
Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	23 March 2015
Report By:	John W Mundell Chair of the SOA Programme Board	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Karen McCready Corporate Policy Officer	Contact No:	01475 712146
Subject:	Community Planning Outcomes Profile		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Alliance Board of the development of Community Planning Outcomes Profiles for Community Planning Partnerships.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 In a communication to Community Planning Partnerships the Improvement Service advises that the Scottish Government, local government and the Improvement Service have agreed to jointly fund a benchmarking programme to support the ongoing reform of Community Planning and the delivery of improved outcomes.

2.2 Attached as Appendix 1 is a letter from Elma Murray, Chair of the Outcomes, Evidence and Performance Board to all Chief Executives and Chairs of Community Planning Partnerships. The letter outlines how this benchmarking programme, referred to as Community Planning Outcomes Profile, will be taken forward.

2.3 The purpose of the Profile is to help CPP boards to better understand their own performance, target improvement activity through access to consistent data and supporting mechanisms and share learning on how to achieve better outcomes. Similar to the Local Government Benchmarking Framework, the Profile will include a set of high level 'can-opening' outcome indicators. This will allow CP boards to:

- Assess if the community is improving over time
- Interpret what is happening and why
- Understand what they can do about it in relation to contribution not attribution
- Prioritise what they are going to do about it

2.4 At this stage, it is proposed that there will be 2/3 'high level' outcome measure for each of the 6 national SOA priorities:

- Economic recovery and growth
- Employment
- Early Years
- Safer and Stronger Communities and reducing offending
- Health Inequalities and physical activity
- Outcomes for older people

2.5 The programme has been split into two phases:

Phase 1: Getting better and more consistent measures of outcomes and variations in outcomes. Measures need to be consistent, not the SOAs, which can and should reflect the distinctive needs of the local areas and communities serviced.

Phase 2: Will explore how better and more consistent measures can support sharing of effective practice and strategy between partnerships.

2.6 An Advisory Board has been established to provide strategic oversight involving senior representation from key CPP stakeholders, including SOLACE, NHS, Scottish Government, Voluntary Sector, Enterprise Agencies, Audit Scotland, Police and Fire and What Works Scotland.

2.7 A series of consultation events were held in February to engage with wider Community Planning stakeholders. The focus of these events was to provide information about the proposed profile and to consult on indicators to be included within the profile.

2.8 It is anticipated that by the end of March 2015 the initial measures will have been identified and a timetabled development plan to improve the measures over time will be in place. A 'soft-launch' with partnerships in March / April 2015 is planned. The aim is to work with partnerships to agree a method for sharing the framework in the public domain in the following years, aligning with the implementation of the Community Empowerment Bill timescales.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Alliance Board note:

- a. The development of Community Planning Outcomes Profile for CPPs and the timescales involved.
- b. That a further update on the project including details of the 'soft launch' will be presented to the next meeting of the Alliance Board.

John W Mundell
Chair of the SOA Programme Board

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The role of community planning is to improve outcomes, reduce inequalities and change lives. Against a backdrop of wider public service spending pressures, CPP's are seeking to deliver better outcomes for communities, households and individuals through improving the performance of their services, developing different service delivery models and by developing preventative and not simply reactive approaches to service delivery.
- 4.2 The ultimate purpose of benchmarking is to drive change and improvement based upon knowledge of what constitutes achievable good practice.
- 4.3 The Scottish Government, Local Government and the Improvement Service have agreed to jointly fund a benchmarking programme for Community Planning to support the ongoing reform of Community Planning and the delivery of improved outcomes.

5.0 Community Planning Outcomes Profile

- 5.1 Attached as Appendix 1 is a letter from Elma Murray, Chair of the Outcomes, Evidence and Performance Board to all Chief Executives and Chairs of Community Planning Partnerships. The letter outlines how this benchmarking programme, referred to as Community Planning Outcomes Profile, will be taken forward.
- 5.2 The Profile is about better measurement of outcomes in the first instance and not benchmarking in a conventional sense. The aim is to provide CP boards with better and more consistent data that will allow them to:
 - Assess if the community is improving over time
 - Interpret what is happening and why
 - Understand what they can do about it in relation to contribution not attribution
 - Prioritise what they are going to do about it
- 5.3 It is proposed that there will be 2/3 'high level' outcome measures for each national priority:
 - Economic recovery and growth
 - Outcomes for older people
 - Health inequalities and physical activity
 - Employment
 - Early Years
 - Safer and strong communities and reducing offending
- 5.4 The Improvement Service held a series of consultation events in February to engage with wider community planning stakeholders.
- 5.5 It is anticipated that by the end of March 2015 the Improvement Service will have identified the initial measures and a timetabled development plan to improve the measures over time will be in place. The development plan will detail how the programme will engage with partnerships and local communities.
- 5.6 A 'soft-launch' with partnerships in March / April 2015 is planned. The aim is to work with partnerships to agree a method for sharing the framework in the public domain the following years, aligning with the implementation of the Community Empowerment Bill timescales.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Finance: There are no known financial implications at present
- 6.2 Human Resources: There are no known HR implications.
- 6.3 Legal: There are no known legal implications.

