

To: **Improving Life Chances Group**

On: **19 June 2018**

Joint Report by:
Chief Executive and Director of Finance & Resources

**IMPROVING LIFE CHANCES GROUP
ROLE, REMIT AND TIMETABLE OF GROUP**

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to submit for consideration the proposed role and remit of the Improving Life Chances Group and to arrange a calendar of meeting dates for for the period September 2018 to December 2019.

2. Recommendations

- (a) That the role and remit of the Improving Life Chances Group as outlined within the report be agreed;
- (b) That the timetable of meetings from September 2018 to December 2019 as indicated within the report be agreed;
- (c) That it be agreed that the Improving Life Chances Group be chaired by a senior officer within a partner organisation as outlined within the report.

3. Background

- 3.1 Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Board approved at its meeting on 7 December 2016 a new governance structure to reflect the requirements of the Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015 and to streamline and refocus existing partnership activities, groups and formal structures.
- 3.2 The community planning thematic boards were amended to incorporate existing and emerging partnership arrangements; provide greater strategic focus; reduce duplication; and recognise that some groups would maintain their own independent status outwith the formal community planning structure. An excerpt of these arrangements setting out the role of new community planning groups is attached at Appendix 1.

4 Renfrewshire Community Plan – “Our Renfrewshire”

- 4.1 Our Renfrewshire Community Plan 2017/27 and associated Locality Plan was approved at the Council meeting on 28 September 2017. It was developed together, and signed up to, by key public, private and third sector organisations and marks a shared responsibility to work together to get things right for people in Renfrewshire and highlights a real commitment to addressing the inequalities that exist. The new Renfrewshire Community Plan 2017/27 will be delivered through the new Community Planning governance arrangements.
- 4.2 A copy of the Community Plan and the Locality Plan can be found on the Council's website at <http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/6265/Our-Renfrewshire-community-plan-2017---2027> and provides an overview of the Our Renfrewshire community plan 2017/27 and the four priorities of the plan.
- 4.3 Both the community plan and locality plan contain statements of high-level priorities which will be developed into a coherent set of targets, indicators and actions for Year 1, Year 3 and Year 10 to provide a framework to deliver outcomes under the four themes of Thriving, Well, Fair and Safe and Monitor Progress.
- 4.4 At the time of the review in 2016, partnership working was felt to be strong however, most stakeholders suggested that further work was required to widen out ownership of specific initiatives or priorities, in order that other community planning partners could assume the lead role as opposed to the Council.
- 4.5 The new Community Planning governance structure will ensure that the time invested by partners will focus on joint strategic priorities and will result in a better balance across partner organisations in relation to the allocation of lead roles for the development and oversight of work programmes aligned to the shared community planning partnership priorities. It has also been highlighted that the new Locality Plan will provide an opportunity to refresh priorities and partner lead roles.
- 4.6 It is proposed therefore that the Improving Life Chances Group be chaired by a senior officer within a partner organisation, significantly extending and sharing the leadership role for community planning to other community planning partners, as is intended within the 2015 Act.

5 Role and Remit of Group

- 5.1 It was agreed that the Improving Life Chances Group would be established to take forward the remit and work of the Children and Young People Thematic Board and the Tackling Poverty Steering Group. An additional focus would be the contribution of partner organisations to health improvement, reducing inequalities and addressing the attainment gap.

5.2 Proposed Role

- (a) Links to be established (from Community Planning Executive Group) to the updated Boards:- Improving Life Chances Board and Forum for Empowering Communities and to separately incorporated groups such as the Community Protection Chief Officers Group, Renfrewshire Economic Panel and Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Planning Group;
- (b) Implement work activity as commissioned by the Community Planning Executive Group; and
- (c) Develop a work programme and rolling action log, with outcomes and targets, and report progress on a regular basis to the Executive Group.

5.3 Within the previous community planning structure various key tactical and operational groups fed into the Thematic Boards. The Local Employability Partnership (LEP) linked in to the Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board. This partnership group plays a key role in supporting the delivery of employability outcomes and the co-ordinated development and delivery of national and local employability. It is anticipated that this group will feed into the Improving Life Chances Group with standing agenda items which would include the coordination and review of operational initiatives and actions to support the outcomes of the Improving Life Chances Group.

