

Notice of Meeting and Agenda Renfrewshire Community Planning Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 02 April 2015	09:30	CMR 1, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

KENNETH GRAHAM
Head of Corporate Governance

Board Membership

Councillors M Macmillan and M Holmes; S Black, M Crearie, S MacDougall, P MacLeod, R Naylor and A Russell (all Renfrewshire Council); F MacKay, CHP & Lead Officer, Community Planning; A McNiven, Engage; D Leese, Health & Social Care Partnership; J Downie, Police Scotland; B Davidson, Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce; P Tanzilli, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service; S Kerr, Scottish Government; P Martin, UWS; A Cumberland, West College Scotland; and L De Caestecker, NHS.

Items of business

During consideration of the following items of business, the meeting will be open to the press and public.

Apologies

Apologies received from members of the Board.

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| 1 | Minute of Previous Meeting
Minute of meeting held on 4 February, 2015. | 5 - 10 |
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| 2 | Matters Arising | |
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| (a) | Joint Inspection of Children's Services
Verbal report by Director of Children's Services. | |
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| (b) | Cross Partnership Support for Lead Officers
Verbal update by Lead Officer, Community Planning. | |

FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

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| 3 | Spotlight on Forum for Empowering Communities
Report and presentation by Chair of Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities. | 11 - 18 |
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| 4 | The Findings and Recommendations of Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Commission
Report by Chief Executive. | 19 - 44 |
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| 5 | Response to the Public Health Review Engagement Paper
Report by the Chief Executive. | 45 - 54 |
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| 6 | Local Policing Arrangements
Report by Divisional Commander, Police Scotland. | 55 - 58 |

7	Health and Social Care Integration Update Presentation by Chief Officer Designate, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership.	
8	Partner Financial Planning and Budget Processes Report by Director of Finance & Resources.	59 - 62
9	Community Planning - Property Issues Report by Lead Officer, Community Planning.	63 - 66

FOR INFORMATION

10	Community Planning Partnership Thematic Board Minutes	
(a)	Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities Thematic Board held on 27 January, 2015	67 - 70
(b)	Community Care, Health & Wellbeing Thematic Board held on 5 February, 2015	71 - 74
(c)	Children & Young People Thematic Board held on 24 February, 2015	75 - 80
(d)	Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board held on 5 March, 2015	81 - 84
(e)	Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board held on 5 March, 2015	85 - 88
(f)	Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board held on 12 March, 2015	89 - 92

11 AOCB

12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Board will take place on 24 June, 2015.

Councillor M Holmes; A Russell, Director of Finance & Resources; S MacDougall, Director of Community Resources; P Macleod, Director of Children's Services; M Crearie, Director of Development & Housing Services; and R Naylor (all Renfrewshire Council); F MacKay, Head of Planning & Health Improvement and Lead Officer Community Planning (Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership); A McNiven, Chief Executive (Engage Renfrewshire); S Kerr, Location Director, Scottish Government; B Davidson, Chief Executive (Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce); G Hunt, Head of External Engagement (University of the West of Scotland); L Connolly, Vice Principal, Corporate Development (West College Scotland); and A Lawson, Detective Superintendent (Police Scotland)

S McFadden, City Deal Project Director; and R Hollywood, Corporate Policy & Performance Manager, C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer, and Y Farquhar, Senior Policy Officer (all Renfrewshire Council).

Councillor M Macmillan; S Black, Chief Executive; (both Renfrewshire Council); L de Caestecker, Director of Public Health (NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde); D Leese, Chief Officer Designate (Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership); P Tanzilli, Area Commander (Scottish Fire and Rescue); P Martin, Depute Principal (University of the West of Scotland); A Cumberland, Principal and Chief Executive (West College Scotland); and J Downie, Chief Superintendent (Police Scotland).

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	<p>by making a presentation to the inspection team on Tuesday 20th January, 2015. He intimated that the presentation went well and was well received. He also thanked all partners for their attendance and valuable contribution.</p> <p>He intimated that the feedback he had received was positive and reassuring and the Inspectorate were currently preparing to pull all the evidence together in order to prepare the final report.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the verbal update be noted.</p> <p>(b) PARTNERS' STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR ASSETS/RESOURCES</p> <p>A verbal update was given by the Community Planning Lead Officer relative to Partners' strategic planning for assets/resources. F MacKay intimated that a meeting was held on 19th January which was well represented by Community Planning partners. At the meeting consideration was given to looking at opportunities for sharing physical assets and resources. It was proposed that work to be developed would incorporate the long term vision and aims for partners and to look at the changes occurring within partner organisation over the next 3 years and develop a partnership approach for the short to medium term. A report would be brought to a future meeting.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That it be agreed that a report would be brought to a future meeting; and</p> <p>(b) That the verbal update be noted.</p> <p>(c) SHARING FINANCIAL INFORMATION</p> <p>A verbal update was given by the Director of Finance & Resources relative to partner budgets, processes, timescales and priorities. He intimated that he had undertaken a co-ordinated information gathering exercise to ascertain how partner organisations planned their own budget process. Some partners had still to respond but as soon as he had all the relevant information he would bring a report to a future meeting.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the verbal update be noted.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Agreed</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Noted</i></p>
3.	<p>CITY DEAL</p> <p>Councillor Holmes intimated that David Coyne, who was scheduled to present to the Board on City Deal was unable to attend but that Stephen McFadden, the recently appointed City Deal Project Director for the Council would give a presentation to the Board.</p> <p>The Board were advised that City Deal was a strategic investment programme for Glasgow and the Clyde Valley which would bring together Renfrewshire and the other Clyde Valley Councils as well as the UK and Scottish Governments to establish a £1.13bn Glasgow and Clyde Valley Infrastructure Fund which would support continued growth in the city region by enhancing transport infrastructure, unlocking new sites for housing and employment and enhancing public transport over the next 10 to 15 years.</p>	

	<p>The presentation noted that the infrastructure fund would be complemented by a range of life science, business support and labour market schemes which would support business growth, enhance the life science sector and tackle unemployment. It was predicted that the City Deal would deliver an increase of around 29,000 jobs and lever in an estimated £3.3bn of private sector investment into the area on top of the public sector investments.</p> <p>A total of 20 projects had been identified for implementation at a cost of £1.13bn and three projects within Renfrewshire were identified as key elements of the infrastructure investment across the City Region: the Clyde Waterfront/Renfrew Riverside Project; Glasgow Airport Investment Zone; and the Glasgow Airport Rail Link.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the presentation be noted.</p>	Noted
4.	<p>SPOTLIGHT ON JOBS AND THE ECONOMY</p> <p>There was submitted a report and presentation by the Director of Development and Housing Services which detailed a summary of progress against Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board actions and performance over the first year of the Community Plan.</p> <p>The report advised that significant progress had been made in meeting, and in most cases exceeding, the targets established in the Community Plan. The progress that had been made could partly be attributed to an improving economic picture, however, some of the improvements in performance, particularly in the areas of employment and the labour market had consistently outperformed the national trend. It was noted that new opportunities for economic regeneration locally had also developed in the period since 2013, these included the Glasgow and Clyde Valley City Deal; the development of the Paisley Heritage Asset Strategy; and the adoption of the new Local Development Plan. As a result of these opportunities there was a need to review the targets and outcome measures set out in the Community Plan.</p> <p>The Jobs and Economy Thematic Board held a development session in December 2014 to start the process of establishing a revised action plan for the Board in the light of the new initiatives. It was noted that there was a need to have a further development session to forecast the impact of the new challenges and opportunities that were relevant to the Jobs and Economy theme. The report advised that the details would be developed in partnership and reported to the Community Planning Partnership Board at a future meeting.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(i) That the progress made in the delivery of the objectives of the Jobs and Economy Thematic Board in 2014 be noted; and</p> <p>(ii) That it be agreed that consideration of the performance targets as set out within the report be delegated to the Jobs and Economy Thematic Board and reported to a future meeting of the Partnership Board.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>MC</p>
5.	<p>RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT PROGRESS AGAINST YEAR 1 TARGETS</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Community Planning Lead Officer relative to a year 1 progress report on the Community Planning Thematic Boards.</p>	

	<p>The report indicated that the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) was committed to ensuring that resources were deployed effectively to deliver Community Plan priorities to achieve best value. An open and rigorous performance culture had been embedded across the partnership which promoted collective responsibility for achieving outcomes and clear accountability and reporting was crucial to this approach.</p> <p>The baselines for reporting were established using the most recent data available at the end of March 2013 and it was noted that the frequency of reporting national datasets varied, therefore the reporting periods varied for some of the indicators. A range of local datasets had also been developed for Renfrewshire. The results showed that significant progress had been made across each of the community planning thematic boards. The report indicated that of the 57 impact measures the partners had met or exceeded 39 of the Year 1 targets, six measures were within 10% of target which had resulted in an amber warning; 12 measures were 10% or more outwith target which had resulted in a red alert. Further details and remedial action for these measures were contained within the report.</p> <p>Since development and publication of the Community Plan, a number of indicators had changed nationally and some indicators were now measured differently. Thematic Board had, in these cases, revised targets. The report detailed the changes with explanations.</p> <p>The Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Commission, set up by Renfrewshire Council on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership was expected to publish its report in March 2015. It was anticipated that the Commission would make recommendations to the CPP on a range of actions and interventions that would inform the development of a Renfrewshire wide response. This would provide the CPP Board with an opportunity to review the strategic approach to Tackling Poverty, consider the baseline and agree targets.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(i) That the Year 1 performance of impact measures against our targets be noted;</p> <p>(ii) That it be agreed that the thematic boards provide an interim report to the Community Planning Partnership Board at its meeting in June 2015 with progress in the areas currently not meeting target; and</p> <p>(iii) That the revisions to the Single Outcome Agreement be agreed.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p> <p><i>Agreed</i></p> <p><i>Agreed</i></p>
6.	<p>COMMUNITY PLANNING LEAD OFFICERS</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Community Planning Lead Officer relative to a change in leadership arrangements for the six thematic boards.</p> <p>The report advised that there had been significant changes to the Council's Social Work and Education management structures and the appointment of the Chief Officer Designate for Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership. These included the creation of a Children's Services directorate incorporating Education and some Social Work services for the Council, and the integration of Health and Social Care, bringing adult social work and all community health services together. As a result, it was proposed that Peter MacLeod, Director of Children's Services would take over as Lead Officer for Children and Young People and David Leese, Chief Officer Designate, Renfrewshire Health and</p>	

	<p>Social Care Partnership, would take over as Lead Officer for Community Care, Health and Wellbeing.</p> <p>The report also intimated that in order to encourage shared ownership of the Community Planning agenda, partners were asked to contribute to the leadership role by nominating a senior officer within their organisation to work with the Lead Officer and Convenor to shape the agenda and drive progress in particular Thematic Boards. This was highlighted in a table within the report.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(i) That the proposed changes to lead officers be agreed; and</p> <p>(ii) That the wider partnership ownership of the Community Planning agenda and request to partners to nominate a senior officer to support the Thematic Boards be agreed.</p>	<p><i>Agreed</i></p> <p><i>Agreed</i></p>
7.	<p>SUPPORTED SELF ASSESSMENT – IMPROVEMENT PLAN REPORT</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Community Planning Lead Officer relative to the self-assessment journey by Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership.</p> <p>The report highlighted the purpose of the self-assessment, the timeline and stages of the process and the evidence gathering phase. It also reported on the Improvement Planning session which was held on 30th October 2014 when board members reached agreement on high level priorities.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the content of the report be noted.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
8.	<p>AUDIT SCOTLAND REPORT, TURNING AMBITION INTO ACTION</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Community Planning Lead Officer relative to the Audit Scotland Report, Turning Ambition into Action which was appended as an appendix to the report.</p> <p>The report advised that the Audit Scotland Report had been issued as a national update on community planning in Scotland. It assessed progress locally and nationally; identified opportunities for further improvement; sought to capture the direction of community planning in the context of the ambitious long-term agenda for improvement; and provided some detail on the Renfrewshire Council position with regard to the issues raised.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the key messages and position of the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership contained within the report be noted.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>
9.	<p>COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP THEMATIC BOARD MINUTES</p> <p>There were submitted and noted the Minutes of meetings of the following Thematic Boards:-</p> <p>(a) Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities Thematic Board held on 11th November, 2014.</p> <p>(b) Community Care, Health and Wellbeing Thematic Board held on 20^h November, 2014.</p>	<p><i>Noted</i></p>

	<p>(c) Safer & Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board held on 11th December, 2014.</p> <p>(d) Children & Young People Thematic Board held on 15th December, 2014.</p> <p>(e) Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board held on 17th December, 2014.</p>	
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To: Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Board

On: 2 April 2015

Report by:

Alan McNiven, Chair of Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities

RENFREWSHIRE FORUM FOR EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES – YEAR ONE PROGRESS REPORT

1. Summary

- 1.1 Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities is responsible for delivering the vision and four outcomes under the Empowering Communities theme. The Forum has recruited members from third sector organisations in Renfrewshire that have significant local and/or national influence.
- 1.2 In its first year of operation, Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities has established baselines for the impact measures that it has responsibility for, developed strong connections between voluntary and community sector organisations and the work of Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership and begun delivering against the actions in the Empowering Communities Action Plan.
- 1.3 In addition to progressing action to deliver against the four Empowering Communities outcomes, the Forum has also developed as a key vehicle for raising issues important to the third sector for discussion within the context of community planning partnership working in Renfrewshire.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Community Planning Partnership Board:
Notes and agrees the progress made by Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities in delivering its outcomes.



3. Operation of the Forum

3.1 Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities draws members from local Third Sector and community operated organisations in Renfrewshire. The Forum deploys a member to attend each of the other 5 CPP thematic board meetings (Appendix 1). Each Forum member is supported by a member of Engage Renfrewshire staff. The Forum members are also active in a number of associated support groupings that are linked to the Community Planning agenda; a selection of which are identified as examples below the CPP thematic structure detailed in Appendix 1.

3.2 The present members are:

- Alan McNiven, Chief Executive, Engage Renfrewshire (Chair of the Forum)
- Lynne O'Brien, Assistant Director of Children's Services, Barnardos (Children & Young People Representative)
- Stephen Cruickshank, Chair, Renfrewshire Access Panel (Safer & Stronger Representative)
- Stephen McLellan, Director, RAMH (Community Care, Health & Wellbeing Representative)
- John Wilby, Paisley West & Central Community Council (Greener Representative)
- Ian McLean, Chief Executive, Bridgewater Housing Association (Jobs & Economy Representative)
- Adele Fraser, Chief Executive, Linstone Housing Association
- Kay Taylor, Manager, Paisley CAB
- Jon Kiddie, Manager, Renfrewshire Law Centre
- Nan Middleton, Renfrewshire CHP Public Participation Forum

3.3 The membership of the Forum has been developed to reflect organisations that have a spread of knowledge, important resources, operate as local employers and can help support general communications to a wide community of service users within the communities of Renfrewshire.

4. Year 1 Progress Report

4.1 The vision for Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities is:

"Communities throughout Renfrewshire are enterprising, resilient and inclusive. Citizens are active in the development of personalised public services and participate in



local decision making. Communities fully utilise the assets at their disposal, using their own knowledge, experience and skills to achieve their goals and aspirations.”

4.2 The Year One Progress Report outlines the activity of Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities in its first year of operation and progress made in identifying baselines for performance indicators.

4.3 **Key achievements during Year 1**

- i. Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities has raised with statutory partners issues including constructing contracts that enable third sector organisations to meet the Living Wage and working to make the built environment more accessible to disabled people.
- ii. Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities had lead responsibility for 12 public engagement events during 2013/14 that provided an opportunity for public services to communicate messages about good performance in partnership working to communities. The Forum will continue to lead on engagement events throughout 2015.
- iii. The third sector contribution to the Tackling Poverty Commission has highlighted the importance of services such as the Credit Union to this work and the Advice Services Review reported through the Forum will lead to better customer experience.
- iv. The Education, Diversion and Engagement Group was established during the Summer of 2014, is chaired by Engage Renfrewshire and will lead to communities experiencing less antisocial behaviour and improving citizenship.
- v. On behalf of the Community Planning Partnership, the Forum For Empowering Communities had responsibility for developing and launching the Renfrewshire 2023 community planning website. The website was tested while in its development stage at the community planning conferences in autumn 2013 and was launched In April 2014. During April and May 2014, there were 152 recorded users on the website and a total of 242 sessions. By October and November 2014, these figures had increased to 559 users and 802 sessions. Engage Renfrewshire has also conducted social media training with community planning partners to raise awareness of how to improve communication with the public and increase public use of the Partnership’s web resources.
- vi. The launch of the Engage Renfrewshire training programme toolkit took place at Accord Hospice in 2014. Engage Renfrewshire has also worked with a number of local private sector firms offering volunteers through their Corporate Social Responsibility programmes and works with Renfrewshire Council’s Your Time To Give Programme to help place volunteers.



- vii. Through Engage Renfrewshire, community organisations are involved in eight cases of potential asset transfer and six cases of potential land transfer.

4.4 Performance On Impact Measures Against Year 1 targets

Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities Impact Measures	Current Status	Year 1 Target	Year 1 Actual
Outcome 01: Our communities will be confident, fully engaged with and regularly consulted by public services			
Increase the percentage of people agreeing that they can influence decisions affecting their local area	Baseline information was established from the January 2014 report of the Autumn 2013 Public Services Panel Survey. 21% of respondents stated that they “influence a lot” through involvement in a community group.		
Increase the level of satisfaction with local public services	Baseline information was established from the January 2014 report of the Autumn 2013 Public Services Panel Survey. 68% of people stated that they were “satisfied” with local public services.		
Increase the percentage of people using the Internet for engaging with the Community Planning Partnership	Baseline information was established from the January 2014 report of Autumn 2013 Public Services Panel. 33% responded “contacting public services directly” to the question “Which of the following do you use the internet for?”		
Increase the membership of Engage Renfrewshire with viable community anchor organisations	Information is reported from Engage Renfrewshire’s membership figures. Baseline as at December 2014 is 322 member organisations. This figure has increased from 290 organisations in May 2014.		
Increase the percentage of people using the Internet for personal use	Baseline information was established from the January 2014 report of the Autumn 2013 Public Services Panel. 10% of respondents stated that they “never access the internet”. This information was updated in the Winter 2014 survey, which reported that 9% of people do not use the internet.		
Outcome 02: Have the capacity and resources to lead projects and be involved in service delivery			
Increase Social Enterprise and Community Business growth	Baseline established in December 2014 of 43 Engage Renfrewshire organisations who are socially enterprising.		
Outcome 03: Have the capacity, enthusiasm and 'right to try' the management of local assets			
Increase the number of registered interests regarding local control of community assets which are to be used and managed for sustainable local initiatives	Baseline established in December 2014 of 8 live cases of expression of interest in asset transfer.		



Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities Impact Measures	Current Status	Year 1 Target	Year 1 Actual
Increase the number of registers of interest regarding local control of public spaces and under used sites which are to be used and managed for sustainable local initiatives.	Baseline established in December 2014 of 6 live cases of expression of interest in land transfer; 1 potential expression of interest.		
Outcome 04: Value and promote equality and diversity and the role of charitable and voluntary work			
Increase the number of people registering to become a volunteer	✓	614	1006
Increase the number of registered volunteers who have been placed	●	484	122

4.5 In addition to the indicators for the outcomes in the Empowering Communities theme, the Forum was asked to carry out the task of establishing the perceptions of Renfrewshire citizens relating to hate crime. The Winter 2014 Public Services Panel Survey reported that 23% of respondents feel that hate crime is a significant issue in Renfrewshire. 6% of survey respondents had experienced hate crime, 6% said they had witnessed this occur to a friend/family member and 8% had seen hate crime occur against another person.