- 6.4 Equality / Diversity: The profiles are intended to help CPP better demonstrate the outcomes that are being achieved. If similar inequalities exist between community planning partnerships but different outcomes are being achieved, there is potential to drill down to establish why this is and what is influencing it.
- 6.5 Repopulation: The purpose of the Community Planning Outcomes Profile is to develop a better understanding of local needs and share learning on how to achieve better outcomes. This in turn could help to make the area a more attractive place in which to live.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The invitation to attend the Improvement Service consultation events was extended to the Alliance Board.

Cllr XX
Chair of XX Community Planning Partnership (sent by e-mail)

Cc: XX Council Chief Executive

5th January 2015

Community Planning Outcomes Profile

Dear Cllr XX,

To support the ongoing reform of Community Planning and the delivery of improved outcomes, the Scottish Government, Local Government and the Improvement Service have agreed to jointly fund a programme to work with Community Planning Partnerships to improve access to outcome measurement.

The purpose of this programme is to provide better and more consistent measurement to help CP boards to better understand their own local area needs, target improvement activity through access to consistent and comparative data and supporting mechanisms, and share learning on how to achieve better outcomes.

The Community Empowerment Bill (CEB) provides a key driver for this approach, introducing a requirement for Partnerships to produce an Outcome Improvement Plan and an annual performance report against improvement in outcomes.

A Community Planning Outcomes Profile

As set out in the CEB the role of community planning is to improve outcomes, reduce inequalities and change lives.

The Community Planning Outcomes Profile will provide a consistent basis for CP boards to profile their local area in relation to core measures of outcomes and measures of inequalities of outcomes. This will cover the 6 key national priorities which are in the SOA and provide better and more consistent data for CP boards to support them:

- assess if the community is improving over time
- interpret what is happening and why
- understand what they can do about it in relation to contribution not attribution
- prioritise what they are going to do about it

This approach will:

1. Focus initially on better and consistent measures of how life outcomes, life opportunities and inequalities are changing over time.
2. Identify and remedy gaps and inadequacies in our current measurement systems.
3. Improve our ability to measure and model factors that appear to shape outcomes and opportunities.
4. Improve measurement of outputs/intermediate outcomes that are (a) potentially within the control of public services and (b) link to factors that shape outcomes (e.g. the economic and employment impact of public services on the most vulnerable communities).

This is about better measurement of outcomes in the first instance not benchmarking in a conventional sense. However, the ability to measure outcomes and variation in outcomes between different types of

communities across Scotland is an essential prerequisite for benchmarking interventions, policies and practices. If movement in outcomes and inequality of outcomes for similar types of community varies between different partnerships, why is that and what is influencing it? Equally, if trends for particular types of communities are consistent across Scotland, what does this suggest about the incentives created by wider policy and economic factors?

Phase 1 of the programme is about getting to better and more consistent measures of outcome and variations in outcomes. Phase 2 will explore how better and more consistent measures can support sharing of effective practice and strategy between partnerships.

Governance

An Advisory Board has been established to provide strategic oversight for this programme, the Outcomes, Evidence and Performance Board that involves senior level representation from key CPP stakeholders, including SOLACE, NHS, Scottish Government, Voluntary Sector, Enterprise Agencies, Audit Scotland, Police, Fire and What Works.

Timescale & Development Plan

By March 2015 the programme will have identified, in consultation with CPPs, the measures we need to initially have in place; and a timetabled development plan to improve the measures over time.

This development plan will detail how the programme will engage with partnerships and local communities to:

- Address the issues of data availability/data generation
- Support the use of the framework in local decision making, and to promote collaboration and learning between partnerships.
- Support CP boards to strengthen public accountability. Following a soft-launch with partnerships in March/April 2015, the aim is to work with partnerships to agree a method for sharing the framework in the public domain the following year aligning with the implementation of the CEB timescales.

Next Steps

Wide consultation on the development of the Community Planning Outcomes Profile is planned for January/February involving all the key stakeholders. This will involve a number of consultation events, online consultation, and a series of 1-1 conversations with key CEO/Directors from CP partner organisations. The programme team is working closely with Community Planning managers to facilitate maximum involvement in this process.

If you would like any further information about this programme please don't hesitate to contact Emily Lynch at the Improvement Service who will be happy to respond to any enquiries. Emily is the project manager for this programme, and can be reached on 01506 775 558 or Emily.Lynch@improvementservice.org.uk

Yours Sincerely

Elma Murray,
Chair, Outcomes, Evidence & Performance Board