

A Culture Which Encourages Joint Working

Members and senior management actively seek out and encourage opportunities for formal and informal **joint working**, joint use of resources and joint funding options where this offers scope for service improvement or efficiency. We are committed to working with partner organisations to ensure a joined up approach to meeting the needs of our stakeholders and communities.

Our approach to joint working seeks to take into account wider policy issues, as well as current local agendas and increasingly focuses on arrangements to facilitate joint funding and joint management of services with internal and external partners. There are a large number of examples where we are working with partners in the voluntary and private sectors and with other public agencies to improve services and maximise funding opportunities.

Our **Community Plan** provides our primary framework for joint working and it sets out a vision for Renfrewshire to which partners have agreed. Under our **Community Planning** framework modernising government, social inclusion and equal opportunities have been agreed as the principles that underpin all partnership working. Our Community Plan also states core objectives and actions that have been agreed by partners to achieve these objectives. The **Community Plan Management Group**, which includes elected members of Renfrewshire Council and senior management from all partners' agencies, addresses major strategic issues such as the barriers to integrated approaches and barriers to joint funding and management of services. Three thematic working groups report to the Community Plan Management Group on a rolling quarterly cycle. These groups are: **Housing Neighbourhoods and Community Safety; Learning and Work; and Health Improvement**. The **Community Regeneration Fund Oversight Group**, which was established to oversee the development, implementation and monitoring of the Renfrewshire Regeneration Outcome Agreement, also reports to the Community Planning Management Group. Full details of the Community Planning structures and management arrangements are set out in the Council's submission on the **Community Planning Advice Notes**.

Each of the Service Profiles contains details of the joint working currently being undertaken by Departments but some of the more significant examples of joint working are:

Children's Services Planning. The Children's Service Plan for Renfrewshire 2005–2008 was launched in September 2005. Key partners involved with the Council in drawing up this joint Plan include: NHS Argyll and Clyde, Strathclyde Police, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration, Who Cares Scotland and Barnardo's Scotland. The focus now is on implementing the Plan.

Clyde Valley Community Planning Partnership. The Council is represented at Leader level on the City Region Group which oversees the development and implementation of key metropolitan projects funded through the Cities Growth Fund. The partnership also oversees key infrastructure projects such as the M74 and Glasgow Airport

Clyde Waterfront Strategic Board. A key project within this partnership is the development of Renfrew Riverside. When complete this £500 million development will create an extension to urban Renfrew consisting of 2,100 new homes, 45,000 square metres of business space, 45,000 square metres of leisure space, a new public park and riverside walkway.

Anti Social Behaviour Strategy. The Council, Strathclyde Police, Federation of Local Housing Associations (FLAIR), National Children's Homes Scotland and the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration produced an Anti Social Behaviour Strategy for Renfrewshire and will receive £4.78 million from the Scottish Executive to address the issue.

Paisley Partnership Regeneration Company. The Council, Scottish Enterprise Renfrewshire and NHS Argyll and Clyde are Board members of this company, which operates to assist the Community Planning Partnership monitor and review the implementation of the Regeneration Outcome Agreement.

Have a Heart Paisley. NHS Argyll and Clyde, the Council and the Scottish Executive, Health Division formed this partnership to agree a programme of actions targeted at reducing the incidence of cardio vascular disease in Renfrewshire.

Glasgow Airport Zone. The airport is the largest private sector employer in Renfrewshire, a

partnership has been established involving BAA Glasgow, Scottish Enterprise Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce and the Council. The primary focus of this partnership is to provide a development framework to stimulate economic activity adjacent to the airport. In addition, Renfrewshire Council has secured Interreg funding to exploit on-site opportunities such as route development and maintenance and repair operations.

Carts Greenspace. This is one of five local partnerships which have been established to enhance open areas in the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Area and includes Renfrewshire Council, East Renfrewshire Council and Glasgow City Council with Scottish Natural Heritage providing revenue funding support. The aims of the partnership are to: promote sustainability, improve quality of life and enhance the competitiveness of urban Scotland by creating and improving green spaces and extend opportunities for people to enjoy countryside in and around towns making Scotland's cities and towns more attractive places.

Health Protection Scotland. In partnership with Health Protection Scotland, a number of other Councils, Scottish Water and Scottish Environment Protection Agency participate in an Environmental Health Surveillance system for Scotland. This surveillance system is co-ordinated by Health Protection Scotland and involves the collection of pollution related environmental health data from partners and offers an opportunity to improve the evidence base for action on the environment in the interests of public health.

Glasgow Scientific Services (GSS) is a partnership involving all the twelve Councils in the former Strathclyde area. GSS provided analytical services and laboratory support to the partners to facilitate their work in a number of important respects. Services provided include: chemical and biological sciences support, calibration and test services and other work is carried out in fields such as hazardous material, waters, contaminated land, and air quality.

