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MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN LORN & THE ISLES COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM held in the CORRAN HALLS, OBAN on FRIDAY, 29 MAY 2015

Present: Councillor Roddy McCuish (Chair)

Attending: Keith Docherty, Police Scotland
Robert Cowper, Argyll and Bute Council
Cathcart Ironside, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Iain MacKinnon, Argyll and Bute Council
Murray Humphries, LochWatch Loch Awe
Walter Burton, Oban Rotary Club
Rita Campbell, Press and Journal

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Fiona Sharples, NHS
David Bleazard, Outside Edge
Fiona Scott, Argyll and Bute Council
June Graham, Argyll and Bute Council
Pamela Hoey, Argyll and Bute Council
Iona MacPhail, ACHA

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous Oban, Lorn and the Isles Community Safety Forum held on 25th February 2015 were approved as a correct record.

3. PARTNER UPDATES

(a) POLICE SCOTLAND

Police are involved in up and coming events, Skerryvore 30th May all plans are in place, the July Tìree Music Festival planning is at advanced stages and talks with the organisers of the August Argyllshire Gathering in Oban have started.

Police have been dealing with two recent major incidents involving a light aircraft crash in Loch Etive and an accident at work incident on Mull, During investigations and dealing with both incidents resources were stretched. Additional police resources were brought in. Inspector Mark Stephen is attending a debrief today with regards to the plane crash.

The Inspector is keen to get the Rural Watch Scheme back up and running, this is progressing.

The police have their Summer Plan in place focusing on anti-social

behaviour, drug dealing, driving behaviour, their annual drink driving initiative starts today.

Crime

Crime figures compared to this time last year show a 100% detection of the supply of drugs, house breaking and vehicle crime is reduced, slight increase in anti-social behaviour and assault.

The new guidelines for Stop and Search commence on 1st June 2015.

(b) SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE

With effect from 1st March 2015, the fire service has had 88 turnouts, 66 of which were false alarms. The Policy on False Alarms is being re-introduced across Argyll and Bute.

There has been attendance at 10 reportable fires and 4 road traffic collisions.

Leaflets on wildfires are being circulated in the area.

Talks are ongoing with the Ambulance Service with regards to sharing the Community Fire Station facility.

Cathcart Ironside advised that he had received the plans for the new high school from Building Control.

A discussion then took place regarding the high volume of traffic which now filters down Soroba Road and the impact it may have for the fire service and the ambulance service coming out of the station and heading down to town centre, especially between 4pm and 5pm.

Iain MacKinnon advised that although the flashing blue lights manage to get through the traffic it is the retained personnel that have the bigger problem getting to their emergency stations if called out, when traffic is nose to tail the length of Soroba Road.

(c) ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Environmental Health

Iain MacKinnon advised that his team are stretched at the moment as there are 4 vacant posts within the department. Argyll and Bute Council are in very early discussions with Highland Council over working together as both areas are very similar with regards to working practices.

Civic Government Licences are due for renewal at the end of June, Houses of Multiple Occupation have now been removed from civic government legislation and have fallen under the remit of housing services, and this will entail environmental health carrying out joint

visits with the fire service to these establishments.

Skerryvore event is on at Mossfield Park-Saturday 30th May, environmental health have been working closely with the event operators, 5500 tickets have been sold with a further 500 available at the gate on the day. Traffic controls will be in place as of 29th May this, Mossfield Avenue will be closed off all of Saturday, where only residents will be allowed through. The event will finish at 11.30pm, bars and music finishing at 11pm.

The Tiree Music Festival plans are well underway, this involves a multi-agency approach.

The Lorn Event Safety Team is hoping to extend across Argyll and Bute with set standards and guidelines, this will involve a Strategic Team and an Operation Team, and a proposal has gone to the Community Planning Partnership for approval.

Animal Health and Welfare and Trading Standards work alongside Environmental Health. Trading Standards are working on a Trusted Builders Service initiative at the moment, where local builders who have the correct credentials will be given a Local Authority Logo to put on their vehicles so that the public know they are reputable and have had the proper checks.

Animal Health and Welfare work closely with the SSPCA and at the moment have an issue with imported rescue dogs, which have been brought to the country, although not through the proper channels, 2 dogs have been impounded and will remain impounded for up to 3 months.

Horses/Ponies will require passports/movement papers under EU Regulations and Scottish Regulations.

(d) **NHS**

No-one was in attendance from NHS.

(e) **LOCHWATCH LOCH AWE**

Murray Humphries from Lochwatch Loch Awe advised that the fishing season had started, however due to the cold weather there was no fish, so Loch very quiet.

Galeforce Marine had donated an inflatable dinghy to the Loch Watch Team.

Lochwatch recently had a naming ceremony for their boat, which was named after the late Councillor Donald MacDonald, who was one of the early members of Lochwatch and great supporter of all that Lochwatch was seeking to achieve. Mrs MacDonald and her family were in attendance at the naming ceremony.

