

SOA for Dumfries and Galloway 2009-12

1. Purpose of the Agreement

This agreement identifies the key characteristics of the region, and sets out areas for improvement in delivering public services in Dumfries and Galloway that should make a real difference to people's lives.

This Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) will:

1. Support delivery of the shared Dumfries and Galloway 2020 vision, and the new Community Plan 2009-2012.
2. Establish shared outcomes to be achieved in Dumfries & Galloway and the indicators that will measure progress and achievement.
3. Set out how partners and national government will work with the local authority to deliver the shared outcomes.
4. Support the new relationship built on partnership and mutual respect established in the Concordat between Scottish government and COSLA and underpin funding to be provided to local government over the period 2008-2012.
5. Provide a clear link between the Scottish Government's strategic objectives and national outcomes and the specific needs of the rural communities of Dumfries and Galloway, by translating national priorities into local outcomes.

1.1 A Shared Vision

This agreement is a first step on the journey towards agreeing and delivering the Dumfries and Galloway shared vision.

Our draft vision is:

There are three draft visions for consideration and a preference will be sought through the web discussion forum and at the four meetings in January.

Vision A

Working together to create an ambitious, prosperous and confident Dumfries and Galloway where people achieve their potential.

Vision B

Dumfries and Galloway

- a landscape which inspires
- an environment of opportunity
- strong, active people

Vision C

Dumfries and Galloway – Prosperous Local Communities

1.2 Shared Local Outcomes

This agreement is outcome focused which signals a change from measuring what we do, to measuring what happens as a result of that effort. Progress will be measured not by tasks done but by a positive difference that is noticeable within our communities.

The local authority, Scottish Government and the Community Planning Partners agree to be jointly committed to working on and mutually accountable for the future achievement of the following agreed local outcomes for Dumfries and Galloway.

- an innovative and prosperous rural economy
- a quality of life which is healthy and happy
- feeling safe and respected within their community
- being better equipped for a changing world and having improved life chances
- an environment that is protected and enhanced

1.3 Working together

This agreement is between the Scottish Government and Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning Partnership.

1.4 A new relationship between national and local government

This agreement helps implement the Concordat agreed between the Scottish Government and COSLA, on behalf of local government, as the basis of national-local government relations. The Concordat is based on partnership working and mutual respect and underpins the funding provided to local government over the period 2008-11. Under the terms of this new partnership, the Scottish Government will set the direction of policy and the overarching outcomes that the public sector in Scotland are expected to work towards but implementation will be at local level, therefore reducing bureaucracy and freeing up local partners to focus on achieving best value through effective and efficient delivery.

As part of the Concordat there will be a reduction in ring fencing of local government expenditure and reporting requirements and any efficiency savings can be retained. As part of the agreement, the local authority has agreed to contribute directly to the delivery of the key national commitments, including a freeze on council tax. This gives the local authority substantially increased flexibility and also greater responsibility.

It is recognised that delivery of the SOA and Concordat is inevitably contingent on adequate funding and we will seek to work constructively with the Scottish Government to secure that as the SOA and the Concordat develop.

1.5 Joining up ~ national and local

There are fifteen national outcomes that this agreement will help deliver through five local outcomes. The indicators to measure success reflect a mixture of national and local priorities and available information.

The national outcomes have been tailored to reflect the local circumstances within Dumfries and Galloway, where effective service delivery is strongly influenced by its rural character and the demographic issues of an increasing elderly population. Also in an area where organisations often share the same boundaries, sharing support, and combining delivery of services, often makes sense

2. Scope of the SOA

2.1 This **SOA** is the result of extensive community and partnership engagement over several months to identify the priority issues for our communities. Dumfries and Galloway residents and partners have taken part in online surveys, customer service surveys, facilitated discussions on the vision, priorities and principles. The results of this consultation provide the framework for both the new community plan and this SOA.

2.2 The SOA will operate according to the principles of Community Planning (Local Government in Scotland Act 2003) by adopting a way of working that helps public agencies to work together with the community to plan and deliver better services that make a real difference to people's lives.

- to make sure people and communities are genuinely engaged in the decisions made on public services which affect them;

allied to

- a commitment from organisations to work together, not apart, in providing better public services.

2.3 The partners to the SOA commit to delivering the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, particularly the shared duties under Community Planning, Best Value, Equalities and Sustainable Development.

3. Governance Arrangements

3.1 The corporate and joint governance and scrutiny arrangements of the Council and its Community Planning partners are based on the fundamental principles of openness, inclusiveness and accountability through formal decision making processes.

3.2 The powers and authority of the Council are set out in its Standing Orders and Schemes of Delegation to Committees and Officers. The Council has clearly defined protocols governing relationships between Members and Officers through its Member and Officer Protocol and,

through its Scheme of Representation on Outside Bodies, clearly defined roles and authorities for Members in partnership working.

3.3 Arrangements for the scrutiny of decision making are made through its Governance and Audit Committee which seeks evidence, amongst other matters, of the adequacy of policies and procedures for ensuring compliance with relevant statutes, guidance and policies and adherence to the principles of good corporate governance and through its Scrutiny Committee which, amongst other matters, scrutinises the processes by which decisions are made.

