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ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

25 February 2005

A meeting of the **ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD** on **FRIDAY, 4 MARCH 2005** at **11:00 AM**.

Coffee will be available from 10.45 am

AGENDA

1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**
2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2005**
3. **MATTERS ARISING**
4. **PRESENTATION BY EDDY GRAHAM FROM IBP STRATEGY AND RESEARCH ON THE RESULTS OF THE 8TH QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE CITIZEN'S PANEL**
5. **KEY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**
 - (a) COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION ON THE CPP (ANDREW CAMPBELL)
(Pages 5 - 6)
 - (b) PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS PLAN (ANDREW CAMPBELL)
(Pages 7 - 8)
6. **COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES**
 - (a) PREPARATIONS FOR CPP BIENNIAL CONFERENCE (LOLITA LAVERY)
(Pages 9 - 10)
 - (b) CPP BUDGET (LOLITA LAVERY) (Pages 11 - 14)
 - (c) UPDATE ON CPP PRIORITIES (THEME GROUP LEADERS) (Pages 15 - 20)
 - (d) UPDATE ON BUTE AND COWAL PILOT (GEORGE MCKENZIE)
 - (e) UPDATE ON REGENERATION OUTCOME AGREEMENTS (MURIEL KUPRIS)
 - (f) REPORT BACK ON MEETING WITH DR ANDREW GOUDIE FROM THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE (ANDREW CAMPBELL)

7. HEALTH ISSUES

- (a) JOINT HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (GAVIN BROWN) (To Follow)
- (b) UPDATE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS (ERIK JESPERSEN)

8. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE ISSUES

- (a) SEERAD RURAL POLICY ADVISORY GROUP/CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP TARGETS (BRIAN BARKER) (Pages 21 - 30)
- (b) BASELINE REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS (LOLITA LAVERY) (Pages 31 - 32)
- (c) BEST VALUE AUDIT (LOLITA LAVERY) (Pages 33 - 34)

9. AOCB

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY 8 JULY 2005

A buffet lunch will be provided after the meeting

**MINUTES of MEETING of ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP held in the
COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD on FRIDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2004**

Present:

Councillor Allan Macaskill (Chair)
Councillor Robin Banks
James McLellan, Argyll & Bute Council
Lolita Lavery, Community Planning Partnership
Charlotte Lee, Chose Life Initiative
Gavin Brown, NHS Argyll & Clyde
Jim Clinton, Bute Community Links
Josephine Stojak, NHS Argyll & Clyde
Pat Logan, Argyll & Bute Volunteer Centre
Alistair MacAlistair, Assoc. of Community Councils
Mary MacGugan, Assoc. of Community Councils

Alasdair Oatts, Argyll & Bute Care & Repair
Andrew Campbell, SNH
Joan Inglis, AILLST
Donald MacVicar, Argyll & Bute Council
Peter Minshall, Argyll CVS
Pauline Borland, Strathclyde Fire Brigade
Carl Olivarius, Argyll & Bute Council
Alan Milstead, AIE
Alison Taylor, Citizens Advice Bureau
Julian Hankinson, Assoc. of Community Councils

Apologies:

Moir Nelson, SEPA
Bill Dalrymple, National Park Authority
David Dowie, Communities Scotland
Erik Jespersen, NHS Argyll & Clyde

Alan McDonald, Fyne Homes
Lesley Campbell, National Park Authority
Brian Barker, Argyll & Bute Council

1. WELCOME

Councillor Allan Macaskill welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Peter Minshall the new Chief Executive of Argyll CVS, Pat Logan of the Argyll & Bute Volunteer Centre, Alison Taylor of the Citizens' Advice Bureau, Alistair MacAlistair and Mary MacGugan of the Association of Community Councils and Charlotte Lee of the Chose Life Initiative who were attending their first meeting of the Community Planning Partnership

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2 JULY 2004

The Minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting held on 2 July 2004.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Lolita Lavery reported that the recommendations of the National Community Planning Implementation Group, namely an annual high level summit, a network of sectoral and geographic community planning champions and a network of community planning practitioners would be discussed at the Highlands and Islands Convention on 8 November and that any actions forthcoming would be reported back at the next meeting.

Councillor Macaskill advised the meeting that Sergeant Neil Wallace had been promoted to the position of Inspector in the Oban office. He expressed his thanks to Neil for his role in the Community Planning Partnership and wished him well in his new post.

4. KEY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**(a) BUTE & COWAL PILOT: PROGRESS TO DATE AND WAY FORWARD**

Andrew Campbell advised that the Bute and Cowal Pilot was not progressing as anticipated as the Partnership had created a complicated structure which was causing confusion. Lessons had been learned and he asked the Partnership to endorse the following proposals:

- That in view of limited resources no new Level 1 structure be formed but that existing structures such as Community Councils, Community Care Forums, etc., be used in areas where gaps are identified (Dunoon outwith ADG, West Cowal etc.)
- That Level 1 Support Staff identify appropriate Community Representatives to sit on the Area Partnership (and that whilst they do this they participate in the Area Partnership meetings to facilitate communication)
- That publicity be put on hold until the Area Partnership has something concrete to promote. In the meantime, Level 1 Support Staff will be given a briefing sheet from which to work (to give them information to address common questions and to ensure that there is a consistent approach across all areas)

- That Community Representatives be paid childcare, travel expenses, etc. from the main CPP budget (Capacity Building heading has been created for this purpose). If this budget is spent, partners will have to top up the budget as part of their annual contributions.
- That George MacKenzie and Lolita Lavery meet with Level 1 Support Staff to discuss an appropriate way forward.

(B) COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

Andrew Campbell outlined some of the difficulties being faced in implementing the agreed target of 50% community representation at all levels of the new CPP structure and asked the Partnership to endorse the following approach:

- That the CPP change the basis of community representation from one that focuses on 50% representation to one that focuses on a designated scrutiny role for any community representative
- That the Management Committee be given responsibility to develop this further

It was, however, agreed that communities should still be at the heart of the community planning process and that a flexible approach be adopted for involving communities at the various levels of the CPP structure.

Lolita tabled a letter from Communities Scotland entitled "Support for Community Engagement in Community Regeneration: Community Voices Programme" which is a new fund aimed at helping people living in the most disadvantaged communities to influence and engage in the planning and delivery of services. It was noted that the resource allocation for Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership for the following three years would be:

2005/06	-	£60,000
2006/07	-	£53,000
2007/08	-	£53,000

This is a continuation of old money under a new name.

(C) PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Andrew Campbell advised that Lynda Syed, the Council's Communications Manager, would be tabling a paper on the Communications Plan at the next Management Committee meeting and that progress would be reported back to the next CPP meeting in March 2005. He also mentioned that the CPP's website was being redesigned and that the site should go "live" towards the end of the year.

(D) DRAFT REGENERATION OUTCOME AGREEMENT

Donald MacVicar outlined the content of the draft Regeneration Outcome Agreement which provides an outline of the overall approach that has been developed in relation to the implementation of the new Community Regeneration Fund. The Community Regeneration Fund replaces the existing Social Inclusion Partnership and Better Neighbourhood Services Fund and has been designed to bring improvements to the most deprived areas within Argyll and Bute. He advised that the final Regeneration Outcome Agreement had to be submitted to the Scottish Executive by mid December 2004 and that any comments on the draft should be submitted to him as soon as possible. The Partnership noted the planned expenditure over the next three year period.

