

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD 10 FEBRUARY 2021

SUBJECT: LOIP DEVELOPMENT OF DELIVERY FRAMEWORK - UPDATE

BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, MORAY COUNCIL)

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1. To update the Board on progress in developing a delivery framework to advance the priorities set out in the Partnership's updated Local Outcomes Improvement Plan that was agreed by the Board on 16 September 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1. It is recommended that the Board:

- i) note progress in developing a delivery framework to advance the priorities set out in the Partnership's updated Local Outcomes Improvement Plan; and**
- ii) note that work is underway to clarify and develop working arrangements and governance for poverty the outcome of which will be reported to a future meeting of the Board.**

3. BACKGROUND

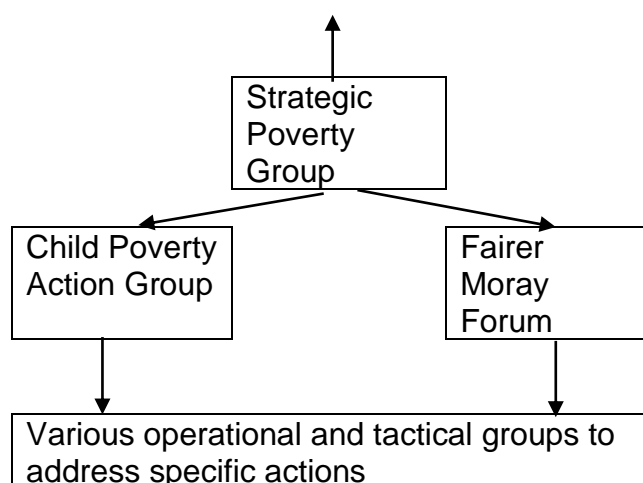
- 3.1 The Community Planning Board (CPB) on 16 September 2020 agreed the second iteration of the Partnership's Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP). The overall direction and approach of the LOIP remains as originally set. The second iteration is a continuation of the existing priorities, with some refinement of wording to improve the focus on adding value, specific outcomes and achieving the priority of tackling inequalities of outcomes.

- 3.2 In order to advance the priorities set out in the LOIP it was planned to
- i) Planning development activity(s) – to produce plans for each priority with performance milestones and measures.
 - ii) Community engagement plans to be developed for each priority area as appropriate (and co-ordinated through Community Planning Officers Group (CPOG) / Community Engagement Group (CEG)).
 - iii) Performance management framework to be updated and produced that can also be used to structure future CPOG and Board agendas.
 - iv) Structured performance reporting to be initiated through lead officers to CPOG and CPB.
- 3.3 The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on the ability of partners to engage in this process and release capacity to undertake the necessary planning work and so this is not as well advanced as had been hoped.
- 3.4 However, two workshops have been held to prepare delivery plans. One in December 2020 and a second January 2021 with strategic groups also meeting between these to prepare the delivery plans. The delivery plans are intended to focus attention on the highest priority cross partner activities within each LOIP Priority, ensuring effective links with existing partner plans and priorities. The guidance provided was that the actions in the plans should be those that would have the greatest impact or provide an essential foundation for other work to proceed. On that basis, groups are working on content for the delivery framework that identifies the activities it is recommended that the Board should prioritise above all others to ensure that the Partnership can deliver on the objectives in the LOIP.
- 3.5 In developing the delivery frameworks, attention has also been given to an improved focus on outcomes and to setting clear measures to monitor these. This is an evolving area of work that will continue to develop. Some outputs are also included as measures as the long term nature of some impacts mean that it is also useful to be able to track milestones towards planned results.
- 3.6 While it is recognised that the above approach reduces the volume of content and may appear less comprehensive, the sharper focus in these delivery plans aims to enable the Board to give attention to a narrower range of priorities and to maximise the impact by ensuring that there is cross partner commitment at the highest level to ensuring that these key actions progress. There is reference in each delivery framework to partner strategies and plans that hold greater levels of detail. Performance Monitoring reports will be brought forward so that the Board can support clear focussed attention on the progress of these frameworks.

- 3.7 The delivery framework plans are in draft format and will be finalised for a future meeting of the Board (subject to progress that is possible during COVID it is hoped that this will be in April 2021).
- 3.8 There are a number of cross cutting areas of work within the actions plans for each priority. The lead on various issues will be taken by the Group responsible for each priority, however, they will report and feedback through the lead officer to CPOG as the group with responsibility for the LOIP overall and for the overarching Raising Aspirations responsibility. This will enable oversight of interdependencies and cross cutting issues. Lead officers will also be able to brief each other to ensure consistency and coherence of actions.
- 3.9 The LOIP has an overarching priority of Raising Aspirations and a specific priority within that of Poverty. As noted at the previous Board meeting in September 2020, there is currently no lead officer or agency assigned to Poverty. This is due to current pressures on Public Health as a result of the pandemic and with the demands on all agencies it is proving difficult to find an interim solution. While there is a range of activity in place aimed at addressing poverty, this is an area that requires to be developed to ensure effective partnership prioritisation and use of resources. In respect of child poverty, the Fairer Moray Forum developed the Child Poverty Action Plan, which also includes some wider actions, and ensure that it is reported on and refreshed on an annual basis. However, work across the wider poverty spectrum would benefit from development.
- 3.10 The tasking of work, governance arrangements and specific remits for the priorities for the wider poverty agenda require to be reviewed and confirmed. It has been identified that the Fairer Moray Forum has a mixed operational and strategic remit and representation which can confuse the agenda. While it has been successful in developing the child poverty plan and associated work and this has connections into wider issues of poverty, there is a gap in addressing the whole issue of poverty and ensuring links with all relevant services, agencies and plans. To fill one of these gaps, there has been a sub-group created that has been focussing on the operational financial support work, which has proved very effective.
- 3.11 To clarify the responsibilities and requirements for the delivery of plans and actions to address poverty, it is proposed that further consultation and development with those is required and that the following clarifications and additions could form the basis of that work:
- i) Fairer Moray Forum – continues to act as a group providing focus and integration for partnership working at operational level. Examples of remit would include: action to develop and delivery financial benefits/support to individuals; WHAT ELSE?

- ii) Child Poverty Action Group – using the strategic representatives from the FMF, group chaired by CSWO. Remit would be to continue development, delivery and monitoring of child poverty (action plan). Link would be required to the Girfec Leadership Group which has responsibility for the Children and Young People LOIP priority.
- iii) Strategic Poverty Group – new group chaired by the CPP lead for poverty with senior strategic reps nominated by partners. Remit to be fully developed but to include the overarching partner poverty strategy, identification of priority issues to be addressed, cohesion of all poverty work across groups and plans.

3.12 The above would start to establish arrangements for a strategic overarching approach to poverty in Moray with governance to link the various strands.



3.15 To develop the poverty framework further it is proposed that CPOG considers how this can be progressed while the demands of the pandemic are managed. It is likely that work will be delayed while this situation prevails. However, a first task will be to clarify the specific remit of each of the groups with a view to preparing a Partnership Poverty Action plan for reporting to the Board.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no direct financial, workforce, equalities, policy or legal issues arising from this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant ongoing impact on partners' capacity to develop the delivery framework for the LOIP. However, draft plans are now prepared for each of the four priorities

and work will continue to finalise these with a view to report to the next Board if possible.

Author of Report:	Denise Whitworth
Background Reports:	CPB on 13 February 2018 - 1 st LOIP approved CPB on November 2018 - Progress on LOIP, noting challenges CPB on 18 September 2019 - summary of progress and review agreed CPB on 16 September 2020 – 2 nd edition LOIP approved (covid delay from March 2020)
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