4.6 Areas for improvement and remedial action

The 2012/13 baseline for registered volunteers who have been placed by Engage Renfrewshire was 484. The 2013/14 figure is 122 confirmed volunteering placements through response to a survey, but it is recognised that this is likely to be an underestimate of the number of volunteers. Data collection arrangements will be reviewed to ensure that information about volunteers placed is captured as accurately as possible. Engage Renfrewshire is also looking to change its approach to volunteering to place greater emphasis on youth volunteering and campaigns related to need and community planning priorities. New data collection arrangements will include measures to track youth volunteers through Saltire Awards.

4.7 A new member of staff has been appointed to lead volunteer development through Engage Renfrewshire. As part of the new arrangements, a number of volunteer recruitment campaigns have been initiated for a number of organisations, including St Vincent's Hospice, Reaching Older Adults In Renfrewshire, Active Communities, Renfrewshire Environmental and Restoration Group, and Monte Carlo rallies. Links have also been made to existing community engagement to recruit volunteers. For example, twelve new volunteers have been recruited from young people engaging with Street Stuff.

4.8 Engage Renfrewshire is also working with organisations receiving volunteers to have in place supportive structures, policies and procedures that will ensure that volunteers have a positive experience and are able to make an effective contribution.

4.9 The development of community assets will be a key area for development and improvement for Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities. In the context of the Community Empowerment Bill being enacted in 2015, it is anticipated that this area



of work will grow over the coming years and Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities will seek to meet any increase in demand from community organisations for support regarding assets transfer, particularly that which will make a positive impact on community planning priorities.

4.10 Revisions to Single Outcome Agreement

The baseline data provided in 4.4 and 4.5 above will be incorporated into the Single Outcome Agreement.

5 Emerging 'Work-streams'

- 5.1 The Forum's workload has been developing in response to the membership's demands but is also being shaped by the developing agenda of the Community Planning Partnership Board. A number of emerging 'work streams' have been identified below for comment, however, this is not an exhaustive list of current work.
- 5.2 **Accessibility, Equalities and the built environment:** Renfrewshire's Forum For Empowering Communities has agreed that discussions should take place with Renfrewshire Council, the Safer and Stronger Board, Jobs and Economy Board and Greener Board around the possibility of introducing safer pavements as an equality outcome for Renfrewshire Council and the Community Planning Partnership. The Forum has identified the potential capacity within the restorative justice programmes to make streets more accessible.
- 5.3 **Assets, Management Committees, and 'Stalled Spaces':** The Forum has looked to utilise and promote the use of community owned assets within the Community Planning engagement process. Officers from Engage Renfrewshire in conjunction with officers from Renfrewshire Council have begun a range of meetings with local management committees in a bid to promote where possible further community asset transfers. Part of this work will consider which assets could have a better links with the targets of the community plan. It should also be noted that the Greener Network which is supported by Forum representation will lead on an externally funded 'Stalled Spaces' initiative aimed at encouraging temporary landscaping of public greenspace.
- 5.4 **'Invest' - Social Enterprise Fund:** Information on the £100,000 'Invest In Renfrewshire' fund to support Social Enterprises was provided to the Forum members at the last meeting of the group. The Forum has been utilised to promote the fund and the Economic Development Officer from Renfrewshire Council charged with supporting the fund is working closely with Engage Renfrewshire officers to encourage applications and overcome barriers to social enterprise development.
- 5.5 **Integration of Health and Social Care – Engagement, communications:** Members of the Forum have been invited to participate in the first local Health and Social Care integration public consultation event (19th March 2015). The involvement of members of the Forum will help to illustrate the present 'Third Sector Experience' of supporting

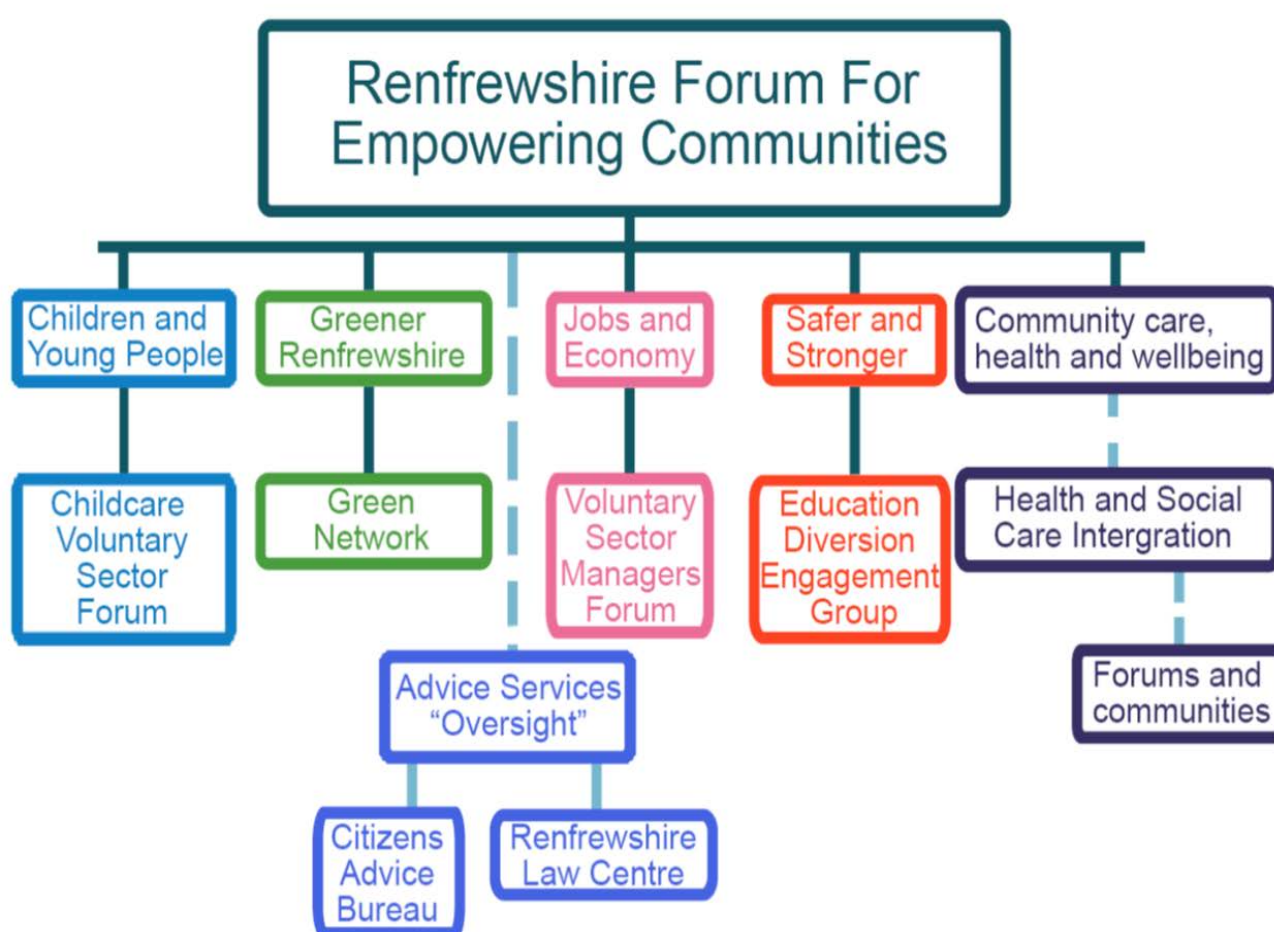


local Health and Social Care issues and also the hopes and aspirations of the Sector for the proposed new approach. It is anticipated that the Forum will be utilised on an ongoing basis to support this emerging strategy.

- 5.6 ***The Tackling Poverty Commission – Initial Engagement and Developments:*** Now that the Tackling Poverty Commission report has been completed it is anticipated that the Forum will be utilised to provide further support in promoting the aims of an emerging Community Planning anti-poverty agenda.
- 5.7 ***Community Learning and Development Partnership Strategy:*** Scottish Government's National Strategic Guidance for Community Planning notes that local Community Learning and Development strategies should be aligned to community planning. It is noted in the guidance that Community Learning and Development (CLD) should play a central part in ensuring individuals, families and communities reach their potential. It is also noted that the available support and opportunities should be community-led and developed around local people's needs and aspirations. CLD officers from Renfrewshire Council have now begun to prepare a framework for a CLD plan which will include a timeline, resource section, key development areas and work required around 'gaps' in service. It has been agreed that this framework/draft-plan should be presented to the Forum for oversight and direction.



Appendix 1 – Members linked to CPP thematic boards and Associated Groups





To: **Community Planning Partnership Board**

On: **2 April 2015**

Report by:

Renfrewshire Council, Chief Executive:

**The Findings and Recommendations of Renfrewshire's
Tackling Poverty Commission**

1. Summary

The Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Commission was set up by the Council to carry out a strategic assessment of the nature, causes and impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire and make recommendations for the deployment of a strategic approach involving Community Planning Partners (CPP) that will mitigate and minimise the impact of poverty in Renfrewshire.

The Commission concluded its work with the publication of the Commission's report on Friday 13 March 2015. At its meeting on 23 March Renfrewshire Council recognised the value of the Commission's call for a partnership response, and agreed to submit the Commission's report to the next meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Board for consideration and ask that the Chief Executive work with community planning partners to agree a cross-partnership response to the findings and recommendations of the Commission and to report back to Council on 25 June 2015.

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with an overview of the Commission's findings and recommendations and provide an opportunity for the Board to consider and direct the CPP response.

The Commission's report, 'Tackling Poverty in Renfrewshire' is included at Appendix A.



2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the CPP Board:

- a) Acknowledge the significant work undertaken by the Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Commission and endorse the findings and recommendations proposed by the Commission.
- b) Agree that the Chief Executive lead the development of the CPP response to the Commission's findings and recommendations on behalf of the Board and that an action plan capable of supporting sustainable progress in reducing the causes and impact of poverty across Renfrewshire is made available for consideration by the Board at a special meeting of the Board in June 2015.
- c) Note that the Commission recommends that the CPP Board report annually for the next five years on its progress to tackle poverty in Renfrewshire.
- d) Note that as outlined in Section 7, a resource analysis report is being drafted by the Council and will be made available for consideration at the next Board meeting to support the Board's consideration of the response to the Commission's recommendations.

3. Background

The Renfrewshire Community Plan 2014 – 2023 sets out a challenging target to reduce child poverty to no more than 15% in any area by 2023. As reported to the Board on 19 February 2014, the Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Commission, the first of its kind to focus on child poverty, was set up by the Council in February 2014 to consider the nature, causes and impact of poverty in Renfrewshire and to make recommendations for the deployment of a strategic and coordinated approach involving Community Planning Partners that will mitigate and minimise the impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire.

The Commission's role was to act as 'critical friend' to the Council and its partners, providing independent and authoritative views on the current approach to tackling poverty, and recommendations for the Council and partners consideration that would form the basis of a new approach to tackling child poverty in Renfrewshire.

The Commission held an initial meeting in April 2014 and throughout the year, the Commissioners, a group of individuals and representatives of organisations recognised for their work associated with tackling poverty, met to consider poverty as it related to themes linked to the outcomes defined in the Child Poverty Strategy for Scotland.

During the course of its work the Commission drew on evidence from published research, heard from academics and other professionals about interventions that have been shown to make a difference, and listened to the views of Renfrewshire people affected by poverty. The Commission also learned about the significant work already being progressed by community partners to tackle poverty.



4. The work of the Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Commission

The Commission's report includes the terms of reference for the Commission and provides details of the Commissioners who gave of their time and expertise to support the Council and the Community Planning Partners in assessing the causes and impact of poverty in the Renfrewshire context.

Pages 9 and 10 of the Commission's report sets out the Commission's approach to the task set by the Council and its partners. It provides information on the themes considered by the Commission - Maximising household income; Minimising household expenditure; Health and Well-being; Education, attainment and skills; and Housing, Place and Communities and reflects on how these themes are linked directly to the shorthand outcomes of Pockets, Prospects and Places contained within the Child Poverty Strategy for Scotland.

The Commission report provides information on how the Commission, over the course of ten months, considered each theme against five key questions and that this provided Commissioners with a structured way of focusing on the complexity of the issues surrounding poverty :

- How can we **prevent** child poverty?
- How can we **alleviate** child poverty?
- How can we provide families with sustainable routes to **escape** poverty?
- How can we change **attitudes** to families and children living in poverty
- What are the key national policies the Council and its partners shall seek to **influence**?

At its meetings, Commissioners invited recognised experts, including academics and professionals from organisations working in areas associated with poverty, to contribute research and provide updates on the conclusions and impact of their work. A poverty profile of Renfrewshire was developed for consideration by Commissioners, drawing on a range of data and indices linked to the Commission's themes.

5. Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Commission – Findings

The Commission's report is a summation of the Commission's work and as such, focuses on drawing out the key findings identified during the course of the Commission's work. The report makes reference to the significant body of evidence and testimony collated and analysed by the Commission, all of which are held as matter of public record in a series of appendices to the report in an area of Renfrewshire Council's website reserved for information about the Commission's work.

In the report, the Commission identifies a range of issues that cause poverty and impact on those living in poverty. The Commission recognises that while there is much that the local partners can do to address child poverty, there are also major contributing factors not directly within the control of Community Planning Partners. The Commission specifically highlights changes to welfare provision, including the sanctions regime associated with the increased conditionality requirements for receiving benefits; as well



as the way education resources are allocated by the Scottish Government, and calls on the UK and Scottish Government to bring about a change in policy in these areas.

The key findings of the Commission are detailed in the Executive Summary, shown on Page 4 of the Commission's report, with more detail provided under the theme headings over pages 12 to 22. The findings reflect the conclusions reached by the Commission based on the evidence heard.

The Commission's key messages are shown below:

1. The changing nature of poverty – there are now more households in poverty who are working, than not and that this is a consequence of low pay, inadequate working hours and insecure employment.
2. The welfare system no longer provides an adequate safety net and is causing hardship for those it is designed to support. The Commission's report cites delays and errors in benefit payments and tougher benefit sanctions.
3. Growing up in poverty has a huge impact on a child's future and limits potential. In general, children from poorer families in Renfrewshire do less well at school than their better-off peers. Addressing the attainment gap between children from poorer families and their better off peers is critical.
4. Power should be shared, with communities allowed to set their own priorities, and resources devolved to help them achieve them.
5. Tackling poverty is everyone's responsibility. The Commission calls on the Council, its Community Planning Partners and wider organisations such as employers and housing providers to work in partnership on shared priorities and deliver real leadership around anti-poverty practice in Renfrewshire and beyond.

6. Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Commission – Recommendations

The Commission's recommendations reflect the change in emphasis and focus that the Commission believes the partners need to make in order to reduce the causes and impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire. The Commission also applies equal weight to the way organisations should work in order to effectively tackle child poverty with community involvement and engagement are seen as critical to providing services that support people and address the stigma associated with poverty.

The Board will wish to note that while the Commission has directed a number of its recommendations at specific organisations, the totality of the response is designed to be delivered in a coordinated and cohesive way across the Community Planning Partnership, as this is considered necessary to make the most difference to people directly affected by poverty. The Commission's recommendations are detailed on pages 23 to 25 of the Commission report.



The 24 recommendations are grouped under five priority areas proposed by the Commission. The priority areas are listed below:

- Increase the number of households who can access employment that provides and acceptable standard of living
- Prevent financial crisis and support low income families to make the most of their money
- Improve levels of physical and mental health of children in low income families
- Close the educational gap between children from low income families and their better off peers
- Create neighbourhoods where people want to live and can afford to live

Two of the recommendations recognise that the Community Planning Partnership should seek to influence wider policy in relation to firstly, what the Commission agreed are the punitive aspects of the current sanctions regime by inviting the Department for Work and Pensions to pilot a new approach to conditionality in Renfrewshire and secondly by calling on the Scottish Government to deliver a change in the way education resources are allocated to better reflect deprivation.

Five of the recommendations are directed specifically at Renfrewshire Council, with the remainder addressed to the Community Planning Partnership as a whole, or specific constituent organisations, including NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and Skills Development Scotland.

7. Resources

In order to support the Commission in its work, Renfrewshire Council hosted two workshops to develop an understanding of the range and impact of the anti poverty activities underway across the CPP. It is recognised that not all partners were included and that the information provided was incomplete however it highlighted the number and scale of the activities being progressed across the Partnership.

Building on this initial work, further analysis has been undertaken to identify the resources aligned to the activities and to group the level of resource by organisation, by activity and by targeted client group. The details of this initial analysis will be brought to the CPP Board for consideration at the next meeting to provide the Board with an opportunity to reflect on how best to use this analysis of resources in support of the CPP response to the Commission's recommendations.

8. Prevention

Much of the work of the Commission focussed on the interventions that either support people already living with the effects of poverty, or stop people being impacted by poverty. The questions that the Commission asked in terms of prevent, alleviate, escape, attitude and influence (outlined in section 4 above) provided the Commission



with an opportunity to identify and consider interventions that were preventative.

9. Community Involvement/Engagement

The creation of the Tackling Poverty Commission supports a range of Community Plan themes. The membership of the Commission ensured that the Community was represented. The Commission's report notes that it was very important for Commissioners to hear directly from people affected by poverty. The Commission invited individuals, organisations and other interest groups to contribute to a 'Call for Evidence' over the summer months in 2014.

The Commission's report highlights that the submissions received from the 'Call for evidence' offer a real challenge to the way organisations provide services to people and that as a consequence, the Commission considers the way organisations work should have equal weight to the specific actions and initiatives to address poverty.

The Commission recognised that solutions based on meaningful partnerships are generally the most effective at delivering longer lasting change. The Commission asks the Community Planning Partnership to place cooperation between organisations, and the people of Renfrewshire, at the centre of the Renfrewshire response to the Commission's work.

10. Next steps

Tackling Poverty, and specifically reducing the level of child poverty in Renfrewshire is a priority for the Community Planning Partners. The publication of the Commission's report offers the CPP an opportunity to put this work at the centre of the Partnerships future activities.

As outlined in this report, the Commission's recommendations have been developed using evidence on the interventions and activities proven to mitigate and minimise the causes and impact of child poverty. This evidence provides rich information not only in relation to interventions that have been found to make a difference in other areas, but also the positive impact of projects and initiatives already underway in Renfrewshire.

In considering the strategic response to the Commission's report it will be important for the CPP to develop a detailed understanding of the evidence used to support the Commission's recommendations, consider how the recommendations map to the CPP's existing priorities and evaluate the potential resource commitment needed to deliver against the Commission's recommendations.

The Commission recommends that the CPP reports annually, for the next five years, on its progress to tackle poverty in Renfrewshire. The CPP will want to agree to develop a well designed, co-ordinated and effective programme of response measures to support sustainable progress in reducing the causes and impact of poverty across Renfrewshire.

Tackling Poverty in Renfrewshire

Report of Renfrewshire's
Tackling Poverty Commission



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Foreword

Renfrewshire is an area we can be proud of. It has wonderful people living and working in it; thriving businesses and very close-knit communities where people take pride in looking out for each other. The area has a proud past and a promising future. However, we need to nurture and grow our potential; otherwise the deep-rooted deprivation issues which have developed over many decades will persist.

