



**REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING STEERING GROUP –29 MAY 2008**

**SUBJECT: SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

**BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

1.1 The reason for this report is to provide an update on the Single Outcome Agreement process – a new framework of joint accountability between local and national Government.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 It is recommended that the Steering Group note how the Single Outcome Agreement process is developing.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 At the meeting of the Community Planning Steering Group on 13 March 2008, the meeting noted the introduction of the new framework of joint accountability between local and national Government which is being developed through the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) process. There are four main issues :-

- Fundamental principles underpinning outcome agreements.
- The process by which the outcome agreement framework has been and continues to be developed.
- Timescales for submission and agreement.
- Other issues which will impact upon the Single Outcome Agreement.

3.2 The Council developed its SOA in conjunction with Community Planning Partners, 1 of only 13 councils to do so. The first draft was submitted to the Scottish Government on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008. The Council received feedback from Scottish Government on 12 May. A copy of the letter is attached. **(APPENDIX)**

3.3 Officers are currently working on the next draft and it is anticipated that a draft of the changes to the SOA will be available for the meeting to consider. The next draft is due at the end of May.

3.4 The final version must be submitted to Scottish Government by end of June.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans**

The Council in conjunction with Community Planning Partners agreed to produce the SOA by end of June. The SOA will identify priorities for the Council and the Partnership.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

All Councils have been asked to submit SOAs as part of the new relationship with Scottish Government.

**(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)**

Resources to deliver against the SOA will be addressed through the theme groups, Partners and the Council. There are requirements for monitoring performance against the SOA and the need to produce an SOA on 2009-10 based on local contextual information from analysis. Resource implications to meet these requirements are contained in the budget report on this agenda.

**(d) Consultations**

Consultations have taken place with Council and Partner officers to amend the draft based on the comments from Scottish Government.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to note that a second draft of the SOA is due at the end of May with a final version being submitted to the Scottish Government by end of June. The Board is asked to comment on the second draft, which will be available for the meeting.**

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**Background Papers:**

**Ref:**