3.4 The Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance incorporates the management and reporting arrangements in place to ensure that its approach to corporate governance is adequate. The Annual Corporate Governance Statement provides evidence of the effectiveness of the Council's governance arrangements and any plans to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement.

3.5 Community Planning is taken forward through the Community Planning Joint Board and Community Plan. The Joint Board will have an overview of the work undertaken in delivering the SOA and Community Plan with a number of different bodies both existing and new contributing to the work programme as appropriate.

3.6 The Community Planning Joint Management Team (JMT), comprising the senior managers of the Council, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, Scottish Enterprise, Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary and Dumfries and Galloway Fire and Rescue Service and representation from the Third Sector has responsibility for ensuring progress on the programme of joint working agreed by the Community Planning Joint Board.

3.7 Four Local Rural Partnerships (LRPs) provide a geographic focus. Each has a work plan, linked to the Area Community Plan and report to the Joint Board.

3.8 A number of Working Groups have been established to take forward issues such as shared services, poverty and inequality, public involvement, diversity and implementation of a Compact between the major public agencies and the Third Sector. The JMT has responsibility for their work programme.

3.9 In developing the SOA, the Dumfries and Galloway Community Planning partners will agree to deliver on the specified set of commitments. Individual partner agencies will be encouraged to ensure that the agreed outcomes and indicators are reflected in their respective strategic plans and service/budget planning.

3.10 In developing the SOA the partners will require to be clear about responsibility and accountability for its successful implementation. Community Planning partners will review decision-making procedures, governance, scrutiny and monitoring arrangements.

3.11 While the joint approach to governance and scrutiny continues to be developed, formal monitoring of progress on the SOA will be incorporated into the Council's revised Code of Corporate Governance and reported to Audit Scotland through the Annual Statement of Assurance. This will ensure a clear accountability for the delivery of targets through the identification of lead officer roles; appropriate resourcing protocols and robust performance management and reporting arrangements; with a consequent strategic and organisational focus on outcomes.

4. Ongoing development of the SOA

4.1 The SOA has been developed in partnership according to the October 2008 guidance developed by Scottish Government and COSLA, SOLACE, Audit Scotland and the Scottish Local Government Improvement Service and lessons learned from our own process in developing the first SOA.

4.2 The Vision is consistent with the five strategic objectives of Scottish Government that implement the Scottish Government's vision that *'economic development should raise the quality of life of the Scottish people through increasing economic opportunities for all, on a socially and environmentally sustainable basis.'* The five strategic objectives are:

- Wealthier and fairer
- Smarter
- Healthier
- Greener
- Safer and stronger

4.3 The five strategic objectives are recognised as the channels through which the Government Economic Strategy that focuses Scottish Government and public services on *'creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish through increasing sustainable economic growth'* is most effectively driven.

The issue at Dumfries and Galloway level therefore becomes one of how all partners can contribute to sustainable economic growth at regional level, thus contributing to the Scottish government aspiration (to raise GDP growth levels in Scotland to match those of the UK). This matches with the aspirations of the South of Scotland Competitiveness Strategy 2007-13.

4.4 This SOA and the new Community Plan reflect these five strategic objectives providing consistency between local and national policy implementation whilst developing a programme fit for delivering improved public services across a rural region.

4.5 The process for developing this SOA was agreed by the Community Planning Joint Board in July 2008. It has involved a wide range of people and methodologies and represents what is important to the people in our region.

4.6 The guidance for developing the SOA was widely distributed inviting strategic partners, the Third Sector and private sector to contribute to development of indicators to deliver outcomes and to advise on the issues necessary to ensure achievement of the outcomes.

4.8 There is recognition that the SOA will evolve and be subject to review, following meaningful dialogue with the Scottish Government, local strategic partners and Dumfries and Galloway communities. Negotiation with Scottish Government will inform the final version of the 2009 SOA.

4.11 The development of the new Community Plan involved all partners and was carried out alongside the development of this SOA. We have ensured that all partners have been fully engaged in the development of this agreement, and that it has been considered and approved by both the Council and the Community Planning Joint Board partners.

5 Performance Management

5.1 Introducing effective performance management arrangements which can be shared by the Community Planning partners is a priority action for the partners.

5.2 These arrangements are based on existing systems used by the partners for monitoring financial information, for providing progress reports on the implementation of strategic and operational plans, and for providing performance returns at a national level, e.g., Statutory Performance Indicators. The Joint Board will receive regular performance monitoring reports and will adopt exception reporting.

5.3 The inter-agency approach would benefit from a new joint system of assessing performance against the SOA. This will be achieved through a number of initial steps including:

- Identifying which indicators are already being recorded, and which will require new recording mechanisms
- Introducing effective joint arrangements for identifying, defining, handling and recording information
- Clear identification of lead agencies for each outcome and indicator
- Agreement on action to be taken to address areas of weak performance.

