



**REGENERATION OUTCOME  
AGREEMENT AND ASSOCIATED  
FUNDING**

**Board Meeting – 3 February 2005**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To present to Members for consideration and endorsement, a summary of East Ayrshire's Regeneration Outcome Agreement and associated programme of funding from the new Community Regeneration Fund.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The requirement on Community Planning Partners to prepare a three-year Regeneration Outcome Agreement (ROA) is contained within the Scottish Executive and Communities Scotland's Guidance, issued in August 2003, on the Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) transition to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs).

- 2.2 The Guidance detailed a three-stage integration process, as follows:

- Assessment of Readiness of CPPs (demonstrated by the production of a Statement of Readiness, submitted to Communities Scotland on 30 June 2004);
- Resource Allocation (based on the new Deprivation Index issued by the Scottish Executive in June 2004, with the 2005/06 indicative financial allocation from the new Community Regeneration Fund (CRF) received on 5 August 2004 and an 'interim offer' of grant received on 30 November 2004); and
- Regeneration Outcome Agreement (draft by 31 October 2004, submitted by the due date, with an original final submission date for lodging with Communities Scotland of 20 December 2004 to allow Ministerial 'sign off' by the end of March 2005).

- 2.3 Communities Scotland advised the Leader of the Council, as Chair of the Community Planning Partnership, by letter on the 30 November 2004 of a relaxation in the final submission date to early 2005.

- 2.4 The establishment of the new Community Regeneration Fund (CRF) replaces existing Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) and Better Neighbourhood Services Funding (BNSF) programmes and builds on the lessons and good practice from these programmes.

**3. SUMMARY OF REGENERATION OUTCOME AGREEMENT (ROA)**

- 3.1 Within East Ayrshire, the ROA underpins the Community Plan and focuses on closing the opportunity gap between the most and least affluent communities.

- 3.2 Furthermore, the ROA, underpinned by the new CRF, will provide the strategic and operational framework for Community Planning Partners to deliver their regeneration objectives and contribute to addressing the national priorities set by the Scottish Executive.
- 3.3 The Scottish Executive has advised that the new CRF should focus particularly on the most deprived 15% data zones identified within the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (SIMD04).
- 3.4 Effective targeting of CRF resources is acknowledged as essential by Community Planning Partners. However, in many of East Ayrshire's communities, deprivation does not exist solely in pockets but across whole communities and, where this is the case, Planning Partners propose to extend relevant programmes into some of the 15-30% most deprived data zones.
- 3.5 In developing the outcomes to be addressed through the ROA, a series of community and partner consultation events was held during the summer and autumn of 2004. This resulted in the following high level outcomes being identified:
- Active Communities;
  - Skilled Communities;
  - Safe Communities;
  - Health Communities; and
  - Attractive Communities.
- 3.6 These high level outcomes are underpinned by a series of secondary outcomes and project outputs against which performance will be measured. A full copy of the ROA will be available for inspection at the Board Meeting.
- 3.7 To achieve these outcomes, Community Planning Partners have identified a programme of initiatives to be funded from the new CRF. The funding allocation for which is as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Core Budget Allocation £</b>	<b>Empowering Communities Budget Allocation £</b>	<b>Total Allocation £</b>
2005/06	4,033,000	60,000	4,093,000
2006/07	3,533,000	99,000	3,632,000
2007/08	3,254,000	99,000	3,353,000

- 3.8 The proposed programme of initiatives to be funded from the new CRF has been developed after an extensive review of existing SIP and BNSF projects, and a review of new projects submitted for consideration as part of the ROA development process. As a result of the announcement on CRF financial allocations for 2006/07 and 2007/08 by the Scottish Executive in December 2004, a further review of the proposed CRF programme was required. The final stages of this review are currently being concluded and a full list of funding proposals will be submitted to the Board meeting.

- 3.9 For most projects, with the exception of existing 'flagship' projects, core community capacity building initiatives and central operating costs (where a three-year funding package is proposed), a two-year funding package for 2005/06 and 2006/07 is still proposed providing an opportunity to review all programmes to coincide with the launch of the second set of Community Plan Action Plans in 2007/08.
- 3.10 Where existing projects offer a less strategic fit, a one-year package for 2005/06 is proposed. This will allow programmes to seek external funding in 2006/07 and beyond or to plan an appropriate exit.

#### **4. GOVERNANCE**

- 4.1 To ensure the effective governance of the CRF, Community Planning Partners require to nominate a grant recipient. As the Council has a duty to lead on and facilitate Community Planning and has acted as the nominated grant recipient for both SIP and BNSF programmes, Community Planning Partners have requested that the Council continues with this role, with decisions on future allocation of CRF resources delegated to the appropriate Partnership Board. The existing arrangements of separate North and Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnerships therefore require to be reviewed by Community Planning Partners.

#### **5. REGENERATION OUTCOME AGREEMENT ENDORSEMENT PROCESS**

- 5.1 The ROA has received the formal endorsement of the majority of Community Planning Partners and is presented to the North Social Inclusion Initiative and the Coalfield Area SIP Board for consideration and endorsement. East Ayrshire Council's Policy and Resources Committee will consider the funding proposals at its meeting of 8 February 2005. Once full approval is gained, the ROA and associated programme of projects will be forwarded to Communities Scotland for consideration and Ministerial 'sign off'.
- 5.2 Communities Scotland, in its letter to the Leader of the Council on 30 November 2004, confirmed an 'interim offer' of grant for 2005/06 of £4,033,000. The Empowering Communities allocation of £60,000 for 2005/06 was confirmed in a letter dated 1 November 2004.
- 5.3 As a result of this interim offer and to ensure continuity of service provision, East Ayrshire Council has been asked to underwrite the CRF allocation for 2005/06 until the official 'sign off' of the document by Ministers.

#### **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 Members of the Board are asked to:
- i) endorse East Ayrshire's Regeneration Outcome Agreement and associated package of projects for submission to Communities Scotland;
  - ii) note that East Ayrshire Council has been requested to act as grant recipient for the Community Regeneration Fund;
  - iii) note that East Ayrshire Council has been requested to underwrite the 2005/06 CRF allocation until the ROA receives Ministerial 'sign off', to allow for continuity of service provision;

- iv) note the proposed review of existing operating structures for the North Social Inclusion Partnership and the Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership, and agree to receive a further report on the outcome of this review at a future Board Meeting; and
- v) otherwise, note the content of the report.

**Gwen Barker**  
**Community Planning and Partnership Manager**  
**26 January 2005**