5 COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES

(A) CITIZENS' PANEL CONSULTATION PROGRAMME

Lolita advised that Eddy Graham from IBP Strategy and Research, the new consultancy firm appointed to oversee the Citizens' Panel, had given a presentation to the Management Committee on the Citizens' Panel process and had outlined some innovative ways in making optimum use of the Panel. It was agreed that Eddy would be invited to the next meeting of the Partnership in March 2005.

Lolita mentioned that the next questionnaire would be going out in January 2005. Suggested topics included Community Safety, Equality, Volunteering and Green Issues. Lolita advised that any other issues which partners wished to include should be submitted to her as soon as possible.

(B) UPDATE ON NEW COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP PRIORITIES

Theme Group One

Gavin Brown advised that the last meeting of the Group had been very productive and that the Joint Health Improvement Plan had been signed off. He also mentioned that an event entitled "Health Improvement – Planning the Links" was to be held on 6 December 2004 and that invitations would shortly be issued to all Partners. The achievements of the Drivesafe and Chose Life campaigns were noted. Gavin advised that the Director for Public Health would be attending the next Theme Group meeting to speak on the Annual Public Health Report and it was hoped that as many of the partners as possible would be attending this meeting.

Theme Group Two

Alan Milstead advised that the Group had held a facilitated workshop on the 18th October to define the role, remit and future of the Group. Unfortunately no conclusions were reached and a small working group was asked to develop an appropriate way forward. The Group were, however, in discussions about the possible formation of a Construction College in Mid Argyll and the production of a CD to encourage inward migration to Argyll.

Theme Group Three

Donald MacVicar advised that the Group had met in mid October. Attendance was once again poor and an effort was being made to get more organisations represented. Donald mentioned that a Transport Co-ordinator had been appointed to take the recommendations of the Napier University Study forward and that the Cultural Strategy for Argyll and Bute would be issued at the end of November. The problems experienced in progressing the actions on renewable energy and energy conservation were also tabled.

(C) ISSUES TO BE RAISED WITH DR. ANDREW GOUDIE FROM THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Lolita mentioned that Dr Andrew Goudie, Head of the Scottish Executive's Finance and Central Services Department would be attending the next Management Committee meeting. It was agreed that the issues outlined by Lolita be raised with Dr Goudie and that feedback be given at the next Partnership meeting.

(D) AUDIT SCOTLAND'S DRAFT COMMUNITY PLANNING INDICATORS

Lolita briefly outlined Audit Scotland's proposed Community Planning indicators and advised that the Management Committee had submitted comments to Audit Scotland as they felt that the indicators were inappropriate to rural areas and did not add value to community planning.

James McLellan advised that Audit Scotland were in the process of auditing local authorities and that Argyll and Bute would be audited in 2005. The Community Planning Partnership would be audited as part of this process. He also advised that the Education Department would be audited at the beginning of December and that Community Planning Partners would be involved in this process along with parents, school boards and staff.

(E) CHOOSE LIFE ACTION PLAN

Charlotte Lee spoke to this report and advised that in 2002/03 there had been 17 suicides, 7 undetermined deaths and 149 incidents of recorded self harm in Argyll and Bute. It was noted that an action planning seminar had been held on 9th September in order to increase the awareness of "Choose Life", identify gaps and priorities for development as well as people willing to be involved in the implementation and review of the action plan. Two further seminars were planned for May 2005 and March 2006. The Partnership endorsed the Chose Life Action Plan which has to be submitted to the Scottish Executive by December 2004.

(F) COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP REVIEW DAY

Lolita mentioned that the second CPP Review Day would be held in the Corran Halls in Oban on Friday 10 June 2005. Ideas for topics or issues to be covered as well as possible keynote speakers should be submitted to Lolita prior to the Management Committee meeting in December.

6. ANY OTHER PARTNERSHIP ISSUES

Pat Logan advised that there would be a Seminar in Dunoon on Thursday 18 November 2004 on Time Banking. The Time Bank Co-ordinator for Scotland would be giving a presentation and an invitation would be sent to all Partners.

Alasdair Oatts gave a brief overview on the work of the Argyll and Bute Care and Repair programme.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY 4 MARCH 2005

The next Community Planning Partnership meeting will be held at 11:00 on Friday 4 March 2005 in the Council Chambers, Kilmory, Lochgilphead.

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COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION ON THE CPP

At the last CPP meeting in November 2004, it was agreed that the CPP change the basis of community representation from one that focuses on 50% representation to one that focuses on a designated scrutiny role for any community representative and that the Management Committee be given responsibility to develop this further.

This item was discussed at the Management Committee meeting on 8 December 2004 and the following is an extract from the minutes of the meeting:

“Lolita briefly sketched the background to involving community representatives on all levels of the Partnership as well as some of the difficulties experienced in achieving the 50% target. Various options for involving community representatives were outlined and the following proposals made:

- 1. That active community participation be sought at the Community Assembly (Review Day), Theme Group and Local (Bute & Cowal Pilot) levels of the revised CPP structure as a more “hands on” approach to community involvement is deemed more appropriate at these levels;*
- 2. That a scrutiny role be sought at the full Partnership and Management Committee levels of the revised CPP structure as a “community watchdog” approach to community involvement is deemed more appropriate at these levels; and*
- 3. That the number/percentage of community representatives on the various levels of the revised CPP structure be flexible to reflect the different approaches taken to involve communities.*

Lolita also advised that she had received an e-mail from James Hilder of the Mull and Iona Community Trust who had expressed the need for community representatives to be properly reimbursed for travel expenses, child care expenses and loss of any wages. It was noted that an amount had already been allocated in the CPP budget for this purpose. Relevant training and capacity building needs were also discussed and it was agreed that this was crucial if community representatives were to engage fully in the community planning process. It was mentioned that Communities Scotland had some money that could be accessed for capacity building initiatives.

After discussion, and noting David Dowie’s concerns that we should not draw away from the original vision of community representation, it was agreed that:

- 1. The proposed way forward as outlined above be adopted for obtaining community representation on the various levels of the revised CPP structure;*
- 2. As a general principle, community representation be sought from sectors that reflect the main priorities that the Community Planning Partnership is trying to address;*
- 3. Each level of the revised CPP structure decide how best to involve the community in terms of the specific roles outlined above, and report progress in identifying appropriate representatives at the next meeting; and*
- 4. The Management Committee decide if additional community representatives are needed to fulfil the “scrutiny” role on the Management Committee and full Partnership and if so, which sectors they should represent.”*

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PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

A paper on the Partnership's Communications Plan was tabled at the Management Committee meeting on 8 December 2004. The following is an extract from the minutes of the meeting.

“Lynda Syed presented a report proposing a series of actions, which would form the basis of a Communications Plan for the Partnership.

