

Public Document Pack
COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

12 April 2005

A meeting of the **CPP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in the **SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE OFFICES, KILMORY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, LOCHGILPHEAD** on **WEDNESDAY, 20 APRIL 2005 at 10:00 AM.**

AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES**
- 2. PRESENTATION BY JOHN SCOTT FROM ODS CONSULTANTS ON EVALUATION OF BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUND**
- 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 9 FEBRUARY 2005** (Pages 1 - 8)
- 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CPP MEETING 4 MARCH 2005** (Pages 9 - 12)
- 5. MATTERS ARISING**
 - (a) CPP Budget
- 6. COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES**
 - (a) Preparations for CPP Biennial Conference (Lolita Lavery) (Pages 13 - 18)
 - (b) CPP Annual Progress Report (Lolita Lavery)
 - (c) Results of 8th Questionnaire to Citizens' Panel (Lolita Lavery) (Pages 19 - 54)
 - (d) Update on Bute & Cowal Pilot (Lolita Lavery) (Pages 55 - 56)
 - (e) Update by Theme Group Leaders on Progress with CPP Priorities
 - Theme Group 1 (Gavin Brown) (Pages 57-60)
 - Argyll & the Islands Local Economic Forum (Alan Milstead)
 - Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire Local Economic Forum (Aileen Edwards)
 - Theme Group 3 (Donald MacVicar)
 - (f) Big Lottery Consultation Fund (Muriel Kupris) (Pages 61 - 62)
- 7. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE INITIATIVES**
 - (a) Update on Rural Policy Advisory Group/Closing the Opportunity Gap Targets (Brian Barker)

- (b) Baseline Review of Community Planning Partnerships (Lolita Lavery)
(Pages 63 - 68)
- (c) Best Value Audit - CPP Submission (Lolita Lavery/David Clements)
(Pages 69 - 72)

8. AOCB

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

18 May 2005 (if needed)

15 June 2005

**MINUTES of MEETING of CPP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held in the SCOTTISH
NATURAL HERITAGE'S OFFICES, KILMORY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, LOCHGILPHEAD
on WEDNESDAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2005**

Present:

Andrew Campbell, SNH (Chair)
Brian Barker, Argyll & Bute Council
Muriel Kupris, Argyll & Bute Council
Peter Minshall, Argyll CVS
David Downie, Communities Scotland
James McLellan, Argyll & Bute Council
Gavin Brown, NHS Argyll & Clyde
Alan Milstead, Argyll and the Islands Enterprise
Raymond Park, Strathclyde Police
Marlene Baillie, Strathclyde Police
Pat Logan, Argyll Volunteer Centre

Apologies:

Lolita Lavery, Community Planning Manager
Aileen Edwards, Scottish Enterprise, Dunbartonshire
Donald MacVicar, Argyll & Bute Council
Josephine Stojak, NHS Argyll & Clyde

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2004 were accepted as an accurate record after the following points were noted:

Item 2(c) Draft 2005/06 Community Planning Partnership Budget – David Dowie reported that having met with Patrick Flynn there was the possibility of a new fund being set up so that Communities Scotland could make a contribution to Community Planning Partnerships over and above the Community Regeneration Fund money. This was still at the discussion stage but it was hoped that a decision would be made shortly.

Item 3(a) Theme Group 1 – Gavin Brown advised that the Chair of the Community Health Partnership would not necessarily be the Chair of the Theme Group 1 but that the Chair of Theme Group 1 would be a representative from the Community Health Partnership.

Item 3(e) Regeneration Outcome Agreement – Muriel advised that she had not circulated a copy of the finalised ROA to Partners and instead passed round a copy of the Executive Summary.

2. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Reflection on Dr Goudies's Visit

A general discussion took place and it was felt that Dr Goudie's visit had been worthwhile to both Dr. Goudie and the Management Committee. James reported that he had been invited to visit Dr. Goudie the next time he was in Edinburgh and confirmed that he would be contacting Dr. Goudie to set this up.

(b) Update on ROA's/ROA Conference

Muriel Kupris reported that work was now being undertaken on refining targets identified within the ROA and that she would be meeting with agencies whose services impact on the ROA to make sure that targets identified reflected national and local targets. It was noted that the Fire Service had approached Muriel asking for their targets to be included in the ROA.

Muriel confirmed that funding of £986,000 had been secured and that a further £175,000 had been secured in Regeneration Funding for Argyll and Bute for financial year 2004-05.

It was noted that this funding would be used to formally launch the Regeneration Outcome Agreement for Argyll and Bute for 2005-08; look at the role of the Community Learning and Development in Regeneration and the integration of partnership working; and look at the role of the Housing Associations and the Wider Role Fund in Regeneration.

It was further noted that the Community Regeneration Partnership would be holding a two-day conference on 24 and 25 February 2005 in the Argyll Hotel, Inveraray to implement the above with Councillor Dick Walsh chairing the first day and Councillor Walsh and Andrew Campbell jointly chairing the second day.

(c) Update on CPP Website

Brian reported that the CPP Website was on schedule to "go live" on Friday 11 February 2005. It was agreed that the website would continue to be a challenge and it was noted that Lolita would be reviewing the content of the website on a monthly basis.

3. COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES

(a) Preparations for CPP "Biennial Conference"

Brian gave an update on preparations for the CPP Biennial Conference and the Committee noted proposals by the Working Group, the draft programme for the day and the delegates list.

