



Inverclyde Alliance

AGENDA ITEM NO: 5

Report To: Inverclyde Alliance Board **Date:** 14th March 2022
Report By: Louise Long Chief Executive **Report No:**
Chair of LOIP Programme Board
Contact Officer: Andrina Hunter Service Manger **Contact No:** 2042
Corporate Policy,
Performance and Partnerships
Subject: Inverclyde Local Outcome Improvement Plan
Progress Report – October to December 2021

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Inverclyde 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 October to December 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 and engagement.

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:

- Both the Population and Inequalities Groups have refreshed their delivery plans to ensure focus on key areas for the remainder of this LOIP
- The Population Action Plan focusses on:
 - Develop the Inverclyde brand
 - Create sustainable communities, primarily through the housing offer
 - Deliver a net inward migration
- The Inequalities Action Plan focusses on the key areas of:
 - Reducing the harm from Alcohol and Drugs
 - Mitigating Poverty (including Child/Food/Fuel/Financial)
 - Supporting an Active Inverclyde
 - Supporting improved Mental wellbeing and reducing Social Isolation.

- The Local Employability Partnership has been re-established and is meeting regularly
- The Sustrans 'Places for Everyone' funding has now been confirmed for the Green Connections Project unfortunately for only half the funding that was originally requested.
- Two applications were successful in Stage 1 of the SG Vacant and Derelict Investment Fund in November and will now be developed further for Stage 2 in March 2022
- RIG Arts won the Creative Regeneration category at the 2021 Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum (SURF) Awards for Best Practice in placing artists, arts and creativity at the heart of community regeneration efforts;
- Inverclyde's libraries were highly commended for their pandemic response and support for their communities in the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) Awards 2021
- The six Communication and Engagement Groups continued to meeting with proposals being developed for locality planning approaches going forward

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 October to December 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

4.4 A separate section on developing our localities, and communication and engagement has now been added to this report.

5.0 PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

5.1 Population Partnership Update

The Population Partnership has met a number of times to review its current workplan. As part of the review for the final year of this LOIP plan, the group reviewed the previously agreed 10 year vision and have developed an overarching goal for the remainder of this LOIP.

Overarching Goal

- To stabilise the population of Inverclyde
- Foster collaboration across the Inverclyde Alliance, ensuring partnership approach to delivery of wider LOIP outcomes

Three new strategic objectives have been developed to provide focus to the group and the updated flash report at Appendix 1 provides further details.

1. Develop the Inverclyde brand - position Inverclyde as a place to visit, work and live.
2. Create sustainable communities, primarily through the housing offer - address the private and social housing requirements, helping retain and attract new people to the area.
3. Deliver a net inward migration - create a net flow of population through strategic initiatives (including our New Scots)

A key area of challenge continues to be the delivery of master planning, specifically for Eastern Gateway and planning reviews for both Port Glasgow and Greenock Town Centres. These are projects that are inherently complex and prone to delay. Work is ongoing on assessing a revised timeframe for key milestones for each of these initiatives.

5.2 Local Economy Partnership Update

The Local Economy Partnership Group has continued to meet and consider the actions against the updated plan.

- 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 terms of data, for all people economically active in employment in Inverclyde the figure has increased by 2020 between January 2019 and September 2021. The % economically active within Inverclyde is 73.5% which is 0.6% above the Scottish average.
- 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 and is meeting regularly

5.3 Inequalities Partnership Update

The Inequalities Partnership Group has recently met to review its plan for the remainder of this LOIP. The Health and Wellbeing Recovery Plan (established as part of the Covid 19 Recovery Planning) has also been reviewed with a view to bringing both plans together into one streamlined action plan.

The priority action plan has been updated to focus on the four overarching areas identified as key areas of focus for the group:

- Alcohol and Drugs
- Poverty (including Child/Food/Fuel/Financial)
- Active Inverclyde
- Mental wellbeing and Social Isolation.

Further information is included in Appendix 3. The membership of the group is currently being reviewed in line with these updated priorities.

