works' to raise the profile of job vacancies, training and other employability initiatives to the broadest possible audiences to encourage more local people into employment and training in order to support community recovery. Job vacancies, which have arisen as part of the Council's workforce refresh programme, have been advertised locally and shared with local employability partners such as: Skills Development Scotland, Inverclyde Community Development Trust, and the local Department of Work and Pensions, to allow for a wide reach of council vacancies to the Inverclyde population. Impact will be assessed through regular analysis of recruitment advertisement and selection statistics. Various initiatives will be explored and assessed to create job opportunities and traineeships aimed at the targeted demographic.	March 2021 – March 2022	Local unemployed, particularly those in the young unemployed group	Inverclyde Jobs Recovery Plan



Income from employment						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans
Workforce Development across the NHS Greater Glasgow Health Board and associated HSCP	NHS GGC		NHSGGC achieved living wage employer accreditation. Implementation of the NHS GGC Widening Access to Employment Strategy Academy implementation model changed due to the pandemic. NHSGGC continued its modern apprenticeship programmes, which include young parents as a target group and employability outreach programmes to schools and colleges. NHSGGC linked with the Once for All Scotland Procurement approach, which is considering child poverty. Other key roles as an NHS employer work included; online roll out of staff energy and money advice clinics with, 849 staff taking up the service from October 2020 to April 2021; a childcare options algorithm for key NHS workers during the pandemic; Covid, child poverty and poverty website; and wide dissemination of the national council tax reduction monies available and new national Home Energy Support Fund to NHSGGC Healthy Working Lives local employers. There has been major increase in staff using our fuel poverty and staff money worries programme (320% increase since last year, 1060 staff used this service).	March 2021-2022	People in the workforce who are on low income and most likely to face inequalities	Inverclyde LOIP



Appendix 2 Costs of living

Costs of living						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
Housing	Starterpacks	£37k	Starterpacks is a charitable organisation providing household goods to homeless people entering a tenancy and families living in poverty. The charity relies on public support to continue its work within the community. Referrals are received from Services such as Barnardo's, Housing Associations, HSCP, Health Visitors, Women's Aid and Refugee Resettlement. Starter Packs remained open during COVID first lockdown there was a reduction in referrals as many Referrals Agencies were closed or working from home. During the second lockdown services remained open and Starter Packs have been able to provide the service throughout the year providing Starter Packs to all those referred. During 2020/21 Starterpacks provided 122 family packs and 218 children's packs to help families with new tenancies who are living in poverty receive vital household equipment including children's bedding and kitchen utilities. The majority of the Family and Children Starterpacks were provided to lone parent families followed by families with 3 or more children.	Ongoing	Changes to the referral form in April has allowed priority groups to be captured (where filled in)	



Costs of living							
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans	Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
Prevent tenancy failure for tenants living in Riverclyde Homes Property until 2023 as a pilot project	Riverclyde Homes	Scottish Government Funding	To support initiatives to prevent homelessness and contribute to reducing child poverty. Riverclyde Homes will establish a multi-skilled team to deliver and support customers to prevent tenancy failure. The project will specifically support people who are more likely to be living in poverty including: Lone parent families, young parents, large families or families with a disability. The project will also support: customers referred via Section 5 process, customers with poor mental health or addiction issues and young people in their first tenancy including care leavers. The team will include a Tenancy Support Mentor and Income Maximisation Officer who will us both referral pathways & existing data to identify customers. The service will be based around Support Plans & completion of agreed actions.	Starting May 2021			
Improve Housing Regeneration	Housing Strategy		Deliver on an Acquisition Programme during 2021-22 to purchase private housing off the market and bring them up to current affordable housing standards. These properties will be managed by local RSLs and form part of their stock profile. Following the SIMD 2020 report Planning and Housing Strategy commissioned consultants to examine the Eastern Gateway area of Inverclyde as a strategic housing priority to look at the options around housing led regeneration of that area. This report is now complete the Council is also commissioning a similar report focussing on Greenock Central (part of which is the most deprived area) Tackling fuel poverty in the area through the Home Energy Efficiency Programme (HEEPS) in Inverclyde) will be next to be examined.		All priority groups	Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Local Housing Strategy	



Costs of living							
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans	Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
Create Affordable Housing Supply Programme	Housing Strategy / Developing Registered Social Landlords / HSCP	£11.428m Scottish Government grant funding (2020/21)	Increasing the supply of affordable housing in the area will mitigate against fuel poverty; reduce housing costs; and therefore will positively contribute to one of the 3 key drivers of reduced child poverty: 'Reduced cost of living for families'. The delivery of around 800 units across Inverclyde through projects previously estimated for completion by March 2021 will now mainly be delayed by 3 to 6 months following the easing of lockdown measures. We will seek to ensure that a further £11m grant funding for 2021/22 will be spent on increasing the supply of affordable housing in Inverclyde	Ongoing	This action includes all priority groups	Local Housing Strategy; Strategic Housing Investment Plan; Housing Contribution Statement	



Costs of living						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
To identify strategies and funding that will reduce the Digital Inequalities that exist in Inverclyde	Inverclyde Council/HSCP	Devices Allocated direct from Connecting Scotland to the local authority area 2020/21. Local refurbished devices	Allocation of devices Local public, third and private sector organisations have been working together to reduce the gap around digital inequalities. Devices have been available from Connecting Scotland in phase 1 and 2 to prevent digital isolation to people and families who do not have access to digital technology either because they do not have a device, Wi-Fi connectivity or capacity to access internet. Total number of devices allocated across all services, community organisations and third sector organisations. 570 iPads 688 MIFI devices 536 Chromebooks Devices are donated to Inverclyde Council and to the TSI from local businesses. These are cleansed/wiped and redistributed to adult learners and young people who do not require WIFI but need a device to complete their learning, training or employability opportunities. This is being processed and managed by Inverclyde Council Community Learning and Development Team, using a local database of local learners, people in employability pipelines, college and families who are digitally isolated members of the community. A multi agency collaborative has been established locally to ensure the local needs of people living in poverty and deprivation received the services and support they require to become digitally active. This strategy group will encompass Education Digital Strategy to ensure that there little opportunity for duplication or gaps in service provision. Individuals from the organisations that received the Connecting Scotland Devices also received addition training for "Digital Champions" this has increased the local capacity to offer support to device users building local knowledge around digital access. In addition Inverclyde Council – Community Learning and Development, Inverclyde Libraries, West College Scotland and CVS Inverclyde are offering support across the learning community on accessing the internet safely, using online forum and accessing training opportunities.	Ongoing	Vulnerable families who do not have access to internet and are considered to be digitally isolated, people with disabilities and care leavers. Groups of families with a focus on priority groups of young people, parents under the age of 25 years, families where English is a second language, families on low income and in receipt of free school meals/school clothing grants.	Income from Employment



Costs of living						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
To provide services and support which will reduce and mitigate Food Insecurity in the localities with the greatest inequalities throughout the recovery period from Covid 19 until 2023	Inverclyde Council/ Inverclyde Community Development Trust/ Parklea Branching Out with partners	Proposed £124,000	Every participatory Community Listening Event highlighted the need amongst communities to have fresh affordable food that is easily available especially during the national lock down in January/February 2021. People reported that families were having to choose if they were going to pay for heating (utilities) or food. Inverclyde Council had already provided funding through the Scottish Government Financial Insecurity Funds to start a grass roots organisation lead by Inverclyde Community Development Trust. The Zero Waste Food Pantry opened in December 2020. The membership of the Pantry had reached 400 by the end of March 2021. The response from the community has been overwhelming with suggestions and requests for more pantries in other localities. The Inverclyde Community Development Trust are assessing the impact of the Grieve Road Pantry and an end of year evaluation will provide evidence of need for a second pantry now that Inverclyde is moving into recovery phase from the Covid 19 pandemic. Inverclyde Council has paid for two super memberships with Fare Share Glasgow to ensure that families who are vulnerable have access to fresh and affordable food. This membership ensures that the Zero Waste Food Pantry has a fully stocked shop on a weekly basis which is subsidised with food from other sources, such as surplus from local supermarkets and purchased goods. Local organisations, such as the Registered Social Landlords and HSCP are also supporting the pantry to ensure that the most vulnerable families have money to become members and have access to funds to enable them to buy their shopping with dignity and respect. This has resulted in people being able to purchase the food they need on a weekly basis. The second Fare Share Membership provides a weekly delivery of surplus food to Parklea Branching Out, which supports adults with learning challenges, other local organisations such as the community centres and schools also access the food from Parklea Branching Out, to host local food share supplies within communities with the greatest inequalities.	December 2020 – on going – Progress will be reported to through the Anti Poverty Steering Group to Inverclyde Council Committee Structures	All priority groups across the Inverclyde community identified by the Community Organisations. Priority Groups living on low income, families with disabilities and families where English is the second language.	
	Inverclyde Council					



Costs of living						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
	Community Organisations		In reaction to the demand from the community the volunteers and community organisations who provided support during Covid established a short term community food share provision. This was an agreement between local supermarkets and the volunteers including the Salvation Army and provided an alternative and choice to families on low income.		The Food Share community are engaging with all members of their neighbourhood. The have been established in the areas where inequalities are greatest and many families are living on low income.	