4. AOCB

Robert Cowper, the Community Safety Officer, tabled a report detailing a proposal to restructure Community Safety Partnership working that integrates community safety with community planning structures. The proposal was developed with community safety partners and has been endorsed by the Community Planning Partnership.

Discussions took place regarding the new structure and it was agreed in principle. The chair requested that the Community Safety Report and diagram of the proposed structure are attached to the published minutes from today's Community Safety Forum meeting. Comments from partners should be forwarded to Robert Cowper whose contact details are noted in the report.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Oban, Lorn and the Isles Community Safety Forum will be held on Friday 28th August 2015 at 10.30am in Oban Community Fire Station.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE
CUSTOMER SERVICES

Community Safety Partnership Working

1.0 Summary

1.1 This is a report on community safety partnership working in Argyll and Bute which has been prompted by a number of recent developments to strengthen community planning arrangements.

1.2 The vision and direction for Argyll and Bute over the next ten years is set out in the Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013 -23. Achieving this will require close collaboration between partners and strong strategic direction.

1.3 Outcome 6 of the Single Outcome Agreement has clear action and lines of responsibility for ensuring communities are safe, strong and resilient.

1.4 As a result of discussion involving key community safety partners, a new community safety partnership model has been identified to enhance strategic focus and deliver local action on community safety.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 The Community Safety Forum endorses the proposal to restructure community safety partnership working in line with the 'Community Safety Tasking and Coordinating Partnership' model set out in this report.

3.0 Background

3.1 The five local Community Safety Forums have been extremely successful in making their local communities safe.

3.2 The current community safety partnership structure has been in place since c2000 and comprises five area based Community Safety Forums – Bute, Cowal, Helensburgh and Lomond, Oban Lorn and the Isles, Mid Argyll Kintyre and the Islands.

3.3 Thematic areas of responsibility for the Community Safety Forums are:
Tackling Disorder, Anti Social Behaviour and Violence
Personal safety of the young, elderly and other vulnerable groups
Safeguarding the natural and built environment from fire, vandalism, graffiti, littering and dog fouling
Road and Water Safety
Engaging with communities to make people safe

3.4 Anti Social Behaviour issues are dealt with on an area basis by multi agency groups that meet, approximately, bi monthly to address local complaints.

4.0 Details

4.1 There are six short term outcomes within Outcome 6 of the Single Outcome Agreement which extend across a number of thematic areas. These will be delivered through work undertaken by a number of partners including community safety partners. This will require strong strategic direction and a commitment from partners to work together closely and demonstrate, through evidence, their success.

4.2 Weaknesses exist within the current community safety partnership structure when assessing this within the context of SOA 6 requirements.

- a) The area based structure of five Community Safety forums ensures a strong focus on local issues but there is a degree of fragmentation which makes accountability for performance unclear.
- b) A lack of data hampers oversight, comparison and challenge.
- c) The meeting schedule of four meetings per year is insufficient to provide drive for community safety work streams.
- d) Partner attendance at some Community Safety forums has declined which impacts on collaboration.

4.3 An alternative community safety partnership structure has been identified which has been endorsed by the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee to deliver SOA Outcome 6. This model is set out in Appendix 1 'Community Safety Tasking and Coordinating Partnership'.

4.4 The Community Safety Tasking and Coordinating Partnership will meet on a six week basis to work plan, problem solve and evaluate performance. Data and evidence will be gathered and shared to inform delivery and assess performance.

4.5 The partnership will comprise representatives from community safety services and stakeholder agencies in line with SOA 6. A lead person will represent the partnership at Area Community Planning meetings within all council areas to engage and fully integrate community safety within area community planning structures.

4.6 An SOA Outcome 6 Lead Officers group will also be established. The aim of this group is to provide strategic leadership and integrate the Community Safety Tasking and Coordinating Partnership with other strategic partnerships and groups who share SOA Outcome 6 responsibilities.

4.7 Membership of the SOA Outcome 6 Lead Officers Group would comprise a lead officer representing the Community Safety Tasking and Coordinating Partnership as well as a lead from the following partnerships and groups:

Counter Terrorism CONTEST Group

Serious and Organised Crime Interventions Group

Argyll and Bute Local Resilience Partnership

Violence Against Women Partnership

Child Protection Committee

Argyll and Bute Road Safety Group

Argyll and Bute Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

Argyll and Bute Third Sector Partnership

4.8 The valuable contribution to community safety by interested groups, including Crime Prevention Panels and Neighbourhood Watch schemes, is recognised. Local groups will continue to influence and shape community safety through membership of Area Community Planning Groups and delivery of the Single Outcome Agreement Local. It is not expected these groups will routinely attend Community Safety Tasking and Coordination Partnership meetings, but their attendance would be sought on a planned basis within the yearly schedule of meetings.

4.9 Anti Social Behaviour multi agency groups will remain as area based groups to address complaints and retain local context for this work stream. They would also report to the Community Safety Tasking and Coordinating partnership.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 This report acknowledges the role the community forums have played in making communities safer.