5.4 The development of the SOA offers an opportunity to apply technology to a shared performance management system. It has been agreed that the Council Covalent performance management system will be adopted by partners as a common tool to record and provide access to performance information relating to the SOA. A suitability assessment will need to be conducted by partners. Information from the SOA has been 'loaded' onto the system, providing a basis for detailed tracking of performance and direct data input by all partners; ensuring that performance information is up to date and accessible.

5.5 The contents of the SOA will be subject to an initial risk assessment, leading to the production of a Risk Management Action Plan, which will be reviewed annually.

5.6 Processes for resolving any disputes between the Scottish Government and Community Planning partners are yet to be agreed.

6 Public reporting

6.1 The partners to the agreement will report progress on the delivery of the outcomes.

6.2 The Communication Strategies for both the Council and the Community Planning Partnership take into account the public reporting requirements of the SOA and this has led to changes in the proposed methodology.

6.3 Community Planning Partners are using existing channels, as well as implementing the use of Covalent to report progress on the delivery of the key outcomes identified in the SOA.

- Progress reports will be provided to the Community Planning Joint Board and to the Policy Committee of the Council. These reports will be published on the council website, www.dumgal.gov.uk and on www.dgcommunity.net.
- A performance publication called 'Broadcast' is delivered to every household in Dumfries and Galloway twice a year. The November issue has highlighted partnership working for the last two years. This will be used to tell local people about the progress of the SOA.
- Projects to assist the delivery of individual outcomes will be publicly reported to the Community Planning Joint Board and public awareness raised through media take up.

6.4 Key messages will be prepared and used by the partners to deliver a coordinated approach to reporting SOA outcomes. The Community Plan and the SOA will be reviewed and updated annually to take account of changing circumstances.

7 Context, Local Outcomes, Indicators and Dependencies

The Local Outcomes and the Local Context for each outcome are presented in the following tables. To measure successful achievement of outcomes there is a mix of xxx indicators- some national, some from the national menu of local indicators, and some local Dumfries and Galloway measures.

The following documents provide the strategic context that the SOA sits within-

- D&G Community Plan 2004-09 (2009-12 under development)
- D&G Council Corporate Plan 2007-11
- D&G Single Outcome Agreement 2008-09

AREA PROFILE

Contents: The background and priorities of the people, the economy and the environment

8. The People

8.1 Background Size

Dumfries and Galloway is the third largest region in Scotland. It covers 2,380 square miles and has an estimated population of 148,030.

Rurality

Dumfries and Galloway is characterised by small settlements spread across a large area. The region has around 60 people a square mile compared with the Scottish average of 168. Over a quarter of our population live more than 30mins drive from a large town and people live mainly in small communities of 4,000 or less or in the countryside. The biggest town is Dumfries with an estimated population of 37,110, followed by Stranraer with 10,600 and Annan with 8,240. 40% of schools have fewer than 50 pupils with six of our secondaries having fewer than 500 pupils.

Ageing population

The population figure has remained steady, but the demographics are changing quite rapidly and present a challenge for the Council and its partners in the years ahead. We have a declining birth rate and an average age of 41.8 compared to the Scottish average of 38.3. School rolls is expected to decrease by 17% over the next ten years, well above the anticipated national average of 9.7%.

Dumfries and Galloway's population of pensioners is 24.2% compared with the Scottish average of 16.4% and only 17.4% of the population are aged under 16. Projections to 2024 indicate a 14% reduction of 30-64 age group and 51% will be over 65

Clearly this has a major impact on the planning and delivery of services for the long term.

8.2 The Outcomes we want to achieve and our Priorities have been identified as follows:

8.2.1 ...a quality of life which is healthy and happy (Local Outcome 2)

Good mental wellbeing

The Dumfries and Galloway Wellbeing survey launched in July 2007 showed local people with higher than average levels of mild or moderate depression -16% against the 9.7% UK average. 60% of young women in our region suffer from some form of anxiety. Recent research has also proven the direct link between good mental wellbeing, confidence, active lifestyle and prevention of illness later in life e.g. arthritis, heart conditions and strokes.

Caring for vulnerable people

Because of the ageing population referred to earlier, the increase in people with dementia is expected to grow by 40% in the next 20 years and by 150% by 2050. Our Short Term Augmented Response Team (STARs) support almost 400 people each year either in their own home or with discharge from hospital

We have estimated 4000 children and young people living with substance misusing parents. Our HMIE Child Protection Inspection Report was generally positive and the progress in the Council's Improvement Programme for Social Work Services has been deemed acceptable by the Social Work Inspection Agency.

Number of children on Child Protection Register is 75 as at September 2008.

Access to quality health services

The NHS Clinical Governance Strategy is being updated and is looking at key issues facing the region- the upgrading of the region's main hospital; palliative care; stroke services; and older people's services. Work is also ongoing about the balance of care into communities.

98% of presentations to Accident and Emergency are treated and discharged or admitted to a hospital ward within the national four hour target (we have over 45,000 presentations) and we achieved a number of national access targets ahead of schedule, including access to a GP or appropriate clinician within 48 hours. The opening of the new Galloway Community Hospital in Stranraer has made a contribution to that.

