

**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

**Subject: SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2009/2011 – UPDATE  
STATEMENT**  
**Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL**  
**Date: 9 OCTOBER 2009**  
**Author: CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report presents to Members the draft monitoring statement for the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA). Members will be aware that the Single Outcome Agreement was approved by the Council and other partners in May 2009 and signed off by the Scottish Government in August 2009.
- 1.2 Members will also be aware that there is a requirement to produce an annual monitoring statement for the SOA each September. Attached to this report as appendix one is the monitoring statement for the Single Outcome Agreement which notes progress made against each outcome and specific indicators. It also sets out some key initiatives we have progressed over the last year to ensure we achieve the outcomes set out in the SOA.

**2. DEVELOPING THE SOA FOR THE FALKIRK COUNCIL AREA**

- 2.1 Members will recall that the most recent SOA was developed as a refreshed version of the first SOA, rather than a wholly new agreement with different outcomes and indicators. This has allowed a comparison to be made on progress against each of the outcomes over the first year of the SOA to date.
- 2.2 The monitoring statement set out in appendix one sets out a summary of progress against each outcome and notes each of the indicators that measure progress against each outcome. The comparison statement then sets out the change in performance in terms of actual value, but also notes if this change supports the direction of travel agreed by the Partnership. As the SOA measures direction of travel, the change over time for each indicator is noted in most instances as a change of annual returns, rather than the more complex change in baseline.
- 2.3 The SOA monitoring statement also contains the information by which the Council measures its contribution to the Strategic Community Plan, as was previously presented to Members in the Corporate Plan monitoring report. Indeed, the majority of the local outcomes noted in the SOA are taken directly from the Council's Corporate Plan. The indicators therefore are also taken from previous Corporate Plan monitoring reports. As such, the Single Outcome Agreement monitoring statement is presented as both the monitoring statement for the SOA and the Corporate Plan.

- 2.4 From the summary statement attached, we can see that most of the outcomes are showing good progress on nearly all indicators. However, it is important that each of the partners reviews the outcomes and indicators they are responsible for, given the need to ensure that the update statement reflects our understanding of the most current context within which we are trying to achieve our outcomes. Members should note that some information is not yet available but will be collated and analysed as soon as possible.
- 2.5 In addition to a factual statement on the progress made against each of the indicators, the annual monitoring process should also have regard to a qualitative assessment on the effectiveness of the SOA approach. This should cover how the SOA is being supported by continuous improvement, e.g. the effectiveness of partnership working, the nature of community engagement and how this is informing priority outcomes and a review and alignment of arrangements to support the delivery of agreed outcomes. Much of this information is already contained within our Single Outcome Agreement and has been summarised in this monitoring statement.
- 2.6 The achievements made by Services of the Council and our partners have also been updated since the single outcome agreement was formally approved by Members in April 2009. Much of this information has already been reported to Members through various reports to Scrutiny Committees and to the Best Value Forum through service plans.

### **3. CONCLUSION**

- 3.1 The Single Outcome Agreement is a significant document in that it sets out the commitment of the Council, our local partners and the Scottish Government to meeting the changing needs of the Falkirk Council area. It is important that the Council and our partners monitor regularly the progress we are making against our local outcomes and take appropriate actions where necessary, to ensure progress is made towards achieving the vision for our area.

### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**It is recommended that Members:**

- 4.1 **Approve the monitoring statement attached in appendix one; and**
- 4.2 **Note that further reports on progress on outcomes will be reported to Members on a regular basis.**

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Date: 22 September 2009

Ref: ABK1009FC– SOA

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**Summary Statement**

National Outcome	No of indicators Performance Improving	No of indicators Performance Deteriorating	No of indicators Performance the Same	Comparison not appropriate / available	Total No of Indicators
1	10	2		0	12
2	8	4		0	12
3	2	0		2	4
4	6	0	1	0	7
5	9	3	1	2	15
6	16	10		2	28
7	11	4		6	21
8	7	0		2	9
9	19	6		3	28
10	11	5		3	19
11	7	0		3	10
12	4	4		0	8
13	5	0		5	10
14	7	3		3	13
15	9	1		2	12
Total	131	42	2	33	208