

Management Committee

Date: 20th November 2018

Agenda Item:



Area Community Planning Groups

1.0 Purpose

This paper presents key matters arising during the Area Community Planning Group meetings held in August and November 2018. These meetings looked at local and strategic matters in respect of Outcome 5 (People Live Active Healthier and Independent Lives and Outcome 6 (People Live in Safer and Stronger Communities) in August and Outcomes 1 (The Economy is Diverse and Thriving) and Outcome 2 (We Have Infrastructure That Supports Growth) in November.

2.0 Recommendations

The Management Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the Highlights detailed at 4.0, and,
- b) Action an appropriate response to the points raised at 4.1 which are to:
 - i) Note that whilst no issues were raised for escalation by the Bute and Cowal CPG, the management committee have made previous commitment to receive a presentation on the work of the Strachur Hub. The Management Committee is also asked to note that the appointment of a Vice Chair for the Bute and Cowal Group has been carried forward to the February meeting.
 - ii) Note the concerns raised by Arrochar Community Development Trust about the potential for inappropriate parking in Succoth and along the A83 with the implementation of the increased parking charges in Arrochar and consider what actions may be taken by partners in regards this matter.
 - iii) Note that Rural Watch is a useful and trusted source for getting key messages out to the public on crime and other threats in local areas and agree to highlight it Argyll and Bute wide to increase awareness of the scheme and encourage people to sign-up.
 - iv) Provide clarity on expectations, roles and ownership for taking strategic actions forward of masterplanning documents where communities have been encouraged to undertake a masterplan (Kilcreggan) or where one has been commissioned (Helensburgh).

v) Consider if there is assistance available from within the partnership to assist community groups with large-scale grant funding which is a key theme that has arisen over a few meetings lately from community groups in the Helensburgh Lomond area.

vi) Note the concerns of the MAKI CPG about the lack of economic development support in East Kintyre and ascertain which partner would be most appropriate to provide that support to the area.

vii) Note the dissatisfaction of the MAKI CPG around the time taken by Scottish Water for repairs to take place, particularly in repairing the water main between Campbeltown and Machrihanish and the solution for the odour problems at Meadowburn, the principal concerns being lack of information and the actual length of time taken for these long standing problems to be progressed, and consider what action can be taken by them to assist in early resolution.

viii) Consider what action, if any, the Management Committee might be able to take to try to secure the hand sorting service provided by Kintyre Recycling in effort to secure the future of recycling services in Kintyre

ix) Note the concerns of the OLI CPG in August in respect of the HIE update provided, particularly the lack of attendance by an officer to speak to the terms of the report, note the opinions expressed about infrastructure and congestion difficulties in the location of investment in the Glenshellach area and look to support the community engagement work proposed to be taken forward by Oban Community Council following the discussion of this matter at the CPG. It is worth noting that following attendance by an officer from HIE at the November meeting a number of points were progressed, though this was more particularly in regards development potential at Dunstaffnage.

3.0 Background

There are four Area Community Planning Groups, one in each of the Council's administrative areas (Bute and Cowal; Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands; Helensburgh and Lomond; and Oban Lorn and the Isles). In accordance with decisions made by the Management Committee in June 2017 the groups are supported by staff from the community planning and community development team in all areas, with administrative and governance support for meetings provided by the Area Governance team in Bute and Cowal, MAKI and OLI, and by Scottish Fire and Rescue and Police Scotland in Helensburgh and Lomond.

Area Community Planning Groups meet quarterly to discuss issues of importance relevant to the delivery of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) at a local level. The August meetings focussed on:

Outcome 5 – People Live Active, Healthier and Independent Lives

Outcome 6 – People Live in Safer and Stronger Communities

The November meetings focussed on:

Outcome 1- The Economy is Diverse and Thriving

Outcome 2- We Have Infrastructure that Supports Growth

4.0 Highlights

The following points were consistent to more than one meeting:

- In August, all groups considered the detail of the Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan, noting that the consultation on the detail is ongoing throughout the autumn and committing to encouraging their respective communities and groups to input comment and feedback.
- Groups also benefitted from presentation on the Health and Well Being Annual Report, noting strategic and local progress on various public health projects and initiatives.
- In considering the focus on Outcomes 5 and 6, meetings received annual updates from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue.
- In November, despite the focus being on Outcome 1 (the Economy is Diverse and Thriving), groups were disappointed not to receive update from Visit Scotland on tourism activity in the areas, with MAKI agreeing to continue this item to the next meeting.

