



Briefing Paper No 21

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 Part 2 Section 6 - Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIP)

Introduction

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act came into force following Royal Assent on 24 July 2015. The act is divided into 12 parts and aims to make provisions on national outcomes; identifying personal and public body responsibilities, the use of public assets and public inclusion with decision making.

One of the largest areas of change for Community Planning and Safety Partnerships is Part 2 Section 6 - 8 of the act, which introduces the Local outcomes improvement plan (LOIP), which will be used to replace the Single Outcome Agreements (SOA). Some of Scotland's Local Authorities have already implemented the new LOIP replacing their SOA.

This paper aims to inform readers about the specific changes affecting SOA's and will introduce the new LOIP.

Content Summary

Under section 6 of Part 2 the act introduces a new plan calling for more community based outcomes moving away from the Single Outcomes Agreements focusing more on local outcomes. The new plan sets out:

- local outcomes to which priority is to be given by the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to improve outcomes
- a description of the proposed improvement in the achievement of the outcomes
- the period within which the proposed improvements are to be achieved
- a description of the residents and the community to which the plan relates

In addition to setting out the requirements of the LOIP the act also calls for CPPs to conduct consultations with community bodies and members to ensure that localities are empowered. Where points have been raised during consultations the act requires CPP's to include details of these in LOIP publication; taking into account the needs and circumstances of the community to which the LOIP relates.

Local Outcomes Improvement Plans

Under Section 7 each CPP must keep the plan under review, constantly questioning whether the plan is making progress for each of its recorded local area outcomes. In addition to making sure that outcomes and progress are monitored the act calls upon CPP's to periodically review the need for each outcome, which will identify the need for change at an early level making the process more efficient as plans are amended quickly and in accordance with the evidence collected.

Once the LOIP has been amended the act calls upon CPP's to publish a revised plan

Parts of the Act

Links

For further information on the Act visit the following links:

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2015/6/introduction/enacted>

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