East Renfrewshire Non Domestic Rates Project. The Council is working with East Renfrewshire Council to develop a new more efficient non domestic rates collection and billing service which will result in costs savings that can be redirected to address other business needs.

Leisure Partnership. The Council in partnership with SportScotland and the Big Lottery Fund has made a significant investment in sports facilities within Renfrewshire. New sports centres have been constructed in Erskine and Renfrew, the King George V playing fields in Renfrew have been upgraded to include synthetic, floodlit pitches and a new pavilion constructed and a new dry facility at the Lagoon Leisure Centre in Paisley is under development.

ABC Collaborative Buying Consortium. This collaborative buying consortium consists of twelve West of Scotland Councils who are able to buy commodities at low prices through ABC's award of large scale contracts to suppliers, resulting in more efficient procurement and financial savings for all participating Councils.

As well as these major partnerships the Council is lead authority for the Valuation Joint Board, Clyde Muirshiel Park, Joint Structure Plan and Westrans and participates on the Police, Fire, and SPTE joint Boards.

Our **culture of joined up working** and partnership covers our **internal working** relationships as well as our external partnerships. Internal joint working is also covered in our service performance profiles and includes active participation in a wide range of **corporate working groups**: Corporate Health and Safety Committee, Emergency Planning Group, IT Steering Group, Modernising and Improvement Group, Information Management Steering Group, Archives Working Group, Data Protection Working Group, Freedom of Information Working Group, Quality and Performance Working Group, Training and Development, Employee Development Network Group, Web Portal Group, Corporate Risk Management Team, Joint Futures, Planning for Change Working Groups and Community Planning Groups are only a few examples

All Renfrewshire Council **Service Plans** reference their objectives and actions to Community Planning priorities. Every report submitted to Policy Boards outlines the anticipated impact on Community Plan objectives. The structure to deliver Community Planning in Renfrewshire was reviewed in 2004 and the remits of working groups amended accordingly. **Community Planning Action Plans** are in place that set out agreed joint working arrangements. Our partners also

engage with each other as appropriate in the process of planning services and in response to Scottish Executive consultation exercises and requests for submissions to access funding. Full details of Community Planning activities are included within the relevant sections of this submission.

Key Strengths

- Community Plan is well established as the agreed vision for Renfrewshire and provides an effective framework for joint working
- Joint Boards to deliver key services – Police, Fire, Valuation and Transport
- Joined up service delivery Education PPP, Renfrewshire Leisure and Joint Future
- Portal Development – online information and services for all Renfrewshire residents – a single electronic gateway to the public and voluntary sector in Renfrewshire.
- Capacity to deliver major infrastructure investment, for example Anchor Mill, Glasgow Airport Zone and Renfrew Riverside

Core Evidence

- Community Plan
- Joint Boards
- Education PPP
- Renfrewshire Leisure
- Community Planning Advice Notes submission
- List of corporate working groups.

Best Practice

<p>Development of a Diploma in Social Work (SW BP10)</p>	<p>In partnership with Paisley University and other local authorities, the Social Work Department developed a Diploma in Social Work to address the shortfall in the number of social workers available.</p>
<p>Development of Renfrew Area Team's service (SW BP7)</p>	<p>Social Work and the Health Board are currently working together to establish a joint facility to provide social work and health services in Renfrew. This project will deliver replacement accommodation for the Renfrew Area Social Work office and the services delivered from the current health centre in Renfrew. The single site will assist in delivering a more streamlined service to the public.</p>
<p>Anchor Mills Conversion (PT BP 2)</p>	<p>The Domestic Finishing Mill at Anchor Mill, Paisley, is a landmark building which dates back to the town's rich textile heritage. The five storey, Category A listed Mill occupies a prominent position at the heart of Paisley town centre and has a deep rooted link with the social, economic and cultural development of the town and its people. The Council has recently led a £12million project to redevelop the Mill for a mix of residential and business uses, marking a significant step in the regeneration of the town.</p>
<p>Glasgow Airport Zone (PT BP 9)</p>	<p>A partnership with BAA Glasgow, Scottish Enterprise Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce and the Council to maximise the development potential of Glasgow Airport. Activities include master planning, route development, key site development and the attraction of new activities such as maintenance and repair operations.</p>
<p>Firewatch Programme (EL BP 23)</p>	<p>Education and Leisure Services and Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service work in partnership in delivering the interactive programme "FireSafe" to all primary schools through an outreach programme of visits and demonstrations and to the secondary schools through pupil visits to the Safety Centre at Paisley Fire Station. Education and Leisure support the programme through the purchase of a mobile fire demonstration trailer, ICT equipment and staff training for fire personnel.</p>

Plans for Continuous Improvement

- Integrate the implementation of the Childrens Services Plan more fully into the Community Planning structures.
- Develop a working relationship with the successor to NHS Argyll and Clyde particularly with regard to services relating to learning disability, older people and mental health.