Significant improvement to NHS dentistry has been experienced with proactive recruitment resulting in 34,000 new patients and there now being 56% people registered.

Reducing health inequalities

Dumfries and Galloway has 16 'data zones' in the 20% of the most deprived areas in Scotland. However 80% of income deprived and 82% of employment deprived people on our region live outwith these data zones. That means we have very small pockets of deprivation across the region. So support needs to be targeted at individuals and specific families, not geographic communities, to be most effective. The 'key worker' model being adopted for the Fairer Scotland Fund of £4.902M over the coming three years is based on this approach and the Building Healthy Communities work also recognises this pattern in its work.

Leading healthier lifestyles

Prevention and intervention are key issues – e.g. from the Wellbeing Survey sample 44% of people were not eating the recommended five portions of fruit and vegetables a day and the majority of people here – 57% are obese or overweight.. However 24 businesses have achieved the Healthy Working Lives Award and 120 people a year are estimated to reduce their drinking following a brief intervention by their GP. A new Regional Leisure Complex opened in September 2008 and has already exceeded anticipated customer numbers.

8.2.2 ...communities where people feel safe and respected (Local Outcome 3)

Improving community safety

Reducing crime - The region's recorded crime rate is 9th lowest in mainland Scottish authorities with low levels of violent crime and registered sex offenders.

Addressing antisocial behaviour – last year there was only one Dispersal Order and 21 Anti Social Behaviour Orders issued with the focus being on noise, vandalism, minor fire raising and alcohol misuse among a small group of persistent young offenders. There is a focus on prevention e.g. Midnight Football Scheme which has had over 11,000 attendances and won a national Excellence award.

Improving feelings of safety – There has been a 11% increase in the number of deaths and a very small increase in injuries of road collisions with the national average decreasing. Young drivers schemes are in place as well as traditional enforcement. 37 out of 106 planned 20mph zones around Primary Schools and Safer Routes to Schools have commenced. Over 3400 inspections carried out by environmental standards to check compliance with legal requirements.

Supporting communities

Dumfries and Galloway has a strong sense of community. There are, for example, 92 active Community Councils out of a possible 107. There is strong support for traditional local events and festivals.

In terms of communities of interest, there are now representative groupings for each of the strands of diversity – age, disability, gender, race, religion and sexuality – good links established across and between the strands and promotion of events and information that celebrates diversity.

8.2.3 ...being better equipped for a changing world and having improved life chances (Local Outcome 4)

Improving school achievement

Investment in the region's 14 secondary, 103 primary, two all through and two special school buildings will provide a positive learning environment for our 21,000 pupils. A £108M Public Private Partnership to build nine new schools and one refurbishment and extension is due to be complete in 2011/12

The lowest attaining 20% of pupils achieve above the national Tariff Scores at the end of S4, with the remaining 80% achieving Tariff Scores well above the national average. Performance measured at the end of S6 is comparable to that of comparator authorities but has dropped, on average, by 2% in the last two years.

Improving participation and access to learning

Pupils in our schools have higher levels of attendance and lower levels of exclusion than the national average.

There has been an increase of 12% in numbers involved in adult literacy and numeracy. Our childcare and early years provision has grown very rapidly in recent years and there is a complex network of providers and establishments.

Encouraging responsible citizenship

There are core principles embedded in the Curriculum for Excellence and local Civic Pride groups and the People's Project in Dumfries that want to see encouragement of responsible citizenship.

Targeting skills training

The opening of a new £37M College on the Crichton site in September 2008 offers further education a positive boost along with ongoing investment in the site. We have 86% of school leavers who go into employment, education or training - but there is still a significant number(560) of 16-19 year olds who are not.

Specific areas of training identified within the Regional Economic Strategy are science, technology, environment, food, socio-cultural-heritage, rural entrepreneurship and land based industries.

9 The Economy

9.1 Background

The key drivers for the economy are firstly that it is distinctly rural and secondly that it needs to be sustainable.

Gross Value Added (GVA) has grown by an average 1.9% a year (1999/2006 – Scotland 2%) In 2006 GVA per head was £12,335 (Scotland £16,370). GVA in the region is expected to grow at a slower rate than the national average over the period to 2010.

The role of the main town of Dumfries as the regional capital means that it has particular attention.

9.2 The Outcomes and Priorities

The outcomes we want to achieve and the priorities to achieve them for the economy of our region are as follows:

... an innovative and prosperous rural economy (Local Outcome 1)

Maintaining employment

Research shows a distinctive rural economy with high economic activity rates, and high business start up rates. The employment rate is 82% (Scotland 75.7%). However these statistics can mask high levels of self employment, part-time and seasonal employment in lower wage jobs.

In Dumfries and Galloway, the latest figures show that 71,000 people are economically active. Of this number, nearly 21,900 work in public administration, education and health, that's 31.2%.

Unemployment levels in the region are low and trail the Scottish average by only 0.1%, although there are still pockets of high unemployment in some areas.