5.4 Environment Partnership Update

The Environment Group have been awaiting confirmation of funding for the Green Connections project before establishing new actions and targets for the delivery plan. The Sustrans 'Places for Everyone' funding has now been confirmed for the Green Connections Project on 20th January 2022 but only for half of the funding requested. They would like us to focus on 2 of the 5 project areas submitted. A steering group meeting has met to determine which two areas to proceed with and the proposal is Greenock Central link (taking in the whole of Greenock Cut) and Lady Octavia Park (connecting to Greenock central). A meeting of the environment group will be diarised to refresh the delivery plan.

Other ongoing actions include:

- The Peatland Action Feasibility Study, which is due to be completed by end of March.
- 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 and this should help contribute to the majority of ongoing priority actions.
- A workshop for partners being held on Net Zero and the Climate Emergency. This will establish and encourage positive action to help address these issues.
- Two applications were successful in Stage 1 of the SG Vacant and Derelict Investment Fund

in November and will now be developed further for Stage 2 in March 2022. The applications included:

1. 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.
2. 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.

5.5 Cultural Partnership Update

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

- RIG Arts won the Creative Regeneration category at the 2021 Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum (SURF) Awards for Best Practice in placing artists, arts and creativity at the heart of community regeneration efforts;
- Inverclyde's libraries were highly commended for their pandemic response and support for their communities in the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) Awards 2021;
- 3 new works of public art on the National Cycle Network 75 (at the Greenock waterfront), representing the past, present and future of the Inverclyde area, were created by RIG Arts and artists Jason Orr, Alan Potter and Tragic O'Hara in a project funded by Sustrans and Inverclyde Great Place Scheme.
- Inverclyde's Great Place Scheme came to an end, with a positive evaluation highlighting that great strides have been made in changing the narrative about heritage in Inverclyde, that there has been a step-change at the Watt Institution in terms of community engagement, and that heritage organisations are now better able to engage in heritage activities through training and partnerships;
- Inverclyde Culture Collective Interim Report was submitted, showing that 26 artists/creative practitioners have been contracted so far as part of the programme with an expected 37 contracts still to be issued. This is significantly more than was originally planned and shows the impact the programme is having on paid employment for creative practitioners in Inverclyde and across Scotland.

6.0 LOCALITIES

- 6.1 Inverclyde Alliance previously agreed to trial a model of locality engagement which would meet both the Public Bodies (Joint Working) Scotland Act 2014 and the Community Empowerment Act 2015 legislation, and try to build an overarching structure for community engagement across Inverclyde. The structure involved the establishment of six locality based Communication and Engagement groups and six formal Locality Planning Groups.
- 6.2 The six Communication and Engagement Groups are established across the six localities in Inverclyde and focus on building community capacity, ensuring involvement and refreshing the locality plans. The groups are going well with a range of ways for the community to be involved via social media as well as attending group meetings. A number of listening events related to the Council's budget consultation have also been arranged.
- 6.3 Two Locality Planning Groups met in Port Glasgow and Inverkip and Wemyss Bay at the end of September 2021. The groups were established to pilot the LPG approach and both groups had very different approaches to how the meetings were run.

Feedback from the community has been that many people are keen to be involved in the communication and engagement groups however do not want to be involved in formal governance structures surrounding locality planning. In addition feedback from partners included concerns regarding the attendance at six Locality Planning Groups on a regular basis.

6.4 Further meetings will take place with the two Locality Planning Groups to discuss the learning from the groups and discuss future models of delivery with a proposal being considered to retain the six Communication and Engagement Groups to deliver under the Community Empowerment Act 2015 and have responsibility for developing the locality plans; and move to two Locality Planning Groups (East and West Inverclyde) to meet the needs of the HSCP under the Public Bodies (Joint Working) Scotland Act 2014 legislation.

6.5 A report outlining the approach to locality engagement and planning; learning to date; and future models will be submitted to the June 2022 Alliance Board meeting for consideration.

