
Report To:	Policy & Resources Committee	Date:	17 November 2020
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	Report No:	PR/43/20/SA
Contact Officer:	Scott Allan	Contact No:	01475 712762
Subject:	Programme for Government 2020-21		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the Scottish Government's Programme for Government publication and the potential implication and opportunities for Inverclyde.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 On 1 September 2020 the Scottish Government published its Programme for Government 2020-21 titled 'Protecting Scotland, Renewing Scotland'. The focus of the document is on the economic, health and social recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.
- 2.2 The document focuses on the four objectives of:
- A national mission to help create new jobs, good jobs and green jobs.
 - Promoting lifelong health and wellbeing.
 - Promoting equality and helping our young people grasp their potential.
 - Putting equality and human rights at the heart of our approach.
- 2.3 Proposed actions and spend are listed against each objective. Some have been well publicised such as the proposed review of the social care system and the embedding of digital tools in health care to provide quicker and more efficient support.
- 2.4 There are significant lists of new actions with associated budgets across apprenticeships, training, job support, economic growth, additional support to schools and young people, support to health and social care workers etc. Of significance is the £1.6 billion to be invested in heat and energy efficiency programmes. Specific mention is made of funding for Clyde Mission.
- 2.5 For Inverclyde, there are potentially significant opportunities. As an area blighted by deprivation and reducing in population there is a clear case for prioritisation of spend and support. It is recommended that senior officers continue dialogue with the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Community Planning Partners and Glasgow City Region to explore opportunities and influence funding priorities. Of particular interest will be support for training and employment, investment in the green economy including decarbonising houses and buildings, investment in the industrial and manufacturing sectors, inward investment opportunities and support for the Council's waste collections and processing.
- 2.6 Officers will bring a further report to this Committee as discussions progress with Scottish Government officials. It is also proposed that the Scottish Government publication of the 'Programme for Government' be an annual agenda item.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee mandates officers to engage with the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Community Planning Partners and Glasgow City Region and establish opportunities for Inverclyde in respect of the 'Programme for Government 2020-21'.

Scott Allan
Corporate Director
Environment, Regeneration and Resources

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Programme for Government 2020-21 titled 'Protecting Scotland, Renewing Scotland' was published on 1 September 2020 and presents the Scottish Government's programme of action for the year ahead. The focus is on Scotland's economic, health and social recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.

4.2 For convenience, the key actions from the First Minister's foreword are reproduced below:

- Launch our proximity tracing app, Protect Scotland, later this month to enhance and support our Test and Protect programme.
- Introduce a National Transition Training Fund to provide support to 10,000 people facing redundancy and unemployment.
- Introduce the Scottish Youth Guarantee to ensure every young person has the opportunity of work, education, or training.
- Set out the first tranche of our £2 billion Low Carbon Fund, including: helping to secure investment of £1.6 billion over the next Parliament in heat and energy efficiency in our homes and buildings, delivering a £100 million Green Jobs Fund, and providing £60 million for industrial decarbonisation.
- Put in place an Inward Investment Plan to create 100,000 high value jobs over the next decade and boost GDP.
- Establish an Independent Review of adult social care.
- Expand digital access to health care to ensure more people can get the treatment they need.
- Improve access to community based health services through the launch of Pharmacy First, accelerating the rollout of our Community Treatment and Assessment Centres, and of our Covid-19 hubs.
- Open applications for our new Scottish Child Payment in November 2020, with the first payments made in February 2021.
- Complete the delivery of 50,000 affordable homes as quickly as it is safe to do so, and set out a 20 year vision for energy efficient, zero carbon housing, with access to outdoor space, transport links, digital connectivity and community services.
- Deliver a revolution in children's rights by incorporating the UNCRC into Scots law by the end of this parliament.
- Lock in the positive changes in active travel by committing £500 million for transformational infrastructure.
- Bring 50,000 people into the digital world through Connecting Scotland and create a World-Class Digital Eco-system in Scotland.
- Provide £135 million additional investment to ensure our young people catch-up on any lost education due to Covid-19. This will include funding to recruit 1400 additional teachers and 200 support staff.

4.3 The document focuses on the four objectives of:

- A national mission to help create new jobs, good jobs and green jobs.
- Promoting lifelong health and wellbeing.
- Promoting equality and helping our young people grasp their potential.
- Putting equality and human rights at the heart of our approach.

Proposed actions and spend are listed against each objective. Some have been well publicised such as the proposed review of the social care system and the embedding of digital tools in health care to provide quicker and more efficient support.

4.4 The actions span many initiatives designed to support training and apprenticeships, economic regeneration, support for Health & Social Care and Education etc. Specific mention is made of the Clyde Mission Fund which involved £10 million for this financial year and £25 million for future years. It should be noted that Inverclyde Council has made a bid against the £10 million

fund in respect of Inchgreen and has been successful to the Stage 2 process.

- 4.5 Very significantly, £1.6 million is identified for investment in heat and energy efficiency programmes. This is an area where there are significant opportunities for Inverclyde to attract investment, decarbonise Council services and attract low carbon technology business.
- 4.6 A key issue for Inverclyde is how the Council capitalises on the opportunities which will arise from the Programme for Government. As an area of depopulation and deprivation it is reasonable to expect prioritisation.
- 4.7 It is recommended that senior officers engage with the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Community Planning Partners and Glasgow City Region and establish opportunities for Inverclyde in respect of the 'Programme for Government 2020-21'.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance

Financial Implications:

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A.					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A.					

5.2 Legal

There are no legal implications other than as noted within this report.

5.3 Human Resources

N/A.

5.4 Equalities

Equalities

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

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

- (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

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

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

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

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES –
✓	NO - This report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

5.5 **Repopulation**

N/A.

6.0 **CONSULTATION**

6.1 N/A.

7.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 N/A.