



Inverclyde Alliance

AGENDA ITEM NO: 6

Report To: Inverclyde Alliance Board **Date:** 6 December 2021

Report By: Louise Long Chief Executive,
Inverclyde Council and
Chair of LOIP Programme Board **Report No:**

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Corporate Policy,
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Subject: Inverclyde Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Progress Report – August to October 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 August and October 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

The report also includes an update on localities.

2.3 All partners and priority groups are in the process of amending dates and time scales for current LOIP actions within the plans, therefore the flash reports may not at this time fully reflect the range of work that is ongoing. Highlights from the flash reports to date include:

- The Population Partnership Group met on the 13th October to refresh and streamline the current priority plan and it was agreed the current actions 4&6 will move to the Economy Plan and Culture and Heritage Plans respectively.
- The Local Employability Partnership has been re-established.
- The Employability pilot – removing barriers to employment for those in recovery from alcohol and drugs will commence in November and a steering group is agreeing the KPI's around this.
- Additional funding will support older people in fuel poverty and to support those using pre-payment cards to identify and move to more cost-effective tariffs.
- Work began on Inverclyde's Climate Beacons projects. Led by the Beacon Arts Centre, a consortium of Inverclyde partners including Inverclyde Libraries, RIG Arts, Belville Community

Garden, Inverclyde Shed amongst others, successfully bid for c. £30K of funding from Creative Carbon Scotland to explore how the creative and cultural sector can respond to issues of climate emergency and climate justice

- The Council has been allocated £88,000 from the Nature Restoration Fund for 2021/22.
- Two Locality Planning groups were held in September, one in Inverkip and Wemyss Bay and the other in Port Glasgow.

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 August to October 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 flash reports all require to be refreshed apart from the Economy report.

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

4.4 All partners and priority groups, with the exception of the Economy Partnership, are in the process of amending dates and time scales for current LOIP actions within the plans and developing new actions as appropriate, therefore the flash reports may not at this time fully reflect the range of work that is ongoing.

5.0 PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

5.1 Population Partnership Update

- The Population Partnership Group met on the 13th October to refresh and streamline the current priority plan and it was agreed the current actions 4&6 will move to the Economy Plan and Culture and Heritage Plans respectively.
- New measures will be developed to show progress in short and medium term.
- The Eastern Gateway study report will be considered by Inverclyde Council at the January 2022 Environment and Regeneration Committee.
- An update report on the Local Development Plan will be presented to the Environment and Regeneration Committee either in December or January 2022 setting out the challenges which we currently face in Inverclyde including Appeals and the recent issue of NPF4.
- Plans are in place to extend Inverclyde's involvement in the Afghan Resettlement Scheme with an additional 28 families by March 2022.

5.2 Local Economy Partnership Update

- Covid remains a challenge which may be exacerbated now furlough and the universal credit uplift have ceased. The Council and its partners continue to monitor and offer support to businesses and 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. In 2021/22 the start up rate continues to be strong and exceeds the numbers achieved for the same quarters in previous years.
- 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 has been re-established.

5.3 Inequalities Partnership Update

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

- The Employability pilot – removing barriers to employment for those in recovery from alcohol and drugs will commence in November and a steering group is agreeing the KPI's around this.
- Additional funding will support older people in fuel poverty and to support those using pre-payment cards to identify and move to more cost-effective tariffs.
- A third sector-led wellbeing campaign is underway focusing on how to access support and services using Inverclyde Life and Access First. Linked to this is an increase in community connector posts to support individuals to access activities within their community, reducing social isolation.
- As part of the Recovery and Renewal Fund, the Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care announced a new Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for adults (aged 16 and over) with £15 million being made available in 2021- 22. This is the first year of a two-year fund to support mental health and well-being in communities across Scotland. The Inverclyde Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund (ICMHWF) will be managed and distributed by CVS Inverclyde to community groups and organisations in Inverclyde. The amount of funding allocated for 2021-22 to Inverclyde is £244,609.99. A second-year allocation will be notified once the Scottish Government Budget is approved.