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

Population Partnership Flash Report

**October to December 2021
Lead Officer – Richard Turnock**

Area of Activity	Where are we now	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG status
Develop the Inverclyde Brand <i>Position Inverclyde as the place to visit, work and live.</i>	As at January 2022, significant progress has been made, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Discover Inverclyde' branding and website and social media presence (e.g. Business Gateway Inverclyde now on Facebook) • Successful Marketing and promotion activity and events (including housing engagement event) • Towns and Villages being supported to develop their presence through Recovery Plan funding • Greenock Ocean Terminal growth • Establishment of staff dedicated to deliver events and tourism related activities 	The 'Discover Inverclyde' theme is the default marketing brand for tourism and visitors and existing population. The Discover Inverclyde website is considered the main, trusted reliable source of what to do in Inverclyde. Inverclyde is considered not only a tourist destination but also a place to work and live.	Continual enhancement of the marketing activity. Investment in the promotion activities to build the Discover Inverclyde theme Create a new Discover Inverclyde marketing toolkit Drive use of marketing toolkit, promoting the Discover Inverclyde theme, Enhance social media presence, including marketing out with Inverclyde. Partnership working including Visit Scotland, Scottish Tourism Alliance + other local authorities.	Ongoing Wide range of metrics to evidence increase in visitor numbers Measure participation rates by local businesses and venues Measure attendance at events and participation rates Measure hits/reach/retweets etc. Ongoing assessment of quality of engagement	Ongoing Ongoing On track for Spring 2022 On track for Spring 2022 On track for Spring 2022 Ongoing	     
	Deliver targeted marketing strategy (inc TV, Discover Scotland Expo.)	Completion of initiatives already in 22/23 programme plan	2022/23 programme plan			




Area of Activity	Where are we now	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG status
<p>Create Sustainable Communities, primarily through the housing offer</p> <p><i>Address the private and social housing requirements, helping retain and attract new people to the area</i></p>	<p>As at January 2022, significant progress has been made, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of a review of private housing land supply • Plans to deliver > 1,000 new social housing units (> 50% completion to date) • Ongoing work on the Eastern Gateway Opportunities • Preparatory work on Town Centre Plans for Port Glasgow and Greenock Town Centre 	<p>Short to medium term Delivery of a private and social housing solution that provides enables retention and attraction of new families to Inverclyde.</p> <p>Medium to longer term Regeneration where required; complemented by other private and social housing development in the longer term.</p>	<p>Delivery of Private Housing New build.</p> <p>Delivery of Social Housing New build.</p> <p>Consideration of appropriate incentives (e.g. Lower council tax, subsidised nursery, leisure facilities etc.)</p> <p>Progress Local Development Plan</p> <p>Progress Eastern Gateway Master Plan</p> <p>Progress Port Glasgow Town Centre Plan</p> <p>Progress Greenock Town Centre Plan</p> <p>Consider other wider opportunities for regeneration and ad hoc projects.</p> <p>Partnership working with appropriate lobbying activity.</p>	<p>This is addressed through the Local Development Plan/SHIP.</p> <p>Regular measurement against planned progress for both private and social housing plans.</p> <p>Uptake in any available funding</p> <p>Informed by changes to Scottish national planning Framework</p> <p>Inverclyde Council/ Committee governance + partner input</p> <p>Measures include e.g. utilisation of strategic acquisition funding (Rental Of The Shelf funding) plus any other transformational funding.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Requirement to agree a definitive timeframe for these complex initiatives</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>

