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**Title: SOA SCORECARD - ECONOMY**

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**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1** The purpose of this paper is to report and provide comment exceptionally on performance against a number of SOA success measures for the third quarter of 2012/13. With the demise of the Thematic Group, the value in monitoring economic data through the scorecard is somewhat diminished.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1** That Management Committee notes progress on the SOA Economy success measures for Q.3 2012/13.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1** The economy thematic scorecard incorporates a variety of success measures based both upon partner activity and also on a range of economic data sets that were intended to help the economy thematic group to monitor economic activity across the area and focus attention or direct resources accordingly.
- 3.2** The economy of Argyll & Bute is highly seasonal and many of the success measures are “annual” targets. It is therefore to be expected that performance in Q3 may be less than 75% of the annual target, particularly for those measures dependant upon private sector input.
- 3.3** Trading conditions in many sectors have been challenging and unemployment figures are now reflecting this. Similar patterns are consistent across the Highlands and Islands. The effect of public sector cutbacks may not be fully reflected in the figures.

**4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1** Overall performance to end December 2012 is considered to be satisfactory. Performance against CPP / SOA Economy Success measures for the third quarter of 2012/13 appears satisfactory.

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