5.4 Cultural Partnership Update

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

- 2 Cultural Partnership members have been shortlisted for awards this quarter: RIG Arts for the SURF (Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum) Award in the Creative Regeneration category (result tba 9 Dec 2021) and Inverclyde Libraries for the SLIC (Scottish Library and Information Council) Scottish Library Service of the Year Award. The result of the SLIC was announced on the 5th of November, and after reaching the final Inverclyde Libraries unfortunately did not take home the award.
- Funded by Creative Scotland, the Culture Collective project steering group has appointed creative practitioners to freelance positions including Writer-in-Residence, Artist-in-Residence, and Creative Researcher and has awarded 4 artist development bursaries to 2 early career and 2 established artists working in the area. Work will be ongoing from October 2021 – September 2022.
- Work began on Inverclyde's Climate Beacons projects. Led by the Beacon Arts Centre, a consortium of Inverclyde partners including Inverclyde Libraries, RIG Arts, Belville Community Garden, Inverclyde Shed amongst others, successfully bid for c. £30K of funding from Creative Carbon Scotland to explore how the creative and cultural sector can respond to issues of climate emergency and climate justice. Many of the area's key events, for example *Galoshans* and Book Week Scotland, will be climate-themed this year.

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 Council has been allocated £88,000 from the Nature Restoration Fund for 2021/22. The Head of Roads is currently preparing a Committee Report on how the funding will be spent.
- Two applications were submitted to Stage 2 of the SG Vacant and Derelict Land Investment Programme (i.e. a food growing project at Carwood Street and an art/nature based youth

project at Scott Street, both in Greenock. The Carwood street project was declined, but the Council has been offered a grant of £140,000 for the 6Footlab project at Scott Street. Following further assessment of the sustainability of the project and 6Footlab as a delivery partner, it has been concluded that the project is not currently viable. The Council is investigating the possibility of using the fund directly to bring the site back into a useable state, with a view to identifying another project/site user in due course.

- The VDLIP fund is open to applications for 2021/22, the closing date for submissions was 12th November 2021. Two submissions were made.
 - Brachelston Road Greenock - This project will contribute towards the remediation of 0.98ha of derelict land and re-use it as a HSCP Community Learning Disabilities Hub through the creation of landscaping and pollinators areas. £990,000 has been sought from the fund. It would contribute to the following VDLIP aims and objectives: Net Zero, Climate Change Adaptation, Inclusive growth, tackling disadvantage and Place based approach
 - Carwood Street Greenock – The project would remediate 0.22ha of derelict land and re-use it as a community food growing space. £69,000 is being sought from the fund. It would contribute to the following VDLIP aims and objectives: Net Zero, Climate Change Adaptation, tackling disadvantage, inclusive growth and Place based approach.

6.0 LOCALITIES

6.1 Two pilot Locality Planning Group (LPG) meetings were held at the end of September. These groups will assist in further fulfilling the obligations under the Community Empowerment Act to plan and deliver services based on local need. The Inverkip and Wemyss Bay (LPG) met on the 29th of September and was attended by 3 members of the Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Communication and Engagement Group. The Port Glasgow LPG met on the 30th of September and was also attended by 3 members of the Port Glasgow Communication and Engagement Group. At both LPG meetings, the community representatives provided an overview of the work of their respective Communications and Engagement Group and highlighted the key issues that they are looking at. Going forward, the LPGs will meet on a quarterly basis and the community representatives will play a key role in providing the LPGs with feedback on the needs and aspirations of the local community.

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.