Area of Activity	Where are we now	Where do we want to be?	How will we get there?	How will we know we are getting there?	Progress	RAG status
<p>Deliver a net inward migration</p> <p><i>Create a net flow of population through strategic initiatives</i></p>	<p>As at January 2022, key achievements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various resettlement Schemes have enabled immigration from Afghanistan and Syria in particular. • 37 new families now housed and settled within Inverclyde 	<p>Ensure that Inverclyde is considered as a location of choice for future New Scots.</p> <p>Ensure we attract and retain families who settle in Inverclyde</p> <p>Net inward migration not only about New Scots (other population inflow predominately via supported by wider Repopulation initiatives).</p>	<p>Ongoing collaboration between Inverclyde Alliance partners (HSCP News Scots Team + Social landlords + Education etc. Partnership working with the Scottish Refugee Council/UK Government</p> <p>Support the resettlement of an additional 16 families through the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) by March 2022.</p> <p>Assist the acclimatization, supporting the enhancement of language skills and finding work, thus enabling rapid self-sufficiency and social integration in our communities.</p>	<p>Measure the extent of both initial and sustained settlement within Inverclyde.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>G</p>

Economy Partnership Flash Report

October to December 2021
Lead Officer – Stuart Jamieson



APPENDIX 2


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
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 3 quarters continues to be positive.	
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 and we are working with those who have received grant approval to ensure they are able to use their grant. The team are also administering the Scottish Government Covid Ventilation Grant. Uptake has been fairly low, further local publicity has been planned to ensure businesses are aware of the opportunity.	
Employability	Inverclyde Council and partners ensure that effective IREP	Better engagement	Regular meetings and partnership working	Effective engagement amongst partners	A few LEP meetings have now taken place and partners are working through actions to support the preparation of the Delivery Plan and No One	

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
Employability Pipeline	engagement takes place. 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	Left Behind Ph2 launch in April. 2021/22 has seen improved performance from the difficult year of 2020/21. A tender exercise has been carried out for the contracts for 2022/23, the results of which will be known shortly.	
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 has 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. The Council continues to progress well with this years' MA positions and continues to support those from previous years and those who are post qualification	

Inequalities Partnership Flash Report

October to December 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
Alcohol and Drugs Lead officer Anne Malarkey	Drug use is one of the leading causes of death and ill health in the most deprived parts of Inverclyde	Inverclyde is a Place Where Less Harm is Caused by alcohol and drug use.	Delivery of the ADP priorities and recovery strategy Contribute to the review of the Inverclyde Licensing policy	Outcomes reported to ADP Committee Reduction in deaths Reduction in associated ill health Reduction in associated hospital admissions	Develop an ADP Communication Strategy and Plan, including the use of social media. Develop an ADP training plan based on the Review of Alcohol and Drug Education and Prevention Following the ADRS Review, fully implement the new model of delivery. Full mobilisation of the recovery community in Inverclyde	
Poverty Child poverty Fuel poverty Financial inclusion Food poverty Lead Officer Craig Given/ Tony McEwan	Inverclyde has the most deprived SIMD area in Scotland	Levels of poverty in Inverclyde are reduced	Partnership working to improve employment opportunities, maximize household income Review and deliver new financial inclusion strategy	Outcome reporting on Child Poverty Action Plan Outputs and contract monitoring from commissioned services e.g. Iheat Evidence delivery of council anti-poverty programmes	Anti-poverty funding allocated to provide range of initiatives including Employability pilot – removing barriers to employment for those in recovery New pantry planned for Port Glasgow Year 4 of child poverty action plan in progress Delivery of child bridging payment	
Active Inverclyde Lead Officer Tony McEwan	Inverclyde residents are less likely to be active than those in the rest of NHSGGC and Scotland as a whole.	The people of Inverclyde are more active and maintain activity throughout the life course	Work in partnership with Inverclyde Leisure, NHSGGC health improvement services, local third sector	Evidence delivery of outcomes associated with Active Inverclyde Strategy Decrease in ill health associated with low levels of activity will be evidenced in local health needs assessment	New Active Inverclyde Strategy agreed Development of delivery plan underway by core group	