Average gross weekly pay is currently £480 per week, which is only 95% of the Scottish average

The traditional sectors of agriculture, forestry, fishing and tourism continue to be particularly important. Only 4% of businesses employ more than 250 people. At the other end of the scale 87% employ fewer than 9 people.

Dumfries and Galloway's working age population represents 58.4% of the overall population compared to 62.6% in Scotland. Dumfries and Galloway has also attracted significant numbers of migrant workers. By early 2007 the estimate was that there were between 2,000 and 2,500 overseas migrant workers in the region.

Improving the physical and technical infrastructure

The physical infrastructure in the two key towns of Dumfries and Stranraer is key to the success of the region. The Dumfries Town Centre Strategy developer partner has had to withdraw its support in light of the international economic situation but the £1.5M Midsteeple renovation project was completed. The Stranraer Waterfront project has secured funding of £3.85M and comprises 27 projects – the Marina was completed in summer 08.

The South of Scotland Broadband Pathfinder project brought investment of £27M into the region from the Scottish Government to provide high speed access by the public sector. A new data centre at the Crichton has better connected Council services and investment by NHS now means they have 92 buildings with hi speed and secure network and with a CT scanner now in Stranraer instant remote diagnosis can take place.

In terms of general water and utilities infrastructure these companies continue to be lobbied by the Council to improve investment in the region.

The transport infrastructure sees only £2.224M capital and £600k revenue available to the new SWestrans Regional Transport Partnership although there is an additional £3M for public bus services. There are 2,900 miles of road. There is a new disabled toilet and access at Lockerbie, the key station on the main West Coast Main Line. The Southern Dumfries Access Strategy is a key issue for the future as the addition of the College on the Crichton site frequently experiences traffic congestion and lobbying continues for improvements to the main routes A75 and A77.

Increasing affordable housing

House prices have increased by 130% since 1998. 30% of all properties for sale are purchased by external buyers moving into the region;

The Local Housing Strategy will build 1100 new homes over the coming few years, of which 675 would be homes for rent and low cost home ownership.

Homelessness rates continue to be about 2.3% of all households, slightly below the national average of 2.5%. This means that actual cases of homelessness are about 1600 a year. Wider housing demand through Registered Social Landlords' waiting lists is c5,500. 82% of all clients of homeless households in priority need secure permanent accommodation (5th highest in Scotland)

Maximise the take up of benefits across the region

Research shows a low take up of benefits in Dumfries and Galloway. The work of the B-Max team has secured £15M for local people.

Promoting cultural heritage and activities

The Events Strategy focuses on a small number of 'beacon events' throughout the year, maximising the region's unique heritage and links. Economic impact has evidenced a contribution of £ to the economy.

The Arts and Craft Trade Development Project employed 408 people in 2005 and this has grown to 540 in 2007 and the 'Spring Fling' (visiting artists in their studios) event had 25,000 visitors. In 2008 Spring Fling saw 24% economic growth.

10 The Environment

10.1 Background

Dumfries and Galloway is a beautiful place and its diverse landscape is a major asset. Branded 'the natural place' for the last decade, this is an area with a strong sense of place and a commitment to its preservation.

The quality of the landscape has been recognised in the designation of three National Scenic Areas (NSA). And add to that: 10 Regional Scenic Areas, 7 Special Protection Areas; 17 Special Areas of Conservation, 5 Wetlands of International Importance and 97 Sites of Special Scientific Interest,

These are living, working landscapes and management strategies have been prepared with local communities to ensure they continue to justify their recognition as nationally important landscapes.

There is also a strong commitment to stewardship of our heritage and the wider world that translates into a personal commitment to 'reduce, reuse, recycle'. We have the best eco-schools record in Scotland.

10.2 The Outcomes and Priorities

These are the Outcomes we want to achieve and the priorities that have been identified.

...an environment that is protected and enhanced (Local Outcome 5)

Increasing green travel

In terms of buses and trains, D&G usage is well below the national average: for buses: frequent users are 12% (24% national average) and never use 72% (56% national average). For trains: once or more a week 1% (6% national average) and never use 91% (81% national average)

The statistic is slightly better for getting the bus to school 28% (national average 23%) but walking to school is 42% compared to the national average of 52%.

Reducing the region's carbon footprint

Public sector bodies have initiatives in place to reduce their energy consumption in buildings. The refuse collection fleet was renewed with special engines to reduce fuel consumption

And the ENER-G company at the new Eco-Deco plant is cutting carbon emissions by 20,000 tonnes from the old landfill arrangement.

The region is well placed to maximise onshore wind technology as a result of its geography and topology. There are already windfarms in three sites with planning applications in process for another two.

Maintaining biodiversity and our natural heritage

The Dumfries & Galloway Local Biodiversity Action Plan 1999 (LBAP) was one of the first LBAPs in Scotland. It identified 22 habitats and 123 species as local priorities and more than 700 actions to conserve and enhance local priority habitats and species.

Since then, more than 80 organisations are involved in the Dumfries & Galloway Biodiversity Partnership - statutory agencies, voluntary groups, land managers and communities. More than 630 actions are complete or in progress.

We have 22,000 records of features of archeological or historical interest.