After discussion the Management Committee agreed to adopt all the recommendations outlined in the report as work in progress and Andrew thanked Lynda for all her working in preparing the outline. It was agreed that a template would be sent to Partners regarding information required for the new CPP website which was scheduled to go “live” in the middle of January 2005.”

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ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

10TH JUNE 2005 – CORRAN HALLS, OBAN

“THE CHANGING POPULATION: COMMON PROBLEMS, JOINT SOLUTIONS”

- 09:15 **Registration Opens** – Coffee/Tea available in foyer
- 10:00 **Welcome and Introduction**
Cllr Allan Macaskill, CPP Chair
- 10:05 **CPP Overview**
Andrew Campbell, CPP Management Committee Chair
- 10:15: **Argyll and Bute Profile**
New Research Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
- 10:45 **Keynote Address: “Argyll and Bute: Leading Rural Area – Facing the Demographic Challenges: What can Service Providers do”**
Colin Mair, Chief Executive, Improvement Service
- 11:15 **Facilitated Workshops**
(Tea/coffee will be provided in the Workshops)
- The aim of the Workshops is to identify 3 actions that can be taken forward by the CPP and also what the barriers are to making this happen.
- 13:00 **BUFFET LUNCH**
- 14:00 **Scottish Executive’s Perspective: Improving Access to Rural Services**
Frank Strang, Head of the Scottish Executive Rural Policy Team
- 14.15 **Panel Discussion** (Questions and Answers)
- Discussion on how the barriers identified during the workshops can be addressed.
- Panellists**
- Colin Mair, Chief Executive of the Improvement Service**
Frank Strang, Head of the Scottish Executive Rural Policy Team
Helen Betts-Brown, Assistant Director-Rural Affairs, SCVO
Cllr Ian Gillies, Islands Spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council
Dr Erik Jespersen, GP Oban, Clinical Director Argyll and Bute
Peter Timms, Chair of AIE and the Argyll and Islands Local Economic Forum – to be confirmed
- 15:00 **Close**

Please note that this programme may be subject to change.

Argyll and Bute: Leading Rural Area

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DRAFT COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BUDGET

The draft CPP budget for the 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 financial years as well as the proposed contributions from current contributing Partners is tabled for approval.

The following should be noted:

- The budget is based on the supposition that all current contributing partners will continue to contribute at the proposed 3% annual inflationary increase. If this is not the case, alternative funding arrangements will need to be investigated.
- Even though the budget shows a deficit of £11,374 for the 2004/05 financial year, indications from the actual spend to date for 2004/05 indicate that there should be a surplus of approximately £33,000. The surplus is mainly due to no annual progress report/newsletters being published and the late start of the Bute and Cowal Pilot (capacity building item).
- The 2007/08 budget indicates a deficit of approximately £15,500. It is suggested that the 2005/06 and 2006/07 budgets be monitored carefully to see where savings can be incurred to eradicate this deficit.

Lolita Lavery
Community Planning Manager

	APPROVED CPP BUDGET 2004/05	DRAFT CPP BUDGET 2005/06	DRAFT CPP BUDGET 2006/07	DRAFT CPP BUDGET 2007/08
ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT				
Direct/Indirect Employee Expenses				
Staff Costs (includes Admin, NI/Pension, Car allowance/Travel & Subsistence)	47,366	51,473	52,524	53,609
Sub Total	47,366	51,473	52,524	53,609
Running Costs				
Conference Fees	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Printing & Stationery	2,000	1,800	1,500	1,800
IT Consumables	1,000	1,000	800	800
Postage	1,500	1,500	1,200	1,500
Telephone Charges	800	850	850	850
Routine Hospitality (Catering)	1,000	1,500	1,800	2,000
Sundries (Hire of Facilities/Video Conferencing)	1,500	1,500	1,800	2,000
Sub Total	8,800	9,150	8,950	9,950
Project Support				
Themed Conference	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Regeneration Outcome Agreements (1)	(1)			
Equalities Research (2)	(2)			
Drivesafe (3)	(3)			
Sub Total	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT				
Citizens' Panel				
Questionnaires (X2)	10,600	10,800	10,800	10,800
Newsletters (X2)	600	1,000	1,000	1,000
Annual Refreshment	4,600	5,200	5,200	5,200
Sub Total	15,800	17,000	17,000	17,000
Communications Plan				
Annual Progress Report	9,400 #	-	-	-
Newsletters/Publicity	7,500 # *	2,000	2,000	2,000
Developing/Maintaining CPP Website	1,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Sub Total	17,900	5,000	5,000	5,000
Partnership Development				
Biennial Conference	-	4,200	-	4,800
Capacity Building	15,000 **	8,000	9,000	10,000
Sub Total	15,000	12,200	9,000	14,800
TOTAL	107,366	97,323	94,974	102,859
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)				
TOTAL (less contribution from SE)	92,366			
INCOME				
Contributions from Partners	77,160	79,476	81,860	84,315
Surplus/(Deficit) from previous year	3,832	33,000 +	15,153	2,039
TOTAL INCOME	80,992	112,476	97,013	86,354
Surplus/(Deficit) carried over to next year	(11,374)+	15,153	2,039	(16,505)++

Notes:

(1) Refer to section on Project Support below

(2) Refer to section on Project Support below

(3) Refer to section on Project Support below

Amounts may change – awaiting proposals from Communications Plan

* Includes an amount of £5,000 received from Scottish Executive

** Includes an amount of £10,000 received from Scottish Executive

+ Even though the budget shows a deficit of £11,374 for the 2004/05 financial year, indications from the actual spend to date for 2004/05 indicate that there should be a surplus of approximately £33,000. The surplus is mainly due to no annual progress report/newsletters being published and the late start of the Bute and Cowal Pilot (capacity building).

++ The 2007/08 budget indicates a deficit of £16,505. It is suggested that the 2005/06 and 2006/07 budgets be monitored carefully to see where savings can be incurred to fund this deficit.

PROJECT SUPPORT (2005/06 BUDGET)

PROJECT	FUNDING SOURCE	YEARS ALLOCATED	AMOUNT ALLOCATED
(1) Drafting of Regeneration Outcome Agreements	Communities Scotland	2004/05	£17,400
(2) Equalities Research		2005/06	£10,000
(3) Drivesafe Initiative	Strathclyde Fire Brigade Strathclyde Police CPP	2003/04	£ 11,000

RINGFENCED FUNDING (2005/06 BUDGET)

PROJECT	FUNDING SOURCE	YEARS ALLOCATED	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Choose Life Project • <i>Salary for Project Worker</i> • <i>Implementing Choose Life Action Plan</i>	Scottish Executive	2003/04	£76,000	£116,846 £ 83,000
		2004/05	£79,000	
		2005/06	£83,000	
Community Voices Programme • <i>Engaging communities in most disadvantages areas</i>	Communities Scotland	2005/06	£60,000	£ 60,000
		2006/07	£53,000	£ 53,000
		2007/08	£53,000	£ 53,000

2005/2006 BUDGET: PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS SHOWING 3% INFLATIONARY INCREASE