Highlights from specific meetings were as follows:

Bute & Cowal (August)

- The Group received a presentation from representatives from Strachur Hub. The Hub was established two years ago with the aim to engage with older members of the community, it has now grown to include social activities, lunch clubs and exercise classes.
- Lorna Pearce and Marilyn Rieley provided an overview of the transformation and regeneration projects that are being taken forward within the Dunoon Area, including the town centre regeneration projects and Dunoon CARS. The work being taken forward by the Dunoon Area Alliance was also highlighted, including the Doors Open Day 2018 which was scheduled to be held on 22 and 23 September 2018.
- The group were also updated on the current activities being taken forward by the PA2 BID. The BID is currently focusing on differentiating Dunoon from other areas by promoting the natural resources and landscape of the surrounding area. Several events are currently being planned including, Dunoon Dazzles and Sunset Ceremony. The European Water Skiing

Championships have also been secured with work ongoing to ensure their success.

- Brian Leech and Patrick White delivered a presentation on behalf of the Maxie Richard's Foundation. The Foundation secured Kings Court 32 years ago in Tighnabruaich to support individuals with drug and alcohol dependencies. The facility continues to have the support of the local community, this support is reciprocated by clients who often are active within the local community.

Bute and Cowal (November)

- David Hayes from Bute Community Cycling Club provided an overview of the ongoing work of the club and its vision for cycling on Bute. The club has been instrumental in facilitating the installation of all-weather public maintenance hubs on Bute, which have been widely used by residents and visitors. They have also organised various public sessions on educational safety, maintenance and health and well-being which had been well received.
- Dunoon Area Alliance reported that a Minute of Understanding has been agreed between SURF and Argyll and Bute Council to support the work of Dunoon Area Alliance. The Alliance added that a Community Group has been working over the last year to refine the points in the Charrette Action Plan which will be used to inform themes and activities for the Dunoon Area Alliance Action Plan.
- Ruaridh MacGregor (Scottish Water) provided an overview of the completed and ongoing projects in the Cowal area, specifically Innellan, Toward, Kilmun and Strone. He expressed thanks on behalf of Scottish Water to the local communities for their patience whilst works were being undertaken.

Helensburgh & Lomond (August)

- Margaret Mitchell, Fiona Lockhart and Yvonne McLeod from Addaction and Welcome In spoke to the Area Community Planning Group on the activities of the peer-led recovery café, Welcome In. The success of the group was noted with all but two of the original members have now progressed onto full-time education or employment and they are now actively recruiting volunteers.
- Allan Kirk, Police Scotland, advised that they had 5 adult volunteers for the Police Scotland Youth Volunteer programme and had identified 20 children to take part. Proactive patrolling has been taking place in Arrochar and Luss over the summer period and discussion took place on the congestion caused by HGV's using the A814 when the A82 had been closed recently. It was noted that signage did advise the road was unsuitable for HGV's but it is not illegal for them to drive on it, therefore cannot be prevented from doing so. Allan agreed to speak to the Multi Agency Road Safety Group on the potential of resources for manning stop-points.

- Arrochar Community Development Trust expressed concern with the potential for inappropriate parking in Succoth and along the A83 with the implementation of the increased parking charges in Arrochar.
- David Armstrong gave a presentation on Rural Watch and advised there were 635 members in Argyll and Bute with 268 of these based in the Helensburgh and Lomond area. Rural Watch was seen as a useful and trusted source for getting key messages out to the public on crime and other threats in their local area and wanted to highlight it to the Management Committee to increase awareness of the scheme and encourage people to sign-up.