After discussion the following was agreed:

- (i) The title for this year's event should have a demographic theme with a strap line of "Argyll & Bute": Leading Rural Area" (to be used for all future events);
- (ii) That a pack be issued prior to the day with contributions from Partners on current issues and what the demographic changes mean for their organisation. It was noted that information from Partners would be limited to 2 pages and that Lolita would be issuing a framework to Partners requesting information from them;
- (iii) That the programme should include an opportunity for feedback on the workshops identifying actions and barriers. This should not occupy much time and a suggestion was made to project the finds using Power Point as a backdrop during the afternoon. It was noted that barriers identified would form the basis for the question and answer panel at the end of the event.

Brian asked for volunteers to act as facilitators on the day. It was noted that approximately 12 facilitators would be required and that training would be given. Facilitators would only be used if they attended the training.

Brian also asked for any changes/additions to the delegates list to be forwarded to Lolita. It was noted that the Volunteer Centre and Advice Network had not been included and Pat Logan asked that they be added.

(b) CPP 2005/06 Budget

With reference to the minutes of the CPP Management Committee held on 6 December 2004, the Committee resumed discussion on the CPP 2005/06 Budget.

After discussion it was agreed that the Annual Progress report under the Communications Plan should be removed and that Lolita bring a revised budget to the next meeting. (The annual report would be included in the conference pack).

(c) Update on Bute & Cowal Pilot

Brian advised that Lolita had given him an update on this and reported that there were both positives and negatives. It was noted that the Area Partnership met last week. This was the first meeting attended by the Community Representatives who were very enthusiastic. However there was a question mark over the commitment being given by some of the Partners. It was noted that Caledonian MacBrayne had advised that they would only be attending future meetings if there were items on the agenda requiring input from them and the representative from the NHS had not been able to attend this meeting and had confirmed that they would not be available to attend the next.

Alan Milstead confirmed that AIE would attend as many meetings as possible and acknowledged that the Pilot needed the Partner's support. Gavin Brown confirmed that he would check to see if an alternative representative from the NHS could attend.

After discussion it was agreed that the importance of the Pilot needed to be stressed to the Partners through the Management Committee and the importance of attending the Area Partnership meetings.

It was further agreed that George MacKenzie should provide written reports to the Management Committee on issues raised by the Area Partnership at their meetings

(d) Update by Theme Group Leaders on Progress with CPP Priorities

Theme Group 1 – Gavin reported on activities by the Health & Wellbeing Theme Group and the Committee noted an evaluation report prepared following the "Planning the Links" workshop held on 6 December 2004. Gavin also reported that the performance measurement tool (LEAP) had been used in revising the Joint Health Improvement Plan and a copy of the revised draft JHIP was presented to the Committee for comment. After discussion, it was agreed that the new structure of the draft JHIP was clearer and easier to read. It was further agreed that any comments/changes Partners wished to make to the draft JHIP should be passed to Gavin so that it could be presented to the Community Planning Partnership at its meeting in March.

Theme Group 2 – Alan reported that the amalgamation of Theme Group 2 and the Local Economic Forum (LEF) had been broadly welcomed by the LEF at its meeting in January and it was noted that there would be a review of membership/attendance at LEF meetings with a paper being prepared for the next meeting entitled "what are we trying to achieve". Alan also reported that the idea that many initiatives would be pursued via short life groups was welcomed and he suggested that this is an effective way of working.

It was noted that the next meeting of LEF would be on 11 May 2005 and that a report on this would come back to the Management Committee. Alan also confirmed that he would be in contact with Aileen Edwards to ensure that reports from the SED would also come to the Management Committee.

Theme Group 3 – Brian spoke to a note prepared by Donald on the 3rd Theme Group's meeting held on 26 January 2005. He advised that the meeting mainly focused on the Local Housing Strategy, which had been well received. David Dowie reported that the newly formed Housing Forum, Chaired by Councillor George Freeman, had launched the Local Housing Strategy and suggested that this Forum could report any issues to the Management Committee. It was agreed that this should be done via Theme Group 3.

(e) Draft CPP Agenda

The Committee noted and agreed the content of the agenda for the Community Planning Partnership meeting being held on Friday 4 March 2005 subject to the following change:

Item 6(a) Preparations for CPP "Review" Day should be changed to read – Preparations for CPP Biennial Conference.

(f) Approval of Joint Health Improvement Plan

This item was discussed under the report by Theme Group 1.

(g) Community Supported Agriculture

Gavin reported that this initiative had been set up in the Highland area and was a partnership set up between farmers and consumers to encourage farmers' produce to be made available locally and wondered about the possibility of a similar project being set up in Argyll and Bute.

After discussion it was agreed that the Agricultural Forum should look into this in the first instance. Gavin also agreed to provide the background information on this initiative to Andrew with the possibility of this item being discussed again at a future Management Committee meeting.

4. SHARING OF PARTNERSHIP RESOURCES

(a) Partnership Capital Development Plan

Following the presentation to the Community Planning Management Committee at its meeting on 6 December 2004 by Strathclyde Police about their involvement in the renewal and rationalisation of various facilities in Dalmellington in partnership with the local Council and NHS, Brian presented a report suggesting possible ways to progress the development of a similar initiative within Argyll and Bute.

After discussion, it was agreed that this could be something that could be considered further by the Bute and Cowal Pilot area and it was agreed to place this item on the agenda of the Management Committee on a bi-monthly basis giving the opportunity for Partners to share information on this matter.

(b) Ganavan Site (Oban) - Land Sale and Site Development Plan

David reported that this site was owned by the Health Board and that Communities Scotland were currently in the process of acquiring it so that special needs housing through West Highland Housing Association and sheltered housing through Bield could be built on this site.

It was noted that there was the potential for many other agencies to

be involved in this project and that problems such as access, traffic control, water/ sewerage would need to be addressed.

5. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE INITIATIVES

(a) Rural Policy Advisory Group/Closing the Opportunity Gap Targets

The Committee discussed the contents of a letter received from the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department regarding Ministers' rural services target under the Closing the Opportunity Gap programme and it was noted that East Loch Fyne, Holy Loch had been identified and likely to be included, subject to final Ministerial approval.

Brian reported that while the statistical method for identifying disadvantaged rural areas in Argyll and Bute was sound, the base data, most notably the Index of Multiple Deprivation did not adequately account for the true nature of access deprivation for island communities. A review of data held by the Council identified two additional areas for consideration by the Executive – Colonsay and Jura and Tiree and Coll and the Management Committee agreed that these two areas be submitted for consideration as additional Rural Service Priority Areas in the Executive's research programme.

(b) Baseline Review of Community Planning Partnerships

The Committee noted correspondence received from the Director of Performance Audit, which advised of an Accounts Commission proposal to undertake a baseline review of community planning partnerships in Scotland with the aim of the study to review the progress made by Councils and Partner Agencies in developing community planning since the Local Government Act 2003 came into force.

(c) Best Value Audit

Brian reported that during 2005 Argyll and Bute Council would be undergoing an Audit of Best Value, which is designed to audit all of the new duties for councils relating to Best Value, Community Planning and Public Performance Reporting. The approach to the Audit includes a comprehensive self-assessment of the current performance of each of the council's main functions and services, and of corporate achievements. It was noted that during this self-assessment process Community Planning Partners may also be invited to participate and that David Clements, the Council's Performance Manager, will be liaising with Lolita in this respect. Brian also advised that Partners would be invited to take part in a series of workshops with the opportunity to comment on details of the Council's submission for the Best Value Audit.

6. AOCB

- (a) Muriel reported that a European Funding Bid was being prepared for Soroba, which had lost its social inclusion status and sought approval from the Community Planning Management Committee for this bid to be submitted. This was agreed.
- (b) Brian reported that he had attended a meeting of the Improvement Service, which planned to create scenarios on Local Governance, and asked the Management Committee to note that there may be matters arising from this.
- (c) Brian reported that Dave Jones who gave a presentation to the last meeting of the Management Committee was leaving the Council.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 20 APRIL 2005

Wednesday 20 April 2005 at 10.00.am in the Scottish Natural Heritage Offices, Kilmory Industrial Estate.

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MINUTES of MEETING held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD on FRIDAY, 4 MARCH 2005**Present:**

Councillor Allan Macaskill (Chair)	Billy Hunter, Strathclyde Fire Brigade
Councillor Robin Banks	Pauline Borland, Strathclyde Fire Brigade
James McLellan, Argyll and Bute Council	David MacGregor, Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire
Lolita Lavery, Community Planning Manager	Ciorstan Shearer, Strathclyde Police
Brian Barker, Argyll and Bute Council	Mitch Roger, Strathclyde Police
Donald MacVicar, Argyll and Bute Council	Alan MacDougall, Fyne Homes
Terry Markwick, Argyll and Bute Council	Jim Clinton, Bute Community Links
Andrew Campbell, Scottish Natural Heritage	Keith Miller, Forestry Commission Scotland
Erik Jespersen, NHS Argyll & Clyde	Nick Purdy, Forestry Commission Scotland
Ann Campbell, NHS Argyll & Clyde	Eddie Graham, IBP Strategy & Research
Ann Clark, Islay & Jura CVS	Peter Minshall, Argyll CVS
David Dowie, Communities Scotland	Alistair MacAlister, Assoc. of Community Councils
James McMillan, AILLST	Mary MacGugan, Assoc. of Community Councils
Eleanor MacKinnon, Volunteer Centre	George McKenzie, Bute and Cowal Pilot Co-ordinator

Apologies:

Douglas Hendry, Argyll and Bute Council	Frances Webster, Careers Scotland
Andy Law, Argyll and Bute Council	Raymond Park, Strathclyde Police
Carl Olivarius, Argyll and Bute Council	Jacqui MacLeod, Crofters Commission
Jim McCrossan, Argyll and Bute Council	Shane Rankin, Crofters Commission
Gavin Brown, NHS Argyll & Clyde	Julian Hankinson, Assoc. of Community Councils
Josephine Stojak, NHS Argyll & Clyde	Gregor Cameron, West Highland Housing Association
Alan Milstead, Argyll & the Islands Enterprise	Bill Dalrymple, National Park

1. WELCOME

Councillor Allan Macaskill welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Eddy Graham from IBP Strategy & Research who was attending his first meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2005

The Minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting held on 5 November 2004 subject to the following alteration – to add David Hutchison, Strathclyde Fire Brigade to the list of apologies.

3. MATTERS ARISING

With reference to item 3 of the last meeting James McLellan reported that no actions had been forthcoming from the Highlands and Islands Convention Meeting held on 8 November 2004.

3. PRESENTATION BY EDDY GRAHAM FROM IBP STRATEGY AND RESEARCH ON THE RESULTS OF THE 8TH QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE CITIZENS' PANEL

Eddy Graham gave a presentation on the results of the 8th Questionnaire to the Citizens' Panel, which had been issued in early February to a refreshed and revised panel (200 people from the SIP Panel had been incorporated into the Citizens' Panel). It was noted that the data provided was based on 652 responses, which had been received by the closing date. It was further noted that as responses were still coming in after the closing date the data provided in the final report would be based on around 800+ responses. The theme of the 8th Questionnaire was "Taking Part in Your Community" and questions were centred around community safety, health, volunteering and equality issues.