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS	CURRENT CONTRIBUTION	PRO RATA % CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL BUDGET	PROPOSED INCREASE	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION
Argyll & Bute Council	22,200	28,8%	666	22,866
Argyll & the Islands Enterprise	13,321	17,3%	400	13,721
NHS Argyll & Clyde	11,839	15,3%	355	12,194
Communities Scotland	7,400	9,6%	222	7,622
Scottish Natural Heritage	4,440	5,8%	133	4,573
Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire	4,120	5,3%	124	4,244
Forestry Commission	3,090	4%	93	3,183
Strathclyde Police	3,090	4%	93	3,183
Strathclyde Fire Brigade	3,090	4%	93	3,183
Careers Scotland	3,090	4%	93	3,183
Tourist Board	1,480	1,9%	44	1,524
TOTAL	77,160	100%	2,316	79,476

2006/2007 BUDGET: PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS SHOWING 3% INFLATIONARY INCREASE

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS	CURRENT CONTRIBUTION	PRO RATA % CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL BUDGET	PROPOSED INCREASE	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION
Argyll & Bute Council	22,866	28,8%	686	23,552
Argyll & the Islands Enterprise	13,721	17,3%	411	14,132
NHS Argyll & Clyde	12,194	15,3%	366	12,560
Communities Scotland	7,622	9,6%	228	7,850
Scottish Natural Heritage	4,573	5,8%	137	4,710
Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire	4,244	5,3%	127	4,371
Forestry Commission	3,183	4%	96	3,279
Strathclyde Police	3,183	4%	96	3,279
Strathclyde Fire Brigade	3,183	4%	96	3,279
Careers Scotland	3,183	4%	96	3,279
Tourist Board	1,524	1,9%	45	1,569
TOTAL	79,476	100%	2,384	81,860

2007/08 BUDGET: PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS SHOWING 3% INFLATIONARY INCREASE

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS	CURRENT CONTRIBUTION	PRO RATA % CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL BUDGET	PROPOSED INCREASE	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION
Argyll & Bute Council	23,552	28,8%	707	24,259
Argyll & the Islands Enterprise	14,132	17,3%	424	14,556
NHS Argyll & Clyde	12,560	15,3%	377	12,937
Communities Scotland	7,850	9,6%	236	8,086
Scottish Natural Heritage	4,710	5,8%	141	4,851
Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire	4,371	5,3%	131	4,502
Forestry Commission	3,279	4%	98	3,377
Strathclyde Police	3,279	4%	98	3,377
Strathclyde Fire Brigade	3,279	4%	98	3,377
Careers Scotland	3,279	4%	98	3,377
Tourist Board	1,569	1,9%	47	1,616
TOTAL	81,860	100%	2,455	84,315

UPDATE ON CPP PRIORITIES**REPORT FROM THEME GROUP 1:
PROMOTING HEALTH & WELL-BEING****(Report submitted to the Management Committee on 9 February 2005)**

At the last meeting of the Management Committee we reported that the Theme Group had organised a workshop to publicise the range of information that is available to help inform the planning for health improvement through national data on constituency profiles and the report of the local Director of Public Health. The workshop also looked at the links to Regeneration Agreements and the imminent introduction of Community Health Partnerships in the NHS. I attach the evaluation report arising from the workshop that we will issue to all those who attended or showed interest. This report also sets out the programme of local planning that will emanate from the workshop

We also reported on a successful workshop that was held in November where members of the Theme Group and others involved in health improvement activity heard about a performance measurement tool (LEAP), which could be used to monitor the activity set out the Joint Health Improvement Plan. We have used this tool in revising the Joint Health Improvement Plan.

I attach the revised draft JHIP that was considered by the Health & Well-being Theme Group at its meeting on 31 January. Members of the Management Committee might want to comment on this. We would hope that, with the agreement of the Management Committee, we can present this to the Community Planning Partnership at its meeting in March.

The Health & Well-being Theme Group applied to CoSLA for a grant under the Health Improvement Learning Zone initiative. We have subsequently learned that DRIVESafe was successful and CoSLA has awarded a grant to the Steering Group to develop resource materials for distribution to other Community Planning Partnerships who may wish to replicate the work undertaken by our group. DRIVESafe has also been entered in the Health Improvement category of the CoSLA Excellence Awards 2005.

GAVIN BROWN
CHAIR, HEALTH & WELL-BEING THEME GROUP
1 February 2005

ARGYLL & BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

PLANNING THE LINKS – MONDAY 6 DECEMBER 2004

EVALUATION

1. A total of 40 people attended (list attached).

2. Some 22 evaluation forms were returned:

14 agreed that the event had helped “a great deal” to understanding of community planning
7 agreed that the event had helped “a little”
1 did not express a view at all

Those parts of the programme, which were new to participants, were as follows:

Constituency Profiles	9
Regeneration Outcome Agreement	10
Annual Report	9
Joint Health Improvement Plan	2
None of the above	1
All of the above	1

3. All 22 thought it would be useful to have similar events in future.

4. Many of the individual comments were complimentary – about the event or the speakers. The individual comments were as follows.

General

“Helpful to see the possibility for greater co-operation over health issues.”

Aware of the reports “in a general way” but focusing on Argyll & Bute was particularly helpful.

“Like the man said you need to get it over to the man in the street”

“Hope the money is put to best use.”

“Argyll & Bute is a huge area and it is difficult for everyone to co-ordinate and know local and strategic developments. ”

“Less Groups meeting might help. Perhaps a central website with all organisations mapping what they do would help.”

“Was aware of Community Planning process but this affords the opportunity, through health statistics to focus our activities on specific issues of merit to Argyll & Bute Council and NHS Argyll & Clyde.”

“Realising how vast this task is.”

Improving Future Events

“Focus on what we have achieved section.”

“Solutions/Options Workshop on objectives.”

“Link strategic to local and operational.”

“In addition to statistics, information about local activities e.g. Healthy Living Initiatives, Dialogue Youth, Choose Life. To create the engagement and enhance wellbeing of Argyll & Bute. This is very important - relying on statistics can be misleading and detracting.”

“Some of the presentations did not photocopy well. Could have the presentation slides on a website to access.”

“Annual updates.”

“Use speaker systems.”

“Bit more time”. (More than one participant made this comment).

“A wider participation from key partners in groups. How? May be more and smaller events in areas.”

“Might be useful to have some focus on minority groups as specific issues related to the. They often get lost in the general statistics/profiles etc.”

"I think we should not be afraid of talking up the positives and what is good about the area where we live and the vast improvements that have already taken place."

"When new guidance in early years on integrated strategy is obtained from Scottish Executive a presentation to the main Childcare Partnership would be welcomed."

"Very useful from a statistical point of view but how about a laymen's event for local people."

"More discussion on links and how to make them effective."

"Opportunities for joint working and resources which may be available could focus workshops on specific areas (health, environment, social inclusion etc.)."

"Workshop on how to tackle specific Public Health issues on the ground."

"Central events are good. More local events to reach staff."