Appendix1

Population Partnership Flash Report

August to October 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
<p>1. Marketing and Communication Activity</p>			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) 	<p>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</p>	 <p>Green – On Track</p>

		<p>4. Support tourism and visitor development in Inverclyde to encourage increased day visitors in line with Glasgow City Region tourism target</p> <p>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.</p> <p>6. Create and implement a developer engagement plan to support growth in the housing market.</p> <p>7. Create and deliver a business growth marketing campaign focussed on Inverclyde to supplement existing national Business Gateway promotional activity.</p>		<p>There have been no major events 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.</p> <p>Greenock Ocean Terminal is an area we will continue to grow. 105 ships are booked in this year.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>This was achieved prior to lockdown last March and a Housing Engagement event was held at the Beacon.</p> <p>Business Gateway Inverclyde are now on Facebook and can put out local information and establish links as to how we can support them.</p>
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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
<p>2. Growing the Housing Market</p>			<p>8. Develop a private housing strategy with targets</p> <p>Review private housing land supply</p> <p>Identify development opportunities East Greenock/ Port Glasgow - Eastern Gateway.</p> <p>Recruitment to communications team leader position including remit to fulfil the local developer/investor liaison contact role.</p>	<p>Housing strategy with identified sites/ annual targets – March 2020</p> <p>Private sector confirmed interest and engagement – December 2019</p> <p>Development briefs for priority opportunities – June 2019</p> <p>Local masterplans completed – March 2020</p>	<p>Eastern Gateway Report received and the Council are now considering the issues that it raised.</p> <p>Two town Centre plans to be developed.</p> <p>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.</p>	

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
<p>3. Growing Local Jobs and Enabling Infrastructure</p>			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased resources for council business development support (including business gateway) for local SMEs growth 2. Complete review of public sector opportunities in terms of employment; procurement; community benefit; and local physical assets 3. Progress studies in partnership with trunk road authority in terms of accessibility. 4. Review business property portfolio and identify opportunities for small business. 5. Inverclyde enterprise Initiative high growth start programme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New business service with business plan approved and funding secured. – July 2019 	<p>The number of new business start-ups continues to exceed target. 215 in 2020/21. This action is also in Economy Plan</p> <p>The Council has taken this into account in its annual procurement strategy. Not as many contracts are being given out due to the pandemic.</p> <p>Engagement required with Transport Scotland.</p> <p>Continue to support local businesses by putting support out. There has been a slight drop but will continue to provide support.</p> <p>This programme is working to bring companies into Inverclyde.</p> <p>The Councils £6 million Job Programme will create a number of graduate places which will be available to the 3rd sector. The Council are looking to create 210 jobs in Inverclyde and partners are looking to make bids.</p>	

<p>4. A Region for People of all Ages</p>			<p>6. Review potential to create further jobs and opportunities within the third sector economy.</p>			
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>This action will be refreshed</p> <p>The local New Scots Population will continue to grow with additional 28 Afghan families being resettled by March 2022</p>	



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
<p>5. A Centre for Culture and Leisure</p>			<p>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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of opportunities completed/ plan signed off and funded – October 2019 Associated Action Plan - October 2019 	<p>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;</p> <p>Discussion that this action should move to Culture and heritage</p>	


Appendix 2

Economy Partnership Flash Report

August to October 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 The 2021/22 business start up rate for the first quarters is positive, exceeding rate of the same period in 20/21		
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 promote our property portfolio and support existing and incoming businesses. The impact of Covid continues to be monitored. The Small Business Property Grant Scheme has positively supported businesses and is over subscribed for 2021/22.		
Employability	Inverclyde Council and partners ensure that effective IREP engagement takes place.	Better engagement	Regular meetings and partnership working	Effective engagement amongst partners	The Local Employability Partnership has been established with similar purpose as the IREP. The first formal meeting, as well as earlier preparatory meetings have taken place.		

Employability Pipeline	Inverclyde Council has 4 employability contracts to deliver end-to-end pipeline activity	Impact of Covid and other factors reduced to ensure maximum opportunities for all.	Contract delivery on an annual basis	Contract monitoring	Since the emergence of Covid, deployment of programmes has been challenging however 2021/22 has seen improved performance.	
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.	Job vacancies continue to be advertised locally and shared with local employability partners under the Inverclyde Works branding and recruitment to the Council's MA, Graduate and Kickstart programmes is also ongoing.	
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 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. The Council is progressing well with this years' MA positions and continues to support those from previous years and those	

