

**POPULATION AND MIGRATION STATISTICS COMMITTEE (SCOTLAND)****Update on the Improving Local Indicators Project****Background**

The Local Outcome Indicators Project is being lead by the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE). The aim is to improve the quality and robustness of indicators used for tracking progress of SOAs.

The project is being overseen by a Project Board, chaired by David Hume from SOLACE, and the work is being taken forward by a co-ordination group, chaired by Andy McGuire from the Improvement Service. Scottish Government representatives on the Project Board are Rob Wishart (Chief Statistician) and Mary McAllan (Deputy Director, Public Sector Reform). Dette Cowden and Sara Grainger (both from Office of the Chief Statistician) are on the Co-ordination Group.

**Progress**

The co-ordination group are producing 'status reports' for all policy areas as set out in the Project Initiation Document, and metadata for all indicators on the Improvement services Menu of Local Indicators. These are currently being finalised. When complete the status reports will be discussed at the next meeting of the most relevant ScotStat Committee and will be circulated to all ScotStat registered users who have indicated an interest in related areas.

A programme of consultation events and opportunities for all interested parties to engage in the project over the summer is being planned. There is likely to be two one-day events in June or July at which representatives from central and local government and other key partners will be given the opportunity to discuss local indicators and data availability. These large scale events will be supplemented with smaller workshops and meetings to discuss finer details, and an online consultation through the project's Community of Practice called the 'Scottish Local Outcome Indicators Project Community' (register at <http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk/reg/register.do>).

These discussions will inform Version 4 of the Improvement Service's Menu of Indicators due to be published in October, and subsequent development work to fill gaps in appropriate data.

**Office of the Chief Statistician****May 2009**