6 Timetable of Meetings

- 6.1 Under the new arrangements, the Improving Life Chances Group is required to meet four times per year.
- 6.2 Taking into consideration the ability of the Chair to call special meetings if the need arises, it is suggested that a programme of meeting dates be scheduled to December 2019 as follows:-

Wednesday 5 September 2018 at 10am

Thursday 6 December 2018 at 10am

Wednesday 13 March 2019 at 2pm

Wednesday 5 June 2019 at 10am

Thursday 5 September 2019 at 10am

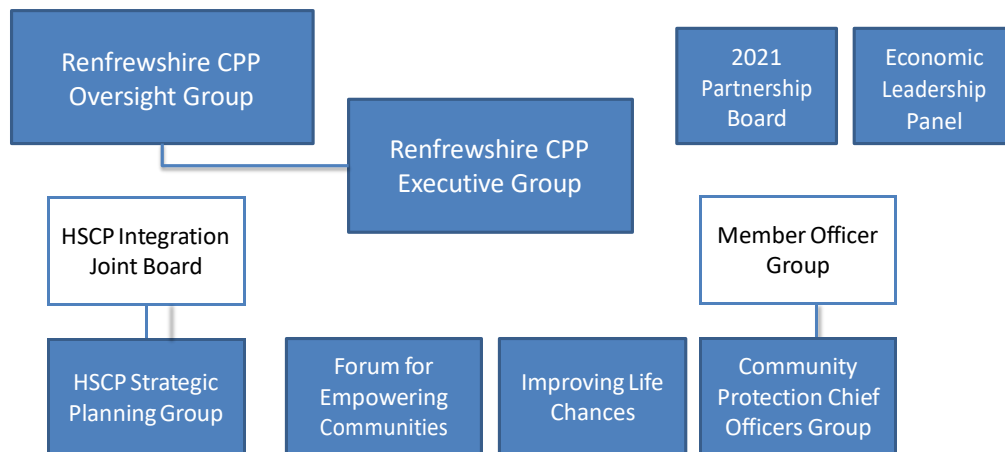
Thursday 5 December 2019 at 10am

(location of the meetings will be confirmed in due course)

- 6.3 The timetable takes account of all standard meetings of the Improving Life Chances Group but does not consider any ad-hoc meetings which might be held as and when necessary.

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PROPOSED COMMUNITY PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS



Under the new structure, the “thematic group” structure will be amended to incorporate existing and emerging partnership arrangements where appropriate and to provide greater strategic focus and reduce duplication, recognising that some groups will maintain their own independent status outwith the formal community planning structure. The three groups shown below fall into the latter category and take forward the remits of the existing Safer and Stronger, Jobs and the Economy and Community Care, Health and Wellbeing thematic boards. Appropriate links will be developed between these and the Executive Group within the new structure:

- Economic Leadership Panel
- Renfrewshire Strategic Planning Partnership (Integration Joint Board)
- Community Protection Chief Officers Group

Further proposed changes include:

- An Improving Life Chances Group will be established to take forward the remit of Children and Young People and Tackling Poverty Steering Group.
- The Forum for Empowering Communities will continue, but be given an enhanced role in order to maximise opportunities for engaging with communities emerging from the Community Empowerment Act 2015.
- The work programme of the Greener Thematic Board will be mainstreamed across the work of the other groups, ensuring that the positive contribution of the board and its sub group is recognised and continued where appropriate.

It is proposed that the Improving Life Chances and Forum for Empowering Communities groups are chaired by senior officers within partner organisations, significantly extending and sharing the leadership role for community planning to other community planning partners, as is intended within the 2015 Act.

Community Planning Structure

As part of the new governance arrangements, work would be undertaken by the Executive Group to update existing Groups and to establish links to separately incorporated boards such as the Community Protection Chief Officers Group, Renfrewshire Economic Panel and Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Planning Group. Proposed changes to the thematic Board structure are as follows:

Proposed Board / Link Board	Purpose of Change
Renfrewshire Economic Panel	The Executive Group to establish links to the Renfrewshire Economic Panel. The Panel is scheduled to be established from March 2017 and will provide a greater focus on the role and contribution of the private sector in driving investment and the creation of job opportunities.
Community Protection Chief Officers Group	The Executive Group to establish links to the Public Protection Chief Officers Group currently in existence, with linkages to those partnership groups which also report to Safer and Stronger Thematic Board.



Proposed Board / Link Board	Purpose of Change
Renfrewshire Forum For Empowering Communities	Continued and enhanced role for the Forum to ensure that the third sector and communities have a voice and influence in shaping partnership decisions and activity.
Improving Life Chances	The Improving Life Chances Board would bring together the work of the Children and Young People Board and the Tackling Poverty Steering Group. An additional focus would be the contribution of partner organisations to health improvement, reducing inequalities and addressing the attainment gap.
Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Planning Group	Removing the Community Care, Health and Wellbeing Board would reduce a layer of duplication, subject to ensuring that all the business of the Community Care, Health & Wellbeing Board is fully covered by the Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Planning Group. The Integration Joint Board, which is a statutory group, will be represented within the Oversight Group.

Proposed Role

- (a) Links to be established to the updated boards:- Forum for Empowering Communities and Improving Life Chances Board and to separately incorporated groups such as the Community Protection Chief Officers Group, Renfrewshire Economic Panel and Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Planning Group
- (b) Implement work activity as commissioned by the Community Planning Executive Group.
- (c) Develop a work programme and rolling action log, with outcomes and targets, and report progress on a regular basis to the Executive Group.