Appendix 3

Inequalities Partnership Flash Report





August to October 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with communities Develop models 	<p>By end of Jan 2020 each locality Plan will be published on the Inverclyde Council Website.</p> <p>By April/May 2020 the localities with the greatest inequalities will have had one meeting</p>	<p>All Communication & Engagement Groups are established with facebook pages and ongoing engagement.</p> <p>Two LPGs are being held in Sept 2021. One in the east-Port Glasgow and one in the west-Inverkip and Wemyss Bay.</p>		High
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	Aim is to reduce drug prevalence in Inverclyde	<p>Refresh Alcohol Drug Partnership membership</p> <p>Eliminate Stigma Campaign</p> <p>Develop multi-agency collaboration (MAC)</p> <p>Consultation with young people</p>	<p>Explore data/reporting</p> <p>Consultation service users, families</p> <p>Better Relationship with young people,</p> <p>Police Scotland, Fire & Rescue</p>	<p>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</p>		Medium

	<p>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.</p>		<p>Create Pathway for young people into service</p> <p>Establish Recovery Strategy including employability/housing offer</p> <p>Fire/Rescue support activities and join Multi- Disciplinary Collaborative Police Scotland explore opportunity within schools</p> <p>HSCP develop recovery services</p>	<p>Consistent framework across agency on prevention/education</p> <p>Education/CLD consistent prevention strategy</p>	<p>third highest rate only compared to Glasgow City at 39.8 and Dundee at 43.1.</p> <p>Work is ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •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. •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 Buprenorphine (longer lasting injection) which may change prescribing practices. •The review of all drug deaths on a multiagency basis to determine any learning and 	
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<p>Health Inequalities</p>	<p>Lower life expectancy than Scottish average</p>	<p>Aim to improve life expectancy</p>	<p>Support development of long term conditions pathway</p> <p>Improve access to support</p> <p>Reduce poverty</p> <p>Increase employment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>improvements in practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The test of change of Care Navigators to work intensively with the most vulnerable service users known to Homelessness; ADRS and Criminal Justice. <p>Work to review the Strategic Needs Assessment is almost complete and this will contribute to refreshing the Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Recovery Money: Wellbeing campaign is underway and community connector posts have been increased to reduce social isolation.</p> <p>Anti poverty funding allocated to provide range of initiatives including development of food pantry, horticultural worker to further develop food to fork.</p> <p>Employability pilot – removing barriers to employment for those in recovery will commence November 21.</p>		<p>High</p>
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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 Heat to support people over 75 and to ensure that more people can access the best tariff option for their situation.		
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	High levels of residents experiencing problems with debt	Reduce citizens in Inverclyde who are in debt	Financial Strategy in place. Link to economy work stream and employability.	Covid has significantly impacted on individuals, additional funding has been given to financial inclusion to support people.		

Mental Health	Income/Debt Management	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.	<p>Additional funding in place from Autumn to support and roll out welfare advice in GP practices.</p> <p>Distress Brief Intervention 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.</p> <p>The Inverclyde Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund (ICMHWF) from the Scottish Government will be managed and distributed by CVS Inverclyde to community groups and organisations in Inverclyde. The amount of funding allocated for 2021-22 to Inverclyde is £244,609.99</p>		
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Appendix 4

Environment Partnership Flash Report

August to October 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
<p>Connectivity</p>	<p>It is currently difficult for Inverclyde residents to engage in active travel with gaps in provision and poor infrastructure.</p>	<p>There will be an increase in the number of Inverclyde residents who take part in walking and cycling for everyday journeys and recreation.</p>	<p>Improve cycle paths and walking routes through the development of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active Travel Strategy (complete 2018 and adopted by council – delivery of action plan in progress - Proposed Green Connections project (by 2025) 	<p>Statistics from Community Tracks; and Statistics from Bike Bothy.</p>	<p>Currently application has been submitted for a Green Active Travel officer to deliver the Strategic Access Network part of the GN Blueprint – focusing on cross-boundary routes. Will complement the Green Connections project if that gets approval which will also include or complement the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable project officer (in place? Any survey work of routes taken during lockdown?) - Sustrans funded design for place making project (including active travel) along West Blackhall street – funding bid for implementation is ongoing. - Sustrans also funded a feasibility study on active travel links from Greenock Town centre into West Blackhall street. 	

