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Argyll and Bute Council Comhairle Earra Ghaidheal agus Bhoid

Customer Services

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22 February 2013

MEETING OF HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP, TUESDAY, 12 MARCH 2013 at 1:30 PM

I refer to the above meeting and enclose herewith report relating to Agenda Item 10 (Review of Community Councils) which was marked 'To Follow'

> **Douglas Hendry Executive Director - Customer Services**

BUSINESS

REVIEW OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS (Pages 1 - 4)

HELENSBURGH AND LOMOND COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

Contact: Belinda Ruthven - Area Governance Assistant Tel: 01436 658825

ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP



CUSTOMER SERVICES

ALL ACPG MEETINGS MARCH 2013

REVIEW OF THE SCHEME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMMUNITY COUNCILS

1. SUMMARY

The current Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils (http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/council-and-government/2009-review-approved-good-practise-agreement.pdf are due to be reviewed this year. To ensure that these continue to be fit for purpose, a Short Life Working Group (SLWG) has been established by the Council. This Group will oversee the process of review which will involve a 2 phase consultation with stakeholders to ensure full engagement and consultation. Details of this are outlined in paragraphs 3.1-3.5 below.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the ACPG notes the proposals for engagement with the various stakeholders and opportunity is provided at this meeting to discuss and offer feedback on issues which they would like the SLWG to consider during the phase 1 consultation.
- 2.2 That the ACPG also notes the process for review outlined in paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4.

3. DETAIL

3.1 The current four year Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils and Best Practice Guide were approved by Council in August 2009. These documents both require to be reviewed this year.

- 3.2 The Council has formed a Short Life Working Group to take forward the review process and following their first meeting on 19 February 2013, a timeframe for the review has been agreed.
- 3.3 In terms of this timeframe, a phase one consultation, based on the existing Scheme, will commence on Monday 25 February 2013 and conclude on 28 April 2013. In addition, meetings for Community Councillors will take place in the main towns in Argyll and Bute as follows:-

Campbeltown Art Room, Community Centre
Wednesday 6 March at 7.00pm
Lochgilphead Committee Room 1, Kilmory Headquarters
Thursday 7 March at 7.00pm
Rothesay Eaglesham House
Wednesday 13 March at 3.00pm (Yet to be confirmed)
Dunoon Hill Street
Wednesday 13 March at 7.00pm
Oban Corran Halls
Thursday 14 March at 7.00pm
Helensburgh Marriage Room, West King Street
Monday 18 March at 7.00pm

Officers of the Council will be on hand at these meetings to facilitate discussion and respond to points of concern which may assist Community Councils in formulating their responses.

3.4 Following the first phase of consultation, a meeting of the SLWG will be held to consider the phase 1 responses and agree the basis of a second phase of consultation which will commence on 6 May and conclude on 26 May 2013. The SLWG will meet again to discuss the second stage responses and agree their recommendations to Council. It is anticipated that these recommendations will be considered at the full Council meeting scheduled to take place on 27 June 2013.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 In discussing this matter at the Area Community Planning meeting it offers an opportunity for Partners at the meeting to feed into the phase 1 consultation process and draws their attention to the timescales outlined for the remainder of the review process.

5. IMPLICATIONS

Policy - None
Financial - None
Legal - None
HR - None
Equalities - None

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Risk - None

Customer There are benefits in terms of Partner agencies being Service - able to feed into the process without necessity to

formally respond.

Executive Director of Customer Services 20 February 2013

For further information contact: Melissa Stewart, Area Governance Officer, Governance and Law, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead - 01546 604331

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