There are local shops here that sell single eggs because families cannot afford to buy half-a-dozen. More than 1 in 5 of our children grows up in poverty. That should shock us all, but more importantly, it should motivate us to do something to change it. Poverty is not inevitable, and that's why Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Commission was set up in April 2014 to focus on reducing child poverty.

The Commission was formed from a range of experts in education, housing, the voluntary sector, the economy, and people who work every day with residents who live in severe poverty.

We all shared the view that no child should have to live with the insecurity and discomfort that poverty can bring and believe there is absolutely no reason why in the 21st century what your parents or carers earn should determine your life chances.

Throughout 2014 we have gathered a significant amount of evidence across key themes: Education and Attainment; Health and Wellbeing; Housing, Place and Community; Maximising Household Income; and Minimising Household Expenditure.

The evidence is unfortunately clear: children who grow up in poverty face greater disadvantages and fewer opportunities in childhood and later in life.

People who live in poverty told us how it feels to wake up every day and not have the same chances as others and what it's like for their children to go without and to feel different from their friends. They gave us many examples of their day-to-day struggles and their feedback has helped to shape our recommendations.

No two stories that we heard were the same. Many families who struggle to put enough food on the table have someone in the household who works. Others are single parents who can't afford to heat their homes and don't know where to turn. Many other families have been living in poverty for generations.

Renfrewshire's Community Plan sets an ambitious target of reducing child poverty to no more than 15% in any area, by 2023. Child poverty is predicted to rise, and large reductions in public spending are having a major impact on the resources available; it's never been more important to make sure we set clear priorities and evaluate what really works.

This report is the result of the Commission's work and sets out a way forward that we hope can change the lives of those living in poverty, for the better.

Our recommendations focus on local service delivery changes we feel will make an impact, on national policy changes we believe should happen, and on putting how people feel at the heart of how organisations respond to poverty.

Supporting people to lift themselves out of poverty won't happen overnight, but this report is the start of the next phase—the journey that now lies ahead to improve the lives of Renfrewshire's children.

Finally I want to thank all of those who gave their time and expertise freely to support the work of the Tackling Poverty Commission – the Commissioners, our facilitator Darra Singh, and all of those who gave evidence and who challenged current thinking. Special thanks are owed to the people who responded to surveys and took the time to attend workshops; their stories were the most compelling evidence of all. Most of all, I would like to thank all of those who go about their lives supporting people to deal with poverty and to move out of poverty – they are often unseen and unheard. Their daily actions make life a little bit better for us all.

Councillor Mike Holmes, Chair of Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Commission

Executive Summary

Renfrewshire’s Tackling Poverty Commission was set up to assess the nature, causes and impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire, and make recommendations for the introduction of a strategic approach for the Community Planning Partnership. This Commission is the first of its kind in Scotland, and this is what makes the Commission’s recommendations different; they are designed to be delivered in partnership, and focused on making a difference at a local level.

The key findings of the Commission are:

- Poverty is changing and our response needs to change. There are now more households in poverty who are working, than not. Low pay, inadequate working hours and insecure employment are now key causes of poverty.
- The welfare system no longer provides an adequate safety net and is causing hardship for those it is designed to support, particularly due to delays and errors in benefit payments and tougher benefit sanctions.
- Growing up in poverty can have a huge influence on a child’s future. Addressing the attainment gap in schools is critical to make sure children from low-income families are able to achieve their potential.
- Power should be shared, with communities allowed to set their own priorities, and resources devolved to help to achieve them.
- Tackling poverty is everyone’s responsibility. The Council, its Community Planning Partners and wider organisations such as employers and housing providers, will need to work in partnership on shared priorities and deliver real leadership around anti-poverty practice in Renfrewshire and beyond.

“I’m unable to focus on anything other than survival. Opportunity is in another world.”

Participant, Star Project

Our recommendations focus on both the changes the Community Planning Partnership need to make, and how organisations should be working in Renfrewshire to tackle poverty. Our focus has been on what can be achieved here in Renfrewshire, although we have recommended some key areas where the Community Planning Partnership should influence wider Scottish policy.

The Commission has identified five key priorities for the Community Planning Partners:

- Increasing the number of households who can access employment that provides an acceptable standard of living
- Preventing financial crisis and supporting low-income families to make the most of their money
- Improving levels of physical and mental health of children in low-income families
- Closing the attainment gap between children from low-income families and their better-off peers
- Creating neighbourhoods where people want to live and can afford to live

It is not just what the Community Planning Partnership does that’s important, it is also how these things are done. The Commission has made an equally ambitious set of recommendations on how organisations should work, which focus on putting how people feel at the heart of Renfrewshire’s response to poverty.

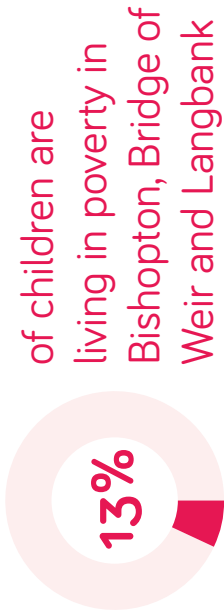
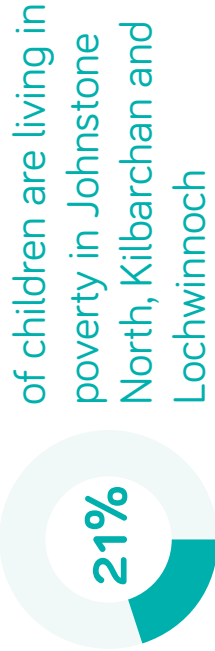
“Poverty is costly, wasteful and risky”

Dr Jim McCormick,
Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Poverty and Renfrewshire

Child poverty in Renfrewshire is estimated to be 21%, which means more than 7,000 children are living in poverty in Renfrewshire today. Renfrewshire cannot afford poverty. It disadvantages people from cradle to grave, limits people’s opportunities and stops people from achieving their potential.

Levels of poverty in key wards in Renfrewshire



Source: Poverty in your area (End Child Poverty, 2014)

The multiple hits of economic recession, austerity measures and negative elements of welfare reform have all combined to make things worse for people on low incomes. People experiencing poverty often face a ‘perfect storm’ of low paid employment opportunities, a rise in zero hours contracts, cuts to benefits and a harsher regime of benefit sanctions.

Recent economic growth should not make us complacent. Poverty levels are now rising again, and are predicted to rise again even further. If nothing is done to tackle this rise, more of Renfrewshire’s children will be condemned to poor health, education and employment outcomes.

What is poverty?

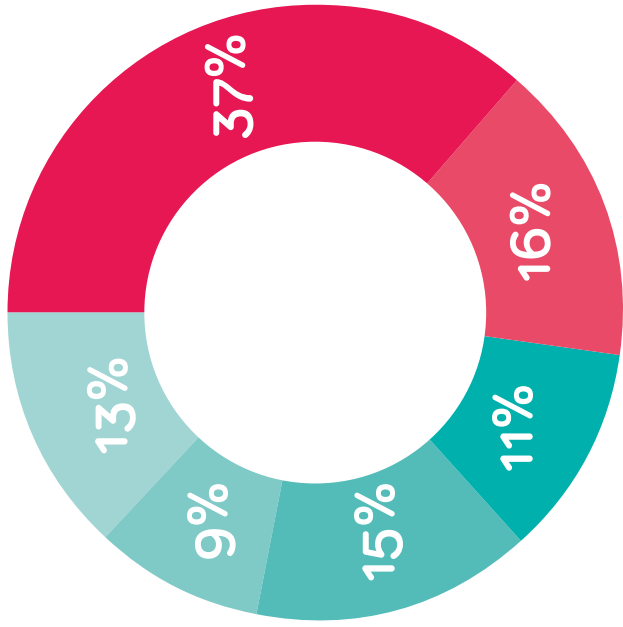
A child is considered in ‘relative poverty’ if they live in a household where the income is less than 60% of the national median income. The Commission, along with the Scottish and UK Governments, use relative poverty because it is an effective measure of whether those in the lowest income households are keeping pace with the growth of incomes in the economy as a whole. This provides a way of understanding how many children live in households that lack what is needed to fully take part in society and which the rest of society take for granted. The Commission has also looked at poverty ‘after housing costs’ which gives a more accurate picture of families’ finances.

“Poverty is undoubtedly the result of economic and political choices that we make as a society—it is not natural or inevitable”

Poverty Alliance

Fact:
A parent with two children aged 5 and 14 will be classed as living in poverty if their income (before tax but after housing costs) is less than £269 a week

Families with children are the biggest group in poverty



- 37% couple with children
- 16% single with children
- 11% couple without children
- 15% single men without children
- 9% single women without children
- 13% pensioners

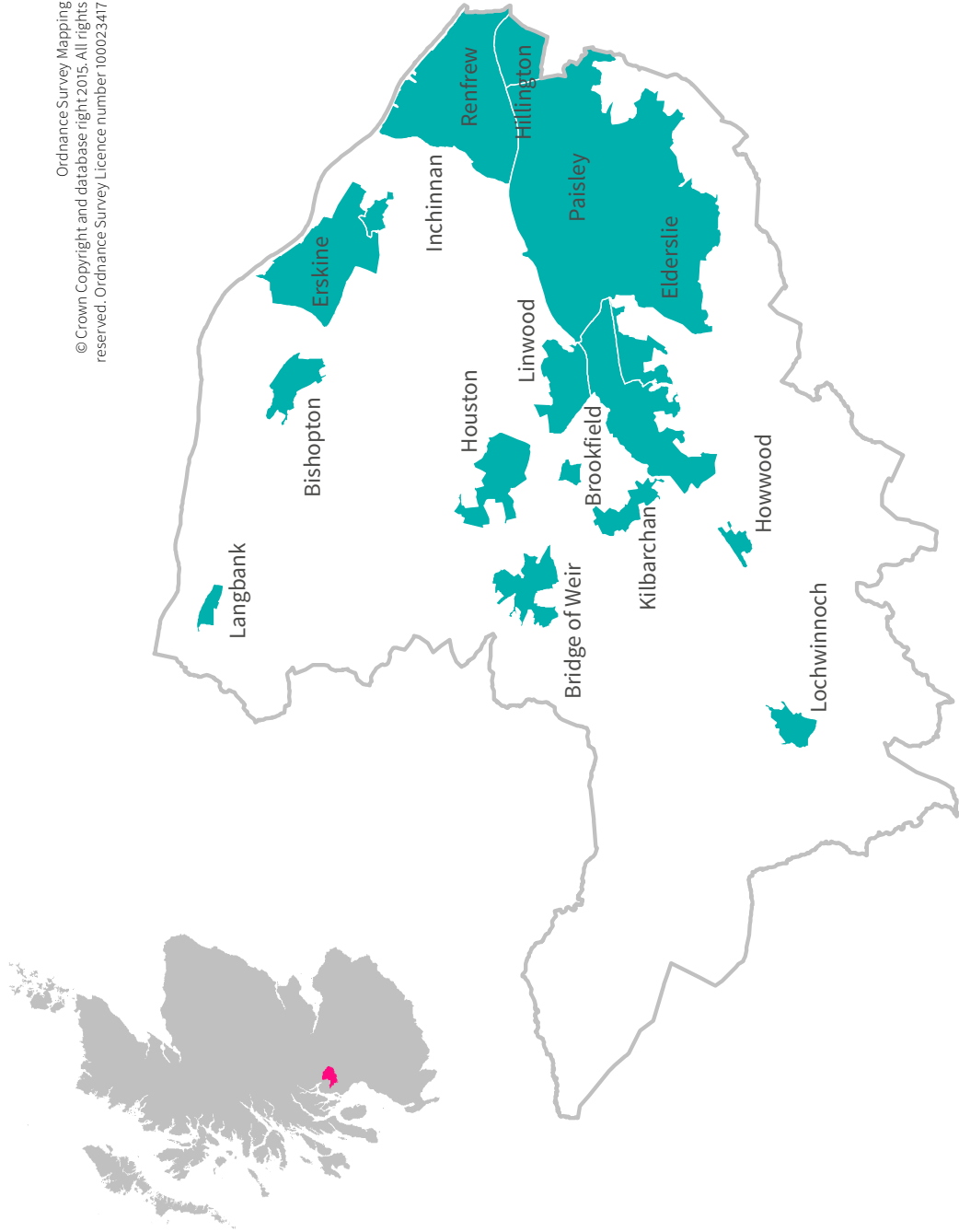
Measures are only part of the picture of the scale and impact of poverty. People living in poverty struggle to access what others take for granted in terms of household items, food and clothing. Not knowing how to pay the next unexpected bill is a common reality, despite skilful budgeting of very little resources. The stigma and feelings of powerlessness can be all consuming and can lead to social isolation and depression.

The geography of poverty has changed. Poverty is less concentrated in ‘deprived neighbourhoods’ than it has been previously, meaning some of the area-based ways of looking at poverty, such as the Scottish Indices of Multiple Deprivation, can no longer give us a full picture of where poverty is being experienced in our communities.

People don’t tend to stay in poverty forever. Most people who experience poverty will do so only for a short time, or will move in and out of poverty throughout their lives.

Some groups of people are more likely to face poverty. For example, workless households, lone parents, disabled working-age adults, care leavers and people renting their homes are all at higher risk of poverty than others.

Source: Households below average income (DWP, 2014)



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Renfrewshire

Renfrewshire has a lot to offer both economically and culturally. It is centrally located, next to Glasgow, and in the economic heartland of Scotland which offers many opportunities to its 174,000 residents. Renfrewshire is often described as a microcosm of Scotland; reflective of the country as a whole.

Global employers sit alongside our historic town centres, and the area boasts one of Scotland's biggest retail developments and a major international airport. The Council and its partners have ambitious plans for Renfrewshire, building on the area's location, culture and heritage.

In common with other areas, Renfrewshire has seen a decline in traditional industries such as textiles and weaving, which once employed thousands. Up until the late 20th century, a number of other major manufacturers have reduced in size or moved out of Renfrewshire.

There are a number of areas in Renfrewshire with deep-seated poverty and deprivation, and where people suffer significantly worse outcomes in terms of their health and wellbeing, employment prospects, security and quality of life, compared to more affluent areas.

The work of Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Commission

Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Commission was set up to assess the nature, causes and impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire.

The Commission was asked by Renfrewshire Council and the Community Planning Partnership to make recommendations for the introduction of a strategic and coordinated approach to mitigate and minimise the impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire.

In its work, the Commission has considered what is under the direct influence of the Council and its partners, but also the other agencies that should be influenced in order to deliver change. The result is a set of recommendations which are ambitious and challenging not only for the Council and its partners, but also for Scottish and UK government policy.

The terms of reference for Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Commission can be found at Appendix A.

Approach

Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Commission was always intended to have a relatively short life, to provide a focussed opportunity for Commissioners to carry out their work. At the first meeting of the Commission, Commissioners set out a structured approach to their work, identifying five themes linked to the outcomes within the Child Poverty Strategy for Scotland. These outcomes are often referred to in shorthand as Pockets, Prospects and Places.

Pockets

maximising the financial resources of families on low incomes



Prospects

improved life chances of children in poverty



Places

children from low income households live in well-designed, sustainable places

Commissioners met over a series of monthly meetings to consider each theme:



- Maximising Household Income
- Reducing Household Expenditure



Prospects

- Health and Wellbeing
- Education, Attainment and Skills



Places

- Housing, Place and Communities

An additional special meeting of the Community was held to explore Asset Based Community Development and gave Commissioners the opportunity to consider ways of empowering and supporting communities to achieve better outcomes.

A small group of Commissioners took on lead roles for each of the themes, shaping the agenda by identifying key issues, the evidence base, and expert speakers.

The Commission identified five key questions when considering the themes, organising its work, findings and emerging recommendations:

- How can we **prevent** child poverty?
- How can we **alleviate** the impact of children living in poverty?
- How can we provide families with sustainable routes to **escape** poverty?
- How can we change **attitudes** to families and children living in poverty?
- What are the key national policies the Council and its partners shall seek to **influence**?

These questions allowed Commissioners to focus on the complex nature of the causes and impact of poverty, in order to establish where the Council and Community Planning Partners should focus their efforts.

The Commission considered a wide range of evidence, focussing heavily on published data and reports on child poverty, but also evidence of what works to address poverty both locally and further afield. Commissioners heard about the efforts already made by the Council, its partners and other key agencies, to lessen the impact of child poverty.

Call for evidence

The Commission agreed it was essential to hear from people directly affected by poverty, as well as organisations and groups of interested parties in Renfrewshire and beyond. A ‘Call for evidence’ was launched over the summer of 2014 inviting citizens, groups and organisations to contribute to the evidence base.

The ‘Call for evidence’ was open to organisations and to citizens, through written submissions, surveys, and facilitated sessions with local third sector organisations. People were asked broad and open questions in order to identify potential priority areas:

- What are the causes of poverty?
- What are the key issues that affect people’s ability to get out of poverty?
- What should the tackling poverty strategy priorities be?
- Can you provide examples of what has been successful in tackling poverty?

The responses received from the ‘Call for evidence’ were varied, and contained powerful stories and testimony from more than 100 people living in poverty. Organisations and citizens gave examples of what works to support people in poverty, and what doesn’t. The stigma experienced by people in poverty was a clear theme, and the powerlessness and anxiety felt by people as a consequence.

These findings offer a real challenge to organisations around not just what services they deliver, but how they can involve people to make sure they deliver services that do not stigmatise or exclude.

The results of the ‘Call for evidence’ were presented to the Commission in September 2014, with representatives from voluntary sector organisations invited to share information about the work they had taken forward to gather views from people affected by poverty.

What would make a difference?

“To be heard, listened to properly and not misjudged or labelled as ‘them’, ‘hard to reach’, ‘unemployable’ etc”

Survey respondent

Findings

Maximising Household Income

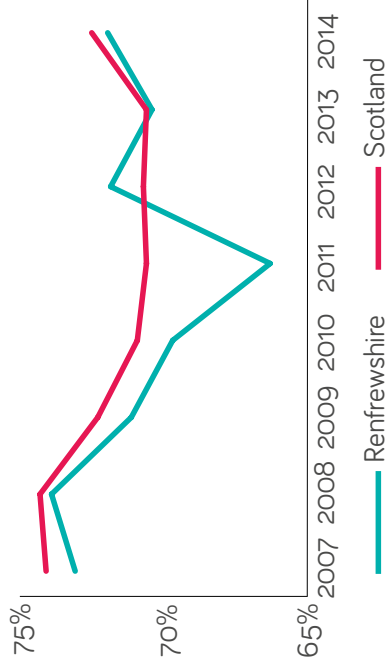
Getting a job is seen by many as a guaranteed route out of poverty, but the rise of in-work poverty is a major concern. Currently there are more families in poverty who are working than not working.¹

More people in Renfrewshire are now in work than during the worst of the recession, but more now earn less than the income needed to provide an acceptable standard of living. This is caused by the combination of part-time and low paid work, rises in the cost of living, changes in tax credit entitlement and the proliferation of zero hours contracts.

Disabled people, carers and lone parents with very young children may experience additional barriers to employment which mean it is unlikely to provide them with a route out of poverty in the near future.

Renfrewshire employment levels (in poverty profile) 2007–2014

Source: Households below average income (DWP, 2014)



Youth employment levels are rising across Renfrewshire, but an increasing number of young people who face significant barriers to employment are seeking support. The challenge is now to provide more intensive support for these young people, as well as supporting older adults looking for help to access education and develop the skills they need to access work, or to progress at work.

