

**OLI Area Community Planning Group
March 2013**

Update from Short Life Working Group

1 SUMMARY

1.1 The CPP management committee has proposed that each area organise an area forum to increase the opportunity for communities to engage with local community planning. A Short Life Working Group was formed to discuss how this could be most productive in the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area.

2 RECOMENDATIONS

2.1 That ACPG members agree the suggestions from the working group and that these proposals go forward to the management committee and feed into further discussions about area forums.

3 DETAIL

3.1 The CPP management committee has proposed that an area forum be held in each of the four areas covered by an Area Community Planning Group – this could take the form of a community engagement event and a short life working group was set up to look at what form this could take in Oban, Lorn and the Isles.

3.2 The Area Forum event should develop a “vision” for the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area and the issues discussed should include matters of interest for communities across the OLI area. It is important that as many partners as possible are involved in the planning and delivery of the event to ensure a wide range of topics are covered.

3.3 Forum events should be interactive, offering activities aimed at encouraging discussion and ideas generation.

3.4 Timing of events can exclude people and it is proposed that the Area Forum offers three sessions – a daytime, evening and twilight session to accommodate as many people as possible.

3.5 Youth participation is important to the ACPG and the daytime session could link with Oban High School, and by VC to Tobermory and Tiree High Schools also.

3.6 There are a number of communities of interest who could be encouraged to become involved in a forum event e.g. people with learning disabilities. It is proposed that we target some of these vulnerable groups and encourage support organisations and staff to work with the ACPG to develop ways in which we can encourage vulnerable individuals to participate in the event.

3.7 Community reps’ time is scarce and they see no value in attending meetings if they don’t see results. Consideration should be given as to how communities can be kept updated on progress / developments that come out of the Area Forums.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 The Area Community Planning Group agrees that the Area Forum should offer the opportunity for as many sectors of the community to participate as possible. There is a need for consistency across the four area forums, but it is essential that people participating in the areas feel a sense of ownership over the issues and that their contribution is valued.