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**Forward Together 2**

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**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1** This report, alongside a presentation to be given to the Management Committee at its meeting on 15 December, highlights the process of community engagement carried out with Local Area Community Planning Groups (LACPGs), and considers the information and ideas gathered from participants.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1** That the Management Committee notes the content of the report.
- 2.2** That the Management Committee agrees to consider appropriate subject matter for the 2011 Forward Together Events at its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1** The Argyll & Bute Community Planning Partnership committed to holding two community consultation events in each of the administrative areas in 2010-2011 as part of their commitment to community engagement. The first of these Forward Together events consulted with community members, groups and organisations to identify issues which would influence the Local Area Community Action Plans. These events were held between March and June 2010.
- 3.2** The second round of events was scheduled for October – November 2010 with dates agreed for each area by the LACPGs:
- Bute & Cowal 23<sup>rd</sup> October at Rothesay Academy, Bute
  - Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands 30<sup>th</sup> October at Kilmory, Lochgilphead and by video conference in Islay and Jura
  - Helensburgh and Lomond 13<sup>th</sup> November at Hermitage Primary School, Helensburgh
  - Oban, Lorn and the Isles 20<sup>th</sup> November at Oban High School and by video conference in Coll and Tiree

## 4. DETAIL

### 4.1 Aims

The Forward Together 2 event aims were:

- To communicate and consult on the public sector budget situation including Argyll and Bute Council's budget.
- To encourage continued community engagement and extend the involvement of local communities in the activities of the Local Area Community Planning Group.
- To consult with and obtain the views of the community on the proposed Local Area Community Planning Group priorities as a basis for the development of the Local Area Community Plan.

### 4.2 Attendance and Partner Involvement

Attendance at the four events is detailed below, showing a breakdown of community representation and agency representation. Video conferencing was used in MAKI and OLI to enable island communities to participate.

	B&C	MAKI	H&L	OLI
Community representatives	31	40	23	31
Agency / Partner representatives	16	22	19	14

These events were CPP events at local area level, and it was important to involve LACPG partners both in the planning of the event and on the day itself.

At each event NHS Highland was in attendance to present on the budget. SNH, Strathclyde Police, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service and Third Sector Partnership played active roles in all of the events, introducing, leading and facilitating different elements in the four areas.

### 4.3 Programme

The programme for the MAKI event is attached (Appendix 1), and all events followed a very similar format. The two main topics for discussion were (1) Public Sector Budget, and (2) Local Area Community Action Plans

#### 4.3.1 Public Sector Budget

A representative from Argyll & Bute Council's Strategic Management Team and from NHS Highland presented on the public sector budget. This was followed by workshops, where ideas were gathered on services:

- What we should stop doing

- What we should do less of
- What we should continue to do the same
- What we should do more of
- What we should do differently

The information from the Forward Together events is being collated with the other budget consultation feedback and will be incorporated in the final consultation report. All feedback from all sources on the budget is being fed into the decision making process and will inform decision making by the council on its budget in February.

#### **4.3.2 Local Area Community Action Plans**

The second workshop of the day considered the Local Area Community Action Plans and highlighted how these plans had been influenced by participants at the first Forward Together event.

An analysis of the information gathered will be part of a presentation.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1** Forward Together 2 gave communities the opportunity to give their views and influence decisions, both on budget matters and on the Local Area Community Action Plans. The information gathered will be disseminated to LACPGs to use in their local communities.

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Appendix 1

# Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Local Area Community Planning Group

“Forward Together 2 – Gach Ceum Comhla 2”

Saturday 30th October 2010

## Conference Aims

- To encourage continued community engagement and extend the involvement of local communities in the activities of the Local Area Community Planning Group.
- To communicate and consult on the public sector budget situation, including Argyll and Bute Council’s budget.
- To consult with, and obtain the views of, the community on the proposed Local Area Community Planning Group priorities as a basis for the development of the Local Area Community Plan. This is an ongoing commitment of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to our communities.

## Venue

Council Chamber, Argyll and Bute Council HQ, Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilhead. PA31 8RT, and by Video Conference to Servicepoints in Bowmore (Islay), Craighouse (Jura) and Scalasaig (Colonsay).

## Programme

**10.00 – 10.30 Registration and Coffee**

**10.30 – 10.40 Welcome**

**10.40 – 11.00 Keynote speakers**

**a) Feedback from Forward Together 1 Conference**

**b) Public Sector Budget – “Difficult Choices for Difficult Times”**

*Overview of budget situation by a member of Argyll and Bute Council’s senior management team to include, where possible, information on other public sector budgets.*

Coffee available to take to workshops.

**11.00 – 12.00 Discussion on public sector budget situation (Workshops).** *Groups asked to consider key, high level priorities for the public sector and where communities can contribute in future.*

**12.00-12.45 “Making a Difference in Difficult Times” (Workshops) Area Plan –**

*Each group asked to consider Action Plan priorities identified from Forward Together 1. The Action Plan must contain actions that are realistic and can be resourced.*

**12.45 – 13.10 “Difficult Times, Positive Actions” – 3 x 5 minutes showcasing good practice locally.** *Three community groups talk about how they are meeting the outcomes of the Area Community Plan.*

**13.10 – 14.00 Lunch**

**14.00 – 14.25 “Difficult Times, Positive Actions” – 3 x 5 minutes showcasing good practice locally.** *As above*

**14.25 – 15.00 PowerPoint Voting on:**

**Voting on priorities for budget**

**Voting on priorities for Area Action Plan**

**PLUS Evaluation of event**

**15.00 Depart**