The Living Wage affords people the opportunity to provide for themselves and their families, as it is calculated according to the basic cost of living in the UK. However, it is estimated that around a fifth of Scotland's workforce earn less than the Living Wage. The Living Wage would make a significantly positive impact in the sectors with poor pay such as cleaning, catering, caring and retail. Many employers remain hesitant about adopting the Living Wage, despite concerns about its negative impacts appearing unfounded in evidence.

Paying the Living Wage is a powerful step towards reducing in-work poverty, but for many employees this may not be enough. Employers can also make an important contribution in other ways, for example, making sure staff with fewer skills have access to quality on-the-job training, providing support with costs such as travel and childcare, and contributing towards staff pensions. If adopted by employers, these actions can all make a dent in the risk of poverty—now and in the future.

It is estimated that welfare reform will significantly impact families across Renfrewshire, costing the equivalent of £510 per year for every working age adult.⁴ This takes money out of the pockets of families who need it the most, and will take £58 million out of Renfrewshire's economy. Renfrewshire will be hit harder than the Scottish average with the estimated impact in the poorest communities in Renfrewshire even higher still—Ferguslie Park is one of the hardest hit areas in Scotland.

Despite these impacts, tens of thousands of pounds of benefits still go unclaimed in Renfrewshire every year. Many eligible people do not claim what they are entitled to, and it is

“People want to go to work but think why I’m only going to make £10 after paying nurseries, rent, lunch, expenses etc. when I’m spending all that time away from my wean... the nurseries say you’re not a priority... surely if you’re trying to work then you are”

Participant, Childcare First

estimated that just over half of the unclaimed benefits could be claimed by working age families.

The welfare system no longer provides an adequate safety net and is causing hardship for those it is designed to support. Increased use of benefit sanctions are having severe consequences, and are putting people into crisis.⁵ Sanctions are when Jobcentre Plus temporarily stops or reduces a person's benefit for not following the rules associated with that benefit, such as not doing enough to look for work or being late for an appointment. Sanctions last for a minimum of four weeks, but can last for up to three years.

Fact: Paisley Jobcentre Plus has the highest number of sanctions in the west of Scotland

The impact is especially felt among young adults aged under 25. Poor communications and unsympathetic and remote decision making mean claimants do not fully understand what they need to do and where to go for help.⁶ Sanctions are preventable and early intervention to offer advice and advocacy should be prioritised to support people to avoid being sanctioned.

Access to the locally based Scottish Welfare Fund resourced by the Scottish Government provides a valuable financial safety net for families in crisis. However in Renfrewshire these funds are under increasing pressure. Although Renfrewshire Council is one of the few authorities to top up the fund with Council resources, the evidence indicates that support still needs to be

rationed more than other areas in Scotland and Renfrewshire families are losing out.

A key barrier to maximising family income is expensive and inflexible childcare provision. Childcare has not kept pace with changing work patterns so parents, particularly lone parents, are often unable to move into work, increase hours, or progress at work. Again, the way that benefits interact with paid employment means that paid work can leave parents worse off.

Case Study: Sanctions

Stephen is a father who was sanctioned for being 15 minutes late for an appointment with the Jobcentre. His income was reduced by £73 per week, for 13 weeks. He only received two hardship payments of around £44 each during the 13 week sanction period because he was not informed that he still had to sign on every two weeks to access them. His sanction led to him becoming homeless, at first sleeping on a friend's floor and then sleeping rough. He was assaulted and hospitalised during this time and has had no contact with his children since becoming homeless.

“Low wages, lack of job security and underemployment mean that for many families work is no longer a route out of poverty”

Poverty Alliance



Findings

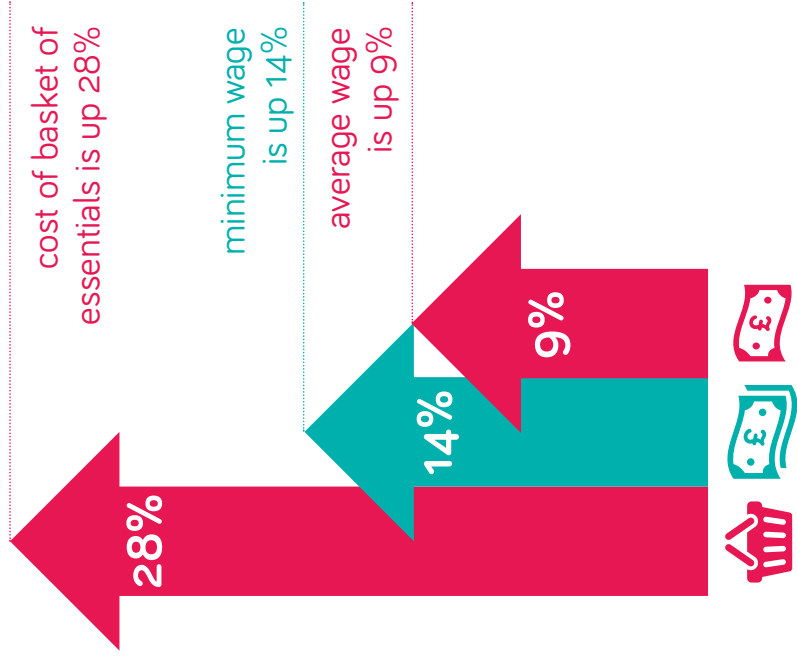
Reducing Household Expenditure

Poverty is not just about how much money is coming into a household; it’s also about having enough money to meet basic needs.

Inflation rates for basic goods and services have risen 50% in the last ten years. This is faster than wages or benefits and tax credits have risen, and even higher for people living in poverty.⁷ In particular, major rises in food and energy prices, rents and childcare over the last few years have made it hard for many to make ends meet. Also, basic needs vary with a person’s individual circumstances. For example, disabled people and people living in rural areas may face additional costs. Although the overall inflation rate has fallen recently (especially so for petrol prices), low income households continue to face greater cost pressures than the population as a whole.

Inflation rates

Source: A minimum income standard for the UK (JRF, 2014)



Poor families often pay more for many basic goods and services such as heating, food and financial services. This is sometimes referred to as the ‘Poverty Premium’.⁸ While much of this ‘premium’ is determined by the providers of goods and services, another key factor is that people on low-incomes are less likely to be active consumers. Low income consumers are less likely to switch suppliers and shop around, partly due to a lack of access to ‘enabling goods’ that give consumers advantages e.g. a bank account or internet access.⁹

In addition to the rising costs of energy, evidence shows people living in poverty pay over the odds for the energy they do buy, due to higher tariffs and more expensive bill payment methods. With almost a third of households in Renfrewshire living in fuel poverty, families risk not only having cold homes but having to cut back on other essentials to afford to keep warm. For some, this is a choice between heating or eating.

“If I can’t afford heating I go to bed, we all have an early night—or we sit with blankets around us, the kids think it’s funny”

Participant, Star Project

The rise of foodbanks is strong evidence for the growing pressure on household finances. However, it is benefit delays, sanctions and administrative errors that are driving people into crisis, with more than half of foodbank users there as a consequence of the inefficient operation of the

“We estimate the [Poverty Premium] reached an average of £1,639 a year at the end of 2013”
Save the Children

benefits system.¹⁰ People turn to foodbanks as a last resort, often not knowing what crisis support they might be entitled to. While foodbanks are an important part of supporting people in crisis, the Commission does not accept that foodbanks should become readily accepted as a formal provision.

Fact:
Renfrewshire has the third busiest foodbank in Scotland

Improving access to affordable credit is an important part of making sure families are able to manage limited finances.¹¹ Many consumers on lower incomes want to maintain control over their finances, and often value control and security over choice. It is clear support is needed to help people develop their financial capability and make the most of their money, particularly with the introduction of Universal Credit on the horizon. Evidence suggests peer education programmes may be one of the most effective ways to build financial capability.

Credit unions have an important role to play as community-based alternatives to high street banking. They can offer a valuable route to savings and more affordable credit for low income families but are currently limited in their anti-poverty impact by the need to balance lending and collecting savings.

Case Study:

Recovery Across Mental Health

Elaine is a lone parent who was suffering from severe anxiety and was referred to the financial literacy service from Recovery Across Mental Health (RAMH) First Crisis Service. She had been off her work as a nurse due to her anxiety for a few weeks and was feeling overwhelmed by financial issues to the point where she felt at risk from suicidal thoughts. She had arrears with her rent, putting her tenancy at risk and owed money to the local credit union, student loans and was struggling to buy food and to travel to and from her son’s nursery.

RAMH agreed a plan to support her to liaise on her behalf with the credit union, student loans, and her landlord, to refer her to advice works for benefits advice and income maximisation and the service applied for a travel card to assist with travel costs.

RAMH managed to arrange affordable payment plans for her credit union and student loan debts and applied for a free travel card so Elaine could get her and her son to and from nursery. She felt less anxious and her feelings of hopelessness that were leading to suicidal thoughts were reduced.

“It’s absolutely shocking that in 2014 we rely on foodbanks”

Participant, Our Place, Our Families

Findings

Health and Wellbeing

In Renfrewshire, health inequalities have grown significantly. Renfrewshire has a particularly low life expectancy and a large life expectancy gap between richer and poorer areas.

Fact:
A boy born in Bishopton lives on average 16.4 years longer than a boy born in Ferguslie Park

The fundamental cause of health inequality is the unequal distribution of power, money and resources. While many activities targeted at people's lifestyles are valuable, it's essential that we focus efforts on the underlying causes of health inequalities rather than looking only to health services for solutions. As with other areas, wider anti-poverty measures such as increasing income are considered likely to have a significant and positive impact on health outcomes.

The first years of someone's life have a huge influence on their future. Children's developmental outcomes are affected from before they are born, and throughout their childhood. Poverty has a significant and adverse impact on these developmental outcomes.

Women from low-income families are more like to be in poorer health when pregnant. In Renfrewshire, almost half of low-weight live births come from the most deprived areas. Women in these areas are three times more likely to smoke when pregnant, and less likely to breastfeed.

Young people living in poverty are more likely to smoke, less likely to eat healthily, more likely to have behavioural or emotional problems and more likely to experience teenage pregnancy.¹²

While having a low-income isn't the cause of these things, it's essential to understand these choices are strongly socially patterned, and can leave a lasting impact.

Austerity policies are having a detrimental impact on mental and physical health, and deteriorating mental health is becoming a central public health concern. Renfrewshire has seen an increase in suicide rates, anxiety, depression and psychiatric hospitalisations. People living in poverty are more likely to suffer poor mental health, and poor parental mental health can have a significant impact on a child's development.

Rates of child poverty are higher in lone parent households. The pressures of living in poverty mean that any family might struggle to cope – and for parents bringing up children on their own, the pressures are often greater.¹³ The mental health and wellbeing of families living in poverty, and particularly lone parents, should become a new priority for Renfrewshire, with specific action to address isolation, maximise incomes and widen opportunities to learn, volunteer and work.

Primary health care, such as GPs and Health Visitors, are powerfully positioned at the front-line of poverty.¹⁴ This provides an opportunity to assess people's needs in a trusted environment, and be a gateway from which services can be accessed. For example, projects such as Healthier, Wealthier Children which link financial advice with health visiting for new mothers have been extremely successful, as have other projects that have co-located health services with wider advice.

"Not only does poverty and deprivation increase the risk of teenage pregnancy, but experience of teenage pregnancy can result in negative outcomes for both the teenage parent and their child"

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Case Study: Barnardos Threads

Joanne, 18, approached Barnardos Threads for support for her and her new partner when pregnant with her second child. At the time the young family were facing eviction from privately rented accommodation. With support from her Threads keyworker, Joanne secured temporary accommodation through homeless services and attended a pre-natal group while receiving one-to-one support with her benefits and to secure a permanent tenancy.	a while to process and another period of reduced income, which further complicated housing benefit payments.
Just as the family were ready to move into new tenancy, her partner secured a job with a zero hours contract. This affected the couple's claim for benefits and also added difficulties to their social fund application for furniture. The consistency in hours of work meant the couple were not entitled to Working Tax Credit and therefore survived on Child Tax Credit and Child Benefit alongside whatever he earned from work, which sometimes could be as little as four hours a week.	After almost a year Joanne's partner left the home, and Joanne had to make another claim as a single person, and Joanne and the two children had another period of two weeks with reduced income.
Joanne's partner was unable to sustain his job due to significant mental health difficulties. The couple made a claim for ESA, which took	Joanne was able to buy baby milk and nappies, but needed food parcels from Barnardos Thread twice in this period. She was left with significant housing arrears of £1,600, and after paying £900 has the balance as a debt. Threads are supporting her to apply for Discretionary Housing Payments.
	Joanne has been prescribed anti-depressants as she feels stressed about her situation and her break-up. She is managing to care for her two children but said she has found the housing arrears and benefits situation too difficult to cope with on her own. Threads continue to work with Joanne with the intention of supporting her to independently manage her finances in the future.

Fact:
The rate of delivery of teenage pregnancy in the most deprived areas is almost ten times the rate of delivery in the least deprived areas

Findings

Education, Attainment and Skills

In general, children from poorer families in Renfrewshire do less well at school than their better-off peers.

The gap starts early in life, widens at every stage of school and can have life-long consequences.¹⁵ Young people from poorer families are less likely to go into further and higher education, more likely to be unemployed, work part-time, earn less and be in low-paid jobs.

The attainment gap is an issue for every school in Renfrewshire to tackle, and is not limited to specific schools or areas.¹⁶ This challenge needs to be addressed at Council, school and teacher level.

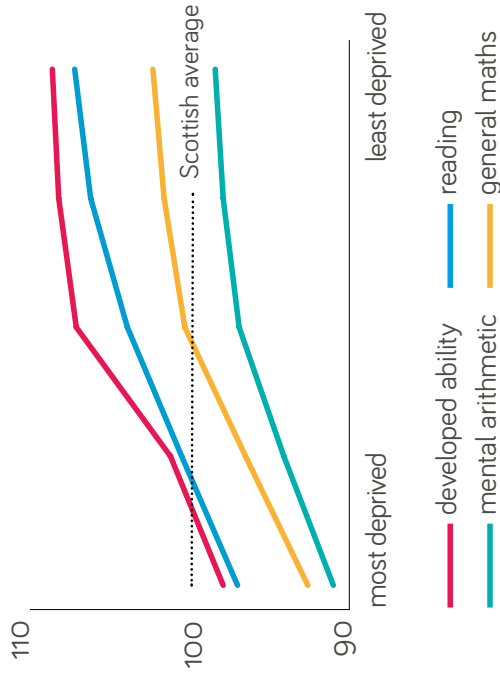
The Commission heard what works to reduce the gap in educational attainment and that schools need to be able to identify the interventions that are most likely to succeed in their particular school environment, and implement them effectively. While the use of attainment data has improved very recently, teachers need access to enough real-time information to make sure they are able to get the best from their pupils in the classroom.

The evidence is clear that low-income families don't want any less for their children, and young people don't lack aspirations, but they can go off-track.¹⁷ However, the challenge is one for parents too; as parents' involvement can have a huge impact on a child's attainment.

Parents need the skills and capacity to support their children's learning, and to make home a positive learning environment. Supporting parents to encourage early language development and literacy skills in their child's early years would have a significant impact on narrowing the attainment gap. As children move into their school years, there is a need to re-frame the relationship between schools and parents, identifying the

Deprivation and attainment at p5 in Renfrewshire

Source: Renfrewshire Council pupil attainment data (2014)



barriers that stop some parents engaging with schools and supporting schools to better engage with parents on their own terms.

It's also clear the costs of the school day are rising; uniforms, classroom equipment, school trips and charity events are all putting increasing pressure on household budgets. This creates stigma and anxiety for parents and children, and puts up more barriers to attainment.¹⁸

Fact:
The gap between children from low-income families and high-income household starts early. By age five, there is a gap of ten months in problem solving development and 13 months in vocabulary

“The school is always coming up with wee trips and things like that and then you're caught out. It's not very good that they don't give you enough notice. You know, and maybe it's only two or three pound and they don't really see that two and three pounds is a big issue, but when you're struggling it is”

Child Poverty Action Group respondent

The transition between school and college education, or between education and work, is a critical time for young people. More young people in Renfrewshire are moving onto further education, training or a job when they leave school, but young people from low-income families are less likely to be securing these 'positive destinations'. The relationship between the benefits system and funding to support students acts as a major barrier to accessing a college education.

Schools have an important role to play in making sure young people understand the range of options available to them, and are equipped to pursue their chosen pathway. Therefore all young people, of all abilities, should be able to access vocational education as well as the more traditional academic studies.

Many employers are not taking on young people, and many young people are not equipped for the world of work when leaving school.¹⁹ Schools and colleges in Renfrewshire need to be more closely linked with industry, and should be offering sustainable vocational qualifications combined with work experience that supports young people to transition into our local economy.

It is also essential to look at how we invest in adult skills. Poorly skilled adults are less likely to receive investment or support to improve their skills, which can severely limit opportunities for in-work progression and prevent them escaping poor wages or insecure employment. Both employers and community learning need to reflect this disadvantage in the way that they invest in training and development.

Case Study: Cost of the School Day Project

Child Poverty Action Group is currently working with Glasgow's Poverty Leadership Panel on its 'Cost of a School Day' project. The project involves working with pupils and staff in eight Glasgow schools to identify where problems lie for children from low-income households. From uniform, travel and meals to resources, school trips and after-school activities, the project aims to identify how low-income children and young people's participation and experiences are affected by the ways in which schools organise and implement the school day. Early findings suggest that costs relating to travel, completing homework, school trips, uniforms, clubs, snacks and meals can all put additional pressure on low income families. Children are also keenly aware of the stigma that can be attached to poverty.

“It is unacceptable that in the 21st century, how much your parents earn affects how likely you are to do well at school”

Professor Sue Ellis,
University of Strathclyde

Findings Housing, Place and Communities

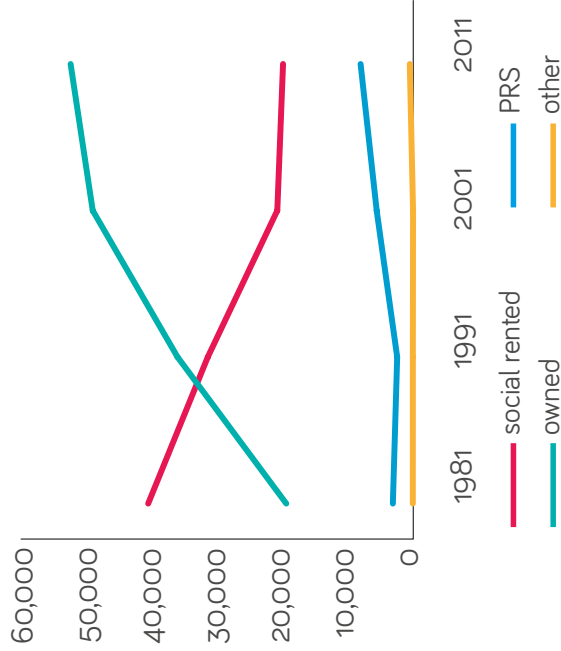
Good quality, affordable housing has a huge impact on people’s lives. People living in poverty generally have less good, less desirable housing and have fewer choices about where they can live. The housing waiting lists of the Council and its housing association partners are packed with people wanting to live in Renfrewshire, while the likelihood of being offered a decent home in a place they want to live is reducing.

Poor housing can affect the health of a family, and could affect child development, health and learning.²⁰ Settled accommodation is a key requirement for securing and sustaining a job, but it also anchors a family in a community and allows them to invest in that community and build its resilience.