Costs of living						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Link to other Poverty Driver(s)
Implement Cost of School Day Practice across Inverclyde schools	Education Services		12 teachers have been trained as local champions in raising awareness on reducing the cost of the school day. In Year 3 2020/21 – Schools were in lockdown between January – March (April) 2021 therefore opportunities to monitor the cost of the school day were reduced. However, Child Poverty and Cost of the School day remains firmly on the Health and Wellbeing agenda. During Lock Down 2021 – families entitled to free school meal/school clothing grants received £30 per fortnight paid directly into their bank account. This was in addition to the winter/spring payments received from SSSA and the new additional payment provided to families, including two £100 Family Pandemic Payments paid for each child of school age in receipt of FSM. £130 Low Income Pandemic Payment to be paid to households by end of October 2021 who are in receipt of Council Tax Reduction. As a reaction to the needs of families returning to school after a long winter break many local schools have relaxed their school uniform policy. Many schools also offered a Covid friendly access to pre loved uniforms as part of a uniform exchange programme. Local parents/Community organisations also provided access to school uniforms and uniform swap shops from local communities, in a response to the demand and anxiety of parents as schools returned. This was captured as part of the Community Listening Events. After recovery from Covid 19 pandemic the aim is to conduct a "State of the Nation" report to assess areas for further development, progress good practice and share national initiatives that support families on low income especially the priority groups. We will work with the families, young people and schools to develop the cost of the school day even further.	Ongoing – During 2021/2022	All priority groups targeted within all schools in Inverclyde	Children Services Plan/ LOIP



Costs of living						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
Provide Affordable Child care services for working families on low income during the school holiday period from October 2020 until February 2022	Inverclyde Council in partnership with Children in Scotland and Scottish Government	£250,000 SG funding	To provide affordable child care services for families in work but on low wages, with a priority for lone parent families, families with 3 + children, families with disabilities, families where English is their second language and families adversely affected by Covid-19 pandemic. After the Easter Affordable Holiday Hub a development officer has been employed to expand the two holiday hubs and increase the numbers attending to reach capacity of 60 children and young people in each hub during the school holiday period. The test will be to find out the need for affordable (free) holiday care for children and young people and report back to Scottish Government and Children in Scotland. SPIRU has undertaken local research between Dec 2020 and March 2021 to better understand the complex landscape of out of school provision across Scotland with a focus on 4 local authorities including Inverclyde. The full report will be available later in the year.	October 2020 initial pilot - Developed further in April 2021. 28 June- 13 August 2021	Families in work but on low wages, with a priority for lone parent families, families with 3 + children, families with disabilities, families where English is their second language and families adversely affected by Covid-19 pandemic	



Appendix 3 Income from social security and benefits in kind

Income from social security and benefits in kind						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
Expand Welfare Support	Inverclyde Council	£150k DHP £220k SWF	The DHP policy was expanded in August 2020 in response to the financial impact of Covid 19 restrictions. A new criteria was introduced to supplement housing cost support in the Private Rented Sector by up to 100% of the difference between Universal Credit Housing costs or Housing Benefit entitlement, capped at £200 per month, payment being made for a period of no more than 6 months. It provides short term help which is in line with the purpose of DHP to allow households time to improve their circumstances by finding employment or moving to more affordable homes. Despite considerable efforts to promote the fund, including direct communication with potential eligible households, uptake was low with 12 applicants qualifying under this specific category with a further 20 who responded to this exercise qualifying under existing categories. The total additional DHP paid to this group between August 2020 and March 2021 was £21k. The Council took the decision in March 2020 to increase Scottish Welfare Fund Crisis Grant payments by 20% to provide greater financial support to those in most need. The number of approved Crisis Grant applications increased in 20/21 by 15% (399 additional grants) with the total value of grants increasing by 50% (£119k additional grant awarded). In addition, it was agreed that the Community Care Grant (CCG) which assists individuals set up home or remain at home be paid to not only high priority cases but also medium priority. Fewer house moves took place during restrictions reducing the number of CCG applications by 5% (79 fewer applications). Despite the reduction in applications, 19% or 189 more applications were approved with the total value of grants increasing by £226.5k, an increase of 48%. This has ensured more individuals remain in settled homes with additional items including washing machines, floor coverings and additional furniture. Additional SWF expenditure totalled £345k and is contained within the one off extra funding allocation by the Scottish Government. The 20% uplift in Crisis Grants and the expansion to medium priority for Community Care Grants continues and will be reviewed in the summer of 2021.	2020/2021	People including families living in private tenancies, lone parents and families with disabilities who are more likely to be on low incomes	



Income from social security and benefits in kind							
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans	Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
HSCP staff contribute to reducing child poverty Mitigate Child Poverty across the NHS GGC area.	Chief Officer and Head of Service, Children & Families and Criminal Justice Lead Officer NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Staff resources to provided training / to attend training / audit EMIS data	All health staff will offer income maximisation advice at home visits, and this will be recorded on EMIS (NHS Electronic Management Information System). All health visiting staff have been issued with the GG&C money advice service leaflet/CAPG Financial advice for families' book. This project is ongoing and this will be monitored throughout this year via the Universal Pathway group. Health Visitors and Family nurses will refer people on to a number of nationally led and established initiatives which provide free, safe and consistent access to formula milk and have sight of UNICEF and GGC board/HSCP guidance relating to access to formula milk for families. Health visitors and Family Nurses will sign post families to local resources; 3rd sector provisions, food banks and income maximisation services/welfare rights and ensure collaborative links/visibility with these services. Social workers will also do this and section 22 payments are available for immediate needs. Health visitors and Family Nurses will be aware of provision of section 22 funds available from social work for families. In 2020-21, it is estimated 19,300 NHSGGC patients were referred to money advice services with a financial gain of £56million. 62% of all referrals are parents; 38% of all referrals are BAME patients community (portion asylum seekers and refugees), 62% with a disability with 83% from SIMD one and two. COVID significantly impacted on corporate and acute innovations to tackle child poverty. As the pandemic hit, Acute staff worked quickly with contracted money advice services to ensure face to face services changed to phone and online appointments systems.	Flash Reports to the Joint Children Services Partnership (3 monthly)	This action covers all priority groups for families living in Inverclyde	HSCP Strategic Plan, Inverclyde Children's Service Plan, Mental Health Strategy, Parenting Strategy, Inverclyde Alliance Local Outcome Improvement Plan	Cost of Living



Income from social security and benefits in kind						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
			Acute settings extended the provision of emergency food packages for those in need being discharged from hospital, which included maternity settings. Corporate and Acute leads collated issues requiring potential regional and national escalation (e.g. evictions for pregnant women and families with a small child / new baby). Healthier Wealthier Children referrals were maintained with 25% more primary care embedded money advice referrals. In terms of equalities monitoring, 25% of clients are parents, only 12% are in full time employment, 55% are women and 83% are white Scottish. The Special Needs in Pregnancy and Children's Hospital programmes are maintaining their referral, financial gain and debt managed rates but with enhanced travel poverty intervention in place and emergency food provision being put in place. The Family Nurse Partnership was successful with a funding bid and this has increased referrals (final data due June 2021) with enhanced travel poverty and food insecurity interventions			



Income from social security and benefits in kind						
Action	Who action is carried out by	Resources allocated	Summary and how impact has/will be assessed	Timescale for action	Group(s) the action is intended to reduce poverty amongst	Link to other plans Links to other Poverty Driver(s)
Best Start Grant – Local Roll Out	Social Security Scotland		Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods benefits (Dec 18 – Feb 21). In Inverclyde the total number of approved applications were 2870. The total number of applications received was 4090, but 2870 of those were applicable and received payment. A total of £951,740 was paid out in Inverclyde for this benefit over this time period. Pregnancy and baby payment £300,600 Early learning payment £219,750 School age payment £167,750 Best start foods £263,640 There was a much higher Best Start Grant and Best Start Food uptake across NMSGG. An estimate of Scottish Child Payment uptake across NMSGG is now around 70%. Midwives, Health visitors and Family Nurses will sign post families to this resource both in pregnancy and at relevant touch points in the child life to ensure all opportunities to access all once off payments and regular food card payments are met. Health visitors and Family Nurses will be aware of escalation processes to address issues re payment cards and once off payments.		This action will benefit all priority groups	Inverclyde Corporate Plan, Inverclyde Outcomes Improvement Plan LOIP, HSCP Strategic Plan



Contact us

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Inverclyde Alliance

AGENDA ITEM NO: 11

Report To: Inverclyde Alliance Board

Date: 4 October 2021

Report By: Ruth Binks
Corporate Director, Education, Communities
and Organisational Development

