

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN AND CORPORATE PLAN - SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT ANNUAL MONITORING STATEMENT
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 5 OCTOBER 2011
Author: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report presents to Members the monitoring statement for both the Council's Corporate Plan and our Community Planning Partnership's 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. It was amended this year to take account of the outcomes contained in the new Strategic Community Plan, approved by Members in December 2010, but retains a range of indicators by which progress is assessed.

2. PROGRESS ON OUTCOMES 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 from the first year of the SOA to date. We reviewed the outcomes contained within our SOA following the approval of our new Strategic Community Plan in December last year, and, while we have rationalised a range of subsidiary outcomes, the SOA now aligns more closely with the Council's Corporate Plan.

2.2 The monitoring statement in Appendix 1 sets out a summary of progress against each outcome and notes each of the indicators that measure progress. 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 the outcomes within the new Strategic Community Plan mirror those in the Council's Corporate Plan, the Single Outcome Agreement monitoring statement is presented as both the monitoring statement for the SOA and the Corporate Plan.

2.4 Over the life of the single outcome agreement, we can see that most of the outcomes are showing good progress. While we may not have achieved the challenging targets we set in 2008 for some indicators, most indicators show improvement. It is important that the Council and our partners review 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.

- 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 partnership approach to achieving outcomes. A statement of progress under each of the Council's four goals which sit above outcomes is also included within the statement. Much of this information has already been reported to Members through various reports to Scrutiny Committees and to the Best Value Forum.

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.
- 3.2 It is anticipated that over the coming months, the Scottish Government will issue guidance on the review and development of Single Outcome Agreements. Once such guidance has been issued we will review our SOA to ensure it continues to meet our need and importantly measure our progress against local outcomes.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 **It is recommended that Members approve the monitoring statement attached in Appendix 1.**



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CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Date: 18 September 2011
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Summary Statement

National Outcome	No of indicators Performance Improving	No of indicators Performance Deteriorating	No of indicators Performance the Same	Provisional figures or Comparison not appropriate	Total No of Indicators
1	7	4	0	0	11
2	6	5	0	0	11
3	2	4	0	1	7
4	2	4	0	1	7
5	6	2	0	6	14
6	14	8	0	5	27
7	8	7	0	3	18
8	3	0	0	5	8
9	18	3	0	5	26
10	8	1	0	4	13
11	6	1	0	3	10
12	4	3	0	0	7
13	4	1	0	5	10
14	9	2	0	1	12
15	7	5	1	0	13
Total	104	50	1	39	194
%	53.6%	25.8%	0.5%	20.1%	100.0%