Managing our waste

The establishment of an eco deco plant is part of a waste management and recycling PFI contract over 25 years at a total cost of £115M. The statutory performance indicators for waste management show an improvement in D&G – one example is the recycling/composting rate has gone up from 5% to 32% since signing the contract and we have reduced the percentage of household waste going to landfill from 89.6% in 05/06 to 76.8% in 06/07 (78,448 tonnes).

1. An innovative and prosperous rural economy

National Outcome -	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe 2. We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people 7. We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society 12. We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations 15. Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs
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Local context – briefly summarising evidence from the Area Profile; demonstrating the local relevance of this National Outcome; and summarising progress and achievements in 2008-09 :

1.1 Maintaining employment- our employment rate sits at 82%, although this may mask high levels of self employment, part time and seasonal work we want to work to maintain that in the current economic climate whilst still looking to improve upon this with quality employment opportunities.

1.2 Improving the physical and technical infrastructure- to support business and employment opportunities we need excellent connectivity both in road networks and digitally to allow easy access to markets

1.3 Increasing affordable housing- house prices have increased by 130% over the past ten years and 30% are bought by people moving into the region. We need to provide affordable housing to enable people to stay and work in the region.

1.4 Maximise the take up of benefits across the region- local research shows that approximately £xxx isn't being claimed in benefits that local people are entitled to and so that money is missing from our economy.

1.5 Promoting cultural heritage and activities- D&G has a wealth of cultural heritage opportunities and the local Events Strategy contributes £xxx to our economy.

If we tackle the priority areas highlighted in this section we believe we will have contributed to the national outcomes listed above. We will have reaffirmed Dumfries and Galloway as a good place to do business, we will have better employment opportunities for our people. By creating better employment opportunities and maximising benefits for those not able to work we will have made progress in tackling inequalities. In promoting our cultural heritage we again will support business but in doing so we will be ensuring that it is done sustainably for future generations to enjoy.

	Indicator/s (noting frequency / type / source) <i>Suggestions from existing SOA, national indicators or local outcome indicators</i>	Baseline at 2006-07	'Progress' target/s to 2010-11	'End' target/s & timescale/s
1. An innovative and prosperous rural economy	1.1 maintaining employment Median earnings in £'s for residents living in the local authority area who are employed Employment rate Percentage of working age population economically active			
	1.2 improving physical and technical infrastructure Percentage of the road network requiring			

	<p>maintenance</p>			
	<p>1.3 increasing affordable housing</p> <p>Delivery of at least 300 additional affordable housing units to support low income households</p> <p>Number of affordable housing units delivered through application of Council's planning policies</p> <p>Rate of new house building</p>			
	<p>1.4 maximising benefits</p> <p>Amount of unclaimed benefits accessed (FSF)</p> <p>Proportion of children living in households that are dependent on out of work benefits OR Child Tax Credit more than the family element (finalised awards)</p> <p>Number of claimants in receipt of out of work benefits per 1,000 population.</p>			
	<p>1.5 promoting cultural heritage and activities</p> <p>Raise the quality of the tourism product across the region</p> <p>Events strategy</p>			

Brief links to relevant plans or other commitments of the local partners to support delivery of these outcome/s (with hyperlinks if possible)

- A Joint Academic Strategy for the Crichton Campus 2008-13
- D&G Area Tourism Partnership Plan - Strategy for Growth 2007-09
- D&G Council Local Housing Strategy 2004-09
- D&G Fairer Scotland Fund Action Plans 2008-11
- D&G Poverty, Inequality and Deprivation Working Group Work Plan 2008-09
- D&G Regional Economic Strategy 2008-13
- D&G Young People's Vision and Youth Strategy Action Plan 2006-11
- South West of Scotland Transport Partnership's Regional Transport Strategy 2008-23
- The Crichton Strategic Development Framework 2004
- The South of Scotland Competitiveness Strategy 2007-13

2. A quality of life which is healthy and happy

National Outcome -

- 6. We live longer, healthier lives
- 8. We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk
- 10. We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need
- 15. Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs

Local context – briefly summarising evidence from the Area Profile; demonstrating the local relevance of this National Outcome; and summarising progress and achievements in 2008-09 :

2.1 Good mental wellbeing- local research shows that people in D&G have higher than average levels of mild depression and that 60% of young women suffer from anxiety. We clearly need to tackle this to ensure that people can achieve good health and participate fully in life.

2.2 Caring for vulnerable people- because of the aging population already referred to it is expected that dementia will grow by 40% in the next 20 years. Child poverty in Dumfries and Galloway sits at 40% compared with a Scottish figure of 25%.

2.3 Access to quality health and care services- work is ongoing by the NHS locally looking at key issues facing the region. We need to ensure that residents have easy access to appropriate health and care services particularly as we are a rural region and the aging population.

2.4 Reducing health inequalities- there are 16 data zones in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland. However 80% of income deprived people live outwith these zones. We need to target support at individuals and not at geographies.

2.5 Leading healthier lifestyles- local research shows that 44% of people do not eat the recommended 5 portions of fruit per day and that 57% are obese or overweight. To ensure that people can participate in life and achieve their potential work is required to prevent illness.