After questions had been put and answered to it was agreed:-

1. That the final report should include comparisons from other studies and other parts of Scotland.

2. That the final report be issued widely to all Partners, Theme Groups and Community Groups asking them to advise the Community Planning Partnership how the data will be used and how issues highlighted will be addressed.

4. KEY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION ON THE CPP

At the last CPP Meeting in November 2004, it was agreed that the CPP change the basis of community representation from one that focuses on 50% representation to one that focuses on a designated scrutiny role for any community representative and that the Management Committee be given responsibility to develop this further.

This item was discussed at the Management Committee meeting on 8 December 2004 and the Partnership noted the recommendations made at that meeting.

(b) PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

A paper on the Partnership's Communications Plan was tabled at the Management Committee meeting on 8 December 2004. The Community Planning Partnership noted that the Management Committee had agreed to adopt all the recommendations outlined in the report as work in progress.

The Community Planning Partnership also agreed:-

1. That Lolita issue a copy of the Communications Plan to all Partners.
2. To note that the revised Community Planning website was now live.
3. To ask Partners to provide any information that they would like posted on the website to Lolita and also to put a link from their own websites to the Community Planning Partnership's website - www.actionargyllandbute.org.uk

5. COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES

(a) PREPARATIONS FOR CPP BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Lolita advised the Partnership of progress to date with preparations for the CPP Biennial Conference being held on 10 June 2005 under the strap line banner "Argyll and Bute: Leading Rural Area". It was noted that the theme of the Conference would be centred around demographic issues facing Argyll and Bute.

Lolita advised that facilitators for the workshops had still to be confirmed and that an email had been sent to Partners seeking volunteers. It was noted that a delegate pack would be issued prior to the day with contributions from Partners on current issues facing their organisations as well as what the demographic changes mean for their organisations. It was noted that information from Partners would be limited to 2 pages and that Lolita would be issuing a pro-forma to Partners in this regard.

(b) CPP BUDGET

The Community Planning Partnership considered the draft CPP budget for 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 as well as the proposed contributions from current contributing partners.

After noting:-

1. That the budget is based on the assumption that all current contributing Partners will continue to contribute the proposed 3% annually inflationary increase and if this is not the case, alternative funding arrangements will need to be investigated.
2. That even though the budget shows a deficit of £11,374 for the 2004/2005 financial year, indications from the actual spend to date for 2004/2005 indicate that there should be surplus of approximately £33,000. The surplus is mainly due to no annual progress report/newsletters being published and the late start of the Bute & Cowal Pilot.
3. That the 2007/2008 budget indicated a deficit of approximately £15,500.

It was agreed to approve the CPP budget for the next 3 financial years with the proviso that the 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 budgets be monitored carefully to eradicate any deficit.

(c) **UPDATE ON CPP PRIORITIES**

Theme Group 1

The Partnership noted a report on activities by the Health and Well-Being Theme Group.

Theme Group 2

Lolita spoke to the final report from Theme Group 2, which had now been disbanded and amalgamated with Argyll and the Isles Local Economic Forum. Anne Campbell advised that a Social Economic Partnership was being developed and that it would have close links with the Economic Forum. David MacGregor confirmed that Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire was happy with the new arrangements and that a report would be coming back to the Community Planning Partnership on 8 July highlighting the work of Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire within the Helensburgh and Lomond Area.

Theme Group 3

Donald MacVicar spoke to the report, which gave an update on the last meeting of Theme Group 3. He confirmed that a list of people invited to attend was being reviewed and it had been agreed to have less frequent meetings, which would tie in with the meetings of the Management Committee. Anne Clark advised that if video conferencing could not be offered then the timing of the meetings would need to be looked at again so that people from the Islands could participate. Donald MacVicar confirmed that he would take this into consideration for future meetings of the Group.

(d) **UPDATE ON BUTE AND COWAL PILOT**

George McKenzie gave an update on the Bute and Cowal Pilot and it was noted that there had been five Level 1 meetings and three Level 2 meetings. George confirmed that the Pilot planned to look at existing priorities of the various Partner organisations to try to identify common issues. It was noted that attendance at meetings had been an issue and it was agreed that Community Planning Partners must provide substitutes with full delegated powers to attend meetings. Councillor Macaskill advised that this should apply to all meetings.

(e) **UPDATE ON REGENERATION OUTCOME AGREEMENTS**

Donald MacVicar gave an update on the Regeneration Outcome Agreement, which had been submitted in December 2004 well ahead of the revised deadline. It was noted that the Community Regeneration Partnership had until September to submit revised templates.

Donald also reported that the 2 day ROA Conference held on 24 and 25 February had proved a success and targeted a number of issues and effects of spend. Donald advised that as funding for the Partnership was ring fenced and reduced over a 3 year period some Atlantic Islands may suffer.

(f) **REPORT BACK ON MEETING WITH DR ANDREW GOUDIE FROM THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE**

Andrew Campbell reflected on Dr Goudie's visit to the Management Committee on 8 December 2004. Andrew felt that the visit had been worthwhile and mentioned that Dr Goudie had taken away items of concern and agreed to look into these for the Management Committee. Dr Goudie had also advised that Argyll and Bute may get a greater level of support from the Scottish Executive if we were able to provide statistical information to back up our issues. Overall Andrew confirmed that it had been a positive meeting and it was hoped to build on this in the future.

6. HEALTH ISSUES

(a) **JOINT HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Anne Campbell presented the Joint Health Improvement Plan for 2005-2008, which listed various priorities for each locality. After discussion it was agreed to approve the Plan.