- The council and Inverclyde Community Development Trust (ICDT) are in the process of developing a cycling/pedestrian route through Gourrock pierhead
 - ICDT appointed consultant to carry out design study on various improvements to the NCN75 between Octavia Park and Gourrock train station – being reviewed)
- Council investigating options for arterial active travel routes into Greenock
- Council tendering for feasibility study into a new walking/cycle route between Inchgreen dry dock and McDonalds

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
<p>Healthier Lifestyles</p>	<p>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 more days per week. (Inverclyde Child and Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey 2013).</p>	<p>Those living in the most deprived localities in Inverclyde will be more physically active and enjoy improved wellbeing</p>	<p>Establish links between health and environment professionals - Develop green gyms, community growing. Community food growing. Establish an Environmental Network</p>	<p>. HSCP attend Environment Partnership and Environment network. Inverclyde Life could be a digital platform to raise awareness of opportunities in which communities and individuals can become involved in.</p>	<p>600 trees will be planted as part of Clyde Climate Forest by Volunteers at Coves LNR</p> <p>Community Food growing strategy in place – Council identifying potential sites</p> <p>Reviewed annually and Allotment for Inverclyde action plan will be developed –Access point needs to be developed for people to receive information and advice.</p>	

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
<p>Land Use and Management</p>	<p>The percentage of derelict land increased from 17% to 51% in 2016. 80% of the increase in derelict land related to two large sites, the Former Inverkip Power Station site and Valley Park, Spango Valley.</p>	<p>Inverclyde residents will have access to good quality and multifunctional greenspace close to where they live (the importance of this priority has been heightened as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown)</p>	<p>Develop a Greenspace Strategy.</p>	<p>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).</p> <p>Performance measures: The number of people within 400m of quality green space.</p>	<p>The Council has been allocated £88,000 from the Nature Restoration Fund for 2021/22. The Head of Roads is currently preparing a Committee Report on how the funding will be spent. Projects not known at this stage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two applications were submitted to Stage 2 of the SG Vacant and Derelict Land Investment Programme (i.e. a food growing project at Carwood Street and an art/nature based youth project at Scott Street, both in Greenock. The Carwood street project was declined, but the Council has been offered a grant of £140,000 for the 6Footlab project at Scott Street. Following further assessment of the sustainability of the project and 6Footlab as a delivery partner, it has been concluded that the 	

project is not currently viable. The Council is investigating the possibility of using the fund directly to bring the site back into a useable state, with a view to identifying another project/site user in due course.

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contribute to the following VDLIP aims and objectives: Net Zero, Climate Change Adaptation, Inclusive growth, tackling disadvantage and Place based approach

- o Carwood Street Greenock – The project would remediate 0.22ha of derelict land and re-use it as a community food growing space. £69,000 is being sought from the fund. It would contribute to the following VDLIP aims and objectives: Net Zero, Climate Change Adaptation, tackling disadvantage, inclusive growth and Place based approach.

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
			are already undertaking.		<p>A nature-based solution will be implemented to prevent flooding using Glen Moss Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).</p> <p>Inverclyde has been selected as 1 of 6 LA to host Climate Beacons as part of COP26 – they are coordinated by Creative Scotland to raise awareness of climate change – progress reported under cultural report.</p>	

Challenges this quarter

There has been a delay in finding out the outcome of the Sustrans funding application for the Green Connections Programme but it is now expected to go to the panel in September (although existing projects are being given priority). Until the outcome of the application is known, the partnership are focusing on a small number of partnership actions that will contribute to the overall aims of the Green connections project and the environment partnership which will also help address the climate and nature emergency we are facing.

Next steps

The next steps are to continue working on existing partnership priorities and develop new additional actions once the proposed project gets approval.