Report

Contact Officer: Hugh Scott
Service Manager Community Learning and
Development, Community Safety & Resilience

Contact No: N/A

Subject: Community Learning and Development 3 Year Plan 2021-24

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Community Learning and Development (CLD) 3 Year Plan 2021-24 to the Alliance Board for approval.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Community Learning & Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013 placed a requirement on each local authority to consult on and publish plans every three years containing specified information on the provision of CLD by both the local authority and its partners.
- 2.2 The Community Learning and Development 3 Year Plan 2021-24 sets out the key strategic priorities of the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde over the next three years and the actions that will be taken to achieve them.
- 2.3 Given the impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on the delivery of CLD services in Inverclyde, the focus of this three year plan will be on recovery. It is important that we re-engage with service users, adapt our services to provide blended and digital learning and look at how we can best support adults and young people to improve their mental health and well-being. The CLD 3 Year Plan for 2021-24 sets out how we will do this.
- 2.4 The CLD Partnership in Inverclyde has identified four priorities that it will focus on during the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24. The identification of these priorities have been informed by extensive consultation and engagement with both partners and communities, the various challenges facing both the CLD sector, communities in Inverclyde and Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017/22. The key priorities are:
- development of digital services;
 - empowering communities;
 - improving the health and wellbeing of communities; and
 - creating a workforce for the future

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Alliance Board notes and approves the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24 as set out in appendix 1.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director of Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Community Learning & Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013 placed a requirement on each local authority to consult on and publish plans every three years containing specified information on the provision of CLD by both the local authority and its partners.
- 4.2 The CLD Regulations stipulate that each CLD planning process must identify the following information:
- How the local authority will co-ordinate its provision of CLD with other CLD providers within the area of the local authority;
 - What action the local authority will take to provide CLD over the period of the plan;
 - What action other partners intend to take to provide CLD within the area of the local authority over the period of the plan; and
 - Any needs for CLD that will not be met within the period of the plan.
- 4.3 This is the third CLD 3 Year Plan produced by the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde and it will build and continue the progress made during the CLD 3 Year Plans for 2015-18 and 2018-21.

5.0 DEVELOPMENT OF THE CLD 3 YEAR PLAN 2021-24

- 5.1 Given the impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on the delivery of CLD services in Inverclyde, the focus of this three year plan will be on recovery. It is important that we re-engage with service users, adapt our services to provide blended and digital learning and look at how we can best support adults and young people to improve their mental health and well-being. The CLD 3 Year Plan for 2021-24 sets out how we will do this.
- 5.2 The development of this 3 Year Plan has been a collaborative approach between the organisations that make up the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde. A series of workshops were held with the CLD Partnership on a number of themes, including background and guidance on the 3 Year Plan, joint planning and identification of priorities, governance and workforce development. The feedback from the workshops has been used to inform the development of the plan.
- 5.3 Consultation and community engagement has also been at the centre of the development of this plan. The establishment of Communication and Engagement Groups in each of Inverclyde's six localities has enabled the communities of Inverclyde to influence the priorities within the plan. The Communication and Engagement Groups meet on a regular basis and provide an ongoing dialogue with communities on what the key issues are for them.
- 5.4 The CLD Partnership in Inverclyde has identified four priorities that it will focus on during the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24. The identification of these priorities have been informed by extensive consultation and engagement with both partners and communities, the various challenges facing both the CLD sector, communities in Inverclyde and Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017/22. The priorities are:
- development of digital services;
 - empowering communities;
 - improving the health and wellbeing of communities; and
 - creating a workforce for the future

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Legal: none at present
Finance: none at present
Human Resources: none at present
Equality and Diversity: the EIA will be published here.
<https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/equality-impact-assessments>
Population: The CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24 will contribute to the achievement of the population priority.

Inequalities: The CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24 will contribute to the achievement of the inequalities priority.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 Consulted with all key stakeholders at national and local level

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

DRAFT

Community Learning and Development
Inverclyde 3 Year Plan 2021-24

APPENDIX 1

Inverclyde
council





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Contents

Foreword	3
Background	4
Context	5
Consultation and community engagement	8
Our Priorities	9
Governance / Structure	11
How will we achieve our priorities?	
• Development of digital services	13
• Empowering communities	14
• Improve the health and well-being of communities	15
• Develop a workforce for the future	16
Contact us	17



Foreword

Councillor Stephen McCabe, Leader of Inverclyde Council and Chair of Inverclyde Alliance

As Chair of the Inverclyde Alliance, the Inverclyde Community Planning Partnership, I am delighted to introduce the Community Learning and Development 3 Year Plan 2021-24.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on the delivery of CLD services across Inverclyde and it is therefore right that this 3 year plan is very much focused on recovery, especially for the first eighteen months of the plan. This plan sets out the contribution that the CLD Partnership will make to supporting learners and communities during the Covid-19 crisis and beyond. The plan provides details on the actions that we will take in order to re-engage with service users, adapt our services to provide blended and digital learning and the support we will provide to adults and young people to improve mental health and well-being.

The development of this 3 Year Plan has been a collaborative approach between the organisations that make up the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde. A series of workshops were held with the CLD Partnership on a number of themes, including background and guidance on the 3 Year Plan, joint planning and identification of priorities, governance and workforce development. The feedback from the workshops has been used to inform the development of the plan.

Consultation and community engagement has also been at the centre of the development of this plan. The establishment of Communication and Engagement Groups in each of Inverclyde's six localities has enabled the communities of Inverclyde to influence the priorities within the plan. The Communication and Engagement Groups meet on a regular basis and provide an ongoing dialogue with communities on what the key issues are for them.

The following priorities have been identified using both the feedback from partners and communities:

- Development of digital services;
- Empowering communities;
- Improving the health and well-being of communities; and
- Creating a workforce for the future

The CLD Partnership is committed to continuing to develop co-ordinated, effective, efficient services that meet the needs of our learners and communities. The Community Learning and Development 3 Year Plan for 2021-24 will help us achieve that.



Councillor Stephen McCabe
Chair of Inverclyde Alliance Board
Leader of Inverclyde Council

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Background

What is Community Learning and Development?

Community Learning and Development (CLD) is "a field of professional practice that enables people to identify their own individual and collective goals, to engage in learning and take action to bring about change for themselves and their communities. It uses a range of formal and informal methods of learning and social development with individuals and groups in their communities" (CLD Standards Council for Scotland). CLD provision is targeted to those most in need and resources are deployed in localities to address identified needs in those communities.

The CLD Partnership in Inverclyde brings together key agencies engaged in CLD delivery across Inverclyde including Inverclyde Council, Police Scotland, West College Scotland, CVS Inverclyde, Your Voice, Inverclyde's Health and Social Care Partnership and the Department for Work and Pensions and Barnardos. (Please see back page for a full list of the organisations that make up the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde).

We work across the partnership to support young people, adult learners and community groups to empower them to make positive changes to their lives through learning.

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What is the purpose of the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24?

The Community Learning & Development (Scotland) Regulations 2013 placed a requirement on each local authority to consult on and publish plans every three years containing specified information on the provision of CLD by both the local authority and its partners.

The CLD Regulations stipulate that each CLD planning process must identify the following information:

- How the local authority will co-ordinate its provision of CLD with other CLD providers within the area of the local authority;
- What action the local authority will take to provide CLD over the period of the plan;
- What action other partners intend to take to provide CLD within the area of the local authority over the period of the plan; **and**
- Any needs for CLD that will not be met within the period of the plan.

The purpose of the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24 is to meet the requirements of the CLD (Scotland) Regulations 2013 by providing a framework for CLD provision across the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde.



Context

The Community Learning and Development 3 Year Plan 2021-24 sets out the key strategic priorities of the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde over the next three years and the actions that will be taken to achieve them.

Given the impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on the delivery of CLD services in Inverclyde, the focus of this three year plan will be on recovery. It is important that we re-engage with service users, adapt our services to provide blended and digital learning and look at how we can best support adults and young people to improve their mental health and well-being. The CLD 3 Year Plan for 2021-24 sets out how we will do this.

This is the third CLD 3 Year Plan produced by the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde and it will build and continue the progress made during the CLD 3 Year Plans for 2015-18 and 2018-21.

Achievements

The Covid-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the delivery of the CLD 3 Year Plan for 2018-21 as the Partnership had to focus its attention on helping communities to deal with the effects of the pandemic. There were however many positives to emerge and below are details of some of the key achievements made by the CLD Partnership.

Priority 1: Raising attainment and achievement

The partnership continued to provide and enhance high quality learning opportunities to young people, adults and the community with a focus on those most in need. We supported individuals and groups to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding to achieve their full potential and effect positive change in their lives. Prior to the pandemic we developed stronger pathways to support learner progression and improved the range of courses, qualification and awards offered. The capacity to deliver the full range of anticipated programmes was reduced during the pandemic but on-line, blended, 1:1 and small group learning approaches were adapted during the pandemic to combat digital inequalities and target those most in need.

