
Report To: Inverclyde Council**Date: 16 April 2009****Report By: Head of Legal & Administration****Report No: LA/342/09****Contact Officer: Howard McNeilly****Contact No: 01475 712117****Subject: Transfer of Inverclyde District Court to Scottish Court Service**

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of:

- The confirmed date for the transfer of Inverclyde District Court to the Scottish Court Service;
- The progress made towards implementation of the transfer.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 At its meeting on 12 June 2008 the Council authorised the Head of Legal & Administration to make the necessary arrangements with the Scottish Court Service for the transfer of Inverclyde District Court to the Scottish Court Service.

2.2 An operational plan for the transfer has been agreed with the Scottish court Service and is being implemented.

2.3 The date for the transfer to take place has now been confirmed as 23 November 2009.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Council:

- Notes the progress made towards implementation of the transfer of Inverclyde District Court to the Scottish Court Service;
- Notes the confirmed transfer date of 23 November 2009;
- Remits to the Head of Legal & Administration to submit a further report following conclusion of the transfer.

Howard McNeilly
Legal Services Manager (Courts & Litigation)

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 At its meeting on 12 June 2008 the Council authorised the Head of Legal & Administration to make the necessary arrangements with the Scottish Court Service for the transfer of the District Court.
- 4.2 The transfer of Inverclyde District Court is one of a number of courts within the Sheriffdom of North Strathclyde which are being transferred to Scottish Court Service. These courts are the final District Courts to be transferred to the Scottish Court Service, with District Courts in other Sheriffdoms in Scotland having already transferred.
- 4.3 An operational plan for the transfer of Inverclyde District Court and the other District Courts in the Sheriffdom is now in place and the necessary steps towards transfer are being implemented.
- 4.4 As previously reported, three FTE administrative staff will transfer to the Scottish Court Service and the Head of Organisational Development & Human Resources is liaising with the Scottish Court Service in this regard.
- 4.5 At the time of the previous report it was anticipated that the transfer to the Scottish Court Service would take place on or around October 2009. It is now been confirmed that the date on which the transfer will take place is 23 November 2009. As from that date the Council will have no further responsibility for Inverclyde District Court.
- 4.6 The previous report indicated that the Court Complex would require to be assessed as part of the review of the Council's property portfolio and this is ongoing in light of the Regeneration Committee's approval of the Corporate Asset Management Strategy at its meeting on 12 March 2009.