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**Title: Update Report on Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning  
Group**

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**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1** This report summarises progress which the Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Group has made in getting the group established and beginning to develop an action plan.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1** That the Management Committee note the progress which the Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Group has made in getting the group established and beginning to develop an action plan.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1** The Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Group met for the first time on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009 and had generally good representation attending, with the notable exception of NHS Highland. Community Councils were represented on an interim basis by the Chair of the Association of Argyll and Bute Community Councils.
- 3.2** The group noted all of the information presented in regard to community planning, partnership working and community engagement. They further considered statistical information provided in regard to identified needs of local communities and how this information can be used to develop Area Community Plans. The group also discussed the need to ensure appropriate and effective representation from community groups onto the local group.
- 3.3** The second meeting of the group was held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010, at which time representation (3 members) was present from the Caucus of local Community Councils. All core partners also attended, and the group had a productive discussion on representation from the third sector, with agreement being reached that the developing third sector interface will be the representative body for the sector. The group further agreed to invite representation from the business communities in both Bute and Cowal, and to have attendance from Business Gateway staff on an agenda specific basis.

- 3.4** The first draft of the Bute and Cowal Local Community Plan which had, by agreement, been developed by a sub group of the LACPG, was discussed and broad agreement reached on both outcomes and actions. The plan will now be considered more fully at the forthcoming Community Seminar, with a view to a final draft being considered, and agreed, at the LACPG meeting scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010. Thereafter the group will undertake a monitoring role to ensure delivery of agreed actions in the plan.
- 3.5** Community Learning and Regeneration are leading on organising the Community Seminar, which will take place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010. Agreement was reached on the outline programme for the day, which will focus on the four key priorities identified in the draft Community Plan, and will be a participatory, interactive event.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1** The Bute and Cowal Thematic Group have made good progress in taking forward the development of the group, the local Community Plan and the forthcoming Community Seminar for the area.

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