The housing landscape is changing. There has been a slowdown in the building of Council and other social housing and the ‘Right to Buy’ scheme means there are more owner occupiers, but less Council housing. There are more people renting, both from the private rented sector and from registered social landlords.

Housing tenures over time

Source: Renfrewshire Council pupil attainment data (2014)



Fact:
There has been a £138m investment to ensure all social housing in Renfrewshire meets the Scottish Housing Quality Standard

Most of Renfrewshire’s social housing stock is flats, making it very difficult to meet the aspiration of low income families who want to live in households with gardens and a front-and-back-door. While there has been some local success in improving the housing standards of Renfrewshire’s existing housing stock through the Scottish Housing Quality Standard, the Commission heard of significant challenges in developing sites for housing investment. Partnerships with both Housing Associations and other funders will become even more important in order for there to be significant investment in affordable housing.

“You need to be able to travel to stuff and also to know you can afford it when you get there. I just can’t afford it and sometimes I feel like I am always saying no and everyone else is saying yes.”

Participant, Star Project

Housing costs are the biggest element of household expenditure. The more money people spend on rent, the less disposable income they have to buy other things they need, such as food and fuel. Although evidence shows private renting is relatively more affordable in Renfrewshire than other areas, this growing sector has a range of unique challenges and is a significant part of the changing picture of poverty.

The lack of regulation and standards within the private rented sector means tenants face poorer security of tenure and little protection from escalating rents. In addition, there is concern about the number of private renters who are eligible for Housing Benefit, but not claiming.

Supporting people to sustain tenancies and preventing homelessness are essential parts of tackling poverty. When tenancies turnover, it can have a huge adverse impact on the individual

or family involved. It unsettles neighbourhoods and can contribute to the stigma of an area. There are a number of successful programmes in Renfrewshire which show that for vulnerable tenants across a range of tenures, support in areas such as budgeting or employability is what really makes a difference to securing and sustaining a home.

There is a clear link between the social housing that is in ‘low demand’ and more deprived neighbourhoods in Renfrewshire. Despite significant investment in the regeneration of deprived neighbourhoods, there are evident frustrations about lack of progress that are equally shared between organisations and residents.

Fact:
Private sector rents are estimated to be 50% higher than council rents in Renfrewshire

“We need more people who are for the community (Ferguslie) there used to be wee community centres in the top, middle and bottom end of (Ferguslie) with play schemes and everything every summer and they were run by people in those areas, community minded and the best interest of the people who live there, they made the biggest difference”

Participant, Childcare First

Case Study: No Substitute for Life

Beginning in 2013, ‘No Substitute for Life’ has been led by volunteers from Ferguslie Park who had personal experience of the impact of suicide, with a number of friends and family having taken their own lives.

The programme aims to raise public awareness of suicide prevention, provide practical support to those affected, and work with range of partners to ensure suicide prevention is ‘everyone’s business’.

The programme holds an annual memorial football tournament that involves local residents and attracts more than 600 attendees. The tournament acts as a platform for organisations who are working to tackle the taboo and stigma that prevent young people and particularly young men, from talking about mental health and suicide.

"Nothing about us, without us, is for us."

Poverty Truth Commission

Local areas are most successful when local people are in the driving seat and where the community have the control to determine and design their neighbourhoods. Services are often structured around the needs of the organisation delivering the service and not the communities they are designed to serve. Public bodies often look at what is missing from an area or its flaws, rather than working with communities to understand their priorities, strengths and capacity.²¹

Case Study: Our Place, Our Families

Our Place, Our Families was originally established in 2011 by local parents in Moorpark, Renfrew, as a mutual support group which aimed to provide help and advice to local people. With BIG Lottery funding, the organisation now operates in a wider area, has its own premises and employs three part-time members of staff and a large team of volunteers.

The group provides a range of services, with the aim of helping people to become more employable, improving health, getting local young people involved in physical activity and bringing people together in the community.

Recommendations

The Commission has made two different types of recommendations, which describe not just what the Community Planning Partners should do, but also how organisations should work in order to tackle poverty. We consider these two sets of recommendations to have equal weight.

The Commission’s recommendations focus on what should be the priority areas for the Community Planning Partnership. The recommendations are designed to be delivered in partnership, and really make a difference at a local level.

Our focus has been on what can be achieved here in Renfrewshire, and as such we consider all the recommendations to be within the power of the Community Planning Partnership. We have recommended some key areas where the Community Planning Partnership should influence wider Scottish policy. The recommendations provide scope for partners to implement them in the most appropriate way, and in line with our recommendations on how organisations should work.

The Commission has heard about excellent work already under way or planned in Renfrewshire. We have chosen not to restate this within our recommendations, and instead have chosen to focus on the areas that requiring a greater emphasis or shift in focus.

"Benefit sanctions are inhumane, and can only serve to make a bad situation worse."

Sir Harry Burns,
University of Strathclyde



Pockets

Increase the number of households who can access employment that provides an acceptable standard of living

Halve the number of workers in Renfrewshire being paid below the living wage
[Community Planning Partnership](#)

Make Renfrewshire a pioneer pilot area to test a redesign of incentives and sanctions, and their role in helping people into work
[Department for Work and Pensions](#)

Ensure high-quality, affordable, flexible childcare is widely used by low income families, and is designed to reflect the specific needs of those at highest risk of poverty, such as lone parents and disabled families
[Renfrewshire Council](#)

Review feasibility of providing time-limited free public transport to support people to move into work or training
[Community Planning Partnership](#)

Work in partnership with employers to prioritise high-quality on-the-job training, with a particular emphasis on supporting lone parents to progress at work.
[Skills Development Scotland](#)



Pockets

Prevent financial crisis and support low income families to make the most of their money

Increase financial capability of low income families by investing in peer-led financial education programmes
[Community Planning Partnership](#)

Use bargaining power to address the 'poverty premium' imposed on low-income consumers by lenders and service providers
[Community Planning Partnership](#)

Improve the impact of local advice and advocacy services to focus on empowering people to prevent financial crisis and increasing take-up of welfare benefits
[Renfrewshire Council](#)

Provide access to energy advice for all low-income households in Renfrewshire
[Renfrewshire Council](#)

Build local connections between primary healthcare and financial inclusion, and co-locate primary care with relevant support services where possible
[NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde](#)



Prospects

Improve levels of physical and mental health of children in low income families

Extend the Healthier Wealthier Children project across all primary care and community services in Renfrewshire
[NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde](#)

Target sufficient resource to improve the health of mothers and babies living in, or at risk of, poverty through both universal health visiting provision, and dedicated projects such as the Family Nurse Partnership
[NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde](#)

Develop a cohesive partnership approach to supporting youth mental health, which equips organisations to deliver support, respond to mental health distress and build young peoples' resilience
[Community Planning Partnership](#)



Prospects

Close the educational attainment gap between children from low income families and their better-off peers

Share language development information from 30-month child health reviews across relevant partners, to allow early years practitioners to meet the developmental needs of each child
[NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde](#)

Use all available poverty data and develop professional expertise in addressing the attainment gap in schools
[Renfrewshire Council](#)

Deliver tailored interventions in schools to address the gap, with specific focus on literacy skills and parental involvement.
[Renfrewshire Council](#)

Allocate school resources to reflect levels of deprivation, and specifically link these resources to closing the attainment gap and ensuring more pupils from low income families reach positive destinations
[Scottish Government](#)

Address the financial barriers to school education, in particular reviewing the 'cost of school day' and the support available for the cost of uniforms and school meals
[Renfrewshire Council](#)

Build strong partnerships between education providers and local industry, to improve vocational pathways; to ensure provision of meaningful work experience; and ensure employers play a pivotal role in the skills development of young people and improve the level of recruitment directly from education.
[Community Planning Partnership](#)



Places

Create neighbourhoods where people want to live, and can afford to live

Develop funding partnerships with independent funders that create new opportunities for neighbourhood regeneration
[Community Planning Partnership](#)

Pilot a regeneration programme which is co-produced with local people and enables them to shape resources around community priorities and assets
[Community Planning Partnership](#)

Guarantee the £1.13bn Glasgow and Clyde Valley City Deal delivers real economic benefits for low income households across Renfrewshire
[Renfrewshire Council](#)

Develop a rent setting framework to minimise rent increases across the social housing sector across Renfrewshire and reduce the amount families have to pay towards their rent
[Community Planning Partnership](#)

Build on past successful partnership working with local Housing Associations to enable an increase in the supply of affordable housing for people that need it and in places they want to live in
[Community Planning Partnership](#)

How organisations should work

It is not just what you do that’s important; it’s also how you do it. Through the Commission meetings, there have been some clear messages about how organisations should act and what good services should look like.

It is clear services designed without people who have direct experience of poverty often fail to meet their needs. The Commission heard loud and clear that people living in poverty in Renfrewshire often feel stigmatised and excluded from the very services that are meant to help them.

The Commission has seen an extensive amount of evidence relating to poverty, and Renfrewshire needs to start looking at this information more intelligently. This means using what we know about poverty to shape our decisions, but also making sure a lack of information doesn’t stop us from making progress.

The Commission recommends the Community Planning Partners put the following principles into practice in both the delivery of the Commission’s recommendations, and in their organisations’ day-to-day work.

“Get the information right, make sure staff know and share the information with people who can share it with us”

Participant, Star Project

Address stigma

Make sure all staff know that tackling poverty is part of their job, especially on the front line

Understand how the stigma of poverty affects how people access services

Involve people

Create opportunities for peer support and development

Use co-production to design services wherever possible

Remove barriers

Co-locate services, making them easy to access

Provide holistic support through a single, trusted point of contact

Use evidence

Make evidence-based decisions, but understand how much evidence is ‘good enough’

Focus resources on what has been proven to work, support what looks promising until we have better evidence about its impact, and start to disinvest in what isn’t working

Try to identify families who are likely to struggle, and reach them before they do

Use of resources

Make the best use of combined resources to target inequality, to maximise impact

Set measurable and realistic targets for achieving greater fairness across all areas of our organisations’ activity

What happens next?

Renfrewshire’s Tackling Poverty Commission has, over the last few months, met to consider poverty in Renfrewshire alongside reviewing the evidence related to poverty both in Scotland and across the UK. It was always the intention that the Commission would have a relatively short life, so its work has concluded with the publication of its report and recommendations.

It will be for the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership to respond to the recommendations both as a partnership and as individual organisations. Making the changes proposed by the Commission will need strong leadership, a real desire to make changes and determination to see this through despite major resource challenges.

There are a number of opportunities that lie ahead in Scotland following the publication of the Smith recommendations²². The Commission recommends that the Community Planning Partners take every opportunity to maximise the anti-poverty potential of further devolution of welfare to Scotland.

In setting up the Commission, Renfrewshire Council and the Renfrewshire Community Planning partners agreed to the development of a Renfrewshire Tackling Poverty Strategy. The Tackling Poverty Commission looks forward to the development and implementation of a robust strategy which will deliver on both the recommendations, and the way the Commission have recommended that organisations work.

The Commission recommends the Community Planning Partnership reports annually on its progress for the next five years. It is essential local people have a role in defining and determining the success factors of the Community Planning Partnership’s work in this area, and that progress reporting is done in a way which is transparent, accessible and meaningful across the community as a whole.

Tackling poverty is everyone’s responsibility. The Commission calls on all named organisations to work in a strong and coordinated way, and invites wider Renfrewshire organisations and community to consider how they contribute to the tackling poverty agenda.

Appendix A

Tackling Poverty Commission—Terms of Reference

Terms of reference

The Tackling Poverty Commission is being established by Renfrewshire Council to make an assessment of the nature, causes and impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire and to make recommendations for the deployment of a strategic and coordinated approach involving Community Planning Partners that will mitigate and minimise the impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire.

The Commission will consider the nature, extent and impact of child poverty in Renfrewshire

Drawing as far as possible on published data and reports on the cause and impact of child poverty, the Commission will invite evidence from a range of interested parties across Renfrewshire and beyond and, as required, hear evidence from an agreed cross section of individuals and organisations with experience in the matter

The Commission will consider evidence of what has worked elsewhere to reduce the causes and impact of child poverty, and may recommend testing of new interventions in the Renfrewshire area over the course of the work.

The Commission will consider the efforts that have already been made by the council, its partners and other key agencies, to mitigate the impact of child poverty in order to understand the effectiveness of these efforts in delivering improved outcomes in Renfrewshire.

Considering the specific levers at the disposal of the council and its community planning partners, the Commission will determine the effectiveness of the actions and prioritise those that could be taken by the council and its community planning partners and highlight those that require external intervention or a combination of both

The Commission will prepare a report for the Council and its partners that details the causes, impact and nature of child poverty in Renfrewshire and make recommendations to the Council and its Community Planning Partners on the priority actions required to make a direct impact on child poverty in Renfrewshire.

Support

Secretariat, administrative and policy support for the Commission will be provided by Renfrewshire Council.

Time scale

It is envisaged that the Commission will hear evidence monthly over a 6 month period commencing in April 2014. The Commission will then consider and develop its findings and submit its recommendations to the Council and the Community Planning Board for comment, prior to consideration by the Council of its updated Anti-Poverty Strategy and priorities for 2014-17.

Appendix B

List of Commissioners

Councillor Mike Holmes, Depute Leader of Renfrewshire Council (Chair)

Sir Harry Burns, Professor of Global Medicine, University of Strathclyde

John Carnochan, Knowledge Exchange Consultant at the University of St Andrews

Audrey Cumberford, Principal and Chief Executive of West College Scotland

Dr Linda de Caestecker, Director of Public Health, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Prof. Sue Ellis, Reader in Education, University of Strathclyde

Fraser Falconer, Former National Head of BBC Children in Need

Robert Johnston, Head Teacher of St Benedict’s High School

Dr Jim McCormick, Scotland Adviser to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation

Hanna McCulloch, Policy and Parliamentary Officer, Child Poverty Action Group

Ian McLean, Chief Executive of Bridgewater Housing Association

Alan McNiven, Chief Executive of Engage Renfrewshire

Roslyn McVeigh, Renfrewshire Foodbank Manager

Dave Moxham, Deputy General Secretary, Scottish Trades Union Congress

David Nicholls, Head Teacher of Gleniffer High School

Alison Watson, Deputy Director, Shelter Scotland

Facilitated by Darra Singh OBE, Ernst & Young

This report can be found online at www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/tacklingpoverty along with further appendices which detail the supporting evidence considered by the Commission.

- Appendix C**
List of contributors to Commission meetings
- Appendix D**
Engagement activity report and responses
- Appendix E**
Minutes of Commission meetings
- Appendix F**
Evidence overviews from themed meetings
- Appendix G**
Slide packs from Commission meetings
- Appendix H**
Poverty Profile (Summary Version)
- Appendix I**
Poverty Profile (Detailed Version)
- Appendix J**
Commission’s reading lists

If you would like to request this report in another language or format, please telephone 0300 300 1422 or email your request to customerservices.contact@renfrewshire.gov.uk.

Endnotes

- 1 Poverty and income inequality in Scotland: 2012/13, Office of National Statistics (ONS), 2014
- 2 Living Wage research for KPMG, Structural analysis of Hourly Wages and Current Trends in Household Finances, 2014
- 3 Evaluating the economic impact of the Glasgow Living Wage, Employment Research Institute, Matthew Dutton, 2014
- 4 The Local Impact of Welfare Reform: A report for Scottish Parliament, Christina Beatty and Steve Fothergill, 2014
- 5 Sanctioned: what benefit? A report on how sanctions are operating from the experience of Scottish Citizens Advice Bureau, 2014
- 6 Independent review of the operation of Jobseeker's Allowance sanctions validated by the Jobseekers Act 2013, Matthew Oakley , 2014
- 7 Cost of living and poverty evidence review, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2014
- 8 The UK Poverty Rip-Off, the Poverty Premium, Save the Children, 2010
- 9 Addressing the poverty premium: Approaches to regulation, Donald Hirsch, 2013
- 10 Emergency Use Only: understanding and reducing the use of foodbanks in the UK, 2014
- 11 Poverty, debt and credit: An expert-led review, University of Bristol, 2014
- 12 Health Consequences of Poverty for Children, End Child Poverty, www.endchildpoverty.org.uk
- 13 Poverty, Parenting and Poor Health, Glasgow Centre for Population Health, 2013
- 14 GP experience of the impact of austerity on patients and general practices in very deprived areas; GPs at the Deep End, 2012
- 15 Closing the attainment gap in Scottish Education, Edward Sosu and Sue Ellis for Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2014
- 16 Educational attainment in Renfrewshire, Presentation by Robert Naylor, Director of Education, August 2014
- 17 The role of aspirations, attitudes and behaviour in closing the education attainment gap, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2012
- 18 Learning Lessons: Young People's Views on Poverty and Education in Scotland, Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People & Save the Children, 2014
- 19 Education working for all! Commission for developing Scotland's young workforce final report, 2014
- 20 The links between housing and poverty: An evidence review, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2013
- 21 Growing community from inside out to tackle poverty, Presentation by Cormac Russell, September 2014
- 22 Report of the Smith Commission for further devolution of powers to the Scottish Parliament, November 2014



To: **Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Board**

On: **2 April 2015**

Report by:

Chief Executive, Renfrewshire Council

Public Health Review – Stakeholder Engagement

1. Summary

Scottish Ministers announced in November 2014 that they had asked for a review of public health in Scotland and had established an expert group to take this forward and report back in 2015.

The focus for the review is on how to widen and deepen the influence of Public Health –both as a public service function and an important outcome for Scotland. The core question is: "How can we be more effective in tackling health and social inequalities, and increasing healthy life expectancy in Scotland in a sustainable way?"

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Community Planning Partnership Board:

- a) Notes the response to the stakeholder consultation as detailed in Appendix 1.

3. Background

Scottish Ministers announced in November 2014 that they had asked for a review of public health in Scotland and had established an expert group to take this forward and report back in 2015.

The public health function, with its strong focus on prevention, equity and quality, is integral to health service values and aims in Scotland, and to public services reform. The focus for the review is on how to widen and deepen the influence of Public Health –both as a public service function and an important outcome for Scotland. The core question is: "How can we be more effective in tackling health and social inequalities, and increasing healthy life expectancy in Scotland in a sustainable way?"



In light of this, the review group has been asked to:

Undertake a review of public health systems and the delivery of all public health functions in Scotland with a strong focus on how public health contributes to improving health and wellbeing across the life-course, and reducing health inequalities for the future.

To examine:

- Public health leadership and influence both within the health sector and more widely
- Workforce planning and development, succession planning and resourcing within the multi-disciplinary core public health workforce
- Opportunities for greater joined-up working and successful implementation of public health measures within the context of community planning, single outcome agreements, and health and social care integration

To make recommendations to:

- Strengthen the contribution of Public Health in Scotland in light of current and future population health challenges and the emerging policy and organisational contexts
- Maximise the effectiveness and efficiency of the public health resource in Scotland
- Achieve consistency where this will enhance quality and impact
- Ensure the responsiveness and resilience of the public health function for the future

At its initial meeting, in December 2014, the review group asked for an engagement paper to be drafted to seek input from stakeholders on a number of questions to help inform the considerations of the group:

1. How can public health in Scotland best contribute to the challenges discussed? Specifically, what is your view and evidence of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) to the contribution of the public health function in improving Scotland's health and reducing inequalities?
2. How can public health leadership in Scotland be developed to deliver maximum impact?
3. How do we strengthen and support partnerships to tackle the challenges and add greater value. How do we support the wider public health workforce within those partnerships to continue to develop and sustain their public health roles?
4. What would help to maintain a core/specialist public health resource that works effectively, is well co-ordinated and resilient?
5. How can we provide opportunities for professional development and workforce succession planning for the core public health workforce?



