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**Title: Update Report on Local Area Community Planning Groups**

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**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1** This report summarises progress which Local Area Community Planning Groups are making as they progress to becoming key partnership groups for local areas to plan and monitor aims and objectives and delivery of services within local communities.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1** That the Management Committee notes the progress which the Local Area Community Planning Groups are making.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1** Although there has been generally steady progress with the development of structures, processes and levels of understanding around the LACPG's, this has not been consistent across all four areas, and it remains the case that a significant number of concerns about the effectiveness of the groups were expressed. However, there was opportunity to discuss this in detail at the September meetings in considering the outcomes of the recent Self Assessment of Community Planning exercise was widely welcomed, and detailed feedback was given by each of the LACPG's in this regard. The local groups are now very keen to see the final outcomes and agreed Way Forward from this exercise, and anticipate that a clear route map for progress will be in place from January 2012. There remains strong commitment to making local community planning work in each area, but also clear recognition that there may not be a "one size fits all" model for this to be taken forward. This is particularly the case in MAKI where although there is no doubt about the commitment to deliver, there continues to be discussion as to what the most appropriate forum to take forward community planning should be.
- 3.2** Work continues in all areas in identifying key local strategic partnerships who need to be aligned with the LACPG, and who are frequently the deliverers of key local outcomes contained in the developing LACPG plans. With exception of MAKI, the initial linkages have been agreed and identified by the groups, and agreement made that this will be a standing item on agendas to ensure that the information shared by groups remains both current and relevant. Local key partnerships will soon be asked to submit performance information to the Local Community Planning Groups by way of Exception and Highlight reporting.

- 3.3** Local Groups made progress at the March and May meetings with refining their Local Area Community Plans, and work is now underway to develop amended Scorecards; it is expected that these documents will be finally agreed at the January cycle of meetings.
- 3.4** Specific items considered by the local meetings in September included update on Dunoon CHORD (Bute and Cowal), presentation on the work of ACHA ( Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands), update on CHORD and developments at Oban Lorn and the Isles District Hospital (Oban, Lorn and the Isles), and update on the Maritime Change Programme in Helensburgh Lomond.
- 3.5** The November meeting cycle for Local Community Planning Groups focussed largely on the current budget consultation process being carried out by the Council and Community Planning Partners.
- 3.6** It is expected that following the final outcomes and recommendations of the Self Assessment process the LACPG's will finally adopt their agreed Plans and Scorecards in January 2012, and then continue to develop and progress to key partnership groups for local areas and local communities.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1** Local Area Community Planning Groups have made good progress in developing their role in Community Engagement and in beginning to identify key priorities for local service delivery across partners. The outcomes of the Self Assessment process will give clear guidance to these groups to build on and develop the strong foundations which have been made in each area in taking this work forward.

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