

Community Planning Partnership

Management Committee

24th August 2011

Third Sector Partnership

Current Position Statement

Introduction

Following issues with Bute Community Links/Bute Community Links (BCL) Ltd; notably failure to deliver and report as required, maintain terms of Scottish Government contract, the other partners to the Third Sector Partnership interface for Argyll and Bute (ABSEN, Argyll Voluntary Action & Islay and Jura CVS) voted to expel Bute Community Links/Bute Community Links (BCL) Ltd from the Third Sector Partnership effective 4th August. This was approved by the boards of all three partners unanimously.

Interface Services Delivery

- The Partnership has ensured the continued and improved delivery of interface services and representation in accord with its Business Plan for 2011/2012 and is supported by national interface body, Voluntary Action Scotland.
- Plans to deliver interface services are approved by the Scottish Government 3rd Sector Division.
- AVA already has staff working on Bute who will take up aspects of service in addition to existing volunteering remit.
- Support to the third sector forum on Bute is assured from AVA & ABSEN
- Training and workshops are already delivered by other partners and/or providers on Bute; range and availability will improve
- Mechanisms are in place to deal with enquiries and support by existing staff and partners.
- Representation and communications will be provided by AVA and ABSEN with arrangements already in place
- Reporting and information sharing will improve as will connections across the sector by ABSEN and AVA staff and input from other local community group(s).
- Commitment to 'best value' is given by all partners

Conclusion

The Third Sector Partnership is confident of its ability to deliver all interface services and to improve upon the current service delivery. Both AVA and ABSEN already hold a pan-Argyll remit for all interface services including all four strands i.e. volunteering support and promotion, organisational support and advice, representation and connection with Community Planning and social enterprise support and staff are already in place to ensure delivery.

Recommendations

The Third Sector Partnership asks the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee to:

- Acknowledge the contents of this report
- Approve the measures indicated for interface services delivery on Bute
- Approve the continuance of a Third Sector Partnership interface in its new form comprising ABSEN, Argyll Voluntary Action & IJCVS during a period of expulsion of Bute Community Links.

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