5.2 With work taking place to strengthen community planning the time is right to review the way in which community safety partnership working is structured and the effectiveness of this. When assessed within this context the current community safety partnership structure has identifiable weaknesses.

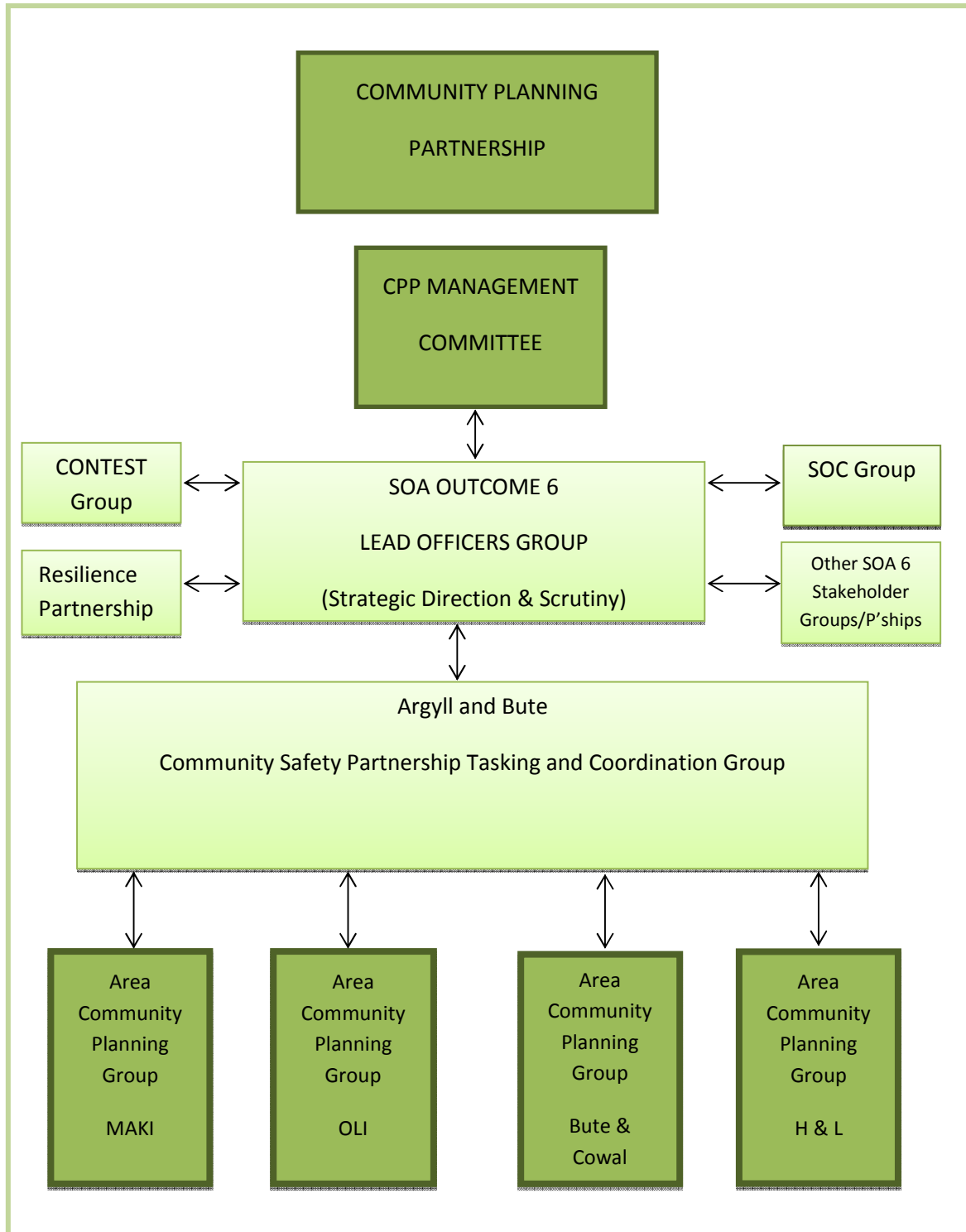
5.3 The model set out in this report would embed community safety partnership working within community planning and ensure greater coherence, collaboration and integration.

6.0 Implications

Strategic Implications	SOA Outcome 6
Resources	Existing resources partners have committed to deliver outcomes agreed within SOA Outcome 6.
Prevention	There is a risk that SOA Outcome 6 will not be fully achieved if community safety partnership working is not strengthened and better integrated.
Equalities	Contributes to equality outcomes identified in SOA outcome 6 to improve the safety of all groups and reduce outcome inequalities.

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Appendix 1 Community Safety Tasking and Coordinating Partnership for SOA 6 “People Live in Safer and Stronger Communities”



Lead Officers Group Comprises leads from – Argyll and Bute Community Safety Partnership, Argyll and Bute Resilience Partnership, Counter Terrorism CONTEST Group, Serious and Organised Crime Interventions Group, Violence Against Women Partnership, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, Child Protection Committee, Argyll and Bute Third Sector Partnership, Argyll and Bute Road Safety Group