In developing a response to the consultation, a group of officers from Renfrewshire Council and Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership met to discuss and agree the Community Planning Partnerships response, which is detailed in Appendix 1. The response offers comments on the following three key themes:

1. Good practice and what works well
2. Access to public health support and information
3. Practicalities and moving from research to practice

It should be noted that separate, more technical responses have been submitted by Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

4. Resources

No resource implications

5. Prevention

The public health function, with its strong focus on prevention, equity and quality, is integral to health service values and aims in Scotland, and to public services reform .



Public Health Review – Stakeholder Engagement

Response from Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership

The Community Planning Partnership in Renfrewshire is pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to the national Public Health Review. We recognise that our partnership has a key role to play to reduce health inequalities in Renfrewshire. Our vision is for people in Renfrewshire to have an increasing, healthy life expectancy, with inequalities between different communities being narrowed significantly. Partners across the Council, NHS, voluntary sector, Police, Fire and further/higher education all have a role to deliver this vision.

We are unable to structure a response around the five consultation questions, but offer our comments around key themes:

1. Good practice and what works well
2. Access to public health support and information
3. Practicalities and moving from research to practice.

1. Good Practice and What Works Well

A Tackling Poverty Commission was set up in Renfrewshire and will report later this month. A public health specialist was part of the commission, and further public health input was received as part of the evidence gathering process from the Centre for Population Health. Input at this strategic level was extremely valuable and supported the wider gathering of information. Local public health/health improvement support will be required at the next stage of implementation.

In Renfrewshire, the local health service has taken a lead role in Community Planning, supporting the Partnership Board and leading some of the cross-cutting work. This has widened ownership of the Community Planning agenda, and strengthened the focus on health, wellbeing and inequalities across the whole plan.

Our SOA offers a set of outcomes which we hope will interconnect to provide improvements in Renfrewshire. We also recognise there are many more partners, beyond the Community Planning Partners who can be engaged in the debate and have a contribution to reduce health inequalities; local businesses, less formal groups of residents and communities.

We have been able to gather very good local health intelligence by undertaking both adult and young people health & wellbeing surveys. A public health researcher provided the specialist advice to ensure we received the best possible information from these surveys both individually and over time. The results have been useful to determine local action by a number of partners.



2. Access to Public Health Support and Information

Stronger Public Health leadership at national level is vital to influence public policy.

The wide range of local, national and online support is complex for Community Planning partners to understand and access. It would be helpful to have the role of local health improvement, Board specialists, national agencies and the Centre for Population Health clearly described with pathways into each of these areas clarified.

At a local level, we will be moving into our new Health and Social Care partnership arrangements on 1st April, with the Chief Officer having a significant role in the Council's Corporate Management structure. The HSCP will offer an opportunity to generate momentum around reducing health inequalities. The local health improvement team will be part of the Health and Social Care Partnership, and this arrangement may place them in a stronger position to influence health and the health impact of wider decisions made across the Council.

3. Practicalities and Moving from Research/Policy into Practice

It remains a challenge to use public health support to change local policy. For example, public health information has been used to try to influence licensing decisions but it has proved difficult to link population health information with specific licensing decisions. We need help to use the evidence provided by Public Health in a targeted, effective way to influence policy. Therefore, it is important to embed Public Health leadership responsibility across leaders in Community Planning Partnerships.

There is also a risk in passing on increasing public health responsibility to frontline staff, where the reason for the contact is a specific health or social care need. We are asking more and more of this group of staff, and while there may be a health improvement opportunity, frontline staff need appropriate training and time to carry out an operational and a health improvement role.

28 January 2015

Public Health Review: Engagement Paper

Scottish Ministers announced in November 2014 that they had asked for a review of public health in Scotland and had established an expert group to take this forward and report back in 2015. The review group, chaired by Dr Hamish Wilson, met for the first time in December 2014 when it agreed that it was important to get views and input from a wide range of stakeholders to help inform the review.

This paper provides the context for the Ministerial announcement and sets out the terms of reference for the review. It also outlines key challenges and potential opportunities for public health.

The review group would welcome stakeholder responses to the engagement questions and would be grateful if the paper could be shared widely so that the group can have the benefit of feedback from a range of stakeholders, recognising that responsibilities for addressing public health issues sit not only within the health sector but also in local and national government, the community and voluntary sector, and the private sector. This paper is intended as a stimulus for initial engagement and will be followed by further opportunities for engagement, for example through regional and national meetings.

Public Health

Public health has been defined as the activity and outcomes associated with “*the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organised efforts of society*”¹. The public health function involves mobilising local, national and international resources to focus resources, policies, services and wider societal processes to promote improved health and wellbeing in the population.

The public health function (or endeavour) can be defined as “a robust, adequately resourced system that can secure and sustain the public’s health, addressing health and associated policy issues at a population level and leading a co-ordinated effort to tackle underlying causes of poor health”². For this function to be successful it needs to be delivered in partnership with individuals, communities, Scottish Government, local government, public, private and third sector organisations.

The three key domains of public health defined by the Faculty of Public Health are health improvement, improving health services and health protection. A fourth area comprises public health intelligence and evidence: the data and research evidence that underpin effective public health policy and practice. The public health review will encompass the spectrum of activities incorporated within these definitions of public health.

¹ Public Health in England. The Report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Future Development of the Public Health Function. HMSO, 1988.

² Adapted from review of the Public Health Function in Scotland 1999.

Context

Public health involves a wide-ranging set of activities focussed on creating the conditions for good health, and reducing the potential for ill-health, across the life-course. The public health task continues to be to help the whole population realise their potential for health and wellbeing and to help reduce the inequalities gap. This includes helping individuals, in so far as they are able, to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing and that of others. Given the country's health record, and the consequences of this for individuals, communities and the country as a whole, this is a major priority for Scotland.

The Scottish Government is committed to promoting fairness and social justice as an overarching theme across Government and delivery organisations. Tackling health inequalities is recognised as one of the major policy challenges and necessitates action on the spectrum of determinants of health (including education, employment and economic factors, physical and social environments, and the quality and shape of services).

A number of policy and service developments provide a stimulus for a strengthening of the public health endeavour. For example, the [Scottish Government 2020 Vision for Health and Social Care](#) includes a focus on prevention; and reducing health inequalities is identified as one of the 12 priority areas for action in the [Route Map](#) to this Vision.

The integration of health and social care will provide a number of specific opportunities to strengthen the role of public health in Scotland, with much greater possibilities for joined-up working, prevention, population-based health improvement and person-centred care.

Community Planning Partnerships, with shared ownership of priorities set out in Single Outcome Agreements, provide the basis and potential for real collaborative working, leadership and influence to achieve effective public health measures through a whole systems approach and adoption of health in all policies. The Community Empowerment Bill opens up new possibilities for greater power and decision-making at local levels.

In light of these policies and others we might consider what the public health function could look like in the future and how public health can be a powerful player in the policy and delivery landscape.

It is within this context that Ministers have asked for a review of public health.

Public Health Challenge

The public health challenge remains complex and persistent. Current public health practice is still predominantly focused on addressing the causes of communicable and non-communicable disease and that work is valuable and should continue. There is a desire, though, for the public health response to develop further,

expanding its contribution to tackling health inequalities and securing longer healthy life expectancy for Scotland's increasingly diverse population. Could more joint endeavour help to optimise the impact of the public health resource? Is there an opportunity for closer integration with local authorities? Can increased cooperation reduce any duplication of effort? Is there a single strategic vision for public health in Scotland which could give greater visibility and effectiveness and reduce variation and deliver a 'once for Scotland' approach?

Terms of Reference

The public health function, with its strong focus on prevention, equity and quality, is integral to health service values and aims in Scotland, and to public services reform. The focus for the review is on how to widen and deepen the influence of Public Health –both as a public service function and an important outcome for Scotland. The core question is: “How can we be more effective in tackling health and social inequalities, and increasing healthy life expectancy in Scotland in a sustainable way?” In light of this, the review group has been asked to progress the following.

To undertake a review of public health systems and the delivery of all public health functions in Scotland with a strong focus on how public health contributes to improving health and wellbeing across the life-course, and reducing health inequalities for the future.

To examine:

- public health leadership and influence both within the health sector and more widely,
- workforce planning and development, succession planning and resourcing within the multi-disciplinary core public health workforce, and
- opportunities for greater joined-up working and successful implementation of public health measures within the context of community planning, single outcome agreements, and health and social care integration.

To make recommendations to:

- strengthen the contribution of Public Health in Scotland in light of current and future population health challenges and the emerging policy and organisational contexts,
- maximise the effectiveness and efficiency of the public health resource in Scotland,
- achieve consistency where this will enhance quality and impact, and
- ensure the responsiveness and resilience of the public health function for the future.

Engagement Questions

At its initial meeting, in December 2014, the review group asked for this engagement paper to be drafted to seek input from stakeholders on a number of questions to help inform the considerations of the group:

1. How can public health in Scotland best contribute to the challenges discussed? Specifically, what is your view and evidence of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) to the contribution of the public health function in improving Scotland's health and reducing inequalities?
2. How can public health leadership in Scotland be developed to deliver maximum impact?
3. How do we strengthen and support partnerships to tackle the challenges and add greater value. How do we support the wider public health workforce within those partnerships to continue to develop and sustain their public health roles?
4. What would help to maintain a core/specialist public health resource that works effectively, is well co-ordinated and resilient?
5. How can we provide opportunities for professional development and workforce succession planning for the core public health workforce?

Public Health Review Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholders are invited to offer their responses to the engagement questions to the review group by emailing publichealthreview@scotland.gsi.gov.uk by 12 March 2015. Please complete the respondent information questions on page 5 and return with your information. We would be grateful if you are able to limit responses to 12 A4 sides to help the secretariat with reviewing the information

We are aware that the Scottish Public Health Workforce Development Group, chaired by Andrew Fraser, has sought input from stakeholders on a range of workforce matters and Andrew Fraser has agreed to share the responses with the review group.

For further information or enquiries please contact the publichealthreview@scotland.gsi.gov.uk mailbox or the Scottish Government policy lead Heather Cowan on 0131 244 2136

Please complete the respondent information questions on page 5 and return with your responses:

1. Organisation name

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2. Title | Forename | Surname

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3. Postal Address

Post Code

4. Phone | Email address

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5. I am responding as a group/organisation ☐ and note that the response will be shared with the public health review groupⁱ.

The name and address of your organisation will be made available to the public (e.g. if the Scottish Government publishes a report on behalf of the review group or if responses are published on the Scottish Government website).

Are you content for your response to be made available?

Please tick as appropriate ☐ Yes ☐ No

6. I am responding as an individual ☐ and note that the response will be shared with the public health review groupⁱⁱ.

Do you agree to your response being made public? (e.g. if the Scottish Government publishes a report on behalf of the review group or if responses are published on the Scottish Government website?)

Please tick as appropriate ☐ Yes ☐ No

Where confidentiality is not requested the Scottish Government can make your responses available in one of the following basis please tick the one that applies.

Yes, make my response, name and address all available ☐

Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address ☐

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address ☐

7. Public Health Division of the Scottish Government (SG) will share your response internally with other SG policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. SG may then wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this engagement exercise

Please tick as appropriate ☐ Yes ☐ No

ⁱ Review Group membership available by contacting the publichealthreview@scotland.gsi.gov.uk mailbox

ⁱⁱ Review Group membership available by contacting the publichealthreview@scotland.gsi.gov.uk mailbox



To: **Community Planning Partnership Board**

On: **2nd April, 2015**

Report by:
Divisional Commander Jim Downie, Police Scotland

LOCAL POLICING ARRANGEMENTS

1. Summary

- 1.1 Police Scotland are looking to engage with local communities and stakeholders regarding the possible restructuring of the policing of the Argyll & Bute, West Dunbartonshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire areas. The plans being considered could potentially see 'L' and 'K' divisions become a single division.
- 1.2 The aim is to improve the delivery of policing services by strengthening local policing divisions, bringing together management and administrative functions where appropriate and ensuring the service continues to be efficient and sustainable in the longer term.
- 1.3 The attached briefing paper at Appendix 1 provides an overview of the proposals, the associated benefits and risks and an update of ongoing consultation and engagement with local communities and key stakeholders.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board notes the report.



BRIEFING PAPER

STRENGTHENING LOCAL POLICING PROPOSED MERGE OF WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE AND ARGYLL AND BUTE WITH RENFREWSHIRE AND INVERCLYDE DIVISIONS (L AND K DIVISIONS)

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide members with an overview of the above proposals, the associated benefits and risks, and an update of ongoing consultation and engagement with local communities and key stakeholders.

2. Background

- 2.1 Divisional Commanders for both K and L divisions have identified a compelling opportunity to merge into one single division. The aim is to improve the delivery of policing services by strengthening local policing divisions, bringing together management and administrative functions where appropriate and ensuring the service continues to be efficient and sustainable in the longer term.

2.2 Perceived benefits

- Streamlining senior management posts removing duplication and becoming more efficient.
- Increased autonomy to Local Area Commanders for their areas, empowering them to have more accountability for local performance, Local Policing/Multi-member ward plans, and greater control of their resources and staff.
- Break down geographical boundaries, ensuring consistency and sharing of best practices across all areas.
- Co-location of staff with other key partners, enhancing relationships and creating opportunities for more effective partnership working.
- Improve access to a greater number of resources, enhance resilience and flexibility to respond to local issues and increased access to specialist services.
- Greater flexibility to share and support joint initiatives and strategies between local authority areas.
- Increased development opportunities for officers to work within a wider area and specialist departments within a single division, improving skills and experience levels.

2.3 Perceived risks

Failure to consider this proposal could be a missed opportunity to strengthen local policing, ensuring consistency and easier access to a greater number of resources and to specialist staff. This is also an

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

opportunity to seek financial savings, realising efficiencies which are sustainable in the current economic climate.

3. Misconceptions about the proposal

- 3.1 The proposals are not about the centralisation of policing resources, or stripping officers away from communities. Well informed and targeted local policing, responding to the issues and concerns of local residents is at the core of the service we provide. Communities will not see any change to the service already provided, and in fact will have increased access to a greater number of resources and specialist teams should there be an ongoing issue or serious incident.

4. Consultation and engagement

- 4.1 These are proposals only at this stage, as we are currently consulting with our communities, partners, key stakeholder and our own staff, ensuring that they are fully informed of the associated benefits and risks. Consultation has so far taken the form of meetings with Local authority representatives, Policy leads in Argyll & Bute Council area, email correspondence to all elected members, MP's, MSP's and chairs for all Community Council groups within both K and L Divisions. In addition Divisional Commanders have given personal interviews to local media for circulation to the wider public domain. Project teams have also held focus groups with staff ensuring they too are fully informed of the proposals. Consultation is ongoing and includes personal inputs to interested Community Council groups, explaining the background behind the proposals, providing information and reassurance for any concerns raised.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 Thank you for taking the time to consider the rationale behind the proposal, and allowing me the opportunity to restate Police Scotland's commitment to strengthening the service we provide to our local communities, ensuring that we continue to keep our communities and people safe.

Jim Downie
Divisional Commander
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED



To: **Community Planning Partnership Board**

On: **2 April 2015**

Report by:
Director of Finance & Resources, Renfrewshire Council

PARTNER FINANCIAL PLANNING & BUDGETING PROCESSES

1. Summary

- 1.1 Partners agreed at their meeting on 19 November 2014 to share information regarding their financial planning and budgeting processes in order to aid better understanding of the key financial issues facing partners and what the key differences and similarities were with regards partner resources and decision making.
- 1.2 A template was issued to partners in December 2014 requesting a range of information, from which key issues have been highlighted in this report. Responses were received from all partners with the exception of Police Scotland, however the report does include information in respect of this body as far as it is publicly available. The report also considers areas of best practice as highlighted by Audit Scotland.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
 - Consider the report
 - Agree to support the proposal to pilot a shared approach to financial planning and budgeting around the tackling poverty shared outcomes as outlined at Section 7.2; with finance representatives from each partner being nominated to discuss this development.



3. Financial Strategy

- 3.1 There are many similarities in the approaches taken by partners with regards the development and updating of their respective financial strategies. Medium terms plans of 3-5 years are common, with more detailed plans for years 1-3 generally being “firmed up” as information regarding both funding and cost pressures becomes available. The approach is generally incremental (ie existing budgets are used as a baseline and adjusted for known or forecast changes), however while West College Scotland (WCS) also take this approach to medium terms plans, detailed budgets are built from a “zero base” in order to more clearly demonstrate the financial impact of the delivery of each outcome agreed in their Regional Outcome agreement (ROA). From the information submitted, it was not noted that an “outcomes based” approach to budgeting is particularly prevalent. A recent Audit Scotland report (Scotland’s Public Finances, June 2014) outlined the importance of joint working between public sector bodies in order to achieve outcomes for communities; ensuring budget setting takes account of shared priorities and commitments.
- 3.2 Longer term financial planning or modelling (ie up to 10 years) does not appear to be particularly prevalent. The Council does undertake modelling over this term - largely as a risk management as opposed to budgeting tool. This approach is again commended by Audit Scotland in the report mentioned above; who state that while limited funding information may be available in the longer term, public bodies should undertake scenario planning over the longer term.

4. Annual budgets

- 4.1 The majority of partners agree their annual budgets in advance of the start of the financial year. All partners with the exception of the WCS and UWS have a 1 April financial year start date; the further/higher education sector has a 1 August start date. Owing to the recent restructure of the college sector, 2014/15 will be a 16 month reporting period (1 April 2014 – 31 July 2015). The NHS appears to be the only partner whose annual financial plan is agreed during the financial year (usually in June).
- 4.2 The draft Scottish Government budget published in September is key for all partners in informing their annual budgets; however there are variations across partners in the timing of final confirmation of Scottish Government funding – local authorities will usually receive this in December (typically with conditions attached); while the NHS and colleges will not receive final confirmation until the February (UWS receives final grant information in April). The introduction of Health & Social Care partnerships will alter this for the NHS, potentially more in line with local government timescales.
- 4.3 Annual budgets are approved by the full Council or Board ie there is no delegation to committees of annual budget setting by any partner. Planning and detailed work on annual budgets usually begins the preceding June or July, continuing throughout the autumn and winter. The Fire & Rescue Service appear to start slightly later, around October but the final sign off is in February as for most partners.



5. Budgeting and savings

- 5.1 There is a high level of consistency in the approach to budgeting and the allocation of savings – corporate-wide issues such as pay awards and utilities costs are calculated centrally with budgets subsequently being allocated to departments or services. From the information provided there appears to be varying degrees of expectation with regards what cost pressures Directors or Heads of Department are expected to simply manage (eg pay scale incremental drift in some areas appears to be funded, but not in others), however this has not been further investigated – it is assumed that some cost pressures will be left to services to manage on a bottom line basis by all partners. Support to budget holders is generally provided by either dedicated finance teams or business partner arrangements.

