

## Time-line for the Development of Community Planning in Scotland

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## **What Works Scotland**

What Works Scotland aims to improve the way local areas in Scotland use evidence to make decisions about public service development and reform.

What Works Scotland is working with Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) and stakeholder partners to achieve its aims, namely to:

- Identify and better understand what is working and not working in public service delivery in Scotland, and how we can translate knowledge from setting to setting
- Contribute to the development of a Scottish model of service delivery that brings about transformational change for people living in different places across Scotland

What Works Scotland (2014-2017) is a collaborative between The Scottish Government, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the University of Edinburgh and the University of Glasgow.

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## Introduction and Context

This document summarises the key policy development stages and timeline for the Community Planning model in Scotland. This was produced by SPICe Research for What Works Scotland as part of the Scottish Policy Re-union series within What Works Scotland’s Governance work stream.

Date	Document/Development	Description
1995	Labour Party policy statement for local government: “Renewing Democracy, Rebuilding Communities”	Community Planning as a concept originated in a consultative draft version of the Labour Party’s policy statement for local government (‘Renewing Democracy, Rebuilding Communities’, 1995). At the end of 1995 the Labour Party invited local authorities to take part in a pilot project programme. 14 English councils and one Scottish council (Clackmannanshire) took part in the pilot.
1998	Scottish Office/COSLA Community Planning Working Group Report, and Pathfinder Community Planning projects established	Following the publication of the Scottish Office/COSLA Community Planning Working Group’s Report in 1998, five ‘Pathfinder’ Community Planning projects were set up to assist the development of Community Planning in Scotland. The Pathfinders (Edinburgh, Highland, Perth and Kinross, South Lanarkshire and Stirling) were asked to produce Community Plans by December 1998 and a conference to discuss what lessons could be learned from their experience was held on 11 March 1999.
1999	Evaluation report of Pathfinder Projects by COSLA	<a href="#">Evaluation by academics at the University of Birmingham published.</a>

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2001	Community Planning Task Force established	The Community Planning Task Force, chaired by Willie Rae, was established in 2001 to provide independent and authoritative advice on Community Planning issues
2003	Final report of the Community Planning Task Force	The <a href="#">Task Force's final report</a> was published in 2003
2003	Local Government in Scotland Act 2003	<a href="#">Local Government in Scotland Act 2003</a> passed by the Scottish Parliament gave a statutory basis to community planning. The Act places duties on: local authorities to initiate, facilitate and maintain Community Planning; core partners - Health Boards, the Enterprise Networks, Police, Fire and Regional Transport Partnerships - to participate in Community Planning; and Scottish Ministers to promote and encourage Community Planning.
2004	Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, Community Planning: Statutory Guidance published	The <a href="#">Statutory Guidance on community planning</a> sets out what is expected of a wide range of public, voluntary, community and private sector bodies to fulfil the duties and requirements of the Act in relation to Community Planning. It is supplemented by more detailed Advice Notes on a range of issues important to the effective implementation of Community Planning in Scotland. The Advice Notes are intended to reflect the evolving nature of Community Planning and to be updated on a regular basis as experience is shared and examples of Community Planning in practice are added.  The guidance sets a national framework for Community Planning and is aimed at those within agencies and within voluntary and community bodies who are involved in the planning and provision of services. Community Planning is a local process

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		and the guidance strikes a balance between providing clarity in what is expected from the Community Planning process and the need for local discretion in tailoring the process to the needs and opportunities of local communities. It is also important that people within communities are fully aware of what Community Planning means for them and that they have the means to engage as they wish.
2006	Accounts Commission/ Auditor General, Initial review of community planning published	<a href="#">First Audit report on community planning</a> , which reviewed the national context within which community planning operates, local arrangements for community planning, and planning and performance management in CPPs.
2007	Concordat between Scottish Government and COSLA agreed, leading to introduction of Single Outcome Agreements (SOA)	As part of the new National Performance Framework, <a href="#">the Concordat</a> set out that each local authority would aim to reach a Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) with the Scottish Government at the earliest opportunity, based on the national outcomes and, under a common framework, local outcomes to take account of local priorities. The SOA will cover all local government services in each local authority area as well as a significant range of the responsibilities of Community Planning Partnerships where local authorities have a significant part to play. The initial agreements would be with each of the 32 councils with the possibility of agreements with Community Planning Partnerships at some future date.
2009	SOAs prepared as CPP document	From 2009 onwards, SOAs were prepared as CPP, rather than local authority, documents
2011	Final Report of Christie Commission on Future	<a href="#">Christie Commission report published</a> , including recommendations on CPPs:

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	Delivery of Public Services published	<p>8.7 To ensure its continued development, the current outcomes-based approach should be underpinned by a revamped political agreement between national and local government, as currently expressed in the Concordat. It should be a mutual requirement of this agreement that, alongside the single outcome agreement, each community planning partnership develops and agrees with the Scottish Government a clear plan setting out how partner organisations will pursue local service integration to achieve outcomes.</p> <p>8.8 Community planning partners should develop and extend arrangements at a more local level (that is, more local than the local authority area) which facilitate public engagement and participation in shaping priorities, and in the design and delivery of services; and should establish arrangements to enable all parties to each single outcome agreement to account to the public for their contribution to the achievement of outcomes in those areas.</p>
2012	National Community Planning Group formed and Statement of Ambition agreed	<p>As part of the Government's response to the Christie Commission on the future delivery of public services it agreed to undertake a review of Community Planning. Following that review, the Scottish Government and COSLA published a shared <a href="#">Statement of Ambition</a>. This put Community Planning at the heart of an outcome based approach to public services in Scotland and made clear that effective community planning arrangements will be at the core of public service reform. Next steps from this work on the Statement of Ambition <a href="#">was set out in a letter</a> circulated to Community Planning Partners on 10 May 2012.</p> <p>The National Community Planning Group was established to play a pivotal role in implementing and communicating the overarching vision for community planning</p>

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		and Single Outcome Agreements, identifying and addressing issues that have a national dimension and building the skills and capacity of partnerships. The Group is chaired by Pat Watters, former President of COSLA.
2013	Accounts Commission/Auditor General audit reports on individual CPPs	In 2012, <a href="#">Audit Scotland worked with its scrutiny partners and other key stakeholders in developing an audit framework</a> for supporting improved performance and accountability of CPPs. Reports now been published on eight CPPs.
2014	Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill introduced	Community Empowerment Bill introduced in 2014, currently going through Parliament. The proposals in this Part of the Bill replace the equivalent provisions in Part 2 of the 2003 Act. Part 2 of the Bill provides a statutory basis for CPPs, so that “community planning is the process by which public bodies work together and with community bodies to plan for, resource and provide services which improve local outcomes in the local authority area.”