<p>Mental well-being & social isolation Lead Officer Alan Best/ Charlene Elliot</p>	<p>Impact of Covid has increased social isolation and negatively impacted mental wellbeing</p>	<p>People of Inverclyde are supported to reconnect socially and emotionally</p>	<p>Utilise recovery money, Public Mental health recovery funding and Wellbeing fund monies Develop suicide prevention plan Develop Inverclyde carers movement</p>	<p>Reported outcomes from associated funding streams Self-reported outcomes from upcoming NHSGGC Health & Wellbeing Survey</p>	<p>Wellbeing campaign is underway and community connector posts have been increased to reduce social isolation. NHSGGC Health & Wellbeing Survey expected to take place later in 2022. Reporting in 2023 Suicide prevention plan group has been convened</p>	
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Environment Partnership Flash Report

October to December 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
Connectivity	It is currently difficult for Inverclyde residents to engage in active travel with gaps in provision and poor infrastructure.	There will be an increase in the number of Inverclyde residents who take part in walking and cycling for everyday journeys and recreation.	Improve cycle paths and walking routes through the development of: Active Travel Strategy (complete 2018 and adopted by council – delivery of action plan in progress - Proposed Green Connections project (by 2025)	Statistics from Community Tracks; and Statistics from Bike Bothy.	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: -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 Gourcock Pierhead -ICDT appointed consultant to carry out design study on various improvements to the NCN75 between Octavia Park and Gourcock train station – being reviewed)	



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
Healthier Lifestyles	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).	Those living in the most deprived localities in Inverclyde will be more physically active and enjoy improved wellbeing	Establish links between health and environment professionals - Develop green gyms, community growing. Community food growing. Establish an Environmental Network	.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.	600 trees will be planted as part of Clyde Climate Forest by Volunteers at Coves LNR Community Food growing strategy in place – Council identifying potential sites Reviewed annually and Allotment for Inverclyde action plan will be developed –Access point needs to be developed for people to receive information and advice.	
Area of activity Land Use and Management	Where are we now? The percentage of derelict land increased from 17% to 51% in 2016. 80% of the increase in derelict land related to two	Where do we want to be? 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)	How will we get there (including timescale)? Develop a Greenspace Strategy.	How will we know we are getting there? By periodically measuring the number of people within a 5 minute walk of a good quality useable greenspace (this is line with a new	Progress 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>large sites, the Former Inverkip Power Station site and Valley Park, Spango Valley.</p>	<p>Derelict land will be transformed in key communities to provide multiple benefits for people and nature</p>		<p>national indicator on access to greenspace). Performance measures: The number of people within 400m of quality green space.</p>	<p>Development of the Greenspace Strategy is on hold until the secondary legislation and associated guidance on Open Space strategies is published in the autumn of 2021. Following this, there will be a review of VDL sites to identify opportunities to plug gaps in greenspace provision for community benefit</p> <p>The GCV Green network partnership completed the Strategic habitat network in 2019 – aspects of the network will be incorporated as part of the proposed Green Connection Project.</p>	
					<p>Two applications were successful in Stage 1 of the SG Vacant and Derelict Investment Fund in November and will now be developed further for Stage 2 in March 2022. The applications included</p> <p>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</p> <p>Carwood Street Greenock – The project would remediate 0.22ha of</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
Climate Change		<p>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.</p>	<p>Inverclyde Council are developing a Carbon neutral/net zero strategy and from this we will identify actions we can take forward which is likely to include those actions we are already undertaking.</p>		<p>Contract has been awarded for a Peatland Restoration Feasibility Study to be carried out within Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park. The Peatland Action Feasibility Study, which is due to be completed by end of March.</p> <p>A Peatland Action project officer is being recruited to cover the Glasgow City region (including Inverclyde).</p> <p>A nature-based solution will be implemented to prevent flooding using Glen Moss Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).</p> <p>A workshop for partners being held on Net Zero and the Climate Emergency. This will establish and encourage positive action to help address these issues.</p>	

