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**Title: Autumn 2013 Area Community Planning Events**

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**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1** This report is to provide the Management Committee with feedback from the discussions that took place at the March round of Area Community Planning groups on the subject of the proposed autumn Area Community Planning events. This report also seeks support from partners to ensure the sustainability of these events as part of the community engagement commitments made in the new SOA.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1** That the Management Committee agrees to the proposed structure/content for the events.
- 2.2** That partners agree to back these events by providing in kind support or through a financial contribution.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1** During 2010 and 2011 Local Area Community Planning Groups (Now Area Community Planning groups) delivered area consultation events enabling communities to participate in the community planning process at an area level.
- 3.2** In June 2012 a proposal was made by the Council that the CPP should continue to deliver such events.
- 3.3** This proposal was put to the CPP Management Committee in August 2012. The Management Committee agreed that the events should take place but as there was insufficient time to plan the events for Autumn 2012 the first round of local area community planning events would take place in 2013. At the meeting in August there was discussion around the resource requirements to deliver such events and that in the current economic climate this would be a challenge. There was also agreement that these events were good practice in terms of community engagement and would give the CPP the opportunity to fulfil the engagement commitments required as part of the community planning process.
- 3.4** Scottish Government guidance on the requirements for Single Outcome Agreements published in December 2012 outlined a number of requirements for engaging and consulting communities

throughout the life of the SOA.

The guidance document states that each new SOA should demonstrate that:-

- *Activity on community engagement is properly planned, resourced and integrated across partners;*
- *The quality and impact of community engagement is measured and reported on;*
- *Building the capacity of communities to engage and deliver for themselves is properly planned, resourced and integrated across partners; and*
- *Workforce development within and across partners ensures that key staff have the skills and knowledge required to engage effectively with communities.*

**3.5** At the March round of Area Community Planning Groups partners were asked to consider what the purpose and outcomes of these events should be. Each ACPG was asked the following questions:

1. *What would the format of the events be?*
2. *What would be the length of the event? i.e half day, whole day, two days*
3. *How would remote and/or island communities be involved? i.e. VC, teleconference., remote facilitators, overnight accommodation provided.*
4. *Would the events be an opportunity to highlight good practice or showcase community projects, and if so, from your area, or from other areas in order to share good practice?*
5. *Can you suggest appropriate topics for discussion?*
6. *Would Area Community Planning Groups like to use these events to consult on any issues/plans/etc?*

**3.6** Feedback from that 4 ACPG was varied but there were also common themes. Summary of feedback:-

- The event should be a one day event either morning and afternoon or afternoon and evening. Most areas would prefer Saturday events.
- Power Point Voting should be used strategically to enable partners to ask the same questions at each event. Localised questions should also be included where required/appropriate. Results can be merged to provide area and A&B wide results.
- Young people should be encouraged to participate either through attending or adding to PPV results.
- Schools were good venues.
- VC should be available where possible.

- Topics for discussion should be a mix of strategic and local interest issues.
- Information on local groups/activities, funding opportunities and support available for communities should make up part of the events.

**3.7** For each Area Community Planning Group a planning sub group has been nominated.

**3.8** Each event requires a minimum of £2,000 to cover the basic costs. We therefore require an annual budget of £8,000 to deliver these events in all four areas.

**3.9** An application for funding support has been submitted to Education Scotland and an approach has also been made to the Health and Wellbeing Partnership (formerly HIPPPAG) for support. Additional funding support will be required to achieve the £8,000 required. Partners are being asked to provide in-kind and financial support for this year and an on-going commitment to ensure the CPP fulfils its engagement commitments for the life of the 2013-23 SOA.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

**4.1** Good progress is being made to ensure that these events are delivered for 2013 but unless we can ensure partner contributions the situation is not sustainable and we will struggle to fulfil our engagement commitments in future years.

For further information contact:

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