(b) **UPDATE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS**

Erik Jespersen gave an update on the establishment of Community Health Partnerships (CHPs). He mentioned that there would be five CHPs operating across Argyll and Clyde with one covering the Argyll and Bute Council area. It was noted that although the CHPs were scheduled to be operational on 1 April 2005, it would probably take six months before they would be fully operational.

7. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE ISSUES

(a) **SEERAD RURAL POLICY ADVISORY GROUP/CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP TARGETS**

Brian Barker reported that under the Scottish Executive's Closing the Opportunity Gap Programme East Loch Fyne/Holy Loch had been identified and likely to be included in the Programme subject to final Ministerial approval.

Brian further reported that while the statistical methods for identifying disadvantaged rural areas in Argyll and Bute was sound, the base data and most notably the index of multiple deprivation did not adequately account for the true nature of access deprivation for island communities. A review of data held by the Council identified 2 additional areas for consideration by the Executive, namely Colonsay/Jura and Tiree/Coll. The Partnership noted that the Management Committee had agreed that these 2 areas be submitted for consideration as additional Rural Service Priority Areas in the Executive's research programme.

(b) **BASELINE REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS**

The Partnership noted correspondence received from Audit Scotland advising of an Accounts Commission proposal to undertake a Base Line Review of Community Planning Partnerships in Scotland with the aim of the study being to review the progress made by Councils and Partner agencies in developing community planning since the Local Government Act 2003 came into force. Lolita advised that the final report would be issued at the end of the year. Lolita further reported that a half-day workshop was scheduled for 22 March 2005 where Audit Scotland would be presenting their proposals for the Review and it was also an opportunity for them to get input from the various CPPs. Lolita agreed to e-mail round the issues to be tackled at the workshops asking Partners to contact her prior to 22 March if they wished any other issues to be raised.

(c) **BEST VALUE AUDIT**

Lolita reported that Argyll and Bute Council would be undergoing an audit of Best Value in the summer of this year, which is designed to audit all the new duties for Councils relating to Best Value, Community Planning and Public Performance Reporting. As part of this process, each Council Service will be preparing a self-assessment of their services, which will be discussed at a series of workshops planned towards the end of March this year. It was noted that Community Planning Partners were invited to participate in these workshops.

Lolita mentioned that she would be preparing a self-assessment of Community Planning, which would be discussed at the next Management Committee meeting. Partners were asked to submit a short paragraph on their perceptions of Community Planning, which could be included in the self-assessment.

8. AOCB

James McMillan gave a progress report on tourism and confirmed that the existing Tourist Boards would cease to exist on 31 March 2005 and from 1 April would become part of Visit Scotland. It was noted that James Fraser would still have responsibility for the Argyll and Bute Area.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY 8 JULY 2005

The next Community Planning Partnership meeting will be held on 8 July 2005.

**ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
BIENNIAL CONFERENCE: 10TH JUNE 2005, CORRAN HALLS, OBAN
“THE CHANGING POPULATION: COMMON PROBLEMS, JOINT SOLUTIONS”**

(Pro formas for the delegate pack have been sent out to all CPP partners and other strategic and local partnerships/Delegate pack covers have been made/CPP Annual Progress Report being drafted)

09:15 **Registration Opens** – Coffee/Tea available in foyer

(Catering booked, will be visiting Corran Halls on 10 May to discuss layout, etc.)

10:00 **Welcome and Introduction**
Cllr Allan Macaskill, CPP Chair

10:05 **CPP Overview**
Andrew Campbell, CPP Management Committee Chair

10:15: **Argyll and Bute Profile**
New Research Officer, Argyll and Bute Council

(New Research Officer has been appointed and will start work in May)

10:45 **Keynote Address: “Argyll and Bute: A Leading Rural Area – Facing the Demographic Challenges: What can Service Providers do”**
Colin Mair, Chief Executive, Improvement Service.

(Colin accepted invitation – Briefing note sent out)

11:15 **Facilitated Workshops**
(Tea/coffee will be provided in the Workshops)

The aim of the Workshops is to identify 3 actions that can be taken forward by CPP and also what the barriers are to making this happen.

(13 facilitators have been identified – see Delegate List for names)
(A briefing session will be held on 4 May)

13:00 **BUFFET LUNCH**

14:00 **Scottish Executive’s Perspective: Improving Access to Rural Services**
Frank Strang, Head of the Scottish Executive Rural Policy Team

(Briefing note sent out to Frank Strang’s replacement)

14.15 **Panel Discussion** (Questions and Answers)

Discussion on how the barriers identified during the workshops can be addressed.

Panellists

Helen Betts-Brown, Assistant Director-Rural Affairs, SCVO (Chair)
Colin Mair, Chief Executive of the Improvement Service
Frank Strang, Head of the Scottish Executive Rural Policy Team
Cllr Ian Gillies, Islands Spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council
Dr Erik Jespersen, Clinical Director, NHS Argyll and Clyde
Peter Timms, Chair of AIE and the Argyll and Islands Local Economic Forum

(All Panellists have accepted - Briefing notes have been sent out)

15:00 **Close**

CPP BIENNIAL CONFERENCE DELEGATE LIST

The following list indicates the delegates that have been invited to the CPP Biennial Conference as well as those that have already responded. The Management Committee is invited to peruse the list to see if there are any omissions.