Priority 2: Effective partnership working

A strategic and operational group was established in response to the Covid-19 pandemic to meet the needs of the community. The Humanitarian Action Group (HAG) led to a co-ordinated approach to community consultation and analysis of need ensuring a clear understanding of community needs. The frequency and priority given to the group enabled better planning, and delivery of services.

Lessons learned from the implementation of the HAG included recognition that weekly actions, focussed planning and an understanding of the purpose and focus of the meetings. Everyone had an understanding of why they were invited and the role they were expected to undertake, therefore all participants were prepared in advance of the HAG group. Minutes were sent out after the meeting and everyone had designated actions and timescales. This format would be beneficial in the new CLD Governance Structure for the Co-ordination Group to meet within allocated timeframes, agenda prepared in advance with a clear focus and purpose to achieve specific outcomes especially in the recovery year.

Priority 3: Empowering communities

Locality planning is a new approach being adopted by Inverclyde Alliance, the area's Community Planning Partnership and Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership. It aims to empower communities by strengthening their voices in decisions about public services. At the beginning of 2020 we set up Communication and Engagement Groups in each locality and held a number of face-to-face meetings and events. Due to the pandemic we were unable to continue with face-to-face meetings and instead we developed alternative ways of communicating and engaging with communities during 2020/21. For example:

- established a digital Communications and Engagement Group for each locality via Facebook which enabled us to stimulate discussion and debate with communities on the key issues within their locality.
- held online meetings of the Communication and Engagements in localities where the community were comfortable taking part in this type of meeting; and



- We held a series of community listening events which are structured and planned events, supported by a facilitator and scribe, allowing each participant the opportunity to have their say. Community listening events proved to be an effective tool in order to engage with communities virtually. Although the events were structured the approach adopted helped create a friendly, relaxed and positive environment for the participants to have their say.

Priority 4: Health and wellbeing

The CLD Partnership led a range of initiatives to address health and well-being. For example, a community pantry was opened in Grieve Road in Greenock. The purpose of the pantry is to provide fresh food at affordable prices to support families and tackle food waste.

Mental health is a growing issue in Inverclyde and this led CLD to develop the SQA Mental Health and Wellbeing Award at SCQF Levels 4 and 5 and to create a range of programmes around mindfulness which is being promoted by the NHS as a positive activity to address this need whilst at the same time being accessible for those that are more vulnerable and need 'first steps' level support.

Priority 5: Digital inclusion

Supporting digital inclusion and skills was agreed as a new priority in the final year of CLD Plan 2018-21 and will continue as one into the new plan. Barriers to participation in learning were reduced by Connecting Scotland campaign to deliver ICT devices across Scotland. Inverclyde received 362 iPad, 699 MiFi, 436 Chromebooks which have been delivered through local partnerships to people who are digitally isolated. This work was coordinated through the recently for Digital Isolation group which is Chaired by West College Scotland.

Online and blended learning approaches were developed and delivered to meet need which will be built on in the plan for 21-24. A Moodle-online learning platform was developed and a digital learning hub, Klik2learn, piloted for ESOL learners. Both developments will continue to be a focus. Get Connected, a 1:1 ICT project offered intensive support to upskill individuals who were digitally excluded.

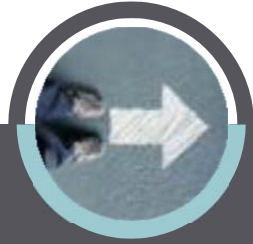
Evidence from telephone surveys carried out with learners and evidence from staff showed that many of them do not possess the skills, knowledge, confidence or equipment to learn online. This became an especially critical need post Covid-19 with learners requiring face to face contact when learning. CLD developed and delivered 'Get Connected', a programme which focussed on combatting digital exclusion, building digital skills for education, better management of everyday life during Covid-19 and to combat social isolation.

Challenges

The CLD 3 year Plan 2021-24 will build on the achievements of the previous plan. However, we recognise that there are a number of challenges which we need to take into account, both in terms of the issues facing the CLD sector as a result of the pandemic and also the specific issues facing Inverclyde. These will all have an impact on our planning and have therefore informed the development of this 3 Year Plan.

Child poverty is a growing issue in Inverclyde. For many children growing up in poverty can mean a childhood of insecurity, underachievement at school, poor health and isolation from their peers. Figures published by the End Child Poverty Campaign in 2016 show that after housing costs more than 1 in 4 children (27.9%) in Inverclyde are living in poverty, an increase of 3.9% on 2012 figures.

There are stark health inequalities in life expectancy and other health outcomes across communities in Inverclyde. According to the National Records of Scotland report on 'Life Expectancy in Scotland 2017-19', in Inverclyde, life expectancy at birth for males was 75 years, which was the third lowest in Scotland. Healthy life expectancy at birth was the fourth lowest in Scotland at 58.4 years. Life expectancy at birth for females in Inverclyde was 79 years, this was the second lowest in Scotland. Healthy life expectancy at birth for females was 59.7 years, the seventh lowest in Scotland. Covid-19 is expected to result in a decrease in life expectancy globally with a disproportionate effect on those affected by deprivation, consequently, there is a high risk that health inequalities in Inverclyde will be exacerbated for many years to come.



The local economy - Inverclyde faces significant challenges in terms of tackling the levels of unemployment and inactivity within the area. Unemployment rates and working age key benefit claimant figures both sit above the Scottish average. As at March 2017, 71.5% of Inverclyde's economically active population were in employment compared to 73.4% in Scotland. The number of working age benefit claimants is 5% above the Scottish average. To help residents move into employment we must improve the skills and confidence of a large proportion of our population. 13.2% of Inverclyde's working age population have no qualifications, 3.5% above the Scottish average. (Source: Nomis Labour Market Profile Inverclyde)

Deprivation - The Scottish Government published the Scottish Index of Multiple (SIMD) Deprivation on 28 January 2020, the Scottish Government's official tool for identifying places in Scotland suffering from deprivation. For the purposes of SIMD 2020, Inverclyde has been split into 114 data zones with the following notable data:

- According to the SIMD 2020, the most deprived data zone in Scotland is located in Greenock, specifically Greenock Town Centre.
- The number of data zones in Inverclyde that fall into the category of the most deprived 5% in Scotland has increased by 11, from 11 to 22;
- The number of data zones in Inverclyde that fall into the category of the most deprived 20% in Scotland has increased by 1 from 50 to 51; and
- In SIMD 2016, no Port Glasgow data zones featured in the most deprived 5% in Scotland, however, 5 Port Glasgow data zones have moved into this category in SIMD 2020.

Ageing population - The population of people over 65 years old in Inverclyde has gradually been increasing since 2003 and in 2019 reached its highest ever level of 16,508, 21% of Inverclyde's population. The number of people aged 75+ in Inverclyde in mid-2019 was 7,545, almost 10% of Inverclyde's population. Since 1999, there has been an increase of 1,394 people aged 75 and over in Inverclyde, despite a declining population over this period. (Source: National Records of Scotland) This will have a major impact on the public sector

services most frequently used by this section of the population, as well as raise issues such as loneliness and social isolation which older people are more at risk of.

Local policy

The CLD Partnership has a key role to play in helping Inverclyde Alliance, to achieve its priorities. The development of the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24 has therefore been informed by the work of Inverclyde Alliance and specifically Inverclyde's Outcomes Improvement Plan (OIP) 2017/22. <https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-planning-partnership/inverclyde-outcome-improvement-plan>

The CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24 will contribute to the achievement of all four priorities within Inverclyde's Outcomes Improvement Plan (OIP) 2017/22, with a specific focus on the delivery of actions and initiatives to achieve the local economy and inequalities priorities.

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Consultation and community engagement

Extensive consultation and engagement with both communities and partner organisations was carried out to inform the development of the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24.

Engagement with communities

One of the key methods used to engage with communities was the six Communication and Engagement Groups that have been established across Inverclyde. They provided valuable feedback on what the key priorities are for communities living in each of Inverclyde's six localities and we have used this to inform the development of the CLD 3 Year Plan. Examples are as follows:

- Improved health and well-being is a priority for people living in Port Glasgow, Greenock East and Central, Greenock South and South West and Greenock West and Central. This is one of the reasons we made improved health and well-being one of our priorities;
- People living in Kilmacoll and Quarriers Village, Port Glasgow and Greenock Gourock told us that they want greater involvement in local democracy and decision-making. This is one of the reasons we made empowering communities one of our priorities; and
- One of the top priorities in Greenock East and Central is access to training and employment opportunities. This informed our decision to make the development of digital services a priority as this is the primary way in which we will achieve better access to training during the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

As the first 18 months of the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24 will focus on recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, it was important for us to use feedback from communities to inform the actions that we will take to facilitate recovery. Your Voice engaged with over 3,000 people across Inverclyde during the pandemic to identify their priorities and this feedback was used to inform the plan. For example, the development of digital services will help to address the communities concerns around digital exclusion and opportunities to learn, while we have made improving mental health and well-being one of our priorities in response to overwhelming feedback from communities that this is a key priority.

