

Midlothian Single Outcome Agreement and Community Plan 2012-13

Report by Kenneth Lawrie Chief Executive

1 Purpose of Report

The updated 2010-13 Midlothian Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and Community Plan (CP) (revised for 2012/13) were agreed by the Community Planning Partnership at the meeting of the chief officers' steering committee on the 24 June 2012. The purpose of this report is to present the updated SOA and Community Plan to Cabinet for endorsement. Copies of the SOA and Community Plan have been placed in the members' library.

2 Background

Midlothian Council created its first SOA with the Scottish Government in 2008. The initial 2008/09 SOA was intended to be an agreement between the Council and the Scottish Government, and to build on the statutory duty placed on all councils to facilitate and lead a community planning process at their level (Local Government Scotland Act 2003)

Midlothian Council therefore took the decision to create the first Midlothian SOA on a community planning basis, populating the agreement with indicators from the Community Plan and the Council's Corporate Strategy. This approach has subsequently been adopted nationally by Scottish Government for all SOA's

Work to revise the initial SOA (and CP) undertaken in 2011 included public and citizen's panel consultation and Community Planning workshops involving all partners. The resulting SOA included fewer outcome and indicators, improving its Strategic Focus. The consultation and engagement exercise aimed to ensure that the SOA /CP accurately reflects the key priorities for the Community Planning Partnership.

Reviewing the SOA and Community Plan for 2012/13

No further major revisions to the Community Plan and SOA are intended until Autumn 2013, when a full scale review will be undertaken following the community engagement processes agreed by the Community Planning Steering Committee. (CPSC),

The CPSC also agreed to merge the SOA and community plan into one document from 2013/14 onwards, subject to any new advice being issued by the recent national working party on community planning established by Scottish Government and COSLA.

For this year, specific targets have been reviewed and minor amendments made to reflect changes in datasets, indicators and the priorities arising from the Strategic Assessment process.

3 Report Implications

3.1 Resource

The SOA/CP for 2012/13 comprises outcome indicators agreed with community planning partners via the development of the Community Plan. There should therefore be no additional resource implications that have not already been budgeted for in the approved 2012/13 Council budget.

3.2 Risk

By ensuring that appropriate, measurable outcome indicators are in the SOA and Community Plan, the Partnership is in a better position to ensure it is working effectively towards improving quality of life in Midlothian.

3.3 Policy

Strategy

The SOA and Community Plan outline how the Community Planning partnership will contribute to the achievement of the 15 national outcomes outlined by Scottish Government.

Consultation

Consultation took place during the period March to June 2012 through community planning strategic groups.

Equalities

Equalities issues are addressed in the Single Outcome Agreement and Community Plan. An EQIA was carried out on the SOA/CP which remitted the responsibility of the EQIA of indicators to the relevant strategic group.

Sustainability

The necessary processes are in place to examine progress in agreeing the SOA to ensure any requirements for an SEA are met.

4 Summary

This report presents the Updated Midlothian SOA and Community plan 2010-13 to Council.

a) Recommendations

- a) Cabinet is asked to endorse the updated 2012-13 SOA and Community Plan.
- b) Note further work will be undertaken to produce a single Midlothian Plan merging both SOA and community plan following significant public engagement, with a view to having a single document for the 2013-18 period

Date: 24 July 2012.

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Background Papers (in members library):

Midlothian 2010-13 Single Outcome Agreement-(2012/13 revision)

Midlothian 2010-13 Community Plan (2012/13 revision)