NEXT STEPS

To progress the good work resulting from the seminar a series of Locality Development Days are being held in early February. These days are for all agencies involved in health improvement in each of the areas in Argyll and Bute. They are an important opportunity to ensure that all of the issues identified for our communities are addressed and that partnership work in relation to health improvement is incorporated into the Joint Health Improvement Plan. Each area of Argyll and Bute will produce a local action plan for health improvement, which will be incorporated into the JHIP, as an outcome of the Development Day. Workshops will take place on the following dates:

Monday 31 January, Helensburgh	1:30 pm, Kirkmichael Centre, Townhead Road, Helensburgh
Tuesday 1 February, Islay	10 am, Service Point, Bowmore
Wednesday 2 February, Mid Argyll	10 am, Community Education Centre, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead
Monday 7 February, Kintyre	1 pm, Community Centre, Campbeltown
Wednesday 9 February, North Argyll	10 am, Lecture Theatre, Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban
Thursday 10 February, Cowal	2 pm, Edward Street Community Centre, Dunoon
Friday 11 February, Bute	10 am, Moat Centre, Rothesay

ATTENDANCE LIST

Brian Barker	Alison MacKenzie
Angela Brown	Donnie McMillan
D. Cameron	Lucy McQuillan
D. Carson	Bruce Marshall
Rory Colville	Lynne Merrylees
George Freeman	Peter Minshall
Lynn Garrett	Alan Morrison
Liz Goodall	Carol Muir
Alison Guest	Moirra Newiss
Gary Haldane	Patricia Renfrew
Marie Harrower	Fiona Semple
Jan Henderson	Isobel Strong
Alex Honeyman	Pat Tyrrell
Erik Jespersen	Sheila Walker
Maggie Lachlan	Cindy Wallis
Alan Macaskill	Stephen Whiston
A. McCalym	Bruce White
Jim McCrossan	John White
Alistair McDonald	

**REPORT FROM THEME GROUP 2:
IMPROVING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING, EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

(Report submitted to the Management Committee on 9 February 2005)

The CPP Theme Two group met in December and there was a January LEF meeting.

The working group set up after the October T2G workshop identified the following points:

- There was a blurring of strategic and operational issues
- There was a need for closer working relationships with LEF
- There was a need for a more practical focus on strategic priorities in the LEF strategy.

Subsequently in the revised/refreshed Smart Successful Scotland (the Scottish Executives economic strategy) there is explicit mention that the LEFs will deliver the economic dimension of CPP.

At the December meeting of the Theme Two Group it was agreed that some sort of merger/amalgamation of the two groups (CPP T2G & LEF) should take place as both groups covered similar ground.

Also at the Theme Two meeting:

- The action plans were reviewed and some items closed, some passed to LEF and one passed to Theme Three group.
- A reporting function to CPP by the LEF was proposed.
- It was suggested that membership of the LEF should be increased.

At the January meeting of the LEF this proposal was broadly welcomed as it reduced the number of meetings. The idea that many initiatives would be pursued via short life groups was welcomed and seen as the best way of working. This idea was discussed at the LEF seminar in December and received wide acceptance as a way forward for action.

The issue of membership/attendance at LEF meetings was debated at some length and it was agreed that there would be a review of membership, perhaps establishing a core group and inviting others, as appropriate, for the topics under debate. A paper "What are we trying to achieve" was to be prepared for the next meeting. This would:

- Identify where there are gaps
- Suggest methods of:
- Disseminating routine facts
- Details of hot issues (problems/solutions)

If there is an issue that could be brought to the attention of the LEF, perhaps because you are looking for advice to increase impact, wish to consult businesses, or involve other bodies that you are not already in contact with to achieve some sort of impact, etc. this may be done via me.

Alan Milstead
Tel 01546 605 435
27 January 2005

**REPORT FROM THEME GROUP 3:
SUSTAINING AND DEVELOPING OUR COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

(Report submitted to the Management Committee on 9 February 2005)

1. The Third Theme Group meeting was held on Wednesday 26 January 2005 and fourteen people were in attendance.
2. Malcolm MacFadyen, Head of Planning and Performance, Community Services gave a presentation on the Local Housing Strategy. The presentation was extremely informative and useful to the members of the group and a question and answer session followed which emphasised the links the Housing Strategy has with the work of a wide range of CPP partners.
3. An update on the ROA was provided which confirmed that Communities Scotland will meet with a number of staff involved in the completion of the ROA to discuss details before it is signed off by the Executive. However, it was confirmed that the document has met with a very positive response and Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership did not require the extensions of time which have been given across Scotland in order to finalise the document.
4. Lolita also gave an update on the present position of the Bute and Cowal Pilot and on the end of the work of the Second Theme Group.
5. Membership – It was agreed that Lolita and Donald would review the membership of the group within the next two weeks and then pass out to all attendees a proposed new list for consideration. It was agreed that where there are gaps in attendances from key partner organisations, the Chair would write out to these organisations inviting them to participate in the Third Theme Group.

Pat Logan and David Dowie expressed concern that the Management Committee had taken the decision not to aspire for a long term target of 50% representation from community representatives on the Community Planning Partnership. However, Brian Barker confirmed that this was the decision of the last Management Committee and it was noted that their concerns would be passed on to the Management Committee.

It was agreed that Peter Minshall and Jennifer Swanson would be invited along from the Argyll and Bute Advice Network to the Theme Group and it was also agreed that the Citizens' Advice Bureau would be welcome to attend a future meeting to give a presentation on their work.

It was agreed that the Action Plan would be reviewed every six months as discussed at the previous meeting.

A local issue regarding a housing project in Helensburgh was raised by Morven Short, Dunbritton Housing Association and she was advised that this matter should be taken up through the appropriate channels of the local Council Area Committee and through the Housing Strategy if there was a difficulty. It was the general agreement of the group that project matters like this were not under the locus of the Strategic Theme Group and should be dealt with through available local channels. Not all members of the group were in agreement with this.

6. Brian confirmed that the Community Planning Partnership's new look website would be in operation from February this year.

Donald MacVicar
Chair, Third Theme Group

27th January 2005

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SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Development Department
Social Inclusion Division

Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Councillor Allan Macaskill
Chair
Argyll & Bute Community Planning Partnership
Kilmory Castle
Lochgilphead
PA31 8RT

Telephone: 0131244 0803
Fax: 0131 244 0810
kay.barton@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

Our ref: CtOG

9 December 2004

Dear Colleague,

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE'S CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP TARGETS

I am writing to let you know that Malcolm Chisholm, Minister for Communities, announced today the Scottish Executive's new **Closing the Opportunity Gap** targets in Parliament. I wanted to write to you to notify you of the content of the targets, a copy of which are attached at Annex A, given the key role that Community Planning Partnerships will play in delivering them. We have also written today to CoSLA to inform them of the new targets.

Cabinet have chosen 10 targets to drive action to tackle poverty and deprivation in Scotland and to build on the progress made towards our Social Justice Milestones. The Cabinet Delivery Group on Closing the Opportunity Gap co-ordinated the selection of these targets, with particular help from the external members of the group, Professor Gill Scott of the Scottish Poverty Information Unit and David Nicoll, Chief Executive of the Wise Group.

The targets range across Ministerial portfolios and will require joined up action by the Executive and local delivery agents to ensure delivery. Most are existing targets and draw on resources that are already in place. I hope that you will welcome the refocusing of our social justice strategy on these key aspects of poverty and disadvantage in Scotland and the significant role that Community Planning Partners will play in their delivery.