Local Outcome/s	Indicator/s (noting frequency / type / source) <i>Suggestions from existing SOA, national indicators or local outcome indicators</i>	Baseline 2006-07	at	'Progress' target/s to 2010-11	'End' target/s & timescale/s
2. A quality of life which is healthy and happy	2.1 good mental wellbeing Increase mean score of Dumfries and Galloway Wellbeing Scale				
	2.2 caring for vulnerable people Increase the percentage of people aged 65 and over with high levels of care needs who are cared for at home The proportion of people needing care or support who are able to sustain an independent quality of life as part of the community				
	2.3 access to quality				

	health and care services			
	STARS indicator? Child protection indicator?			
	2.4 reducing health inequalities Increase healthy life expectancy at birth in the most deprived areas			
	2.5 leading healthier lifestyles Reduce the rate of increase in the proportion of children with their Body Mass Index outwith a healthy range by 2018 Increase in fruit and vegetable consumption Attendance at pools/indoor leisure facilities Reduction in sickness absence rates across public sector employees			

Brief links to relevant plans or other commitments of the local partners to support delivery of these outcome/s (with hyperlinks if possible)

- A Food and Health Strategy and Action Plan for D&G 2007-10
- Breastfeeding Strategy and Action Plan for D&G 2008-13
- Building Healthy Communities in D&G - Strategy and Action Plan 2008-13
- D&G Health and Community Care Plan 2008-09
- D&G Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy (in development)
- D&G Young People's Vision and Youth Strategy Action Plan 2006-11
- NHS D&G Clinical Services Strategy
- Physical Activity Strategy for D&G 2008-11
- Sexual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan for D&G 2007-10
- The Model of Service – Mental Health
- Tobacco Control Strategy for D&G 2005
- Whit fettle ? D&G Wellbeing and Lifestyle Survey 2007
- Working together for children, young people and families - Integrated Children and Young People's Services Planning 2008-10

3. Feeling safe and respected within their community

National Outcome - 8. We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk
 9. We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger
 10. We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need
 11. We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others

Local context – briefly summarising evidence from the Area Profile; demonstrating the local relevance of this National Outcome; and summarising progress and achievements in 2008-09 :

3.1 Improving community safety- whilst actual crimes rates in Dumfries and Galloway are relatively low communities perceptions do not reflect this. Work is needed to address the perception of crime and safety within communities, as well as addressing anti social behaviour to maintain the low crime rate.
3.2 Supporting communities- there is a strong sense of community within Dumfries and Galloway this needs to be supported.

Local Outcome/s	Indicator/s (noting frequency / type / source) <i>Suggestions from existing SOA, national indicators or local outcome indicators</i>	Baseline 2006-07	at	'Progress' target/s to 2010-11	'End' target/s & timescale/s
3. Safe and respected within their community	3.1 improving community safety Volume and rate of vandalism per 10,000 population Percentage of adult residents stating they are satisfied with their neighbourhood Percentage of survey respondents stating they feel safe or fairly safe going out after dark Number of domestic abuse incidents per 100,000 of population Number of people killed or injured in road traffic collisions Incidences of home fires resulting in death and injury				
	3.2 supporting communities Percentage of adult				

	<p>residents stating they are satisfied with their neighbourhood</p> <p>Experience of the voluntary sector regarding its inclusion in decision making to improve service delivery</p> <p>Number of individuals in deprived areas encouraged to become involved within their communities (FSF)</p> <p>Number of hate crimes</p>			
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Brief links to relevant plans or other commitments of the local partners to support delivery of these outcome/s (with hyperlinks if possible)

- Community Promise 2008-09, D&G Constabulary (reviewed annually)
- Disability, Gender and Race Equality Schemes
- D&G Alcohol and Drug Action Team Strategy 2006-09
- D&G Antisocial Behaviour Strategy 2008-11
- D&G Child Protection Annual Report and Business Plan 2008-09
- D&G Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2008-09 (reviewed annually)
- D&G Diversity Working Group Work Plan 2007-10
- D&G Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women Partnership Strategy and Action Framework 2009-12
- D&G Fire and Rescue Authority's Service Improvement Plan 2009-10 (reviewed annually)
- D&G Road Safety Plan 2009-12
- D&G Young People's Vision and Youth Strategy Action Plan 2006-11
- Integrated Children's Services Plan
- South West Scotland Community Justice Authority Area Plan 2008-11

4. Being better equipped for a changing world and having improved life chances

- National Outcome -**
3. We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation
 4. Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
 5. Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed
 8. We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk
 10. We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need
 11. We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others
 13. We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity
 15. Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs

Local context – briefly summarising evidence from the Area Profile; demonstrating the local relevance of this National Outcome; and summarising progress and achievements in 2008-09 :

4.1 Improving school achievement- 80% of S4 achieve Tariff Scores well above the national average. Performance at the end of S6 is similar to comparative authorities but has dropped on average 2% over the last two years.