Cultural Partnership – Flash Report

October to December 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
Heritage Strategy	With funding from the Heritage Lottery, ICP commissioned developed, and published a Heritage Strategy for Inverclyde.	Partnership working to develop, enhance and deliver the strategy, building a network and legacy.	Funding bid to deliver elements of the Action Plan that cannot be delivered within existing resources.	Action plan priorities and objectives taken forward with identified outcomes being successfully implemented.	<p>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 are working on this bid which will be submitted in early 2022.</p> <p>Progress reports on this bid will be brought to future Programme Board/Alliance Board meetings.</p> <p>RIG Arts were awarded £28K for a project exploring the history and stories of the Lee Jeans Sit In, an effective example of community action and a highly significant moment in Scottish labour history.</p> <p>Inverclyde Heritage Network have been granted Scottish Charity Status. Their monthly online talks continue.</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
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 Strategy and action plan being implemented with actions being delivered; Arts sub-	Maintain regular meetings of the Arts & Creativity sub-group, ensuring representation across Inverclyde.	Meetings take place consistently and attendance by all partners remains high. Regular review of members of partnership.	<p>Alliance Board approved the <u>Arts Action Plan</u> running alongside the Arts & Creativity Strategy 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 'Culture Collective' 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 Inverclyde Culture Collective (ICC) project will run from March 2021-September 2022, overseen by the ICC Steering Group and the Cultural Partnership.</p>	

group feeding in to overall Cultural Partnership and cultural delivery plan for the area.

Arts sub-group have developed an action plan to complement the Arts & Creativity Strategy.

Reports on progress will be part of Cultural Partnership reporting as the project progresses.

The ICC submitted an Interim Report to Creative Scotland in November 2021. 26 artists/creative practitioners have been contracted so far as part of the programme with an expected 37 contracts still to be issued. This is significantly more than was originally planned and shows the impact the programme is having on paid employment for creative practitioners in Inverclyde and across Scotland.


Creative Scotland has announced there will be further funding made available to all of the Culture Collective partners, including Inverclyde. We await further information on this exciting development.


In Nov 21 – Jan 22, ICC supported 2 artists as part of Galoshans, which included "Museum of Missing Myths: Night Walking Tour" and "Bashful Radical Kite Flying". The project supported 2 ongoing residencies from a Writer and Artist in Residence, the writer exploring the power of poetry and spoken word with audiences across Inverclyde, and the Artist working with communities to create a new sound piece exploring personal and employment histories in Inverclyde and how these tie in to the industrial past of the area. The project also contracted 2 creative researchers working on strengths and weaknesses of culture in Inverclyde and the impact of Covid-19 on the sector, and how to use creativity as a driver for improving health and wellbeing respectively.

The Beacon Arts Centre continued their ICC-funded weekly art class with Beth Shapeero.

RIG Arts won the Creative Regeneration category of the Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum (SURF) Award.

Magic Torch Comics delivered various comic-related projects including: Clyde Crew with the Attainment Challenge team; Outside the Box comic project funded by National Lottery Community Fund; "I Thought I was Undone" graphic novel with Man On Inverclyde; ongoing promotion of Tales of the Oak.

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
Great Place Scheme	Inverclyde's Great Place Scheme project has been completed.	n/a	<p>The approved purposes of the project were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Project Officer appointed to manage all aspects of GPS and link together existing heritage assets in Inverclyde. -2 Heritage Apprentices appointed to work at the Watt Institution on heritage activities. -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 	Community engagement and participation in heritage will increase; will be visible through higher levels of cultural participation reported in the SHS.	<p>The final artistic residency as part of the Great Place Scheme is now complete. Working with Sustrans, Inverclyde Council contracted RIG Arts to create a new piece of public art on the National Cycle Network 75 on the Greenock waterfront. Building on public consultation held in 2020, the result is 3 new sculptures on the walkway delivered in partnership with the local community – Yard Men (designed by Jason Orr), Ebb & Flow (designed by Alan Potter) and Mechanical Animals (designed by Tragic O'Hara) – representing the past, present and future of Inverclyde.</p> <p>All approved purposes have now been achieved and the final report can be accessed here: https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/assets/attach/14709/IGPS-Final-Evaluation-Report-1.pdf</p> <p><u>Key points:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of new partners has been a particular strength of the programme; • Heritage organisations are now better able to engage in heritage activities through training and partnerships; • The majority of Inverclyde's schools participated in the programme; • The project sought to purposefully engage groups seldom reached by heritage activity; 2 young people were provided with positive work experience and qualifications; • The project made strides in changing the narrative about heritage in Inverclyde; • The project was well-managed and delivered, with the skills, expertise and approach of the project staff being very well regarded. • There is recognition that Covid prevented the project from achieving its full potential; <p>There is a need for partners to build upon the groundwork that</p>	

