

Better Community Engagement Resource Pack

The pack has been produced to support rural community engagement and includes:

*Methods we can use to engage
with communities*

*Useful exercises for workshops
and events*

Evaluation Exercises

*A guide to community planning
in Argyll & Bute*

For a copy of the pack, please email
communitydevelopment@argyll-bute.gov.uk

or telephone 01369 708669



Community Development
Community and Culture

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RESOURCES

The Better Community Engagement Resource Pack has been produced to support community planning partners and community organisations to engage with people across the Argyll and Bute area.

A range of practical materials have been produced to accompany the pack and this guide outlines some of the resources available for use by community planning partners and community groups.

argyll and bute
communityplanningpartnership



For more information, or to book any of the resources, please email communitydevelopment@argyll-bute.gov.uk or telephone 01369 708669

Community Engagement Tent



Community Engagement Tent for use by organisations who want to undertake community engagement activities. It's a heavy duty tent that comes with guy ropes and either concrete weights for the legs or weights that can be filled with water so quite durable for the west coast weather conditions. Simple to put up, although it takes four people to walk the legs out and click them into position. Bunting can be booked with the tent.



Evaluina / Evaluian



Cloth hanging evaluation tool with pockets that allow people to anonymously put their comments in on:

- "how they feel about the event / activity"
- "what they think about the event/activity"
- "what they will take away from the day"
- "what should we do now to build on what we've done today"
- "what didn't work well / what should we bin for future events?"

Suggestion Tree



A cloth hanging that can be used to review where a group's at and forward plan. The roots area can be used to look at where the group has been/what its original aims were / why it was formed/what it has achieved. Various shapes of sticky labels can then be created to add ideas etc.

Green leaves – what are the strengths, skills, current pieces of work etc. that the group has.

Brown leaves – what are the things that haven't gone well / difficulties the group is having

Apples / fruit – what are some of the projects / pieces of work that the group is working towards / what fruit will it bear in future?

Wind / rain clouds – what are some of the threats?

Planning Flower



A variation on the suggestion tree idea, the planning flower can be used to work with groups who need to evaluate where they're going. There are three sections

- The past – represented by the roots
- The present – represented by the leaves
- The Future – represented by the petals.

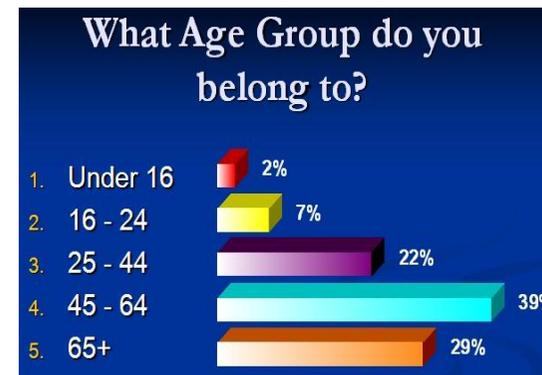
The organisation's aims can be placed in the centre of the flower while they go through the process so the reasons why the group exists remain central to its development.

Voxur



The VOXUR box can be loaded with questions and then acts as a mobile points of view box / diary room. Great for engaging with people without them having to write and it can be used in various locations, pulling all of the answers together into one video output. It can be a good way of involving young people in carrying out consultations by getting them to take charge of the VOXUR unit. Not very anonymous, though!

PPVoting



PPVoting pads etc. are also available for use through the Community Development Team and offer an interactive way of getting feedback / prioritisation from groups.

Using a "who wants to be a millionaire – ask the audience" style of voting, people can instantly see what the consensus of opinion is.

Lightbox



Lightbox – good to have at the sidelines. You can leave a disposable/digital camera and people can doodle their thoughts/input and take a snapshot record. You can either leave it open ended for people simply to record anything they like, or ask a specific question.

Argyllopoly



A cloth or wooden board version of Argyllopoly is available which lets you put your own issues in as “properties”. Participants can then be given a limited number of tokens or Argyll pounds which they then have to distribute among their most important priorities. A visually engaging way of finding out what people think is most important to them.

Wishing Well



A wooden wishing well which can be used as a feature to collect evaluations / questionnaires / personal contact info from interested community members anonymously. Can also be used to literally collect people’s wishes or aspirations for their area / group. Very flexible and makes a feature on information stalls

Pockets



Two cloth “pockets” in different colours are available for use with this exercise. Material backed, they contain plastic pockets into which you can slide customised questions. Participants then place tokens in the appropriate pockets that reflect their views. As it is anonymous, participants aren’t influenced by the views of others. This resource can be used for either consultation or evaluation.

Sticky Walls

Sheets of nylon material which, when sprayed with remount, become “sticky walls”. Ideal for using as a blank canvas for groups to post ideas, and the paper is then repositionable, allowing you to then cluster and arrange according to themes / priorities etc., as the group discusses further.

Sticky walls can be used inside the tent to provide a large surface for information gathering, but are also ideal for using in areas where there may already be materials on the wall and sticky wall can provide a blank surface without removing existing materials.

A range of brightly coloured stencils have also been designed for use with the walls which are available on request.