Engagement with partners

A series of workshops were held with partner organisations to get their input into the development of the plan. A total of four sessions were held during April, May and June 2021 on the following themes:

- **CLD 3 Year Plan Background and Guidance;**
- **Joint Planning and identification of priorities;**
- **Governance; and**
- **Workforce Development.**

Partners felt it was important to recognise the challenges and opportunities that have arisen during the pandemic and for these to inform the Community Learning and Development 3 Year Plan for 2021-24. The key opportunities and challenges that arose during the pandemic included:

- **Online learning** - The move to online learning has been popular with learners and many students want to see a blended learning model in the future. However, it highlighted the need to develop the IT skills of learners;
- **Engaging communities** - Using digital platforms enabled us to continue engaging with communities. However, not everyone has digital access or are confident with their IT skills to be able to participate. Re-engaging learners and communities using targeted approaches for those most in need is a key focus in the new plan;
- **Adapting services** - The pandemic meant that we had to look at how we could adapt our services and many partners felt this was a good thing;
- **Staff development** - Staff had the opportunity of working across different services gaining knowledge of different services and undertaking a range of staff development opportunities both nationally and locally;
- **Mental Health** - One of the biggest challenges was the impact on mental health and most partners agreed that this must be a priority; and
- **IT Skills** - Staff welcomed the opportunity to develop their IT skills which the move to using digital platforms afforded them;



Our priorities

The CLD Partnership in Inverclyde has identified four priorities that it will focus on during the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24. The identification of these priorities have been informed by extensive consultation and engagement with both partners and communities, the various challenges facing both the CLD sector and communities in Inverclyde and Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017/22.

Priority 1: Development of digital services

Why is this a priority?

This priority will contribute to the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic by helping the CLD Partnership to re-engage with service users. It will also enable us to provide effective online learning and enhance the digital skills of learners, communities and our workforce. This priority will therefore help us to address the challenge of raising attainment and support learners back into learning, training and employment

Partners told us they felt it was critical to ensure that people have the necessary skills to be able to use digital services that we look at providing blended learning and that we use digital services to engage with communities.

Learners told us that they liked online learning and would like a blended model moving forward. Meanwhile, feedback from engagement with over 3,000 people across Inverclyde during the pandemic concluded that digital exclusion was a key theme they wanted us to address.

The development of digital services will contribute to the achievement of all 4 priorities in Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017/22 - population, inequalities, the local economy and environment, culture and heritage.

Priority 2: Empowering communities

Why is this a priority?

It is vital that we work with local communities in order to fully understand how they have been impacted by the pandemic and the support they require in order to facilitate recovery. A key part of this will be building capacity within communities so that they can work in partnership with us to address issues. The increase in volunteering during the pandemic was one of the most positive aspects to come out of the pandemic and continued support and promotion of volunteering will also contribute to recovery.

Understanding what the key issues are in communities will also help us to identify what actions will best help to tackle the challenges we face such as child poverty, deprivation, health inequalities, the economy and the support needed for an ageing population.

Partners told us that there needs to be a greater focus placed on engaging young people, that we need to raise awareness of what is currently available and that we need to use social media more for engagement. Communities told us that they want to be more involved in decision-making and have a great say in the issues affecting the community in which they live.

Empowering communities and giving them a greater say in decision-making will help us to meet the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and implement participatory budgeting.

This priority will contribute to the achievement of all 4 priorities in Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017/22 - population, inequalities, the local economy and environment, culture and heritage.



Priority 3: Improve the health and well-being of communities

Why is this a priority?

Identifying how we can best support young people and adults to improve their mental health and well-being will be another key component of recovery.

Focusing on mental health and well-being was also one of the most common suggestions made by partners, along with the development of community food growing and looking at how we keep people safe during the recovery from Covid-19.

All six Communication and Engagement Groups identified improved health and well-being and better provision of activities to promote well-being, especially amongst young people as being a priority within their locality.

This priority will help to address the stark health inequalities in life expectancy and other health outcomes across communities in Inverclyde.

Improving the health and wellbeing of communities we will contribute to the achievement of the following priorities in Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017/22– population, inequalities and the local economy.

Priority 4: Develop a workforce for the future

Why is this a priority?

Developing a workforce for the future is a priority because it will be central to the overall delivery of the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24.

The CLD workforce told us that it is essential they are supported and trained, especially in relation to digital skills and mental health and wellbeing where they feel upskilling is required. Staff must have access to the IT equipment they need to be effective and it was felt access to social media would be beneficial to the service. The pandemic provided staff with the opportunity to work across different services, which many of them enjoyed and would like to see continue.

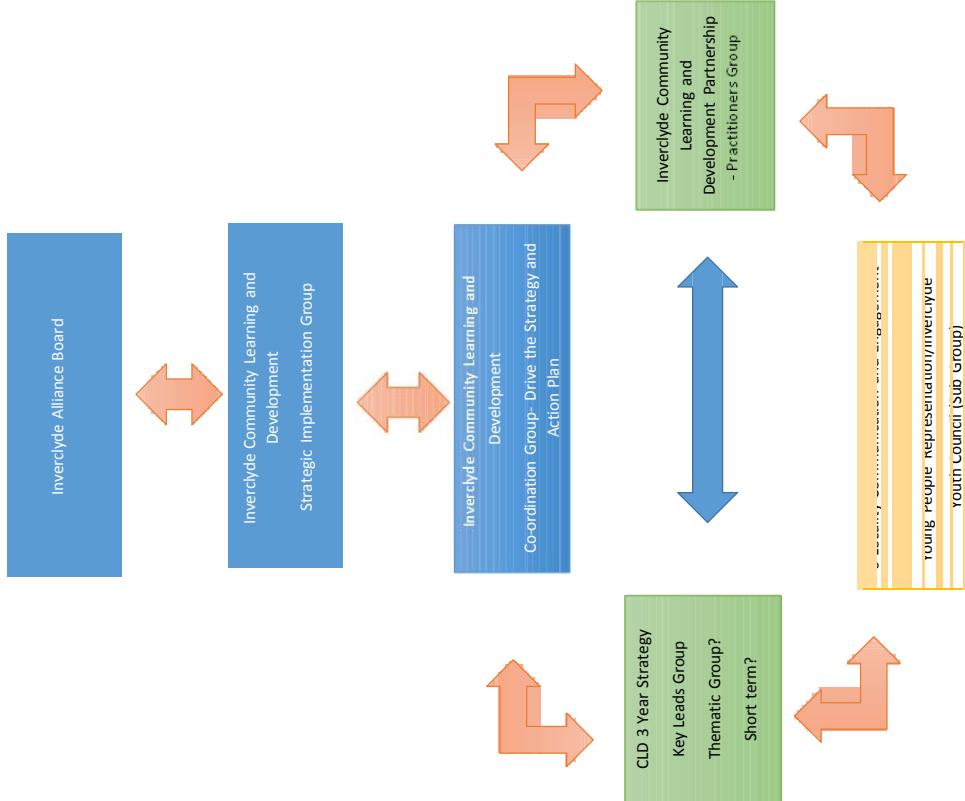
Developing a workforce for the future will contribute to the achievement of the local economy priority in Inverclyde's Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017/22.





Governance

The governance structure for the delivery of the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24 is set out in the diagram below:



Role of Inverclyde Alliance Board in relation to the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24

The Alliance Board is Inverclyde's Community Planning partnership (CPP). It oversees the work of the Community Learning and Development Strategic Implementation Group (CLD SIG). A report on progress made on the actions contained within the plan will be submitted to Inverclyde Alliance Board on an annual basis to enable the Community Planning Partnership to scrutinise performance.

Role of the Community Learning and Development Strategic Implementation Group (CLD SIG) in relation to the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24

- The current remit of the CLD SIG is as follows but will be reviewed in Year 1 of the plan:
- To continue to oversee the strategic integration of CLD into community planning on behalf of Inverclyde Alliance.
 - To oversee compliance for the CLD (Scotland) Regulations 2013 through the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the 3 year plan 2018 – 2021. To respond appropriately to direct feedback from inspections from Education Scotland and other authorities e.g. Children's Services Inspection, Best Value reports, SDS review etc.
 - To ensure that leadership for CLD is effectively provided by Inverclyde Council's Directorate of Education, Communities and Organisational Development.



Role of the Co-ordination Group in relation to the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24

The role of the Co-ordination Group is to co-ordinate and provide a strategic overview of local activity. I will take forward actions and proposals ensuring actions and services are achieving agreed outcomes. It will progress the integration and linkage of CLD actions across related partnership plans, particularly in key areas like employability and IT/digital skills development

Role of Inverclyde Practitioners Forum in relation to the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24

The role of the Inverclyde Practitioners Forum is to enable practitioners to network and share good practice, update on new and current initiatives and identify opportunities for partnership/collaborative working. This group also has responsibility for taking forward workforce development and training.

