

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
REPORT ON: LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANS (2012-2017)
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR, LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
REPORT NO: 113-2012

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report presents the rationale, structure and processes underpinning the development of Local Community Plans (LCPs) and asks Committee to endorse the Draft Summary Documents for publication subject to approval from The Dundee Partnership Management Group.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee agree to:

- 2.1 Note the rationale, structure and processes underpinning the development LCPs.
- 2.2 Recognise the high level of collaboration, co-operation and support between Dundee City Council, partner agencies and community stakeholders in the development of LCPs.
- 2.3 Refer the Draft Summary Public Documents (see attached) for publication subject to approval from The Dundee Partnership Management Group.
- 2.4 Agree that Dundee City Council should continue to work with Public, Private and Voluntary Sector Agencies in partnership with local communities to address the long term aspirations, needs and issues identified in each LCP.
- 2.5 Refer the responsibility for monitoring the implementation of LCPs and the annual update of targets to the Local Community Planning Partnership for each area.
- 2.6 Instruct the Director of Leisure and Communities to report progress on the implementation of LCP's annually during the period 2012–2017.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The implementation of LCPs will be conditional on the outputs being contained within the existing resources of the Dundee Partnership and additional Community Regeneration monies made available by the Scottish Government, the European Union and other sources of external funding.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, and Risk Management.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and will be available on the Council Web Site <http://www.dundee.gov.uk/equanddiv/equimpact/>.

- 4.2 The principles behind Local Community Planning is to empower all sections of the community to participate in decision-making, to encourage collective action and engagement in the political process and the representation of interests. These objectives are entirely consistent with the principles which underpin Local Agenda 21.
- 4.3 LCPs can be made available in other formats and languages on request and will be written with minimal use of jargon. Priority will be given to taking forward actions contained in LCPs which address poverty, inequality, and social inclusion. The production of LCPs will help make Services, Projects and Initiatives more sensitive to the needs of all sections of the community.
- 4.4 Measurement on the impact of Local Community Plans on Equalities Groups will be developed with support and guidance from the Dundee Equalities and Diversity Partnership.

5.0 BACKGROUND

5.1 The Dundee Community Plan

Community Planning is now a statutory requirement placed on Local Authorities (See Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 – Community Planning Statutory Guidance issued April 2004). Community Planning Partnerships are expected to produce a Plan which is signed up to by each of the key strategic partner agencies and which is the subject of Community Consultation.

In Dundee's case, the decision has been made to construct the Community Plan around the following themes:

- Building Stronger Communities
- Community Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- Sustainable Dundee
- Health and Wellbeing
- Work and Enterprise

There is a strong correlation between these Themes and The Scottish Government priorities.

5.2 Local Community Planning Guidance

The Community Planning Guidance accompanying the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 states that:

“In the context of Community Planning, the main aim of Community Engagement should be to improve the planning and delivery of services to make them more responsive to the needs and aspirations of communities. This will require the Community Planning Partnership to seek the views of communities, but also to secure their active involvement as partners in Community Planning”.

“It is particularly important that communities are engaged in the process at the local level, as it is at this level that agencies can come together to work with communities to address local problems and concerns in a way that cannot be achieved at a council-wide level alone”.

5.3 **Dundee Partnership Commitment**

Following the Community Planning Guidance, the Dundee Partnership made a commitment to:

- Place communities at the heart of Community Planning
- Promote effective collective engagement by agencies with communities
- Develop effective joint working practices between Public, Private and Voluntary Sector Bodies
- Improve the connection between national and local priorities
- Achieve agreed outcomes and targets
- Promote Active Citizenship, Community Capacity and Social Inclusion

6. **LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING 2012-2017**

6.1 **Local Community Planning Partnerships (LCPs)**

Local Community Planning Partnerships are now fully established and have been charged with the responsibility for the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Local Community Plans for the period 2012-2017.

6.2 **Local Community Plan Areas**

Local Community Planning areas are aligned with the Multi-Member Wards and produce one Plan for each Ward.

6.3 **Local Community Plan Framework**

LCPs will be developed around the Dundee Community Plan Themes to provide a connection between national, city-wide and local neighbourhood priorities. Community Learning and Development priorities have been integrated into the Local Community Plans.

This framework will be used to produce Working Documents which identify:

- Key issues/identified needs (based on community priorities)
- Baseline information (describing the current situation in relation to identified needs/issues)
- What will happen (outputs)
- What results will be achieved (outcomes)
- Inputs (a combination of resource requirements and agency inputs)
- Timescales
- Lead contact

The full detailed Working Documents will be used as a tool for implementation, monitoring and evaluation and will be available on request to services, agencies and members of the public. They are also posted on The Dundee Partnership website at <http://www.dundeepartnership.co.uk/content/local-community-planning>.

6.4 **Community Engagement**

The LCP Summary Documents have been subject to extensive Community Engagement. The levels of Community Engagement in Local Community Planning processes and the type of methods used vary from area to area according to differences in the local context.

- 6.5 Community Engagement Action Plans for each Ward are reviewed annually. They are closely linked to Local Community Plans and are currently being revised to be consistent with the cycle of Local Community Plans 2012-2017.

6.6 **Local Community Plan Content**

LCP content is driven by the identification of local communities' priority needs and issues.

A strong emphasis has been placed on developing LCP content around high priority/high partnership actions. These do not include routine operational items but focus instead on developmental/regenerative actions that target identified community needs.

Where appropriate Agency-led Service Developments, Projects and Initiatives based on the identification of local needs and issues, have also been included.

Some targets identified in LCPs represent longer term aspirations whereas other targets should be achieved within a shorter timescale. The LCPs are acknowledged as being "Rolling Plans" which give Local Community Planning Partnerships the flexibility to incorporate new actions as they see appropriate.

7. **PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

- 7.1 There has been a high level of collaboration, co-operation and support between Dundee City Council, partner agencies and community stakeholders in the development of LCPs.

- 7.2 Multi-agency working has been supported by the Local Community Planning Partnerships and this includes the involvement of local communities through Community Regeneration Forums, Community Councils, Neighbourhood Representative Structures, Voluntary Sector and Community Organisations, Local management Groups and Residents/Tenants Groups particularly in the designated Community Regeneration priority areas of Dundee.

8. **STRATEGIC LINKS**

- 8.1 The development of LCPs have established connections between national, city-wide and neighbourhood priorities. Issues identified in the Local Community Plans (2008-2011) were reflected in the Dundee Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement (2009-2012).

- 8.2 The output from this round of LCPs will be passed on to the Dundee Community Plan Theme Groups and other Strategic Partnership Structures, to allow city-wide issues to be addressed which cannot be dealt with locally, by LCPPs.

- 8.3 LCP's will inform the development of policy, and in particular the preparation of the Single Outcome Agreement between Dundee Partnership and Scottish Government. They will also inform the planning and delivery of Council Services, Projects and Initiatives.

9. **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

- 9.1 LCPs will cover the period 2012-2017. They will be reviewed and updated annually.

10. CONSULTATION

- 10.1 Consultation has taken place with the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Directors of Finance, Social Work, City Development, Housing, Education and Environment Departments in the preparation of this report.
- 10.2 Consultation has also taken place with all Community Planning Partners and with representatives of Dundee's communities.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 was relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report.

Summary copies of the draft local community plans have been distributed separate to Group Leaders, the Lord Provost and the Deputy Lord Provost.

Equality and Diversity Rapid Impact Assessment.

Stewart Murdoch
Director, Leisure and Communities
22 February 2012