Appendix 5

Cultural Partnership – Flash Report

August to October 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.	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 and the end of the year with the intention of submitting by March 2022. Progress reports on this bid will be brought to future Programme Board/Alliance Board meetings		



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
<p>Arts and Creativity Strategy</p>	<p>Inverclyde's Arts & Creativity Strategy launched in 2017 but did not contain an Action Plan to take the Strategy forward.</p> <p>Arts & Creativity sub-group implemented with representation from a range of partner organisations and individual artists.</p>	<p>Arts & Creativity Strategy and action plan being implemented with actions being delivered;</p> <p>Arts sub-group feeding in to overall Cultural Partnership and cultural delivery plan for the area.</p>	<p>Recruitment of Arts Co-ordinator for Inverclyde, funded by remaining Place Partnership funds.</p> <p>Maintain regular meetings of the Arts & Creativity sub-group, ensuring representation across Inverclyde CPP.</p>	<p>Meetings take place consistently and attendance by all partners remains high.</p> <p>Regular review of members of partnership.</p>	<p>Alliance Board approved the <u>Arts Action Plan</u> running alongside the <u>Arts & Creativity Strategy</u> on 14 June 2021.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>In Aug-Oct 2021, Inverclyde Culture Collective contracted a Writer in Residence; an Artist in Residence; a Creative Researcher; and awarded 4 development bursaries to artists. Work will be ongoing from October 2021 – September 2022.</p>		

Culture Collective project partners RIG Arts commenced the "Open Studio" project to provide a range of experiences and opportunities for young people, with 15 regular participants completing sessions on ceramics, sculpture etc.; commenced the "Inside Out" project to work with the local community to explore the connection between community greenspaces and mental health recovery, with 21 regular participants in the Auchmountain Glen area; and commenced the "Creativity in Mind" project to work with adults with mental health issues to use creativity as a means of self-expression to support recovery, manage symptoms, and build self-esteem.


Culture Collective project partners Beacon Arts Centre began delivery of drawing workshops working with artist Beth Shapeero.

Over and above Culture Collective work, RIG Arts have settled in to the larger Covid-adapted studio space at the Tobacco Warehouse; and have been working on *Galoshans 2021* with no parade or street party this year but with a series of pop-up performances, events and


Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there	How will we know we are	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level
					<p>workshops both physical and digital in line with health & safety guidelines. A group of youngsters involved in RIG's Arts & Minds creative sessions have had their design chosen to represent Scotland for Asda's Children in Need t-shirt campaign. Work continues on 3 public artworks as part of Sustrans/Inverclyde Council/Great Place Scheme project (see below). Finally, RIG Arts is a SURF (Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum) Finalist in the Creative Regeneration category – result tba 9 Dec 2021.</p>		

Great Place Scheme			(including timescale)?	getting there?			
<p>Great Place Scheme</p>	<p>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.</p>		<p>The approved purposes of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Project Officer to be appointed to 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: commission 3 	<p>Community engagement and participation in heritage will increase; will be visible through higher levels of cultural participation reported in the SHS.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>3rd residency = GPS working with Sustrans 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.</p> <p>Planning permission is currently being sought for 3 separate pieces of public art on the NCN75 with installation to begin shortly.</p> <p>The GPS Officer worked alongside heritage groups to</p>		

Area of	Where are we	Where do we	How will we	How will we	Progress	RAG	Tolerance
			<p>artists to animate spaces and places, celebrate 'lost' heritage and input into proposed public realm improvements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Produce a long-term strategy for the development of heritage in Inverclyde to help the Cultural Partnership plan effectively for the future. 		<p>sensitively document the pandemic in Inverclyde to record and archive personal stories and experiences for future generations. An exhibition, 'Lockdown Life', initially at the Watt Institution, is being designed and will be exhibited in early 2022.</p>		

activity	now?	want to be?	get there (including timescale)?	know we are getting there?	Progress	Status	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.			See comments above in respect of Galoshans 2021. Planning continues for the 2022 Melliora festival. Inverclyde Council's Corporate Communications and Tourism team have applied for funding from Event Scotland to celebrate Scotland's Year of Stories in 2022. The Greenock Burns Club are planning a dinner in Greenock Town Hall on 13 November at 7pm to celebrate the bicentenary of Colin Rae Brown, a Greenockian who was pivotal in the huge growth of the Burns movement in the 1800s. Open to all, tickets are priced at £30 and can be booked at: www.greenockburnsclub.com		
Area of activity	Where are we now?	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there (including	How will we know we are getting	Progress	RAG Status	Tolerance Level