Role of Thematic Groups in relation to the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24

Thematic groups are multi-agency groups with responsibility for the implementation and delivery of the actions within the CLD 3 Year Plan.

Role of Communication and Engagement Groups in relation to the CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-24

The role of Communication and Engagement Groups is to enable local communities to be engaged in the development and implementation of the CLD 3 Year Plan. These groups also have responsibility for enhancing local democratic decision making at a community level, to ensure the services that are needed are delivered within each of the localities. A local communication and engagement group representing young people will also be developed. Young people should have representation within this group from existing networks.

Monitoring and evaluation

The Co-ordination group will have the lead role in co-ordinating self-evaluation to build the capacity of the CLD partnership to better self-evaluate for improvement. The resource 'How Good is the Learning and Development in our Community' sits under the overarching framework: Framework for Evaluation of the Quality of Services and Organisations and shares a common language and basis with other Education Scotland Frameworks including 'How Good is our School 4?', 'How Good is our Culture & Sport 2?' and 'How Good is our college?'. 'How Good is our Third Sector Organisation?' and other relevant frameworks. These will be used to evaluate performance and identify priorities for action at key points throughout the lifetime of the plan

The quality indicators in 'How Good is the Learning and Development in our Community' reflect the context within which the CLD partnership operates and as well as contributing to this, each of the above groups will identify and focus on the indicators most relevant to them. A framework mapping exercise will support this process in year one of the plan.





How will we achieve our priorities

Priority 1: Development of digital services			
Key Actions	Timescale	What will success look like?	Who is responsible?
Roll out and develop moodle as a digital learning platform.	Year 1	All staff are confident using moodle for digital learning.	CLD Services
Upskill learners, communities and practitioners to ensure they are confident with digital learning, including sites and platforms such as moodle. This will allow us to support learning, training and employment and develop the community engagement and community groups/networking that took place during the pandemic.	Year 2	Learners, communities and practitioners are confident using digital learning to support community engagement, learning, training and employment	Co-ordination Group / Thematic Group
Identify and support people who are digitally isolated to develop their skills, knowledge and confidence to access digital services.	Year 1 - 400 people Year 2 - 400 people Year 3 - 400 people	400 people per year that are digitally isolated will be given access, skills and knowledge to access digital services.	Co-ordination Group / Thematic Group
Ensure that learners and communities are able to access digital equipment for employment, training and learning.	Year 2	We will identify learners and members of the community who are unable engage in employment, training or learning because they are digitally excluded. Individuals are supported in developing their digital skills, knowledge and attributes to gain access to online learning, employment and training.	Co-ordination Group / Thematic Group

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Priority 2: Empowering communities			
Key Actions	Timescale	What will success look like?	Who is responsible?
Work with the six Communication and Engagement Groups to build confidence and support those that are most marginalised and facing the greatest inequalities.	Year 1	We will have identified people who are marginalised and disengaged and support them to participate in their locality Communication and Engagement Group.	Community Learning and Development Services/ Thematic Group
Pilot the establishment of two Locality Planning Groups to provide a forum for community representatives and public services to come together to influence service planning of health and social care in Inverclyde.	Year 1	Each Locality Planning Group will have a minimum of two community representatives and will be meeting on a regular basis. The community representative have influence over the planning of health and social care services in their locality.	LOIP Strategic Inequalities Group
Further develop and implement Locality Action Plans to tackle the challenges faced by communities and use this to inform participatory budgeting.	Review annually	Communities will influence the development of six Locality Action Plans that provide information on the key challenges within each locality. Participatory budgeting will provide a framework to provide services that meet the needs of localities.	Co-ordination Group
Establish an Inverclyde wide Communications and Engagement Group for young people. Young people should have representation within this group from existing networks.	Year 1	More young people are involved in democratic decision-making.	CLD Services
Develop and implement a Volunteering Strategy for Inverclyde.	Year 1	The number of people participating in volunteering is increased. The quality and quantity of volunteering opportunities is increased. Evidence of volunteering being promoted and valued .More local strategies and plans will demonstrate the contribution and impact of volunteering.	Thematic Group / CVS Inverclyde

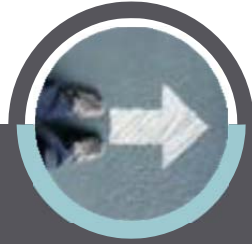


Priority 3: Improve the health and well-being of communities				
Key Actions	Timescale	What will success look like?	Who is responsible?	
Develop a better understanding of the current health and well-being provision and identify the gaps in order to build on existing good practice.	Year 1	There will be a clearer understanding of the priorities, better co-ordination amongst partners and best practice will be rolled out.	Co-ordination Group	
Provide support to young people within the school environment to help them manage their anxiety.	Ongoing / monitored on an annual basis	Young people in schools will know strategies they can utilize to help them cope with anxiety.	Thematic Group	
Develop and deliver a package of training to challenge the language and stigma around mental health and inequalities.	Training Developed in year 1	Communities, young people and the workforce will have a better understanding and knowledge of mental health and inequalities.	Co-ordination Group	
Develop and implementation of a Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Inverclyde.	Developed and approved in year 1 Actions implemented over the lifespan of the strategy.	There will be an increase in the number of people participating in sport and physical activity. Baseline - 63% of Inverclyde residents participate in sport/ similar activity at least every two weeks (Source: Citizens Panel).	Co-ordination Group / Thematic Group	



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Priority 4: Develop a workforce for the future			
Key Actions	Timescale	What will success look like?	Who is responsible?
Develop a programme of professional learning and development in response to staff and volunteer needs identified from workforce development survey with a particular focus on ICT skills and mental health and wellbeing	Year 1 - 3	The CLD workforce will be upskilled and receive training to meet their personal development needs, improving their ICT skills, mental health and wellbeing, KSU and improving the quality and impact of delivery.	Co-ordination Group
Build confidence and resilience across the workforce by sharing best practice and through peer support and evaluation.	Year 2	The CLD workforce have increased confidence in engaging with communities and learners. Self-evaluation is integrated into CLD practice and best practice is shared across the CLD Partnership.	Co-ordination / Practitioners Group
Increase membership of the CLD Standards Council and promote the embedding of the competencies.	Increase membership - year 1 Embed competencies - Year	There is an increased number of the CLD workforce in Inverclyde who are members of the CLD Standards Council. The competencies of the CLD Standards Council are embedded into staff performance appraisals / self-reflection.	Co-ordination / Practitioners Group



Contact us

For further information please contact:

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We are committed to using our website and a range of social media to communicate with people, communities and businesses across Inverclyde and beyond.

This document is available in our formats. Please contact us to request this.

Organisations that make up the CLD Partnership in Inverclyde:





Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	4 October 2021
Report By:	Allen Stevenson Interim Corporate Director (Chief Officer) Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Sharon McAlees Head of Criminal Justice & Children's Services	Contact No:	715282
Subject:	Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership Update		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Inverclyde Alliance Board of a review of the National Strategy for Community Justice, a review of the Outcomes Performance and Improvement Framework and a proposal by the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership in respect of the Inverclyde Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP).

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 ("the Act") requires community justice partners to produce a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) for each local authority area, outlining how they intend to work together to reduce re-offending. The current Inverclyde CJOIP expires in 2022.
- 2.2 The Act also sets out the mechanisms for reviewing the national strategy for community justice led by The Scottish Government (SG), the Outcomes Performance Improvement Framework (OPIF) led by Community Justice Scotland (CJS) and a community justice plan for each local authority area.
- 2.3 In May 2021 SG and CJS issued a joint letter to the chair of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership regarding a review of both the national strategy and OPIF. This matter was discussed at the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership in the context of the Inverclyde CJOIP and an options appraisal presented in respect of future steps. The Partnership propose to extend the current Inverclyde CJOIP by one further year and to produce the next Inverclyde CJOIP on 1 April 2023.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Inverclyde Alliance Board:
- a) Notes the content of the joint letter from The Scottish Government and Community Justice Scotland; and
 - b) Endorses a decision by the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership to extend the current Inverclyde CJOIP by one further year and to publish the next Inverclyde Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan on 1 April 2023.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 ("the Act") requires community justice partners to produce a Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan (CJOIP) for each local authority area, outlining how they intend to work together to reduce re-offending. Partners must report annually on progress against locally and nationally determined outcomes.
- 4.2 The legislation states that Statutory Partners must review their CJOIP:
- After the publication of a revised national strategy for community justice; a revised national performance framework
 - After the publication of a revised local outcomes improvement plan in relation to the area under section 7(5) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
 - From time to time.
- 4.3 Under Section 15 and 17 of the Act, the National Strategy for Community Justice and the Community Justice Outcomes, Performance and Improvement Framework (OPIF) were published on 24 November 2016
- 4.4 Section 16 of the Act sets out that Scottish Ministers must review the national strategy no later than five years after the strategy is published. Following such a review, the Scottish Ministers must either publish a revised strategy, or publish a statement indicating that they consider that the strategy should not be revised.
- 4.5 Section 18 of the Act sets out that Community Justice Scotland (CJS) must review the OPIF no later than five years after the framework is published. Following such a review, CJS must either make proposals to Scottish Ministers for the revision of the framework, or publish a statement indicating that they consider that the framework should not be revised. The Scottish Ministers must consider proposals made to them following CJS' review of the framework and then either publish a revised framework reflecting them (with such modifications as they consider appropriate) or publish a statement indicating that they consider that the framework should not be revised.
- 4.6 To comply with the Act, reviews of both the national strategy and the OPIF must therefore be completed by 24 November 2021 (though publication of any revised documents may take place after this date).
- 4.7 Following the review, partners are required to publish a revised version or publish a statement stating why they do not consider the plan should be revised. When reviewing or revising the CJOIP partners must have regard to the national strategy, the national performance framework, and the local outcomes improvement plan.
- 4.8 The Inverclyde Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017-2022 was submitted to the Scottish Government on 31st March 2017, with full local responsibility for implementation commencing on 1st April 2017 and is due to expire on 31st March 2022.
- 4.9 In May 2021, the Chair of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership received a joint letter from Scottish Government (SG) and CJS detailing the legislative framework, review of the national strategy and OPIF, overview of likely timescales and the potential impact on local CJOIPs. This letter is appended for Alliance Board members.