6. Technical Issues

- 6.1 Each partner is governed by different regulations and obviously have different legal forms – local authorities are constituted under local government legislation and have their own powers, duties and accountabilities. Both the NHS and now colleges are in effect arms of central government; while Engage Renfrewshire is a registered charity. Since the restructure of Police and Fire Services in 2013, the national bodies are also for accounting purposes treated as a central government body. Each partner must abide by their respective accounting regulations; and as a result has varying degrees of flexibility with regards for example the ability to hold reserves. While the Council appears to be the body with the most obvious ability to hold reserves, there is significant scrutiny around what specific and ringfenced reserves may be held, and also what free or unallocated reserves are appropriate. Charities such as Engage Renfrewshire also have the ability to hold reserves as appropriate to the risks they face; again on a designated or undesignated basis, but again there will be robust scrutiny to ensure that reserves are neither excessive nor insufficient.
- 6.2 Central government bodies have no technical ability to hold reserves – in terms of their compliance with the Scottish Public Finance Manual a balanced budget must be set with no contributions to reserves being possible. However, it is understood that NHS Boards, with the consent of the Scottish Government, may set aside funds for investment in future years. The Scottish Government has only limited flexibility in this regard as the total health budget must balance overall each year. In addition, from 2014/15 the Scottish Government can carry forward a proportion of funding, some of which will be available to the NHS if required, through the budget exchange mechanism. Finally NHS Boards have in the past been loaned additional funding from the Scottish Government on the basis it will be repaid in future years – this form of “brokerage” is helpful in dealing with unforeseen unexpected pressures for which local authorities hold reserves.



7. Conclusion

- 7.1 While the partners deliver a range of very different services to the Renfrewshire community, and each have their own particular cost drivers in terms of demography, socio-economics and environment, there is a reasonable degree of consistency in the general approach to financial planning and budgeting. The variations in the timing of key financial planning processes make this challenging, however there is undoubtedly an opportunity for the CPP to better develop and understand how spend across partners contributes to improved outcomes as recommended by Audit Scotland.
- 7.2 One potential route to achieving this understanding is to focus on a particular outcome or range of outcomes; and a particularly relevant area in this regard is the recent work on tackling child poverty as outlined in a separate report to this meeting. The report highlights that work is underway with regards identifying the resources aligned to anti poverty activities across partners; with the Board to further consider how to best use this resource in support of the CPP response to the Tackling Poverty Commission recommendations. As baseline resource information is collated, there is also an opportunity to develop a shared approach to financial planning and budget setting in this area. It is suggested that this be explored by finance colleagues from all partners with a further report back to the Board, supporting the resource baseline analysis.



To: **Community Planning Partnership Board**

On: **2nd April 2015**

Report by:

Lead Officer, Community Planning

COMMUNITY PLANNING – PROPERTY ISSUES

1. Background

- 1.1 At the Community Planning Partnership Board on 19 November 2014 Partners agreed to explore the potential to share physical assets to improve access to services and make best use of scarce resources. Partners agreed to meet to discuss their prioritised strategic property opportunities with a view to identifying shared work streams that could be developed to make better use of our physical assets.
- 1.2 A number of Partners subsequently met on 19 January 2015. All partners agreed with the principle of coming together to make the best use of our physical resources in Renfrewshire, particularly in current times of austerity and financial constraints. There was also agreement that modern, flexible space with secure and fast Wi-Fi in buildings which optimise energy efficiency was an aspiration common to all partners. Co-location was supported where that could be shown to benefit clients or organisations, but not if there was no added value.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Community Planning Partnership Board:

- (i) Note the progress made in sharing property development opportunities among Community Planning Partners;
- (ii) Agree to establish a Community Planning Property Development and Regeneration Group to lead further progress; and
- (iii) Agree to progress further joint work in the six priority areas identified.

3. Progress & Activity

- 3.1 A number of Partners met on 19 January 2015. All partners agreed with the principle of coming together to make the best use of our physical resources in Renfrewshire, particularly in current times of austerity and financial constraints. There was also agreement that modern, flexible space with secure and fast Wi-Fi in buildings which optimise energy efficiency was an aspiration common to all partners. Co-location was supported where that could be shown to benefit clients or organisations, but not if there was no added value. Partners clarified that active travel means shifting away from car-

dominated transport, and in the context of Community Planning partners, this would mean encouraging staff to use alternative modes of transport to get to work e.g. cycling, walking, public transport. Some partners felt unable to support a general movement towards remote or agile working because of the specific nature of their work e.g. lecturing, policing, though we agreed that we should be making best use of technology.

Partners agreed that it would be helpful to sign up to these overarching principles and to the aim that we share information on new build opportunities, disposals and strategic developments on a regular basis.

Partners discussed the need to develop an asset strategy/vision for the Community Planning Partnership in Renfrewshire based on the 10-year Community Plan. There are examples of partnership working around property in rural areas and in Livingston. This vision should be developed in parallel with smaller projects/initiatives between partners, giving them a context within which they can progress and ensuring that co-location and other work on assets are moving towards an agreed end point.

3.2 Partners each presented their prioritised strategic property issues with a view to identifying shared work streams that could be developed to make better use of our physical assets. Key strategic property opportunities which the group proposed for further development were:

- i) The development of a new health centre in Paisley. Early work has been done on this development but has been halted because no funding stream has been identified. There is potential to bring a number of partners together to develop a proposal to improve health and wellbeing in the town. Co-location of other care and support services from all partners can be explored.
- ii) Identification of new premise for two large community mental health services teams, suitable for patients accessing from across Renfrewshire. The teams are currently leasing separate premises from third parties.
- iii) West College Scotland has a significant presence in Paisley town centre through the Centre for Performing Arts in New Street. They are committed to working with partners to deliver this provision going forward.
- iv) A regeneration proposal building on a partnership between the Council and the University to create creative industry space, associated with the museum and other heritage proposals. There may be further strategic opportunities arising for the University's investment plans for their campus.
- v) A proposal to make the most efficient use of Renfrewshire House as a civic hub with appropriate co-location.

4. Next Steps

4.1 It is proposed that a Property Development Group be established to oversee progress in making the best use of our physical resources in Renfrewshire. This group will also identify new development opportunities as they arise, meeting quarterly to share information and review progress. It will report regularly to the Community Planning Partnership Board. Membership of the group should include those partners who attended the 19th January

meeting.

- 4.2 In addition work streams will be established to progress the initiatives identified at 3.2 above.

RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE
RENFREWSHIRE FORUM FOR EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES
HELD ON 27TH JANUARY, 2015

PRESENT

A McNiven (Engage Renfrewshire); S Cruickshank (Renfrewshire Access Panel); and S McLellan (RAMH).

Alan McNiven presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

C MacDonald and G Buchanan (both Renfrewshire Council); S Graham, A Bradford, J Ferrie, S Miller and I Cunningham (all Engage Renfrewshire); L O'Brien (Barnardos).

APOLOGIES

J Wilby (Paisley West & Central Community Council); I McLean (Bridgewater Housing Association); A Fraser (Linthouse Housing Association); and N Middleton (Renfrewshire CHP Public Participation Forum).

A McNiven welcomed everyone to the meeting and intimated that it was hoped that L O'Brien, Assistant Director, Barnardos Scotland who worked very closely with partners across Children's Services in Renfrewshire would be joining the Forum and act as the Forum representative at the Children & Young People Thematic Board.

1.	MINUTE OF MEETING OF 11TH NOVEMBER, 2014	ACTION
	<p>There was submitted the Minute of the Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering Communities held on 11th November, 2014.</p> <p>Under reference to Clinical Services Review a paper was tabled which outlined the half day community event which took place on 14th January, 2015.</p> <p>It was intimated that in relation to the Living Wage S McLellan met with Councillor M Holmes to make arrangements to meet with the Council's Procurement team to develop a shared strategy on how to deliver economical services which acknowledged reasonable rewards for staff.</p> <p>In relation to the Advice Services Review it was noted that a report went through Finance & Resources Policy Board on 21st January, 2015 to advise the Board of the outcome of the original proposal and seek approval of grant funding as an alternative way forward for both Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau and Renfrewshire Law Centre. A McNiven advised that it was essential that the Advice Service was robust enough to allow for more strategic service development and improvement and to accommodate the recommendations resulting from</p>	

	<p>the Tackling Poverty Commission report.</p> <p>Under reference to Local Engagement events it was noted that Engage were looking at organisations in the Bridgewater area in Erskine to ascertain if any were currently undertaking a public engagement exercise in order that they could piggy-back on to it. S Graham also advised that names were being collected for development of engagement activity within Foxbar.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the minute otherwise be approved.</p>	<p>Agreed</p>
2.	<p>ROLLING ACTION LOG</p> <p>The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That action RF.13.05.14(3) be removed from the action log;</p> <p>(b) That the Rolling Action Log be noted.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted</p>
3.	<p>RENFREWSHIRE FORUM FOR EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES YEAR 1 PROGRESS REPORT</p> <p>There was submitted a report by Engage Renfrewshire outlining the activity of the Forum in its first year of operation and progress made in identifying baselines for performance indicators.</p> <p>The report identified key achievements during Year 1; the performance against year 1 targets; and areas for improvement and remedial action.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the Year 1 Progress Report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
4.	<p>(a) SOCIAL ENTERPRISE EVENT – 11 DECEMBER 2014</p> <p>There was submitted a report by Engage Renfrewshire relative to the Social Enterprise event held on 11th December 2014. The report advised that the event was attended by 63 participants and provided an opportunity for social enterprises to share experiences. Included in the event was the launch of a £100,000 Renfrewshire Social Enterprise fund for up to twenty social enterprises.</p> <p>Discussion took place on the different types of communication used by organisations and in particular communication through film. It was agreed to look at organisations that use this type of media.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(i) That communication through media/film be investigated and reported to a future meeting; and</p>	

	<p>(ii) That the report be noted.</p> <p>(b) SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SMALL GRANTS FUND</p> <p>There was submitted a report by Economic Development relative to the Social Enterprise Small Grants Fund. The report outlined the background and national/local context and advised of the work being undertaken in this area.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	Noted
5.	<p>STREETS FOR ALL</p> <p>There was submitted a joint report by the Renfrewshire Access Panel and Engage Renfrewshire relative to initiating discussions with other Community Planning Boards regarding using good practice identified in Living Streets "Streets for All?" report in order to improve the accessibility of streets, pavements and public places within Renfrewshire.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That it be agreed that contact be made with Renfrewshire Council, the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board, the Jobs and Economy Thematic Board and the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board to discuss the possibility of introducing safer pavements as an equality outcome for Renfrewshire Council and the Community Planning Partnership; and</p> <p>(b) That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted</p>
6.	<p>POVERTY COMMISSION</p> <p>A McNiven gave an verbal update on the progress of the Tackling Poverty Commission. He advised that a meeting would take place on Friday 30th January, 2015 to write up the recommendations; look at the design of the report; and discuss the publication and launch of the report.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the verbal update be noted.</p>	Noted
7.	<p>UPDATE FROM THEMATIC BOARDS</p> <p>The Forum heard feedback from the members who had been present at the various Thematic Boards.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the feedback be noted.</p>	Noted

8.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>A McNiven advised that a review of members and support officers representing the Forum at the five other thematic boards was currently underway and he would advise the Clerk of the outcome in due course.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the information be noted.</p>	Noted
9.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>It was agreed that the next Forum meeting would take place on Tuesday 5th May, 2015 at 4.00pm within Engage Renfrewshire.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the meeting date be noted.</p>	Noted

RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

**MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY CARE, HEALTH & WELLBEING THEMATIC BOARD
HELD ON 5th FEBRUARY, 2015**

PRESENT

Councillor I McMillan and Councillor M Brown (Renfrewshire Council); D Leese (Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership); S McDonald (Active Communities); J Ferrie (Engage Renfrewshire); S McLellan (Forum for Empowering Communities); Dr A Van der Lee (GP representative); D Reid (Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership); D Goodman (Renfrewshire Carers); F MacKay, C Walker and H Cunningham (all Renfrewshire CHP); S Strachan and L Muirhead (both Renfrewshire Council); J McKellar (Renfrewshire Leisure Limited); R Telfer (Scottish Care); and P Nelis (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service).

Councillor I McMillan, presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

S Nelson (Police Scotland); and T Lavery, Lisa Finland and C MacDonald (all Renfrewshire Council).

APOLOGIES

N Burns (Police Scotland); R Robertson (Renfrewshire Council); and A Cumberford (West College Scotland).

SEDERUNT

Councillor McMillan advised that an additional report, namely, Public Health Review: Engagement Paper had been tabled and would be taken at the end of the agenda.

1.	<p>MINUTE OF MEETING OF 20th NOVEMBER, 2014</p> <p>There was submitted the Minute of the Community Care, Health & Wellbeing Thematic Board held on 20th November, 2014.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the minute be approved.</p>	Noted
2.	<p>ROLLING ACTION LOG</p> <p><u>CCH&W.05.02.14(2) – Midspan Event</u></p> <p>It was noted that a training/information session was to be held on 3rd March, 2015, immediately following the Social Work Health & Well-being Policy Board. An invitation to the session would be circulated to the Board in due course.</p> <p><u>CCH&W.15.05.14(7) – A More Active Scotland Implementation Plan</u></p> <p>It was agreed that a report would be submitted by Renfrewshire Leisure Ltd at the next meeting of the Board.</p>	

	<p><u>CCH&W.04.09.14(9) – Clinical Services Review</u></p> <p>J Ferrie advised that a community engagement event took place on 14th January, 2015 relative to the Clinical Services Review. D Leese intimated that information and data relating to the performance of the new service would be available by the beginning of March and a presentation updating members on the Review would be given to the next meeting of the Board.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That an invitation to the Midspan training/information session to be held on 3rd March, 2015 be circulated to Board members;</p> <p>(d) That a report on a More Active Scotland 10 Year Implementation Plan be submitted to the next meeting of the Board;</p> <p>(e) That a presentation relative to an update on the Clinical Services Review be given at the next meeting of the Board; and</p> <p>(f) That the Rolling Action Log be noted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>RL</p> <p>CHP</p> <p>Noted</p>
3.	<p>INTEGRATION SCHEME CONSULTATION</p> <p>D Leese gave a presentation relative to the integration of Renfrewshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde to form the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) which would be responsible for a range of delegated health and social care functions in our area.</p> <p>The presentation updated members on the development of integration arrangements; provided an opportunity to ask questions about the integration; and informed members of the consultation on the draft Integration Scheme.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the presentation be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
4.	<p>INTEGRATED CARE FUND: PLANNING UPDATE</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work relative to progress in the submission of the draft Integrated Care Fund Plan to the Scottish Government in December 2014 and an update of current planning work on the community capacity-building element of the draft plan.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That an update on the Integrated Care Fund be submitted to a future meeting; and</p> <p>(b) That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

5.	<p>ADP UPDATE</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Renfrewshire Alcohol & Drug Partnership (ADP) relative to an update on the work of the ADP.</p> <p>Discussion took place with regard to the update and in particular the alcohol related deaths audit which would be completed in December 2015. It was agreed that a presentation would be given to the Board in early 2016 on the results.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That a presentation early in 2016 be given to the Board relative to the audit on alcohol related deaths; and</p> <p>(b) That the update be noted.</p>	
6.	<p>(a) CARERS IDENTIFIED AT GP PRACTICES IN RENFREWSHIRE</p> <p>There was submitted a report by Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership (CHP) relative to carers who had been identified at GP Practices within Renfrewshire and who were being directed to appropriate support services.</p> <p>The report intimated that there had been an increase in the identification of carers in primary care in Renfrewshire. The report advised that the CHP would continue to encourage GP Practices to identify carers and refer them on to the Carers' Centre for support and training.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p> <p>(b) CARERS UPDATE</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Carers' Centre relative to the services that were provided by the Centre; the views of the carers and how they felt about their role; and the areas to be improved to ensure that the carers felt supported.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
7.	<p>TRANSFORMING CARE AFTER TREATMENT (TCAT) UPDATE</p> <p>S Strachan gave a verbal update relative to the expression of interest application form for a project developed by Renfrewshire CHP, Renfrewshire Council and Accord Hospice.</p> <p>She advised that the application had been successful in going through to Stage 2 of the application process with only four or five partnerships getting through the first stage. It was noted that the bid would now be supported to develop the project further through to implementation stage.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the progress report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

8.	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING NETWORK UPDATE</p> <p>S McDonald advised that the Community Health & Wellbeing Network was not due to take place until Friday 13th March and a verbal update would be given at the next meeting of the Board.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That a verbal update on the Community Health & Wellbeing Network be given at the next meeting of the Board.</p>	Noted
9.	<p>PUBLIC HEALTH REVIEW: ENGAGEMENT PAPER</p> <p>There was tabled a report by Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership relative to a review of public health in Scotland.</p> <p>The report provided the context for the Ministerial announcement and set out the terms of reference for the review and outlined key challenges and potential opportunities for public health.</p> <p>F MacKay intimated that the Scottish Government Review Group asked for the paper to be shared widely in order that they could have the benefit of feedback from a range of stakeholders. She advised that she would send the engagement paper electronically to members and asked that all responses be sent to her by no later than Friday 13th March, 2015.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That the Engagement Paper be sent electronically to members and responded to by no later than Friday 13th March; and</p> <p>(b) That the report be noted.</p>	<p>FMack/ Members</p> <p>Noted</p>

RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE THEMATIC BOARD HELD ON 24th FEBRUARY, 2015

PRESENT

Councillors J Henry and D Bibby (both Renfrewshire Council); P Capaldi (Police Scotland); A Burns (CHP); P Nelis (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); L O'Brien (Barnardos); S Graham (Engage); J Melrose (Renfrewshire's Children Panel); I Millar (Skills Development Scotland); P MacLeod, R Naylor, D Hawthorn, J Trainer (all Renfrewshire Council).

Councillor Henry presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

N Mathers (Save the Children); A Row (Glasgow University); Y Farquhar, C MacDonald and D Houston (all Renfrewshire Council).

APOLOGIES

Councillor E McCartin (Renfrewshire Council); G McKinlay; S Bell; and S Glasgow (all Renfrewshire Council); L King (SCRA); F MacKay (CHP); D Leese (Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership); and A Dick (West College Scotland).

