



Somerset Intelligence Network (SINe) Business Plan 2009/10

2008/9 Summary

SINe's Terms of Reference adopted in 2007, placed SINe firmly within a 'partnership' context – strengthening links with the South West Observatory Network and becoming 'hosted' by the Somerset Strategic Partnership.

As well as developing its role as Somerset's professional network of research and consultation practitioners, over the course of 2008 SINe has achieved significant developments in partnership intelligence working.

Most significantly these have been

- The formation of a consortium to commission the Place Survey
- The expansion and update of the Somerset Health and Social Needs Analysis database, which formed a significant role in the 2008 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Collaborative working around issues of 'customer' intelligence and insight to directly influence public services
- Establishment of a co-ordinated and consistent intelligence dissemination process, including the introduction of SINEpost, the weekly newsletter, which has a growing circulation.
- Significant progress towards the establishment of a shared staffed resource for data analysis

Positioning SINe within this partnership context, and making purposeful efforts to raise the profile of SINe over the course of the year, has benefited members and wider partners, with increasing levels of engagement from a wider range of partners and potential members. Most importantly SINe has started to strengthen its credibility as being a central reference point for the evidence-basing and consultation activities of partners.

Activities for 2009/10

Introduction

SINe and its membership will need to build on the momentum achieved during 2008, and continue to build its effectiveness and function as a Local Intelligence Network. To achieve this it will engage in a range of both regionally and locally determined activities.



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The core role of SINe - and all other South West Local Intelligence Networks (LINs) - is regionally agreed, and is outlined in the offer of funding from the South West of England Regional Development Agency, as developed with the SWO Core Unit.

Funding is offered on the basis that all LINs will play a part in contributing to agreed areas of work, namely:

- General Activities
- Regional Milestones

The SWO Core Unit will co-ordinate the funding allocation to the LINs, and SINe will be required to report back to the Core Unit as required as part of this arrangement.

The total agreed regional funding 'pot' for the LINs over the next 3 years is £243,000. From this total, a 'core' funding allocation of £8,000 has been agreed for each LIN for 2009/10. Further allocations will be agreed as part of the work planning process in Q4 2009/10, or if SINe took on additional tasks, such as leading network events, or a research brief.

In addition to its regional role and functions, SINe will undertake a locally defined programme work to support its members and partners.

General Activities

SINe will engage in the following general activities, which are aimed at making sure every LIN plays an active part as possible in the wider regional Observatory network:

- Participate in the 'network mindset' - i.e. "Who can help me with what I am doing?" "Who can benefit from what I have done?"
- Signpost to information and sources of data
- Share and cascade information within and around the network
- Answer network queries
- Provide a web presence linked to SWO.org.uk and regularly updated
- Participate in network meetings
- Promote the network



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Regional Milestones

As well as the general regional activities outlined above, there are an agreed set of specific regional milestones for SINe to achieve during 2009/10

Regional Milestones	Evidence of achievement	Quarter(s)
Participate in SWO Business Planning process	Meeting notes	Q1
Share work plans with the Observatory Core Unit/Network	Business Plan circulated	Q1
Agree the SWO Delivery Plan	Plan agreed	Q1
Respond to Local Economic Assessment benchmarking survey	Survey completed and returned	Q1
Contribute to 2008/9 Annual Report	Contribution submitted	Q1
Attend and contribute to quarterly Operational Research Group meetings	Meeting notes	Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4
Attend and contribute to quarterly Regional Intelligence Group meetings	Meeting notes	Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4
Agree regional programme of events and activities	Programme agreed	Q2
Participate in Local Economic Assessment evidence needs work	Contribution submitted	Q2, Q3, Q4
Participate in the review and development of State of the South West	Contribution submitted	Q2, Q3, Q4
Promote shared/common evidence base for major strategies and policies	Meeting notes	Q2, Q3, Q4
Participate in SWO network policy seminars/road shows/events	Attendance/contribution noted	Q2, Q3, Q4
Participate in 2010/11 work planning process	Attendance/contribution noted	Q4



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Locally agreed activities

In addition to the above regional requirements of all LINs, SINe will continue to respond as appropriate to the local intelligence priorities of partners.

The following activities are set out with the aim of improving the effectiveness of SINe as a professional network, and the primary point of contact for supporting local research and intelligence work within in Somerset.

Locally agreed activities	Timescales
<p>Support evidence basing, intelligence and consultation work required for the key strategic areas of work of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Area Agreement • Local Economic Area Assessments • Joint Strategic Needs Assessment • Community Safety Strategic Assessment • Comprehensive Area Assessments • Sustainable Community Strategies of the SSP and District LSPs • Local Development Frameworks/Annual Monitoring Reports 	Ongoing
<p>Support the role and function of the new staffed partnership intelligence unit which will be established during 2009</p>	Ongoing
<p>Continue to develop the membership and structure of the Working Group and its subgroups to more effectively support key areas of work, and establish working links with practitioners and 'end users' of data, particularly in the work areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Sustainable Community Strategies • Local Area Agreements • Environmental • Economic • Voluntary sector 	Ongoing
<p>Support SINe members and collaborate with other parts of the Network with a view to commissioning agreed areas of joint research</p>	Ongoing



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Locally agreed activities (cont'd)	Timescales
Support SINE members and partners to develop customer intelligence work, and any collaborative work towards partners developing Comprehensive Engagement Strategies	Ongoing
Promote and use the findings of the Somerset Place Survey	Q2, ongoing
Continue with the coordinated approach to dissemination of intelligence 'news' via the Somerset Intelligence Newsletter (SINEpost)	Ongoing
Continue to provide demonstration and training sessions in the use of the Somerset Health and Social Needs Database (HSNAG)	Ongoing
Continue with the branding introduced during 2008, with all SINE documents to have the logos of the SWO and SSP alongside with the words "SINE is part of the wider South West Observatory network and is hosted by the Somerset Strategic Partnership"	Ongoing
Arrange for the SINE website to switch over to the SWO's new content management system.	Q2
Implement major improvements and continually develop the new SINE website to include up to date information and links to relevant research and intelligence sources for all partners and members	Q2
Refresh the SINE Terms of Reference to provide clarity of role and function between the wider network of SINE and the new Unit	Q3
Hold an annual showcase event highlighting successful projects and involving other elements of the SWO Network	Q3

For further information

Visit the website at www.sine.org.uk or email sine@swo.org.uk

Somerset Intelligence Network
is part of the South West Observatory and is hosted by the Somerset Strategic Partnership
web www.sine.org.uk email sine@swo.org.uk