4.2 Improving participation and access to learning- On average pupils in D&G schools have higher than average attendance rates. Adult literacy and numeracy provision has seen an increase of 12%. Our childcare provision has also grown in recent years. We want to ensure that this good work is improved upon to ensure that D&G citizens have every opportunity to participate in learning.

4.3 Encouraging responsible citizenship- Dumfries and Galloway is supportive of the core principles highlighted in Curriculum for Excellence and wants to support civic pride.

4.4 Targeting skills training- to ensure that local people have the right skills to meet job opportunities we need to target training provision. This was identified in the regional economic Strategy.

Local Outcome/s	Indicator/s (noting frequency / type / source) <i>Suggestions from existing SOA, national indicators or local outcome indicators</i>	Baseline 2006-07	at	'Progress' target/s to 2010-11	'End' target/s & timescale/s
4. Being better equipped for a changing world and having improved life chances	4.1 improving school achievement Number and percentage of children attending publicly funded schools and achieving appropriate qualifications for stages Cumulative attainment of National Qualifications by all pupils in publicly funded secondary schools Range of wider achievement recorded for pupils aged 3-18				Successful learners as measured by

	<p>4.2 improving participation and access to learning</p> <p>Numbers of adults successfully completing classes targeted at improving literacy and numeracy</p> <p>outcomes for most vulnerable young people in D&G (ICSP)</p> <p>Attendance and inclusion outcomes for all young people</p>			Confident individuals as measured by
	<p>4.3 encouraging responsible citizenship</p> <p>Number of people engaged in volunteering in their community</p> <p>Increasing trend in wider service among young people</p>			Responsible citizens as measured by
	<p>4.4 targeting skills training</p> <p>Percentage of school leavers going into employment, education or training</p> <p>Range of 'skills for work' and vocational programme increased for pupils aged 14-18</p> <p>Improved training opportunities for adults</p>			Effective contributor as measured by
<p>Brief links to relevant plans or other commitments of the local partners to support delivery of these outcome/s (with hyperlinks if possible)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Joint Academic Strategy for the Crichton Campus 2008-13 • D&G Council Education Improvement Plan 2008-11 • D&G Council Smarter Schools - Final Business Plan 2008 • D&G Young People's Vision and Youth Strategy Action Plan 2006-11 • Integrated Children's Services Plan 				

5. An environment that is protected and enhanced

National Outcome - 12 We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations

14. We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production

15. Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs

Local context – briefly summarising evidence from the Area Profile; demonstrating the local relevance of this National Outcome; and summarising progress and achievements in 2008-09 :

5.1 Increasing green travel- in terms of public transport usage Dumfries and Galloway is below the national average; 72% never use public transport compared to a national average of 56%.

5.2 Reducing the region's carbon footprint- the public bodies have initiatives in place to reduce energy consumption thus contributing to reducing the region's carbon footprint. The Eco-Deco plant is also cutting its carbon emissions. There are already windfarms on three sites with planning applications submitted for two others.

5.3 Maintaining biodiversity and our natural heritage- the Dumfries and Galloway Local Biodiversity Action Plan 1999 identifies 22 habitats and 123 species as local priorities. It is essential that these are looked after to protect the unique nature of the region.

5.4 Managing our waste- The establishment of the Eco-Deco plant has already achieved a reduction in landfill from 89.6% in 2005-06 to 76.8% in 2006-07.

Local Outcome/s	Indicator/s (noting frequency / type / source) <i>Suggestions from existing SOA, national indicators or local outcome indicators</i>	Baseline 2006-07	at	'Progress' target/s to 2010-11	'End' target/s & timescale/s
5. An environment that is protected and enhanced	5.1 increasing green travel Percentage of kilometres travelled by public transport Percentage of kilometres travelled by private transport Use of DG Tripshare SWestrans Percentage of children walking or cycling to primary school Percentage of journeys to work made by public or active transport				
	reducing the region's carbon footprint (energy efficiency and alternative sources) Reduce the Council's				

	<p>carbon footprint</p> <p>To support national targets for renewable energy generation in accordance with national and local policy and whilst minimising environmental and other impacts Megawatts renewable energy capacity consented.</p>			
	<p>maintaining biodiversity and our natural heritage</p> <p>Increase to 95 % the proportion of protected nature sites in favourable condition</p>			
	<p>5.4 managing our waste</p> <p>Tonnage of municipal waste collected per 1000 population</p> <p>Tonnage of biodegradable municipal waste land filled</p> <p>Tonnage of municipal waste incinerated</p> <p>Tonnage of municipal waste recycled</p>			
<p>Brief links to relevant plans or other commitments of the local partners to support delivery of these outcome/s (with hyperlinks if possible)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D&G Climate Change Strategy (in development) • D&G Council Corporate Waste Strategy (in development) • D&G Local Biodiversity Action Plan • D&G Structure Plan and 4 Adopted Local Plans for Annandale & Eskdale, Nithsdale, Stewartry and Wigtown • D&G Young People’s Vision and Youth Strategy Action Plan 2006-11 • South West of Scotland Transport Partnership’s Regional Transport Strategy 2008-23 				