



Argyll & Bute – Third Sector Partnership

Update to OLI Area Community Planning Group

September 2013

News from the Partners

IJCVS are pleased to announce that Rhona McPhie has joined as the Manager of IJCVS replacing Lesley Anderson who left to take up a post with the East Renfrewshire Interface in August. Rhona took up post at the very end of August and will be supported by Argyll Voluntary Action as she settles in to her new post. IJCVS wish to record their thanks to Lesley for the enormous effort and improvements she brought about during her time at IJCVS and are delighted she will now be joining the board.

Argyll Voluntary Action have recently commenced their work, Building Community Bridges, a Youngstart initiative; this is an intergenerational piece of work which will link with both the youth work and Saltire as well as that undertaken through the Reshaping Care for Older People agenda.

ABSEN have completed the tendering process for the Domestic Care feasibility study on Bute and this is being undertaken by SKS CIC.

Third Sector Partnership

The TSP recently undertook a 'market test' survey to identify interest in the referendum and independence debate. This brought an interesting mix of views and although information was requested, the original thought of one large event has been changed based on feedback. We will now organise smaller local fora where issues can be put to a panel. Some local councillors have already expressed interest and willingness to participate and the focus will be based on the real issues people feel will affect them in their daily lives. Further details to be released this autumn.

Third sector support has seen a trend in rising requests for information and support enabling organisations to become, or learn about potentially becoming, SCIO's (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations). Whilst not an appropriate choice for all this form works well for a large number of organisations and is clearly becoming more popular despite a sometimes fairly complex transfer process.

We have also seen a rise in the number of organisations encountering problems – either in satisfying funders (in some cases losing or risking losing funds), or internally with employment and governance issues. We are currently working with several groups on some fairly serious matters.

Health and Social Care Integration has been topic for many of the third sector fora and we have some very clear comments and feedback which are relayed to Scottish Government and through the CPP and CHP mechanisms.

There is also a process to make clearer and expand the information on Argyll Communities TSP website – this is a work in progress although comments are welcome. We hope this will make it easier to navigate the site and to find relevant information.

Nationally, we have been involved in a growing debate over the engagement and funding of national organisations over local groups who may well have the greater local knowledge and expertise. This is an ongoing dialogue and we would welcome any comments any group wish to make.

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