Helensburgh and Lomond (November)

- Presentations were given from those involved in the Making Places (Helensburgh) project and the Rosneath Peninsula West Community Development Trust on a masterplan for Kilcreggan. The group wished to ask the Management Committee for clarity on expectations, roles and ownership for taking strategic actions forward of masterplanning documents where communities have been encouraged to undertake a masterplan (Kilcreggan) or where one has been commissioned (Helensburgh).
- The group noted that assistance with large-scale grant funding was a key theme that had arisen over a few meetings lately from community groups. The group wished to ask if there was assistance available from within the partnership to assist community groups.
- Representatives from Hermitage Academy, Skills Development Scotland and Argyll College UHI gave a joint presentation on the work being done by all partners to ensure students leaving Hermitage Academy have a positive and sustained positive destination.
- Young people from Helensburgh Youth Forum gave an overview to the range of activities they had been doing throughout the Year of Young People.
- Laura Cameron, Community representative, was elected to the position of Vice Chair for the Helensburgh and Lomond Area Community Planning Group.

Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands (August)

- The group were pleased to agree the appointment of Ian Brodie, Chair of East Kintyre Community Council as Vice-Chair for the MAKI Area Community Planning Group.
- The meeting was held at the Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC) and the Group heard an interesting and informative presentation from Malcolm McMillan, Manager. One of the major issues highlighted was the lack of broadband provision to the Airbase and the businesses which are located there. It was noted that the current provision was provided by MACC but it did not offer high speed capability. Mr McMillan advised that the costs to link to the high speed broadband were prohibitive at the moment. The Group agreed that updates would be sought on the provision of high speed

broadband in the Kintyre area from the Council's Digital Liaison Officer and from Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

- Tracy Chambers from the Kintyre Link Club and the Dochas Carer's Centre was in attendance and provided the Group with an excellent overview of the services provided by both groups in the Campbeltown and Kintyre areas.
- The Group received a presentation from PC Karen Cairns, Youth Engagement Officer who highlighted the work carried out on the Young Police Volunteers Programme and also her role in the community.
- Under the Outcome, Safer and Stronger Communities, Councillor Sandy Taylor highlighted the concerns over the availability of ambulances in the Mid Argyll area and the response times for incidents. He highlighted a few instances where there had been significant delay due to ambulances travelling long distances. It was agreed that the Scottish Ambulance Service would be invited to the next meeting to provide information.
- During the discussion around the update from Highlands and Islands Enterprise the support available to the East Kintyre area was highlighted, with particular reference to economic development. It was agreed that this would be raised with the Management Committee for discussion, to ascertain which partner would be most appropriate to provide that support to the area.
- Scottish Water had provided a written update to the Group, with members expressing dissatisfaction around the time taken for repairs to take place – particular reference was made to the delays in repairing the water main between Campbeltown and Machrihanish and the solution for the odour problems at Meadowburn, It was agreed that the issue around lack of information and the delays would be highlighted to the Management Committee.
- During the partner updates, Councillor Currie highlighted the Islands Games and asked why Argyll and Bute had not put anyone forward to compete in this event. It was agreed that this would be highlighted to the Management Committee for discussion.

Mid Argyll Kintyre and the Islands (November)

- Young people from Lochgilphead Youth Forum gave an overview to the range of activities they had undertaken throughout the Year of Young People, including the Malawi Back Pack Appeal, and outlined the skills they had gained as a result.
- The Group received an update by the Council's Sustainable Transport Co-ordinator on the progress of Lochgilphead Front Green project. The procurement process is soon to reach its conclusion, the design team would be appointed thereafter. A meeting would be held with the Community Councils to establish an initial consultation programme, before the full business is considered at MAKI Area Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee.