CPP PARTNERS

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
1	James McLellan	CEO	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
2	Nigel Stewart	Director of Corporate Services	Argyll & Bute Council	
3	Douglas Hendry	Director of Community Services	Argyll & Bute Council	
4	Andy Law	Director of Operational Services	Argyll & Bute Council	
5	George Harper	Director of Development Services	Argyll & Bute Council	
6	Brian Barker	Policy & Strategy Manager	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
7	Muriel Kupris	Community Resources Manager	Argyll & Bute Council	
8	Donald MacVicar	Head of Community Regeneration	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
9	Lynda Syed	Communications Manager	Argyll & Bute Council	
10	Dougie Dunlop	Head of Children and Families	Argyll & Bute Council	
11	Ronald Gould	Head of Secondary Education	Argyll & Bute Council	
12	Jane Fowler		Argyll & Bute Council	YES
13	Carl Olivarius	Road Safety Training Officer	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
14	Allan Macaskill	Leader/Chair of CPP	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
15	William Petrie	Convenor	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
16	Robin Banks	Councillor	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
17	Dick Walsch	Councillor	Argyll & Bute Council	
18	Duncan Macintyre	Councillor	Argyll & Bute Council	
19	George Freeman	Councillor	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
20	Brian Chennell	Councillor	Argyll & Bute Council	
21	Patricia Logan		Argyll & Bute Volunteer Centre	
22	Peter Minshall	CEO	Argyll CVS	
23	Bill Dalziel	Chair	Argyll CVS	YES
24	Ken Abernethy	CEO	AIE	
25	Alan Milstead		AIE	
26	Bert Baker	Chair	Association of Community Councils	
27	Julian Hankinson		Association of Community Councils	
28	Kate Murray	Executive Member	Association of Community Councils	YES
29	6 x Community Council representatives still to be invited		Association of Community Councils	
30			Association of Community Councils	
31			Association of Community Councils	
32			Association of Community Councils	
33			Association of Community Councils	
34			Association of Community Councils	
35	Jim Clinton		Bute Community Links	
36	Harold Mills	Chair	Calmac	
37	Lawrie Sinclair	CEO	Calmac	NO
38	Shirley Fraser	Route Manager	Calmac	
39	Alasdair McNicoll		Calmac	
40	Catriona Eagle	CEO	Careers Scotland	
41	Frances Webster	Locality Manager	Careers Scotland	
42	Alex Robertson	Area Director	Communities Scotland	
43	David Dowie	North Clyde Investment Manager	Communities Scotland	YES
44	Patrick Flynn	Social Justice Manager	Communities Scotland	YES
45	Janet Crook	Investment Co-ordinator	Communities Scotland	YES
46	Shane Rankin	CEO	Crofters Commission	YES

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
47	David Green	Chair	Crofters Commission	NO
48	Jacqui MacLeod	Development Manager: Argyll	Crofters Commission	YES
49	Morven Short		Dunbritton Housing Association	
50	Syd House	Conservator	Forestry Commission Scotland	
51	Nick Purdy	District Manager: West Argyll	Forestry Commission Scotland	
52	Keith Miller	Policy Support & Development Officer (Argyll)	Forestry Commission Scotland	
53	Alan Stevenson		Forestry Commission Scotland	NO
54	Alan MacDougall	CEO	Fyne Homes	
55				
56	John Davis		Jobcentre Plus	
57	Jim Lynch	Manager	Jobcentre Plus	
58	Bill Dalrymple	CEO	Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park	
59	Lesley Campbell		Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park	
60	Alan Cumming	Head of Estate Management	Ministry of Defence	
61	Neil Campbell	CEO	NHS Argyll and Clyde	
62	John Mullin	Chair	NHS Argyll and Clyde	NO
63	Josephine Stojak	Service General Manager	NHS Argyll and Clyde	YES
64	Wilma Campbell	Board Member	NHS Argyll and Clyde	YES
65	Gavin Brown	Head of Planning, Public Involvement & Communications	NHS Argyll and Clyde	YES
66	Ann Campbell	Public Health Practitioner	NHS Argyll and Clyde	YES
67	Sally Munro	Locality Manager	NHS Argyll & Clyde	
68	Moira Newiss	Locality Manager	NHS Argyll & Clyde	YES
69	Ron Arbuckle	Director of Service Integration, Finance & Performance	NHS Argyll & Clyde	YES
70	John Dreghorn	Locality Manager	NHS Argyll & Clyde	YES
71	Stephen Whiston	Project Planning & Performance Manager	NHS Argyll and Clyde	YES
72	Stephen Wilson	Project & Development Manager	NHS Argyll and Clyde	
73	Karen Murray	Divisional Director	NHS Argyll & Clyde	YES
74	Dave Anderson	CEO	Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire	
75	David McGregor	Financial Director	Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire	NO
76	Aileen Edwards	Strategy Manager	Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire	YES
77	Kevin O'Sullivan	Chair	Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire	
78	Jim Frame	Senior EPO	SEPA	
79	Tom Anderson	Environmental Partnership Unit Manager	SEPA	
80	Alastair Dewart	Environmental Partnership Unit Manager	SEPA	
81	Angus Laing	Area Manager: Argyll & Stirling	SNH	
82	Andrew Campbell	Operations Manager	SNH	YES
83	David Wood	Area Project & Strategy Manager	SNH	
84	William Hunter	Senior Divisional Officer	Strathclyde Fire & Rescue	YES
85	John Walls	Community Planning Officer	Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority	
86	Mitch Roger	Chief Superintendent	Strathclyde Police	
87	Raymond Park	Superintendent	Strathclyde Police	
88	Marlene Baillie	Local Authority Liaison Officer	Strathclyde Police	
89	Allan Spence	Chief Inspector	Strathclyde Police	
90	Alan Thompson	Local Authority Liaison Officer	Scottish Water	
91	Joe Moore	General Manager	Scottish Water	
92	Brian McInally		Scottish Water	

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
93	James Fraser	CEO	Visit Scotland	
94	David Wyles		Visit Scotland	
95	Isabelle Cameron	CEO	West Highland Housing Association	
96	Gregor Cameron	Development Officer	West Highland Housing Association	
97	Lolita Lavery	Community Planning Manager	CPP	YES

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE/MPS, ETC.