5.0 REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE AND REVIEW OF THE OUTCOMES PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK

- 5.1 Following the release of the Programme for Government (2021 to 2022) it has been confirmed by SG that they will develop and launch a new National Community Justice Strategy by spring 2022 setting out clear aims with an emphasis on early intervention and encouraging a further shift away from the use of custody. SG had previously considered how best to carry out the review of the national strategy (which had been delayed to some extent by both the pandemic and the pre-election period), including ensuring that all relevant partner organisations were able to contribute to this.
- 5.2 The Community Justice Lead Officer, on behalf of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership, was recently updated via the Community Justice Network. At the time of submission to the Inverclyde Alliance Board, SG advised that a review consultation for partners that are engaged with or have a direct interest in the current strategy will be circulated in September, alongside some workshop discussions. The purpose of the consultation is to inform the development of the new strategy by gathering views on what has worked well and what hasn't since the publication of the first strategy, and to assess what changes in approach might be necessary. This review will be completed by 24th November 2021, at which point the development of the new strategy will commence (anticipated publication in Spring 2022).
- 5.3 CJS have reviewed the OPIF and concluded that it needs to be revised. An OPIF revision project has now been established and aims to further define the specific revisions required and develop proposals for consideration by the Scottish Ministers. The Community Justice Lead Officer, on behalf of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership, was recently updated via the Community Justice Network. A checkpoint report has been submitted to the Scottish Government to ensure that they, as OPIF owner and project sponsor, are satisfied with the direction of travel and are content for progress to continue as outlined.

6.0 INVERCLYDE COMMUNITY JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP POSITION

- 6.1 Following receipt of the letter to the Chair of the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership, the matter was considered at the Partnership meeting on 6 July 2021. There was submitted an options appraisal with the Partnership asked to consider publishing a new Inverclyde CJOIP on 1st April 2022 to be revised following publication of the new national strategy and revised OPIF or to extend the current CJOIP by one further year awaiting the publication of a new national strategy and revised OPIF.
- 6.2 There was consensus by the Community Justice Partnership to extend the current CJOIP by one further year with publication of a new Inverclyde CJOIP on 1 April 2023. This approach was considered as the most appropriate to ensure that the next Inverclyde CJOIP takes cognisance of the reviews of both the national strategy and OPIF and to ensure that the document meets the needs of communities across Inverclyde.
- 6.3 At the request of the Chair this matter was forwarded to both the SG and CJS for their consideration. Although no response was provided by SG, the Community Justice Lead Officer did meet with a representative from CJS. The view of CJS was supportive of this decision to ensure a CJOIP that meets the needs of the national landscape as well as the needs of Inverclyde. CJS also advised that other Community Justice Partnerships had adopted a similar approach and consequently remitted the matter to their appropriate Committee structure as well as producing a position statement.
- 6.4 Noting the above, it is the intention of the Inverclyde CJP to produce a position statement on the relevant Inverclyde Council webpage following endorsement by the Inverclyde Alliance Board.
- 6.5 Should the Inverclyde Alliance Board endorse the recommendation, it is the intention of the Community Justice Partnership to extend the current CJOIP by one further year to ensure any outstanding actions are concluded, to proceed with a Strategic Needs and Strengths Assessment (SNSA) outlining the justice picture within Inverclyde and progressing any emerging trends and future issues in relation to community justice.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Legal:
Section 22(2) of the Act sets out that the community justice partners of a local authority area must review their local CJOIPs after the publication of a revised national strategy and/or a revised OPIF. Following such a review, the community justice partners must either publish a revised plan or publish a statement indicating that they consider that the plan should not be revised.
- 7.2 Finance:
A Community Justice Lead Officer is appointed and hosted by Criminal Justice & Children's Services within Inverclyde HSCP using the Scottish Government's transition funding allocation of £50,000 to Inverclyde. There is however an annual shortfall and the Criminal Justice Social Work budget is currently being utilised to meet these costs. This highlights the temporary nature of funding and the need to articulate at appropriate national forums the case for a long-term commitment to funding to ensure the successful implementation of the community justice agenda.
- 7.3 Human Resources: none at present
7.4 Equality and Diversity: none at present
7.5 Repopulation: none at present
7.6 Inequalities: none at present

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 This proposal was tabled at the Inverclyde Community Justice Partnership meeting on 6 July 2021 and approved pending discussions with CJS.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 None

To: Chief Social Work Officers
 Community Justice Partnership Chairs
 Community Justice Partnership Coordinators
 Council Chief Executives
 Justice Social Work Managers
 OPIF Revision Project Core Group
 OPIF Revision Project Reference Group
 Statutory Partners Group



May 2021

Dear colleagues,

Review of the National Strategy for Community Justice and Review of the Outcomes, Performance and Improvement Framework

Background

Under sections 15 and 17 of the [Community Justice \(Scotland\) Act 2016](#) ('the Act'), the [National Strategy for Community Justice](#) ('the national strategy') and the [Community Justice Outcomes, Performance and Improvement Framework](#) ('the OPIF') were published on 24 November 2016.

Section 16 of the Act sets out that Scottish Ministers must review the national strategy no later than five years after the strategy is published. Following such a review, the Scottish Ministers must either publish a revised strategy, or publish a statement indicating that they consider that the strategy should not be revised.

Section 18 of the Act sets out that Community Justice Scotland (CJS) must review the OPIF no later than five years after the framework is published. Following such a review, CJS must either make proposals to Scottish Ministers for the revision of the framework, or publish a statement indicating that they consider that the framework should not be revised. The Scottish Ministers must consider proposals made to them following CJS' review of the framework and then either publish a revised framework reflecting them (with such modifications as they consider appropriate) or publish a statement indicating that they consider that the framework should not be revised.

To comply with the Act, reviews of both the national strategy and the OPIF must therefore be completed by 24 November 2021 (though publication of any revised documents may take place after this date).

Progress to Date

Review of the National Strategy

The Scottish Government (SG) is currently considering how best to carry out the review of the national strategy (which has been delayed to some extent by both the pandemic and the pre-election period), including ensuring that all relevant partner organisations are able to contribute to this. The final approach taken will be subject to the views of the new administration, but it is expected that substantive work on the strategy review will begin in summer 2021.

Review of the OPIF

CJS have reviewed the OPIF and concluded that it needs to be revised. An OPIF revision project has now been established and aims to further define the specific revisions required and develop proposals for consideration by the Scottish Ministers.

The project's core group are currently developing the proposed approach and revisions. The core group includes representation from Community Justice Partnerships (CJPs), SG (Community Justice Division and Justice Analytical Services), the Care Inspectorate, and the Criminal Justice Voluntary Sector Forum. This work is being developed in consultation with a wider range of stakeholders as outlined in the project's engagement approach.

