
Community Planning Group Area Forum Events

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to update the area Community Planning Group on the progress to date for the Area Forum events.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The area Community Planning Group notes the progress to date of the delivery of community engagement events to consult on the SOA 2013-23.
- 2.2 The area Community Planning Group agrees to a further, more detailed, report to be presented at the June meeting. At this time, the group can consider how best to utilise the information gathered at the events to ensure feedback is used by partners to inform future planning and activities of the group, including the area Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP).

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The CPP Management Committee agreed to run area forum events to engage with communities on the SOA 2013-23. The CPP was awarded funding of £4,000 towards the events from Education Scotland.
- 3.2 These events were designed to give the CPP the opportunity to fulfil the engagement commitments required as part of the community planning and SOA development process.
- 3.3 The focus of the events was agreed to be the overarching outcome for the SOA: 'Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population'. Events are entitled: **"Bute and Cowal - A Good Place to Live, Work, and Play?"**

It was agreed that the results from the events will feed into the development of the SOA Delivery Plans and the forthcoming Argyll & Bute Population Summit.

- 3.4 Bute and Cowal Community Planning Group appointed a steering group to plan and deliver the events. Thanks are due to this group for their work and support.
- Thanks are also due to the chair of the Question Time event, Ann Campbell.

4. DETAIL

4.1 A total of 13 events have been held, including three in Bute and Cowal: Workshops in Rothesay and Dunoon, and a Question Time event in Dunoon with video-conferencing from Rothesay. See Appendix 1 for details of attendance. Press cover for the Bute and Cowal events was misleading, which may have led to a lower attendance. The event was also publicised on Dunoon Community Radio, with an interview with a steering group member.

4.2 Events were held over an afternoon and evening, as follows:

- a. Discussion workshops, in 'world café' format, with 6 tables/groups considering each of the 10-year outcomes facilitated by CPP partner representatives; and
- b. Question Time-style public debate with a panel of eight key partners.

Attendance was good and all received significant support from partners in acting as facilitators and scribes, sitting on panels, and setting up stalls to engage with attendees.

4.2 Questions regarding ways of attracting more people to stay in, or return to, Argyll and Bute were posed at the workshop event using PowerPoint voting (PPV).

The same questions are posed on the online survey to allow those unable to attend to engage in the process. 515 survey forms were completed online, 148 of which are from Bute and Cowal.

4.3 The workshops generated lively debate under each of the 6 long-term outcomes, as well as some useful suggestions of what might be taken forward. Evaluation by participants was positive.

The Question Time debates gave communities the opportunity to question key strategic partners. There were only 14 responses to the evaluation, but all very positive.

A large amount of information has been gathered and is now in the process of being analysed. A more detailed report will be produced for the area CPG, to be presented at the June meeting. Partners will be asked to consider what actions might be taken forward by this area Community Planning Group.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 Initial conclusions across all events appear to focus on the need to prioritise Outcomes 1 and 2.

Margaret Fyfe
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Appendix 1

Attendance at Events

Workshop events

Area	Date	Attendance			
		CPP	Third Sector/ Community	Other	Total
Rothesay	17 January 2014	13	21	4	38
Dunoon	20 January 2014	21	25		46
Helensburgh	06 February 2014	26	30	19	75
Islay and Jura	29 January 2014	9	21		30
Tiree in partnership with Tiree Development Trust	01 February 2014	6	35		41
Oban	04 February 2014	24	32		56
Mull in partnership with Mull and Iona Community Trust	10 February 2014	16	27		43
Campbeltown	14 February 2014	18	11		29
Tarbert	18 February 2014	16	26		42

Question Time Events

Area	Date	Attendance			
		CPP	Third Sector/ Community	Other	Total
Bute and Cowal	03 February 2014	12	22	7	41
Oban, Lorn & Isles	04 February 2014	19	9	7	35
Helensburgh and Lomond	06 February 2014	19	20	35	74
Mid-Argyll, Kintyre & Islands	18 February 2014	17	20		37

*Breakdown of attendance is approximate until full analysis has been carried out.