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
98	Dr Andrew Goudie	Head of Finance and Central Services	Scottish Executive	YES
99	Jackie Baillie		MSP	NO
100	George Lyon		MSP	YES
101	John McFall		MP	
102	Alan Reid		MP	

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
103	Jim McCrossan	Community Learning Partnership	Argyll & Bute Council	
104	Nasreen Kharegat	Adult Literacy & Numeracy Manager	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
105	Patricia McCrossan	Community Regeneration Partnership	Argyll & Bute Council	
106	Christine Menhennett	Employability/New Deal Partnership	Argyll & Bute Council	
107	Dianne Smith	Construction Alliance	Fyne Homes	
108	Marina Curran-Colthart	Biodiversity Partnership	Argyll & Bute Council	
109	Charles Reppke	Community Safety Partnership	Argyll & Bute Council	
110	Elaine Robertson	Childcare Strategy Partnership	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
111	Still to be invited	ALLenergy		

ECONOMIC FORA/CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE/HIGHER EDUCATION, ETC.

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
112	Allan Cameron	Chair	SED LEF Allied Distillers	
113	John McLuckie		Argyll College	YES
114	Mike Breslin	CEO	Argyll College	NO
115	Robert Cormack	CEO	University of the Highlands & Islands	
116	Val Makiever	Rector	University of the Highlands & Islands	
117	Still to be invited		Chambers of Commerce	
118	Still to be invited		Federation of Small Business	

YOUTH

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
119	Serena Micalizzi		Mull & Iona Forum for Youth	
120	Gary Haldane	Young Scot/Dialogue Youth Co-ordinator	Young Scot/Dialogue Youth	
121	Still to be invited		Young Scot/Dialogue Youth	
122			Young Scot/Dialogue Youth	
123			Young Scot/Dialogue Youth	
124			Young Scot/Dialogue Youth	
125	Martin Turnbull	Area Community Education Worker (Youth)	Argyll & Bute Council	YES
126	Still to be invited		Youth Forum	
127			Youth Forum	
128			Youth Forum	
129			Youth Forum	

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
130	Alasdair Oatts	Project Co-ordinator	Argyll & Bute Care & Repair	YES
131	Still to be invited		Argyll & Bute Carers Network	
132	Still to be invited		Argyll & Bute Children's Befriending Scheme	
133	Jay Stewart		Argyll and Bute Women's Aid	YES
134	Pamela MacDonald		Argyll and Bute Women's Aid	YES
135	Alastair MacGregor	ACHA Development Manager	Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA)	YES
136	Norman Beaton	Chair	Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA)	YES
137	Rev Ian Miller		Bonhill Church of Scotland	NO
138	Alistair MacDonald	Community Rep	Bute & Cowal Pilot	
139	Sharon Muir	Community Rep	Bute & Cowal Pilot	
140	Peter Galliard	Community Rep	Bute & Cowal Pilot	
141	Iain MacInnes	Community Rep	Bute & Cowal Pilot	
142	Margaret Johnston	Community Rep	Bute & Cowal Pilot	
143	Alison Taylor		Citizens' Advice Bureau	
144	Still to be invited		Citizens' Panel	
145			Citizens' Panel	
146			Citizens' Panel	
147			Citizens' Panel	
148			Citizens' Panel	
149			Citizens' Panel	
150			Citizens' Panel	
151			Citizens' Panel	
152	Douglas Young	Chair	Coll Initiative at the Edge	
153	Still to be invited		Community Care Forum	
154	Still to be invited		Council's on Drugs and Alcohol	
155	Bridget Paterson	Project Co-ordinator	Cowal Deserve Project	
156	Still to be invited		Disability Forum	
157	Still to be invited		Elderly Forum	
158	Wendy Bell	Treasurer	Garelochhead & Portincaple Community Trust	
159	Still to be invited		Group for Recycling	
160	Kathleen Siddle	Secretary	Helensburgh Vision Steering Group	
161	John Saich	Artform Development Co-ordinator	Hi Arts	YES
162	Robert Livingston	Director	Hi-Arts	
163	Aileen Binner	Co-ordinator	Home Start Lorne	
164	Carol Muir	Project Co-ordinator	Islay Healthy Living Centre	
165	Elaine Campbell		Jura Initiative at the Edge/Jura Development Trust	
166	James Hilder	Development Secretary	Mull & Iona Community Trust	
167	Still to be invited		Nadair Trust	
168	Dr Robin Pellew	CEO	National Trust	
169	Still to be invited		Oban & Lorne Community Enterprise (Atlantis Leisure)	
170	Steve McEwen	Area Manager	Royal Mail	
171	Lisa Stephen	Project Officer	Scottish Islands Network	YES
172	Ian Taylor	CEO	Sportscotland	
173	Donald Booth		West Coast Motors	

KEYNOTE SPEAKER/PANELLISTS

	NAME	JOB TITLE	ORGANISATION	YES/NO
174	Helen Betts-Brown (Chair)	Assistant Director, Rural Affairs	Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations	YES
175	Colin Mair	CEO	Improvement Service	YES
176	Frank Strang	Head of Land Use and Rural Policy	SEERAD	YES
177	Peter Timms	Chair	AIE & AILEF	YES
178	Erik Jespersen	Clinical Director	NHS Argyll and Clyde	YES
179	Ian Gillies	Councillor	Argyll and Bute Council	YES