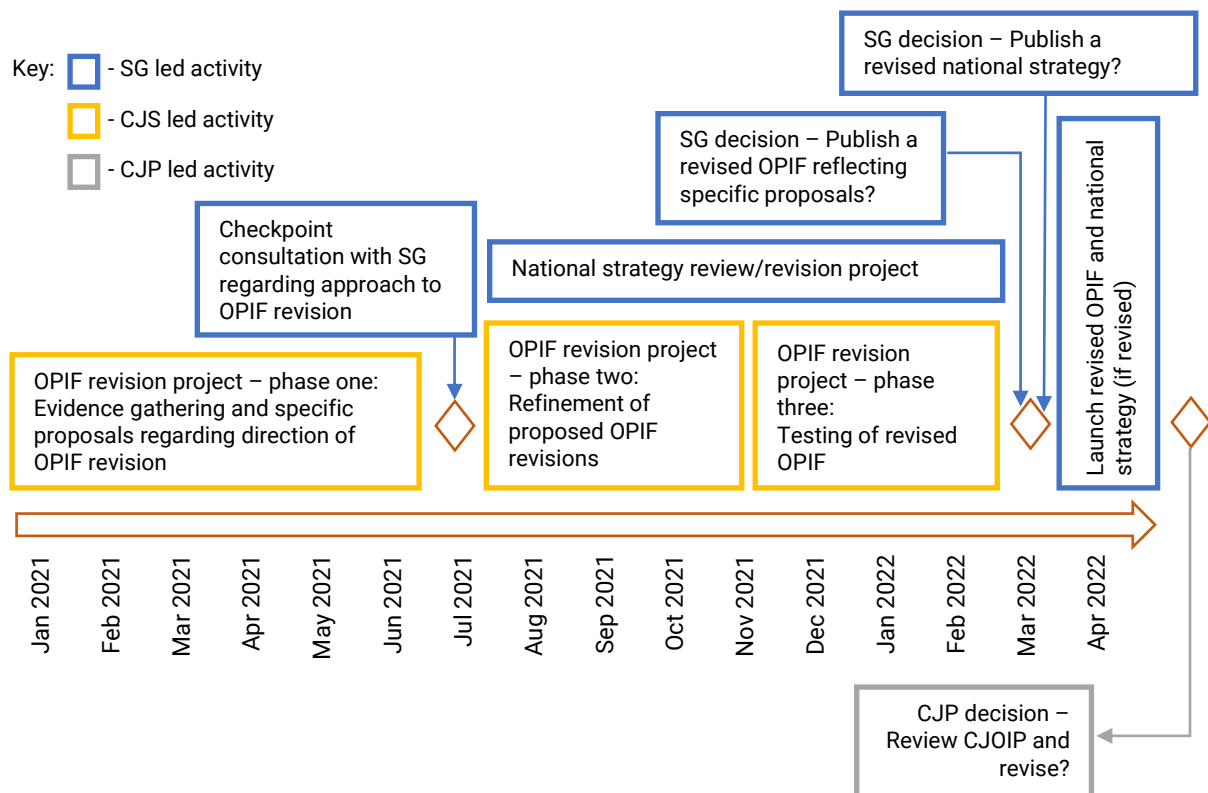
The project is overseen by a reference group which has representation from the third sector, SG, CJS, lived experience, Social Work Scotland, and COSLA. There are additional governance structures in place between SG and CJS to manage the recommendations approval process and ensure that appropriate links are maintained between the review and revision of both the national strategy and OPIF.

As part of the ongoing consultation process, specific views will be sought from the Scottish Government in early summer with regard to CJS' suggested approach and any specific revisions of the OPIF. If CJS and the SG are in agreement about the proposed approach, phase two of the project will further refine the revised framework, taking into account any changes made to the national strategy following its review in due course. A third phase of the project will focus on testing aspects of the revised framework, before final proposals for revision are made to Scottish Ministers.

It should be noted that the first phase of the OPIF revision project, and likely parts of the second phase, will not consider the national outcomes in detail as a result of the interdependencies between this project and the review (and possible revision) of the national strategy. Further information on this is provided below but, while detailed consideration of the national outcomes will not take place immediately, any views on these are welcome throughout both projects. While the national outcomes are a key part of the OPIF, these are relatively high level and it is considered that work on other aspects of the OPIF can continue on the assumption that the overarching intention of the strategy and outcomes, including to improve and expand the use of effective community interventions, will not change significantly. This is not to say the number of outcomes or the wording or exact target of those outcomes will not change, but the work of the OPIF revision project thus far suggests that there will be enough flexibility in the approach to adapt to outcomes that are broadly similar to those in the current OPIF.

Timescales

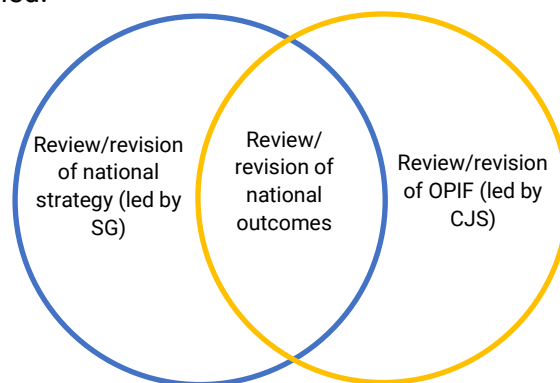
An overview of the likely timescales and milestones for both pieces of work are summarised below (timescales are estimates and subject to change):



Interdependencies

The work required to review the national strategy and the OPIF is inextricably linked. The national strategy currently sets out the vision for community justice in Scotland, and priority improvement actions required to make progress towards the priorities identified. These priorities correspond to the structural outcomes contained within the OPIF. In turn the indicators contained within the OPIF are designed to drive behaviour towards achieving these outcomes and the vision set out in the national strategy.

The SG and CJS are working closely together to align the work where it is critical to do so. Some work can proceed independently of the other with robust communication lines in place. One area where we see crucial overlap, as indicated above, is in the review of the national outcomes. While part of the OPIF, these are currently directly informed by the national strategy, and so it would be difficult to review these in detail while the future direction of the strategy is uncertain. This work will be taken forward jointly once both projects are fully established:



Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plans (CJOIPs)

Section 22(2) of the Act sets out that the community justice partners of a local authority area must review their local CJOIPs after the publication of a revised national strategy and/or a revised OPIF. Following such a review, the community justice partners must either publish a revised plan or publish a statement indicating that they consider that the plan should not be revised.

CJS and SG are aware that 22 out of 30 local CJOIPs are either already expired or are due for renewal up to and including 2022. Work required locally to establish the evidence base for a new CJOIP, for example strategic needs and strengths assessment activity, should continue as planned while taking into account the possibility that some adjustment may need to be made as the reviews progress to reflect any emerging changes in direction to the strategy, national outcomes and OPIF indicators.

If publication of a new CJOIP falls very close to the estimated publication date of a new national strategy and/or OPIF (March 2022) then it may be pragmatic to delay publication of the CJOIP if additional time is required to carry out the required CJOIP review. We respectfully request that CJsPs consult with CJS in their decision making in respect of preparing new CJOIPs (as set out in section 20(6)(a) of the Act).

We will endeavour to keep in close communication with CJsPs throughout the review process to avoid, as far as possible, any late changes of approach.

Next Steps

We will keep you updated on developments in respect of the national strategy review and the OPIF revision. This may be through further joint communications, as part of stakeholder participation and engagement within each of the projects, or through regular updates at forums such as CJP Chair and elected member briefings, and the Community Justice Network.

If you have any queries in relation to this, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,



Graham Ackerman
Community Justice Division, Justice Directorate
Scottish Government



Karyn McCluskey
Chief Executive
Community Justice Scotland

Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date : 4 October 2021
Report By:	Interim Head of Legal Services	Report No: LS/084/21
Contact Officer:	Lindsay Carrick	Contact No: 01475 712114
Subject:	Programme of Alliance Board Meetings 2022	

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request the Board to agree a programme of dates for meetings of the Inverclyde Alliance Board to December 2022.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The suggested dates continue the programme of quarterly meetings of the Alliance Board and these are set out in appendix 1 to the report.
- 2.2 The Board may wish to note that, following a year of remote on-line meetings, hybrid Committee meetings commenced in August 2021 within Greenock Municipal Buildings. Members and officers can now attend Committee meetings either in person at Greenock Municipal Buildings or remotely via phone or WebEx, as the Council is trialling a Hybrid system of meetings.
- 2.3 The Hybrid system of meetings enables Members and any Representatives to choose the method of participation which best suits them, with officer participation mainly continuing to be by WebEx. It is however necessary for the Chair/Convener failing which the Vice-Chair/Convenor to be present within the Chambers along with the Corporate Director, Legal Adviser and Committee Officers to facilitate the hybrid meeting.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Alliance Board agrees the programme of Alliance Board meetings to December 2022, as set out in the appendix to the report.
- 3.2 It is recommended that the Alliance Board discusses how future meetings might take place in light of the introduction of the hybrid model.

Lindsay Carrick
Legal Services

INVERCLYDE ALLIANCE BOARD

Submission Date	Pre-Agenda Meeting	Issue Agenda	Board Meeting
Fri 11 Feb 2022	Wed 23 February 2022 – 1.30pm	Mon 28 February 2022	Mon 14 March 2022 - <u>1pm</u>
Fri 20 May 2022	Wed 1 June 2022 – 1.30pm	Mon 6 June 2022	Mon 20 June 2022 - <u>1pm</u>
Fri 2 September 2022	Wed 14 September 2022 – 1.30pm	Mon 18 September 2022	Mon 3 October 2022 - <u>1pm</u>
Fri 4 November 2022	Wed 16 November 2022 – 1.30pm	Mon 21 November 2022	Monday 5 December 2022 – <u>1pm</u>