				Cultural Partnership plan effectively for the future.		has been achieved and ensure that progress continues.		
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		
Festivals and Events	Develop calendar of current and emerging arts, culture & heritage festivals and events including those within individual communities.	Work to develop, create, deliver and support arts, culture & heritage 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.	Planning continues for the 2022 Meliora festival. Cultural content includes British Pipe Band championships (May) and a Performing Arts strand led by the Beacon Arts Centre (June). There will also be a community events fund open to local community groups to host events. Events team will progress possibility of having local artists in the community tent at the Gourrock Highland Games. Tourism team developing Inverclyde Regional Food and Drink and local providers' inclusion in upcoming events and new food markets for the area. Organisations and businesses continue to engage well with the Discover Inverclyde website. The Greenock Burns Club hosted a dinner in Greenock Town Hall on 13 November 2021, attended by 220 people, to celebrate the bicentenary of Colin Rae Brown, a Greenockian who was pivotal in the huge growth of the Burns movement in the 1800s. The annual Burns Supper is also due to go ahead on 25 Jan 2022.			RAG Status		
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		
Key Cultural Venues	Central Greenock has	All 4 centres are		Each centre will report	The Watt Institution continues to attract visitors to the 2 exhibitions launched in relation to the Year of Coasts and			

	<p>2 major cultural venues: the Watt Institution, and the Beacon Arts Centre, and a third which will open in early 2023 - the Wyllie Gallery. Inverclyde's 6 public libraries also provide cultural spaces within communities.</p>	<p>represented at the Cultural Partnership and will work together to maximize cultural opportunities for the people of, and visitors to, Inverclyde.</p>		<p>increasing visitor numbers.</p> <p>Cultural participation in Inverclyde will increase.</p>	<p>Waters, guest curated by Dr Emma Bond of St Andrews University and the internationally acclaimed artist Alison Watt respectively. 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. Work continues on the Watt Voices NLHF-funded project to redisplay and reinterpret collections, this includes a new Creativity Space for the centre which will be launched later in 2022.</p> <p>The Beacon Arts Centre – Highlights from the previous quarter include: a large number of performances of various shows; creative engagement sessions including Beacon Youth Theatre, Platinum Dance, Creativity, Beacon on the Road, work completed on the Beacon's access programme to improve accessibility, ongoing activities as part of Climate Beacons. Restrictions on live events introduced in late December resulted in the pantomime closing one week earlier than planned on 24 Dec 2021.</p> <p>Inverclyde Libraries – Highlights from the previous quarter include: winning a "highly commended" award from the Scottish Library & Information Council (SLIC) for the libraries' response to the pandemic and the support the libraries offered to communities; several well-attended events were held as part of Book Week Scotland in November 2021; a full Christmas programme for youngsters was held online and in branch; programming continues in the new year with all the usual activities and events. Libraries are supporting several Scottish Government campaigns such as smoke alarms information and the "Keep Your Distance" campaign. They are also now distribution centres for lateral flow devices (LFDs).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">G</p>
<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>The culture sector can contribute creatively to the</p>	<p>The Inverclyde Climate Beacon will</p>	<p>The vision for the Climate Beacon is to produce and</p>	<p>Partners jointly create or commission artistic work;</p>	<p>Creative Carbon Scotland confirmed in June 2021 that Inverclyde would be 1 of 6 Scottish Climate Beacons and have provided c.£30K of funding to support the programme.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">G</p>

	<p>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>focus on the roles of climate change mitigation and adaptation as part of Inverclyde's recovery from Covid.</p>	<p>promote an 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>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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