Further details about each of the targets have today been made available via the Executive's website and can be accessed at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/closingtheopportunitygap>. Mr Chisholm is hoping to meet key stakeholders over the forthcoming weeks to discuss with them the role that they can play in delivering social inclusion and opportunity for all.



However, in the meantime, if you do want to discuss the targets in more detail please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Neil Langhorn in the Social Inclusion Division on 0131 244 0805.

Yours sincerely

Kay Barton

Kay Barton
Head of Social Inclusion Division



ANNEX A: CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP TARGETS

Target A: *Reduce the number of workless people dependent on DWP benefits in Glasgow, North & South Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire & Inverclyde, Dundee, and West Dunbartonshire by 2007 and further by 2010.*

Target B: *Reduce the proportion of 16-19 year olds who are not in education training or employment by 2008.*

Target C: *Public sector and large employers to tackle aspects of in-work poverty by providing employees with the opportunity to develop skills and progress in their career. NHSScotland will set an example by providing 1000 job opportunities, with support for training and progression once in post, between 2004 and 2006 to people who are currently economically inactive or unemployed.*

Target D: *To reduce health inequalities by increasing the rate of improvement for under 75 Coronary Heart Disease mortality and under 75 cancer mortality (1995-2003) for the most deprived communities by 15% by 2008.*

Target E: *By 2008, ensure that children and young people who need it have an integrated package of appropriate health, care and education support.*

Target F: *Increase the average tariff score of the lowest attaining 20 per cent of S4 pupils by 5% by 2008.*

Target G: *By 2007 ensure that at least 50% of all "looked after" young people leaving care have entered education, employment or training.*

Target H: *By 2008, improve service delivery in rural areas so that agreed improvements to accessibility and quality are achieved for key services in remote and disadvantaged communities.*

Target J: *To promote community regeneration of the most deprived neighbourhoods, through improvements by 2008 in employability, education, health, access to local services, and quality of the local environment.*

Target K: *By 2008 increase the availability of appropriate financial services and money advice to disadvantaged communities to reduce their vulnerability to financial exclusion and multiple debts.*

The detail of several targets will be agreed in consultation with key stakeholders:

For target A, local employment partnerships will be asked to agree the size and nature of the target for their area, by February 2005. For example, the Glasgow Welfare to Work Forum set targets in 2003, to reduce the number of working age people claiming key benefits by 15,000 by the end of 2007 and 30,000 by the end of 2010.

For target B, as part of our work to develop an employability framework, we will analyse the make-up of the NEET group and their reasons for disengagement from school, work or further education. We will then specify the level of reduction that we seek to achieve.

For target H, working with an advisory Group of representatives from key delivery agents and rural communities, we will agree the rural areas to be targeted, consult with local communities to identify the key services to be improved, and agree with the relevant community planning partnerships the specific targets for improvements to accessibility and quality to be achieved.



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SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Environment and Rural Affairs Department
Fisheries and Rural Development Group

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Councillor Allan Macaskill
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Fax: 0131-244 6253
frank.strang@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

Your ref:
Our ref: 2RPC 2/29

25 January 2005

Dear Councillor Macaskill

CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP (COG)– THE RURAL TARGET

As you may know, we have been in discussion recently with Jon Harris of CoSLA about Ministers' rural services target under the Closing the Opportunity Gap programme. Jon suggested I drop you a line to make sure you are in the picture. We are looking forward to working with Community Planning Partnerships to deliver real improvements in the services enjoyed by people in rural Scotland.

The rural target (on which we have been working with an Advisory Group, three of whom represent Local Authority, CPP and Local Rural Partnership (LRP) interests) is expressed as follows: - *By 2008, improve service delivery in rural areas so that agreed improvements in accessibility and quality are achieved for key services in remote and rural communities.* Further information on the work of Closing the Opportunity Gap and the rural target can be found at www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Social-Inclusion/17415/target.

Our priority in recent weeks has been to identify the geographic areas to be targeted in our efforts to improve service delivery. The approach taken to the selection of these areas is outlined in the attached **Annex A**. You will see that this involves taking account of both overall deprivation and difficulties in accessing services. On this basis, the following area within your CPP boundaries is likely – subject to final Ministerial approval - to be included:

S01000800 – 'East Loch Fybe, Holy Loch'

There are two glosses I should add. First, whilst these are the data zones within which we shall be looking to see measurable improvements, there will be scope for agreement with all affected CPPs as to the exact areas over which action will be taken. Second, the advisory group acknowledged that the approach adopted may appear to give rise to some anomalies on the ground especially in respect of small islands. In response to any such issues being flagged up by yourself or your counterparts, they will consider over the summer whether to add up to 5 additional RSPAs.

We expect Ministers to announce the RSPAs at the end of the week. Taking this target forward will involve a number of key steps, including establishing in each RSPA the local views as to the key services on which we should all focus and agreeing the improvements we should be seeking. We aim to complete that part of the process by early November. We see CPPs as having a vital role to play in both the setting of the individual targets and their delivery. We propose convening a meeting of representatives of affected CPPs shortly, to share further information as to what is involved and the resources and support which are likely to be available and to discuss ideas for taking the programme forward.

I would be grateful if you could nominate a representative from your Partnership to act as a contact for this work. Further I would appreciate some indication from the representative as to their availability in the last week of February to get together to discuss ideas as stated.

On a general note, we are currently seeking an experienced rural practitioner on a 2-year secondment basis to help us with the delivery of the rural target. Further information on this exercise can be provided by Ross Lindsay, at the contact details provided below.

I look forward to working with yourself and your colleagues on this issue. If you have any immediate enquiries please contact Ross Lindsay at ross.lindsay@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, (Phone: 0131 244 4157) who will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely



Frank Strang
Head of Land Use and Rural Policy

ANNEX A

ANNEX: SELECTION OF RURAL SERVICES PRIORITY AREAS

Background

1. The rural target concerns improving service delivery in remote and disadvantaged areas within rural Scotland. This annex summarises the approach adopted to select the rural services priority areas (RSPAs).
2. A transparent approach to selecting RSPAs was required and this necessitated using an evidence based approach.
3. The RSPAs were identified by geographic area rather than, for example, disadvantaged groups within populations. This meant that it was possible to focus on specific localities, allowing service deliverers to take an integrated approach to bringing about improvements in service delivery.

Statistics on disadvantage

4. The most widely used tool to identify disadvantaged areas in Scotland is the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (SIMD). SIMD is being used to design and measure targets in the Closing the Opportunity Gap work programme. Therefore, for consistency, the rural target should use SIMD to select RSPAs. The SIMD has the advantage that it is the only available statistic on relative disadvantage at small area level and is therefore the only available statistic that can allow an evidence based approach to be adopted.
5. There have been concerns about the appropriateness of SIMD for rural Scotland. For example, when SIMD is aggregated at local authority level, it is not able to identify pockets of relative disadvantage within rural areas. It is not necessary, however, to use the SIMD at local authority level. An alternative to using SIMD at local authority level is to analyse the SIMD by the small areas that comprise the overall index. These areas are known as 'data zones'.
6. The SIMD is built up from 6,505 data zones covering the whole of Scotland – each data zone is designed to include a population of around 750 people. Of the 6,505 data zones, 1,326 are rural and these rural data zones can be analysed separately. Separate analysis of rural data zones was the approach adopted here to identify the RSPAs.