1.	<p>MINUTE OF MEETING OF 15th December, 2014</p> <p>There was submitted the Minute of the Children and Young People Thematic Board held on 15th December, 2014.</p> <p>Under reference to persons present at the meeting it was agreed that the minute would be corrected to acknowledge the attendance of P Nelis, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the minute otherwise be approved.</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>Approved</p>
3.	<p>ROLLING ACTION LOG</p> <p><u>CAYP.26.03.13(2) and CAYP.21.05.13(4) – Engagement with Young People</u></p> <p>It was noted that due to school exams in May the engagement exercise would take place at the meeting on 3rd September, 2015 at Gleniffer High School.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p>	

	<p>(a) That the visit to a Gleniffer High School to engage with young people, local community groups and 3rd sector organisations take place on 3rd September, 2015; and</p> <p>(b) That the action log be noted.</p>	<p>P MacLeod/ A McNiven/Clerk</p> <p>Noted</p>
4.	<p>STV/HUNTER PARTNERSHIP – SAVE THE CHILDREN'S STRONGER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME</p> <p>N Mathers and A Row gave a presentation which outlined that the Stronger Communities Programme was a new approach to try and tackle child poverty and improve the life chances of children growing up in poverty. It was a community-based partnership which was based on a deep analysis of the local area building on assets within the community and capturing evidence of what worked. It was anticipated that the programme would develop its own approach and build on existing provision and partnerships. The Board were advised that the programme would be based in Glenburn, Paisley and also Muirton in Perth. The presentation also outlined the areas of activity; the aims of the evaluation; methods to be used; how the research findings would be used; and the next steps that would be taken.</p> <p>The information presented proposed that there would be an opportunity to bring the Glenburn and Muirton programmes together at a later date to share learning and experiences. P MacLeod intimated that he would be happy to host this event and it was agreed that this would be taken forward by Children's Services.</p> <p>Data gathering and key contacts were discussed and it was agreed that all relevant data and point of contact information would be passed to N Mathers.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That Children's Services staff in conjunction with the Stronger Communities Programme organise a meeting of the Glenburn and Muirton programmes at a later date;</p> <p>(b) That relevant data and point of contact information be passed to the Project Manager; and</p> <p>(b) That the presentation be noted.</p>	<p>CS/Stronger Comms</p> <p>JT</p> <p>Noted</p>
5.	<p>FAMILY NURSE PARTNERSHIP (FNP) AND HEALTHY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME</p> <p>There was submitted a report by Renfrewshire CHP relative to the progress of the FNP in Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde which was hosted in Renfrewshire CHP.</p> <p>The report also provided an update on the Healthy Children's</p>	

	<p>Programme which aimed to improve child health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities in health through the redesign of work and services.</p> <p>A Burns gave a presentation on the FNP which outlined that it was a preventive programme through pregnancy until the child was aged two years. It was a structured, intensive home visiting programme delivered by family nurses and based on theories of human ecology, self efficacy and attachment. The presentation outlined the eligibility criteria; the goals of the FNP; appraised the evidence; looked at key elements of the programme; and the progress to date.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report and presentation be noted.</p>	Noted
6.	<p>RENFREWSHIRE SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT AND YEAR 1 PROGRESS</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the revisions on the impact measures detailed in the Year 1 report.</p> <p>The report intimated that since the development and publication of the Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement a number of changes had been made to how data was collected /measured. This meant that the targets now required to be revised based on new baseline data. Following the presentation of the Year 1 progress report at the Community Planning Partnership Board on 4th February, 2015, it was agreed that an interim progress report be prepared for the Community Planning Partnership Board in June 2015 on those impact measures which were identified as being 10% or more outwith target (red alert).</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That the revisions to the Single Outcome Agreement as detailed within the report be agreed; and</p> <p>(b) That an interim progress report be prepared for consideration by the Community Planning Partnership Board in June 2015.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Lead Officer/CPP Team</p>
7.	<p>INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PLAN – OUTCOME 1 PROGRESS REPORT</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to a progress report for Outcome 1 of the Integrated Children's Services Improvement plan. The report detailed key areas of progress being made against Outcome 1 'Our children and young people have the best start in life – are ready to learn, supported to achieve and are ambitious throughout and beyond their school lives' and Appendix 1 detailed a copy of the progress report.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	Noted
8.	JOINT INSPECTION OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG	

	<p>PEOPLE</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the progress of the joint inspection of the provision of services to children and young people in the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership area.</p> <p>The report advised that the inspection was conducted over 13 days between Monday 19th January and Friday 27th February 2015. It was noted that inspection findings would be discussed on Thursday 5th March, 2015 with Chief Officers and nominated Community Planning partners and following the joint inspection Scottish Ministers would report on how well services were working together to improve the lives of children and young people. Inspectors would also prepare and provide a written detailed account of inspection findings to the Community Planning Partnership Board and chief officers group at the conclusion of the inspection.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That the content of the report be noted; and</p> <p>(b) That a report would be submitted to a future Board on the findings of Inspection.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p>
9.	<p>EDUCATION OUTCOMES AND DESTINATIONS FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to education outcomes and destinations for looked after children. The report provided an opportunity for partners to understand the present performance for looked after school leavers and explore options to assist in improving the position for looked after school leavers in the future.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That this report be submitted to the Board on an annual basis; and</p> <p>(b) That the report be noted.</p>	<p>JT/Clerk</p> <p>Noted</p>
10.	<p>CONSULTATION ON DRAFT STATUTORY GUIDANCE FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2014</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the consultation on draft statutory guidance for the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. The report advised that the Act had extended the concept of Corporate Parenting across a wide sector of public agencies. The issue of how the partnership discharged its corporate parenting responsibilities was being considered as part of the Joint Inspection process. Appendix 1 provided a position statement</p>	

	<p>which had been submitted to the Care Inspectorate.</p> <p>The report highlighted the consultation on the draft Statutory Guidance for Part 9 (Corporate Parenting) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and the consultation on the draft Statutory Guidance for Parts 4, 5 and 18 (Section 96) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. Members were asked to explore how the draft Statutory Guidance would influence their approach to Corporate Parenting responsibilities on a partnership basis in Renfrewshire and the approach to the named person, single child's plan and the wellbeing of children locally.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
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RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF GREENER RENFREWSHIRE THEMATIC BOARD HELD ON 5th MARCH, 2015

PRESENT

Councillors E Devine and Audrey Doig; O Reid, Lead Officer and Interim Head of Public Protection; C Thorpe, Corporate Asset/Energy Manager and S Marklow, Assistant Manager, Policy (all Renfrewshire Council); I Cunningham, Third Sector Development Officer (Engage Renfrewshire); A Fraser, Representative (FLAIR); and Ross Nimmo, Planning and Development Manager (Glasgow Airport).

Councillor E Devine, presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

I Williams, Project Manager (Environmental Training Team); C Robertson, Warden Services Manager; J Brown, Planning and Performance Officer; A Shaw, Assistant Policy Officer; S Tkacenko, Graduate Intern; and C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Renfrewshire Council); and S Gallacher, Street Stuff Organiser (St Mirren Football Club).

APOLOGIES

J Wilby, Representative (Forum for Empowering Communities); G Tarvit, Sustainability & Climate Change Manager (Keep Scotland Beautiful); J Downie, Chief Superintendent (Police Scotland); S MacDougall, Director of Community Resources (Renfrewshire Council); J Still, Head of Administration (Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership); J Binning, Principal Policy Officer (Strathclyde Partnership for Transport); and C Devine, Head of Resource Management (Zero Waste).

1.	<p>MINUTE OF MEETING OF 17th DECEMBER, 2014</p> <p>There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board held on 17th December, 2014.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the minute be approved.</p>	Agreed
2.	<p>ROLLING ACTION LOG</p> <p>The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.</p> <p><u>GR.02.10.13(4b) – Establishment of Database</u></p> <p>S Marklow advised that the land database was now established but it was unable to identify land less than 0.1 hectares. It was agreed that contact be made with Engage Renfrewshire to discuss possibility of putting the database on to the Renfrewshire 2023 website; to engage further with local groups to identify small areas of land; and to look into the possibility of creating a temporary internship to identify land less than 0.1 hectares within Renfrewshire town centres.</p>	

	<p><u>GR2204.12(4) – Membership Structure</u></p> <p>The Lead Officer advised that support was now being provided to the Greener Communities and Greener Transport Sub Groups to assist with developing and achieving targets. It was agreed that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board relative to the progress of the two Sub Groups.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That it be agreed that contact be made with Engage Renfrewshire to discuss possibility of putting the land database on to the Renfrewshire 2023 website;</p> <p>(b) That further engagement takes place with local groups to identify small areas of land;</p> <p>(c) That Development & Housing Services look into the possibility of creating a temporary internship to identify land less than 0.1 hectares within Renfrewshire town centres;</p> <p>(d) That it be agreed that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board relative to the progress of the two Sub Groups; and</p> <p>(c) That the Rolling Action Log be otherwise noted.</p>	<p>S Marklow/A Bradford</p> <p>S Marklow</p> <p>S Marklow</p> <p>Lead Officer/Clerk</p> <p>Noted</p>
3.	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING TEAM (ETT)</p> <p>A presentation was given by I Williams highlighting the type of work undertaken by the Environmental Training Team; the recruitment of volunteers/trainee placements; what they were trying to achieve; and the community benefits.</p> <p>Councillor Devine thanked I Williams for coming to the meeting and giving his presentation to the Board.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the presentation be noted.</p>	
4.	<p>GREENER RENFREWSHIRE INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT AGAINST TARGETS</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Lead Officer relative to progress reported against the targets set for the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board.</p> <p>The report advised that further work would be undertaken to refine the detail of the performance and to make proposals to the Community Planning Partnership Board scheduled for 24th June, 2015 about how progress could be monitored in future and to submit a revised Single Outcome Agreement, based on the indicators contained within the report.</p>	

	<p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>a) That the performance against impact measures as highlighted within the report be noted; and</p> <p>b) That it be noted that further work with partners would be undertaken to refine the detail of the indicators and submitted to the next meeting of the Board.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
5.	<p>GREENER COMMUNITIES UPDATE ON PROGRESS</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Greener Communities Sub Group relative to progress made so far in delivery actions endorsed by the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board. The report highlighted that the Sub Group were in the process of identifying new members; that a Greener Audit was underway to identify current activity and future plans by greener led community groups working within Renfrewshire; and work was continuing on the greener pledge</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the progress made in delivering the previously agreed actions as contained within the report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
6.	<p>STALLED SPACES</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Lead Officer relative to the Stalled Spaces project which aimed to improve town centres by bringing derelict, vacant or underused land, collectively known as stalled spaces, back into positive use while it was lying unused or awaiting development.</p> <p>The report advised that a formal grant application was submitted to Architecture and Design Scotland (A&DS) for £10,000 and agreement had been received from the Council at the Planning and Property Policy Board to provide £10,000 match funding from the Local Green Networks funding. It was intended that the full grant of £20,000, would be overseen by the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board, with assistance being provided to potential applicants and successful projects by the Greener Communities Sub Group and Engage Renfrewshire.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
7.	<p>BUILDING SAFER GREENER COMMUNITIES</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Lead Officer relative to the Building Safer Greener Communities Programme. The report advised that the Director of the Safer Communities Directorate at the Scottish Government had written to the Chief Executive of Renfrewshire Council looking for formal agreement for the Council to participate in the Building Safer Communities National Programme, as one of seven initial locations across Scotland.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That progress made so far with the Building Safer, Greener Communities project be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

8.	<p>STREET STUFF</p> <p>A presentation was given by C Robertson and S Gallacher highlighting the work of the project; the achievements so far; and how the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board could help with the project.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the presentation be noted.</p>	
9.	<p>OVERVIEW OF INITIATIVES AND GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive's Service which provided an overview of recent developments, initiatives and funding streams made available to Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	Noted
10.	<p>TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS FOR THE GREENER RENFREWSHIRE THEMATIC BOARD – AUGUST 2015 TO NOVEMBER 2016</p> <p>There was submitted a proposed timetable for meetings of the Greener Renfrewshire Thematic Board for the period August 2015 to November 2016.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the timetable of meetings until November 2016 be approved.</p>	Agreed

	<p>The report highlighted some key areas of improvement and the progress against each individual action was detailed within the appendix.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(a) That the key areas of progress highlighted within the report be noted;</p> <p>(b) That it be noted that there were no areas for improvement; and</p> <p>(c) That it be agreed that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board relative to the Public Service Panel perception data.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p>
4.	<p>BEST BAR NONE RENFREWSHIRE 2014/15</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Resources relative to the Best Bar None local Award ceremony which took place in Renfrew Town Hall in January 2015. The scheme operated in partnership with Police Scotland and rewarded premises that provided a safe and welcoming environment for local residents to enjoy responsible drinking. It was noted that 20 licensed premises throughout Renfrewshire attained Award standard.</p> <p>The report advised that the six of the venue category winners would proceed to national nomination which would take place at Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh, on Thursday 26 March 2015.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
5.	<p>EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE – PREPAREDNESS AND TRAINING - GLASGOW</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Resources relative to the preparation and training that had taken place relating to a possible Ebola Virus incident at Glasgow Airport. The report indicated that Community Resources along with partner agencies had participated in a number of events in recent months which had resulted in a high degree of awareness and preparedness across all relevant agencies that would need to respond to an incident of this type.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
6.	<p>SCOTTISH COMMUNITY SAFETY NETWORKS</p> <p>A presentation was given by A Price relative to the Scottish Community Safety Network. The presentation highlighted the work of the Forum; their strategic aims and vision; the training and eLearning courses available; and the CSP Self Assessment Toolkit.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the presentation be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
7.	<p>I AM ME</p>	

	<p>A presentation was given by C Burt and E Smith relative to the I Am Me project. The project, which consisted of seven community volunteers, was set up to raise awareness of disability hate crime and to increase confidence in the reporting of such crimes and incidents. The presentation highlighted Renfrewshire statistics in relation to the reporting of crimes of harassment and abuse; looked at the work of the project; their achievements to date which included winning the Scottish Community Safety Network Wider Participation Award; and advised of the planned launch of the I Am Me film premier and training pack which would take place on 26th March, 2015.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the presentation be noted.</p>	Noted
8.	<p>COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Resources which provided an update on the Community Safety Hub; Street Stuff; and the Building Safer and Greener Communities project.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	Noted
9.	<p>TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS FOR THE SAFER AND STRONGER RENFREWSHIRE THEMATIC BOARD – AUGUST 2015 TO DECEMBER 2016</p> <p>There was submitted a proposed timetable for meetings of the Safer and Stronger Renfrewshire Thematic Board for the period August 2015 to December 2016.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the timetable of meetings until December 2016 be approved.</p>	

RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE JOBS & THE ECONOMY THEMATIC BOARD HELD ON 12th MARCH, 2015

PRESENT

L Hammell (DWP Jobcentre Plus); R Nimmo (Glasgow Airport Limited); B Davidson (Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce); Councillor Glen, F Carlin and R Cooper (all Renfrewshire Council); H Cunningham (Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership); A Loveday and Kerry Sharp (both Scottish Enterprise); I Miller (Skills Development Scotland); J Binning (Strathclyde Partnership for Transport); and A Dick (West College Scotland).

Councillor Glen presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

J Carswell (Life Technologies); and C MacDonald and Y Farquhar (both Renfrewshire Council).

APOLOGIES

S Graham (Engage Renfrewshire); S Clocherty (Renfrewshire CHP); Councillor Audrey Doig and M Crearie (Renfrewshire Council); I McLean (Renfrewshire Forum for Empowering our Communities); and G Hunt (University of West of Scotland).

The meeting was opened by Jim Carswell, Operations Director & Site Director who welcomed everyone to Life Technologies and gave a presentation outlining the history, the vision of the company, and what they hoped to achieve in the future. After the presentation and discussion Councillor Glen thanked Mr Carswell for the presentation and his hospitality.

1.	<p>MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>There was submitted the Minute of the Jobs & Economy Thematic Board held on 5th September, 2014.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the Minute be approved.</p>	Agreed
2.	<p>ROLLING ACTION LOG</p> <p>The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.</p> <p><u>J&E.27.03.13(2.3iii) & J&E.09.01.14(6)</u></p> <p>The Board were advised that Peter MacLeod, Director of Children's Services had taken over as Lead Officer for the Children & Young People Thematic Board and a meeting would be organised in due course to discuss overlapping actions.</p>	

	<p><u>J&E.09.01.14(7) – Development of Community Transport</u></p> <p>A paper was tabled relative to the development of community transport. It advised that Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) was currently in discussions with a third sector organisation in Renfrewshire regarding taking on management of a 16-seater bus resourced from SPT as a community transport asset.</p> <p><u>J&E.29.05.14(3c(i and ii)) – Strategic Sub Groups</u></p> <p>(i) Alan Dick advised that a progress report relative to local job market provision, unemployment trends and issues/barriers would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.</p> <p>(ii) Alison Loveday tabled an update report relating to a pilot project whereby small teams of UWS international marketing students would carry out research for local Renfrewshire firms seeking to grow their business overseas. Students would work in groups of 3-4 and have the support of a Mentor (a representative from one of the Partners) as well as their Course Leader at UWS.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(i) That a progress report on the local job market provision, unemployment trends and issues/barriers be submitted to the next meeting of the Board; and</p> <p>(ii) That the Rolling Action Log be noted.</p>	<p>WCS</p> <p>Noted</p>
3.	<p>JOBS AND THE ECONOMY THEMATIC BOARD – YEAR 1 PROGRESS REPORT</p> <p>There was submitted a report by the Director of Development & Housing Services relative to an update on Year 1 progress report.</p> <p>The report intimated that the Jobs and Economy Thematic Board reported its progress to Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Board on 4th February, 2015. It was noted that significant progress had been made in meeting and in most cases exceeding the targets established however this had meant that there was a need to review the targets and outcome measures.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <p>(i) That the progress report made to the CPP Board be noted;</p> <p>(ii) That it be agreed that further consideration be given to the Performance targets.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p>
4.	<p>DEVELOPMENT SESSION – 19 DECEMBER, 2014</p> <p>F Carlin gave a verbal update relative to the development session which was held on 19th December, 2014. The workshop took place to start the process of establishing a revised action plan in the light of new initiatives.</p> <p>It was noted that work was currently underway to develop the timeline</p>	

	<p>created at the workshop and a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That a report on the development session be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.</p>	Lead Officer
5.	<p>EU FUNDING FOR RENFREWSHIRE 2015/20 – AGREEMENT ON FUNDING PROPOSALS FOR THE RENFREWSHIRE CPP AREA</p> <p>A presentation was given by Ruth Cooper and Alan Dick relative to the EU funding proposals for the Renfrewshire CPP Area. The presentation highlighted the approach to funding; the priority gaps; the support in place to unemployed people in Renfrewshire; the programmes to be targeted; the available funding; and the progress of the online application.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) That it be agreed that the Jobs and the Economy Thematic Board support the range of employability proposals and activities; (b) That it be agreed that Renfrewshire Council proceed to submit the relevant applications to the Scottish Government on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership; and (b) That it be noted that further updates on the activities to be delivered by West College Scotland would be developed and brought to a future meeting of the Thematic Board. 	<p>All members</p> <p>Lead Officer</p> <p>Noted</p>
5.	<p>INVEST IN RENFREWSHIRE: CELEBRATING EVEN MORE SUCCESS AWARDS 2015</p> <p>There was submitted a report by Development & Housing Services relative to the Celebrating Even More Success Awards 2015. The report advised that the award ceremony would take place on Wednesday 17th June, 2015 with the annual Employability Conference taking place on Thursday 18th June, 2015.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	Noted
6.	<p>PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ON IIQ (GLASGOW AIRPORT INVESTMENT ZONE)</p> <p>A presentation was given by R Nimmo and A Loveday relative to the development of the International Investment Quarter (IIQ) located around Glasgow Airport. The presentation advised that the high level vision was for the IIQ to become an internationally recognised business location building on its winning combination of people, infrastructure and opportunity. It emphasised the opportunities to be gained; the priorities; and the next steps.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) That it be agreed that the Jobs and the Economy Thematic Board 	

	<p>support the development of the International Investment Quarter Initiative; and</p> <p>(b) That it be agreed that a sub-group of officers progress the activities required to ensure that the wider economic potential from the IIQ is realised.</p>	<p>All members</p> <p>FC/BD/RN</p>
7.	<p>MONTHLY UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS</p> <p>There was submitted a newsletter by Economic Development which provided an overview of employment activity and economic development in Renfrewshire at the end of January 2015.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the newsletter be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
8.	<p>RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL EMPLOYABILITY PARTNERSHIP MEETING</p> <p>A report was submitted by I Miller which provided an update on the Local Employability Partnership Meeting held on 27th February, 2015.</p> <p><u>DECIDED:</u> That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

VALEDICTION

On behalf of the Board, Councillor Glen extended his thanks to Isobel Miller, Skills Development Scotland for the significant contribution she had made to the Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board and for the advice and assistance she had provided and wished her well for the future. These sentiments were echoed by all members present.