
**Argyll and Bute Community Planning
Partnership**

**Management Committee
Date: 8th September 2010**



Title: Update Report on Economy Thematic Group

1. SUMMARY

1.1 This report summarises progress which the Economy Thematic Group has made in regard to developing and implementing actions in the Community Plan, and in developing a scorecard and work programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Management Committee note the progress which the Economy Thematic Group has made in progressing outcomes from the agreed action plan and scorecard for the group.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Economy Thematic Group meets quarterly and is progressing in delivering the outcomes and actions relating to the Economy of Argyll and Bute contained in the Community Plan.

3.2 The agreed Scorecard now forms the basis of the scrutiny and performance monitoring work which the group undertakes under their Terms of Reference. Group members continue to express ongoing concerns about the relevance of the Scorecard in light of continuing difficulties in allowing partners to input information onto the Pyramid system, with frustration being expressed by both Elected Members and strategic partners about the lack of partner performance data which the Scorecard contains. It was noted that work is continuing to address these issues, and the group agreed that the process of monitoring progress is of secondary importance to taking the work of the group forward.

3.3 Partner updates in relation to actions in the Community Plan gave the group detailed information about progress, noting in particular success with partners signing up for the Food From Argyll initiative, Business Gateway roadshows, and the very recent announcement about HIE board approval for the budget for the Argyll Marine Science Initiative at Dunstaffnage.

3.4 The group considered issues relating to Principles of Representation within Community Planning, and also a draft Partnership Agreement for the group. It was agreed that partners would feedback comment on these items to the Community Planning Manager, and that finalised documents would be submitted to the November meeting of the group for adoption. This

will help clarify and simplify procedural items relating to the group's work, and will be important in the development of the group into an effective partnership working forum.

- 3.5** In terms of performance monitoring, the group has agreed that the thematic group scorecard will be considered at each group meeting, and in addition, there will be a standing item on update of progress of Community Plan actions, and verbal input from attending partners, and associated strategic partners, on the work which they are carrying out in helping to deliver the key Economy actions of the Community Plan.
- 3.6** The group agreed that the focus of the next meeting due to be held in November will be on marketing of Argyll and Bute, specifically in relation to the Argyll and The Isles Brand, and Destination Management Organisations.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1** The Economy Thematic Group have made good progress in taking forward the development of thematic actions within the Community Plan and have a clear process in place to ensure effective implementation and monitoring of same.

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