Steps taken to select rural services priority areas

7. The 1,326 rural data zones were extracted from the full SIMD dataset.
8. It was not possible to include all the rural data zones as RSPAs. Moreover the Closing the Opportunity Gap exercise is focussing on tackling disadvantage. In order to make the process manageable, a maximum number of data zones was set at 20 areas, recognising that any more than 20 would not be a manageable number.
9. A decision had to be taken as to whether the RSPAs should be defined on the basis of the overall SIMD score or solely on the basis of the geographic

access to services domain within the SIMD, or both. A limitation of using the overall SIMD score is that disadvantage arising from lower access to services is not given as much weight as other factors. A limitation of focusing solely on the geographic access to services domain is that it would ignore the fact that all forms of disadvantage can be exacerbated by limited access to services. In order to overcome the limitations of both these approaches, a combined approach was used and data zones that are lowest on the overall index *and* lowest on the geographic access to services domain were selected. Each measure was given equal weight so, for example, if a data zone was in the lowest 10% on the overall index and in the lowest 10% on the geographic access to services domain then it was selected as one of the RSPAs.

10. A final decision had to be taken regarding whether stratification by geographic area should be adopted. No stratification would mean that most of the RSPAs would be in the Highlands and Islands, yet rural areas within lowland Scotland are also affected by limited access to services. Securing a slightly broader geographic spread should also allow lessons to be learnt which are likely to be applicable more widely throughout rural Scotland. Given this, the analysis was stratified into two broad geographic areas: those covering the Highland and Islands Enterprise (HIE) area and those covering the Scottish Enterprise (SE) area. Of 1,326 rural data zones, 987 are in the SE area and 339 are in the HIE area. Data zones were stratified into HIE and SE areas and 10 RSPAs selected from each.

Summary of Approach

11. In summary, the approach taken to select the RSPAs was:

The aim was to identify priority areas which suffered in terms of both overall disadvantage and service provision. The rural data zones within the SIMD were analysed, giving equal weight to overall disadvantage and low service accessibility. The 10 data zones with the greatest combined disadvantage were then chosen for the HIE area and the SE area. These twenty areas are the Rural Services Priority Areas.

ERAD

Analytical Services Division

25 January 2005

Closing the Opportunity Gap target H research Proposed Extra Rural Service Priority Areas (RSPAs) for Argyll and Bute

Background

Closing the Opportunity Gap target H is focused on improving access to, and quality of, services in disadvantaged rural areas. The Scottish Executive is commissioning research in Rural Service Priority Areas (RSPAs) to identify key services in different areas and any issues with access to those services. The RSPAs are identified using a combination of overall and access deprivation from the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). Based on these criteria, the following datazone was selected for Argyll and Bute:

Datazone	Local Authority Name	Accessible or remote rural	SE or HIE	Ward within which datazone lies
S01000800	Argyll & Bute	Remote rural	HIE	East Loch Fyne, Holy Loch

While the statistical method for identifying disadvantaged rural areas in Argyll and Bute is sound, the base data, most notably the SIMD, does not adequately account for the true nature of access deprivation for island communities. As a result, island areas are underrepresented, even though these areas are acknowledged to suffer from a greater array of access problems. This problem is compounded by the fact that in many cases islands form a part of a larger datazone and the specific conditions of the island are lost as data is averaged.

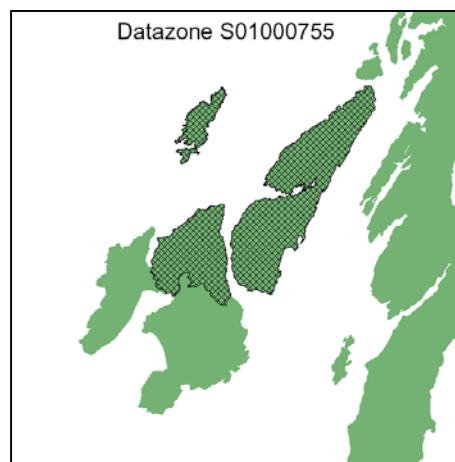
The Scottish Executive has recognized that these anomalies exist, especially in relation to island communities. To compensate, they have suggested that the project could be expanded to incorporate up to 5 extra areas. The large number of small inhabited islands in Argyll and Bute are a strong candidate to be included in the Executive's research programme. A review of data held by the Council has identified two additional areas for consideration by the Executive.

Proposed Additional Areas

Colonsay and Jura (Part of datazone S01000755)

These two islands form part of a larger datazone in Argyll and Bute. The datazone is not recognized using the original statistical filters, primarily because the bulk of the datazone population is located on Islay near a relatively well-serviced urban area. However, further research commissioned by the Community Planning Partnership disaggregated this datazone.¹ This research highlighted the islands as areas of "pocket" deprivation, which do not feature in broader measures like the SIMD. Colonsay is highlighted as an island that suffers from high levels of deprivation, with 21% of the population estimated to be deprived and 100% living in an output area classified as deprived. Geographic and access indicators are the primary drivers behind this scoring.

Jura also suffers from high levels of deprivation with 15% of its population classified as deprived. Both islands require ferry trips to access many services, adding to the cost and time of the journey.



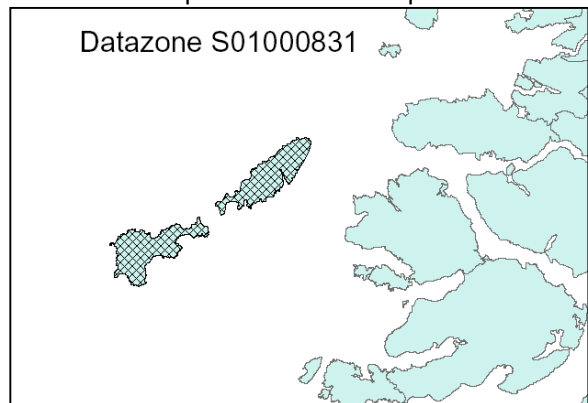
¹ Deprivation and Social Exclusion in Argyll and Bute, Report to the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership, Scottish Centre for Research on Social Justice, 2003

Two recent “real-life” instances highlight the challenge faced by residents of these islands. Recently, the hotel on Colonsay closed, shutting down a valued community facility on the island and potentially affecting tourist trade. Reports of the closure and impact on the island received widespread media coverage. On Jura, recent attempts to attract a GP have proved unsuccessful and so access to basic medical care has been affected. The media coverage of the difficulties faced by the island generated a lot of interest and this specific problem may now be resolved, but the issue is indicative of problems faced by islands.

Whilst the Executive’s research is focusing on whole datazones, there is a strong case to be made for weighting survey work within this datazone to Colonsay and Jura. In this way, we can get a clearer picture of issues facing small islands and understand the service/access relationship with neighbouring islands more closely.