Key Cultural Venues		timescale)?	there?	
<p>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 Wylie Gallery.</p> <p>Inverclyde's 6 public libraries also provide cultural spaces within communities.</p>	<p>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.</p>		<p>Each centre will report increasing visitor numbers.</p> <p>Cultural participation in Inverclyde will increase.</p>	 <p>The Watt Institution 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 exhibitions continue to draw visitors. The Digital Learning & Engagement Officer (funded by Museums Galleries Scotland) has been busy engaging with a diverse range of community groups to ascertain needs and aspirations as well as ensuring the Watt is more active online to increase the digital accessibility of collections.</p> <p>The <u>Beacon Arts Centre</u> – Highlights from the previous quarter include: delivering Beacon Youth theatre and Creatability projects; developing 'Beacon on the road' programming; youth activities including short performances and Halloween Party; oral storytelling project with Inverclyde Shed; "Art by Post" continuing; indoor live performance programme resumed; exhibition programme including <i>Lewis ELEGIES</i> photography exhibition; and a soft launch of new café partner Elinor.</p>

<p>Climate Emergency</p>	<p>There has been an upsurge in awareness of the climate emergency as one of the</p>	<p>The Inverclyde Climate Beacon will focus on the roles of</p>	<p>The vision for the Climate Beacon is to produce and promote an</p>	<p>Partners jointly create or commission artistic work;</p>	<p><u>Inverclyde Libraries –</u> Libraries re-opened on a restricted basis in April 2021 and increased opening hours and services available as Scotland moved through the levels of Covid restrictions. Highlights from the previous quarter include: re-instating programming and in-person activities and events including Bookbug; participating in Fun Palaces weekend; celebrating Black History month with themed reading displays of black and minority ethnic literature; and continuing 3D printing and introducing virtual reality to library users. Inverclyde Libraries have also been announced as one of 6 Scottish library services shortlisted for the Scottish Library & Information Council Award 2021, celebrating talent, innovation and achievement of library teams across Scotland. Winner tba 5 November 2021</p>		
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	<p>defining issues of the era. The culture sector is a key player in creating a society more focused on wellbeing. It can contribute creatively to the challenges of climate change and climate justice.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>climate change mitigation and adaptation as part of Inverclyde's recovery from Covid.</p>	<p>exciting programme of activities to shape 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.</p>	<p>engagement work; and development work to highlight the climate emergency and environmental issues.</p> <p>Awareness of climate issues is raised in Inverclyde.</p>	<p>support the programme.</p> <p>Led by the Beacon Arts Centre, project partners include Belville community Garden, Inverclyde Libraries, RIG Arts, Ian Parsons, Inverclyde Shed, CVS Inverclyde amongst others. Activities include Creative Nature for Wellbeing Workshops; a live adaptation of 'Gaia – A Foretold Storm'; Climate Researcher in Residence; external speakers on climate, climate and eco-themed Chatty Cafes; eco exchanges, climate-focussed work with children and young people; COP26-themed Galoshans; climate-themed Book Week Scotland; Reading Garden at South West Library; climate artists; community upcycling; climate mitigation films; pop up community garden events; a hydro project feasibility study; and various other workshops.</p>	
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Challenges this quarter: August-October 2021

This quarter saw further loosening of Government restrictions in relation to Covid. With venues beginning to re-open on a limited basis, the creative and cultural sector in Inverclyde is getting used to the 'new normal' ways of working and will no doubt find creative solutions to offering services in coming months. Visitor and

participant figures, and thus revenue income, are likely to be significantly decreased in comparison to 2019/pre-Covid, and likely to be an ongoing challenge for some time.

Next steps: November 2021-January 2022

Inverclyde's cultural sector will do as much as possible to offer Covid-safe activities to residents and visitors. Culture Collective activity, including artistic residencies, will start in earnest.