



Date: 24th November 2010

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

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1** This report summarises progress which the Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Group has made in progressing the development of an action plan and the effective scrutiny of delivery of outcomes.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** That the Community Planning Partnership note the progress which the Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Group has made in developing the group as an effective partnership group which is focussed on delivering agreed outcomes for the area.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1** Previous reports to the Management Committee have noted that the Bute and Cowal LACPG has established a regular meeting cycle, and that meetings are being attended by most core partners, and by Community Councils and community groups. The Third Sector Partnership is effectively represented at the group.
- 3.2** Outcomes from the first Community Seminar held in March have been progressed, and incorporated where possible into the Area Community Plan, which was adopted by the group at their meeting on 13th May 2010. The second “ Forward Together ” seminar, which was held in Rothesay on 23rd October allowed community representatives to consider priorities and potential amendments to the plan in light of the current public sector budget situation. The plan is currently being revised in light of this community engagement work, and will be considered for final agreement at the January meeting of the Group.
- 3.3** A Performance Scorecard is now being developed to enable effective scrutiny of progress in delivery of outcomes to be undertaken by the LACPG. Reporting on progress will take place at all future meetings of the LACPG, and will be made to future Community Seminars. The draft Scorecard currently comprises outcomes from the agreed Area Community Plan, and consideration has been given as to which Key Performance Indicators should be incorporated into the developing scorecard, with partners around the table agreeing to consider this for further

discussion at the next meeting. It is therefore anticipated that the Scorecard will be significantly developed over the next few meeting cycles.

- 3.4** At the November meeting a Partnership Agreement which outlines key aims and responsibilities for partners in the group was considered and agreed. Work is now ongoing in identifying all local partnership groups and developing reporting mechanisms for them via Highlight and Exception reporting, which will ensure that local partnerships are connected to the LACPG at the most appropriate level, are committed by agreement to delivering on the agreed aims and outcomes for the area, and have a mechanism whereby they are able to report to the group on progress, or otherwise, without having to attend multiple meetings. It is anticipated that in progressing this work some rationalisation of existing partnerships is likely.
- 3.5** The group have also considered items relating to their role in progressing effective community engagement within Bute and Cowal, and agreed to adopt the suggested Consultation Diary as one method of taking forward this work.
- 3.7** In August, the group considered a report outlining the potential for young people to be more involved in local community planning, and agreed that this work should be progressed. Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Group will therefore pilot a process for young people to entirely plan, lead and facilitate one of its meetings, which will be the meeting scheduled to take place in January 2011. The Council's Youth Services Manager will be the lead officer in this, and the process will be evaluated with a view to having such a meeting on an annual basis, and in each of the LACPG areas.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1** The Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Group have made good progress in establishing membership of the group, and agreeing an Area Action Plan. The performance Scorecard for the group is at an early stage of development, but will progress over the next few meeting cycles. The group are progressing their key community engagement role, and look forward to piloting different community engagement methods over the coming months. Work currently underway in identifying local partnerships and developing reporting methods and structures should help clarify the partnership landscape in Bute and Cowal, and help reduce existing overlap and duplication in work being taken forward.

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