Tiree and Coll (datazone S01000831)

The Islands of Tiree and Coll are the most westerly Islands in Argyll and Bute. There is a perception that these islands are less access deprived than others due to the presence of an airport on Tiree. However, the datazone is in the top 30% of deprived datazones in Argyll and Bute. In terms of access deprivation it is the 12th most deprived. Additionally, the area is also in the top 30% for income deprivation. This is a significant factor when considering residents’ ability to access transportation. It’s geographic location presents even higher travel costs due to the distance to be covered by ferry or by air. So while links may exist, affordability remains an issue.



The report by **The Centre for Research on Social Justice** ² estimated that 10% of the population of Tiree and 14% of the datazone population is deprived.

Recommendation

When examining deprivation on Islands, **The Centre for Research on Social Justice** drew the following conclusion “...the concentration of deprivation combined with the problems of living on islands in terms of access to services warrants further attention”. The Closing the Opportunity Gap Programme is an ideal tool to explore and address this finding.

It is recommended that the two areas above be submitted for consideration as additional RSPAs in the Executive’s research programme.

Dave Jones

Research and Information Officer
Argyll and Bute Council

27 January 2005

Contact details: Brian Barker, Policy and Strategy Manager, brian.barker@argyll-bute.gov.uk

² Deprivation and Social Exclusion in Argyll and Bute, Report to the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership, Scottish Centre for Research on Social Justice, 2003

BASELINE REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS

AUDIT SCOTLAND

22 December 2004

Dear Mr McLellan

Baseline review of community planning partnerships

I am writing to inform you of an Accounts Commission proposal to undertake a baseline review of community planning partnerships in Scotland. This would be a study under Section 97A of the 1973 Local Government (Scotland) Act. The aim of the study is to review the progress made by councils and partner agencies in developing community planning since the Local Government Act 2003 came into force. The review will set community planning in the context of other partnership initiatives, identifying different approaches to joint working and highlighting good practice.

The Accounts Commission will use the findings from the baseline review to identify any further work required to enable it to discharge its statutory functions in relation to community planning, under the 2003 Act. The Commission does not intend to publish a Direction on community planning indicators at the present time and will consider further how to use its Direction powers following this study.

The review will be conducted as a joint study with the Auditor General, given the cross-sectoral nature of community planning. Audit Scotland will prepare a detailed project brief for the Commission and Auditor General to consider in February 2005. We are proposing to collect data during the spring and summer of 2005, aiming for publication of the report in the winter of 2005/06. Audit Scotland will work closely with other organisations to ensure data collection demands on partnerships are minimised.

The study will be undertaken under the overall direction of Miranda Alcock (Portfolio Manager, email malcock@audit-scotland.gov.uk) and project managed by Andra Laird (email alaird@audit-scotland.gov.uk).

Before undertaking performance studies the Commission consults with interested parties including associations of local authorities and of relevant employees. Consequently I invite you to send Miranda or Andra any comments that you have on this proposal.

Yours sincerely



David Pia
Director of Performance Audit
Local Government

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**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL AUDIT OF BEST VALUE 2005
PREPARING THE SELF ASSESSMENT**

(Extracted from the guidance to Heads of Service issued by David Clements on 25th January 2005.)

Introduction

During the summer of 2005, Argyll and Bute Council will undergo an Audit of Best Value which is designed to audit all of the new duties for Councils relating to Best Value, Community Planning and Public Performance Reporting, as described in the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

The approach to the Audit, which will be conducted by Audit Scotland, includes a comprehensive self assessment of the current performance of the Council's main functions and services, and of the Council's corporate achievements. To this end, each Head of Service has been asked to undertake a Service-level self assessment, whilst the Corporate assessment will be undertaken by senior Officers and Members. This paper introduces the process which will achieve the comprehensive self assessments.

Process

The statutory Best Value guidance provides details of each of the ten Best Value Criteria (the Statutory Criteria). The full document can be found on the Scottish Executive's website or from the Policy and Strategy Group at Kilmory. Consideration of the Council's performance against these ten Criteria (including Community Planning) will form the basis of a large part of the Best Value Audit. The starting point for the Audit team will be the Council's Submission document, containing their own assessment of how they are performing.

The self assessment for each Service should focus on what the Service is achieving, with the emphasis on core services. These Service self assessments will also inform the Council's Corporate assessment against the Best Value Criteria. Progress towards Community Planning will be highlighted as well as the outcomes of the Council's various partnerships across Argyll and Bute and beyond.

In short:

- The Council presents a Submission, laying out the Council's assessment of how well it is performing (June 2005)
- Auditors assess the evidence in support of the Council's submission
- The audit includes an overview of the Council as a corporate body and a detailed examination of selected parts of the Council's work (including Community Planning)
- A report is published at the end of the Audit (October 2005)

Phase one workshop

Following completion of their initial self assessment, Heads of Service will be invited to share their assessments with the other Service Heads in a workshop setting. This has been arranged for 8th March.

Phase two workshops

The second phase involves all managers with their Service Heads. Members and Community Planning Partners are also invited to participate. At the workshops, delegates will have the opportunity to learn about the Best Value Audit whilst contributing to the development of the Service and Corporate self assessments.

Although the focus of these workshops is to produce the self assessments for the Submission document, another aim is to bring Managers, Members and Community Planning Partners up to date with parts of the Council's work with which they may be unfamiliar or where they could make a contribution.

PHASE TWO WORKSHOP CALENDAR (1ST REVISION DATED 24/03/05).

Workshops will take place between Monday March 21 st and Friday April 1 st	Work shop 1	Work shop 2	Work shop 3	Work shop 4	Work shop 5	Work shop 6
Dates: All at Argyll Arms Hotel, Ardrishaig, 1400-1630@. # dates strange due to reschedule. @W'shop 1 (Apr 1st) may be 1000-1230.	#Fri Apr 1 (TBC)	Tue March 22	Wed March 23	Tue March 29	Wed March 30	#Mon March 21
Personnel		X				
Communications				X		
Policy and Strategy				X		
Strategic Finance						X
Primary Education	X					
Secondary Education	X					
Community Regeneration	X					
Planning and Performance		X				
Housing Services			X			
Community Support				X		
Children and Families					X	
Integrated Care						X
Roads and Amenity Services					X	
Facility Services			X			
Planning				X		
Infrastructure and Transport		X				
European			X			
Democratic Services and Governance						X
Legal and Protective Services	X					
ICT and Financial Services					X	
SMT	X	X	X	X	X	X
Members	X	X	X	X	X	X
Community Planning Partners	X	X	X	X	X	X

Community Planning Partners are invited to attend any or all of these Phase Two Workshops. Please confirm your attendance with Mike Johnston (01546 604396), David Clements (01546 604205) or Lolita Lavery (01586 555225) who will advise of any further changes to dates and times.

Contribution from Community Planning Partners:

- To contribute to the Council's Service and Corporate self assessments through workshops with Council officers and Elected Members between March 21st and April 1st as outlined above
- To complete a self assessment for Community Planning (Community Planning Manager)
- To contribute to the Community Planning self assessment through a facilitated discussion at a future meeting
- To contribute a short example of the benefits of the Community Planning Partnership – a couple of paragraphs from each Partner for inclusion in the Submission.

Mike Johnston
Argyll and Bute Council