
FAIRER ARGYLL AND BUTE

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1** This report updates the CPP on progress made to date in the development of the Fairer Argyll and Bute Plan and the proposal to establish a Fairer Argyll and Bute Partnership to progress the plan through its first (transition) year.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** That the CPP endorses the establishment of a Fairer Argyll and Bute Partnership.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1** The Fairer Scotland Fund (FSF) was announced in late 2007. The fund, aimed at tackling poverty and deprivation is an amalgamation of seven existing funding streams, four of which Argyll and Bute have benefited from: Community Regeneration Fund; Community Voices; More Choices, More Chances (NEET); and the social inclusion element of Changing Children's Services Fund (Fusions).
- 3.2** A paper was presented to the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee on the 6th of February 2008 informing partners of the allocations for Argyll and Bute. While acknowledging existing commitments the paper also highlighted the opportunities to utilise the year two and three increase as a catalyst to enable better and more robust 3rd sector engagement and improved local community planning.
- 3.3** A meeting took place on the 21st of February 2008 bringing together the key stakeholders currently responsible for the four single funding streams which are to become the FSF. The budget position has been clarified with the required reductions in existing budgets agreed. It was acknowledged that there were wider stakeholders in terms of partnership working where FSF funding would be part of bigger funding packages.
- 3.4** FSF funding, whether delivering through CL&R supported work or as part of the Fusions or NEET commitments is often part of wider, more complex funding packages. It has been acknowledged that there is a range of other funding sources such as European, Health Improvement, Community Safety and Wider Role aimed at tackling

poverty and disadvantage and there is a need ensure coordination and alignment of planning so that resources are used effectively and efficiently. It is therefore proposed that an integrated plan (Fairer Argyll and Bute Plan) be developed which would incorporate the FSF funded activities and other related action to tackle disadvantage and health inequalities.

- 3.5** An outline of the proposed plan must be included as part of the Single Outcome Agreement to be submitted to the Scottish Government by the 31st of April 2008. The finalised FSF proposal has to be submitted by the CPP by the 30th June 2008.
- 3.6** Year one of the proposed Fairer Argyll and Bute Plan would be a transitional year
- managing the transition from four single budgets to one
 - reviewing and evaluating existing commitments
 - developing better links with 3rd sector
 - developing a fairer funding process
 - engaging with developing social enterprise
 - recommending actions for years two and three

The establishment of a Fairer Argyll and Bute Partnership would bring together key stakeholders to oversee and guide the development of the Plan, to ensure best value and reduce the potential for duplication.

- 3.7** The establishment of a Fairer Argyll and Bute Partnership should enable some of the current groups established to manage the above funding streams to merge with a common aim and purpose – tackling deprivation and the causes of deprivation in Argyll and Bute. This approach will result in more effective partnership working and better outcomes.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1** That the CPP endorse the establishment of a Fairer Argyll and Bute Partnership.

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