- The Group considered a report outlining the activities West Highland Anchorages and Moorings (WHAM), which supports the preservation and development of Marine infrastructure and growth. Information was provided in respect of several communities that had ambitions to develop their own costal infrastructure and the social and community benefits which had been exhibited by the communities who had already developed their costal infrastructure such as Campbeltown and Oban. A local case study was provided by Tayvallich Bay Association in respect of the challenges faced by the association.
- The Group considered an informative presentation by the Area Services Manager of the Scottish Ambulance Service. Mr Benton provided a service overview, outlined local issues and advised of the ongoing development of the service.
- Councillor Armour advised that he had serious concerns regarding the future of Kintyre Recycling in Campbeltown. He advised that it was his understanding that there had been a series of meetings between the Council and Highland and Island Enterprise regarding additional funding, however no agreement had been reached. Councillor Armour advised that if Kintyre Recycling was to cease trading there would be a loss of 26 jobs, 16 of the employees would have serious barriers that would prohibit them from finding re-employment.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles (August)

- The group were updated on actions taken in relation to previous concerns about access codes for community based defibrillators, noting that the responsibility for registering defibrillator units with the British Heart Foundation lies with the person or group who provides them/puts them in place and when activated but not used, the equipment must be reactivated.
- Received update on current management arrangements within the Health and Social Care Partnership, and also on arrangements at the Lynn of Lorne Care Home, noting that no residents required to be moved from Lynn of Lorne as a result of the recent decision to put in place a model of enhanced residential care with provision from the community nursing team.
- Information on the work to develop and have Oban recognised as the first healthy town in Scotland was discussed and noted.
- An annual update on the work of ACHA was presented, highlighting the current stock, information about affordable rents, work within the community, current developments such as Sunderland Drive and a specifically adapted premises under construction at Benmore View, success of the Tenants Scrutiny Group and Tiree Machair.
- The group welcomed an update from HIE which highlighted their activity across Argyll between April and June 2018. The group-
 - i) Expressed their disappointment that a representative was not in attendance to discuss the report and agreed that the Area Governance Officer ask HIE to provide the Group with information about the targeted

spend for Oban during the current financial year and what this was planned for.

- ii) Welcomed the investment in Oban but considered that Glenshellach, which was already suffering from significant congestion issues, was the wrong location to develop when there were other areas of land which may be more appropriate such as Millpark, Dunbeg or SAMS.
- iii) Noted that in light of the recent press release about the Glenshellach development Oban Community Council would organise a community engagement meeting to discuss the proposals in more detail.
- iv) Invited the Community Planning Management Committee to explore, with HIE, the concerns expressed at this meeting and what engagement with partners had been undertaken to identify areas of land suitable for industrial use.

Oban, Lorn and the Isles (November)

●Partnership working really came to the fore at the November meeting with Scottish Water and the Roads Authority being given assistance with local challenges relating to location of a plastic free drinking solutions and the spread of local parking and permit information. In addition, John Fleming, Dalavich Improvement Group (DIG) updated Partners on some of the excellent work the Group have undertaken in their community through procuring and managing assets on behalf of the community with the aim of retaining and increasing the population of the area by ensuring that there are jobs and facilities available. The group also heard from the outcome 1 lead, HIE, and were interested to see hear how they link into the Strategic Development Framework, which also on the agenda; Parliamentary Outreach Worker, Ewan Massan, attended to discuss his role and how the Scottish Parliament can form better links with community groups; and an due to some serious offences and accidents an exceptionally busy quarter was reported for the Fire and Police Services.

4.1 Further Actions

It is requested that the Management Committee:

- i) Note that whilst no issues were raised for escalation by the Bute and Cowal CPG, the management committee have made previous commitment to receive a presentation on the work of the Strachur Hub. The Management Committee is also asked to note that the appointment of a Vice Chair for the Bute and Cowal Group has been carried forward to the February meeting.
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5.0 Implications

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| Strategic Implications | Meetings of the Area Community Planning Group held in August and November have focussed on Outcomes 5,6, 1 and 2. |
| Consultations | No prior circulation of this report. |

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| Resources | No direct resource implications however consideration of the issues raised and following courses of action may have a knock on effect on finance and/or staff resource |
| Prevention | Contributes to the prevention agenda |
| Equalities | Contributes toward reducing inequalities |

For More Information:

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References: n/a

Appendices: n/a