

4 September 2013

Area Forum Events 2013

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report considers the decision by the Community Planning Partnership on 22nd August 2012 to hold four Area Forum events to enable consultation and feedback on the SOA 2013-23.
- 1.2 To ensure comparative feedback from MAKI on depopulation and regeneration issues, it is proposed to hold an event/events in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Area CPG agrees to encourage participation in this consultation process as per 3.5 below.
- 2.2 The Area CPG re-establishes the steering group, potentially with additional members, to consider the format of the event(s) and appropriate questions for the area.
- 2.3 The Area CPG identifies partners to facilitate and record at workshop/discussion groups, and agrees dates.
- 2.4 The Area CPG agrees to consider ways of progressing ideas that come forward from the event to ensure people feel they have been able to actively contribute to community planning.

3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 At the last MAKI CPG meeting on June 5 2013, the decision by the CPP Management Committee to hold a consultation event in each of the CPG areas was discussed. It was agreed at that meeting that it was not appropriate to run one event for an area the size of MAKI and the steering group considering this approach was asked to reconsider and present new ideas at the next CPG meeting.

- 3.2 Since that meeting, the Third Sector and Communities CPP Strategic Group has made recommendations on the format of these events, which have been considered by steering groups in the other 3 CPG areas.
- 3.3 The theme and format agreed for the events in the other three CPG areas is:
- a) **Title: “Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands - A Good Place to Live, Work, and Play?”**
 - b) **Overarching question to be addressed:** What needs to change to attract more people (especially young people and families) to live in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands?
This fits with the overarching outcome of the new SOA 2013-23, ‘Argyll and Bute’s economic success is built on a growing population’. Population levels in Argyll and Bute decreased by 3.4% and in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands the population decreased by 1.3% in the 10 years between 2001-11 and forecasters predict this reduction will continue.
 - c) **Format of event:** One day (morning and afternoon or afternoon and evening) consisting of a half day with workshops/discussion groups, followed by voting on a short series of strategic and local questions using powerpoint voting. This would be followed by a public debate to consider the key questions (identified from the earlier session), followed by powerpoint voting.
 - d) **Questions to be asked:** Some of the questions asked would be asked in all four areas to allow comparisons to be made across Argyll and Bute. Other questions will relate specifically to the local areas and will be agreed by the CPG steering groups/CPGs as appropriate. The responses should be able to feed into the SOA’s key outcome of addressing the problem of de-population in Argyll and Bute.
- 3.4 In addition to the one Area Forum event, it is proposed that:
- a. The powerpoint voting is used at other events in the area, particularly those areas which may be unable to be represented at the events eg islanders. Results can be merged to make comparisons across Argyll and Bute, as well as be broken down within areas.
 - b. An electronic survey is carried out to enable those who do not attend an event to respond to the same questions.
- 3.5 For MAKI, the CPG is asked to consider gathering feedback, between October and December 2013, by enabling participation in this process as follows:
- a. Ask Mid Argyll Partnership (next meeting 11 September) and Kintyre Initiative Working Group (next meeting 25 October) to pose the powerpoint questions at their meetings in the autumn; and
 - b. Seek agreement from partners to set up a half day event, or ‘piggy-back’ onto an existing event, on Islay at which the same questions may be posed; and/or

- c. Reconsider the possibility of hosting one Area Forum event in MAKI along the lines of the debate style event, with video conferencing, described above. This might be held in Tarbert, as previously considered, or in Kilmory, with video-conferencing.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The Area Forums will seek views on the new SOA 2012-23, in particular in relation to the overarching issue of de-population and regeneration.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy: None
- 5.2 Financial: Within grant allocation from Education Scotland allocation.
- 5.3 Legal: None
- 5.4 HR: None
- 5.5 Equalities: None
- 5.6 Risk: Poor attendance or uptake of online survey
- 5.7 Customer Service: None

6.0 APPENDICES

- 6.1 Draft programme

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Appendix 1

**Area Consultations
Draft programme**

“(Area Name) – A good place to live, work and play?”

1. Introductions
(approx. 15 minutes)
2. Workshops on local area topics
(e.g 3 x 20 minutes = 60 minutes)
3. Power Point Voting – *questions set beforehand on core topics by Third Sector and Communities CPP Group; and area topics chosen by steering group of CPG and approved by CPG*
(approx. 30 minutes)
- BREAK** with opportunity to view “Marketplace” – *Additional people can join for debate only*
(approx. 60 minutes)
4. Introduction to debate and introduction of panel
(approx. 20 minutes)
5. Debate in style of “Question Time” - *with panel of CPP partners chaired by a strategic CPP partner*
(60 minutes)
6. Power Point Voting – a selection of questions, including some focussing on the debate issues
(30 minutes)
7. Evaluation