FACILITATORS

	NAME	ORGANISATION
1	Jennifer Swanson	Argyll & Bute Council
2	George McKenzie	Argyll & Bute Council
3	Ken MacDonald	Argyll & Bute Council
4	Arlene Cullum	Argyll & Bute Council
5	Alison Debling	Argyll & Bute Council
6	Peter Ward	Argyll & Bute Council
7	Lucy McQuillan	Argyll & Bute Council
8	Deirdre MacPherson	Argyll & Bute Council
9	David Clements	Argyll & Bute Council
10	Pauline Borland	Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
11	Neil Wallace	Strathclyde Police
12	Anne Clark	Islay & Jura CVS
13	John Alexander	Strathclyde Fire & Rescue

**ARGYLL AND BUTE
COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**

**CITIZENS' PANEL SURVEY ON TAKING PART
IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

FINAL REPORT

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DATE: MARCH 2005

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2.0 Data Tables	

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

COMMUNITY SAFETY

- Most people in Argyll and Bute feel safe in their own home and in the community; a minority feel unsafe alone after dark, particularly in Helensburgh and Lomond and the SIP areas.
- The most common concerns over crime relate to crimes against property.
- Low-level, but persistent problems of anti-social behaviour such as littering and dog fouling are seen as serious problems.
- Substance use is also seen as a serious problem, particularly in the SIP areas.
- Levels of reporting of these problems is low.
- There is strong support for CCTV.
- Some concerns over home security are apparent, particularly for people living in flats.
- Strong support is evident for traffic calming measures but there is scepticism as to whether these have been implemented successfully.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- People in Argyll and Bute generally rate the various aspects of their health and well-being fairly positively. There are indications of improving health.
- There is a negative view of the availability of sports and recreational facilities.
- Concerns are evident with regard to the time taken to get an appointment with a specialist and ease of getting to hospitals.
- The preferred methods of service delivery for a Housing Information Service would be a combination of telephone and face-to-face service provision; young people would be slightly more likely than others to use the internet.

VOLUNTEERING

- A high proportion of residents are engaged in volunteering.
- Their time commitment to this is significant and has a substantial nominal economic value.
- People are encouraged into volunteering by friends or relatives.
- Improved awareness and better help and advice could help to encourage more volunteering but people's lack of time remains a significant barrier.
- The public is very positive about the quality of services delivered by the voluntary sector.
- There is a strong sense of good neighbourliness within Argyll and Bute.
- Time Banking is perceived to be a good idea and there is a reasonable level of interest in participating.
- The most common aspects of volunteering in which people are interested relate to environmental conservation and caring for others.

EQUALITIES

- There is perceived to be limited prejudice against particular groups in Argyll and Bute, but when this does occur, it is most likely to be on the basis of race/ethnicity or sexuality.
- In most cases, people feel that the level of equal opportunity attempts has been "about right".
- Some people believe that equal opportunity attempts could go further particularly in relation to "people living far away from population centres".
- Only a limited number of people have experienced or witnessed discrimination in Argyll and Bute and this does not vary significantly across geographical or demographic criteria.
- However, there is limited reporting of that discrimination which is experienced or witnessed.

1.0 BACKGROUND, OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report sets out the findings of the eighth survey of the Argyll and Bute Citizens' Panel which addressed a number of issues under the overall theme of "Taking Part in Your Community".

The Panel has existed for some time as a consultation resource for the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership and a number of postal surveys of Panel members were undertaken up to 2004. At this stage, the Panel had a membership of 1,081. IBP Strategy and Research was appointed in the Autumn of 2004 to "refresh" the Panel and to conduct future surveys.

- 1.2 A refreshment exercise in late 2004 led to 359 new people being recruited to the Panel whilst 132 people were taken off the Panel database, either because they requested that this happen or because their details could not be traced.

In addition, the Argyll and Bute Social Inclusion Partnership had retained its own People's Panel consisting of almost 300 people. Whilst this Panel had not been used since the spring of 2003 it remained a potentially valuable source of consultees. As the work of the Social Inclusion Partnership is being integrated into the Community Planning Partnership, it was agreed that the two Panels would be merged. This led to a continued Panel membership of 1,341.

OBJECTIVES

- 1.3 Following consultation with the Community Planning Partnership during late 2004, it was agreed that the theme for the eighth survey would be "Taking Part in Your Community". This theme recognised that Community Planning is about service deliverers working together with local communities to improve the quality and efficiency of services. The Local Government (Scotland) Act of 2003 places a duty on certain public service agencies to help people play an active part in their community.

- 1.4 The questionnaire focused on the following themes:

- "How safe you feel in your community"
- Your health and well-being"
- "Opportunities for volunteering and other types of participation in the community"

- “Whether you think all groups of people are treated equally”.

The survey questionnaire forms Appendix 1 of the centrally-held, hard copy version of this report.

METHODOLOGY

- 1.5 The survey was conducted by means of a postal survey of Panel members which was issued in early February; a follow-up mailing was issued in mid-February with a closing date of 25th February. A total of 798 responses were received. This represents an overall response rate of 60%. However, this can be broken down further as follows:

- 107 responses (47% from former SIP People’s Panel members)
- 650 responses (58% from the main, refreshed Panel)
- 41 responses where the Panel member could not be identified as they had removed their identify number from the Panel mailing (these respondents explain the difference between the overall response rate of 60% and that for “separate” Panels).

For illustrative purposes, a random sample of 798 provides data which is accurate to $\pm 2.21\%$.

- 1.6 A full set of data tables and listing of responses to open-ended questions has been produced which breaks responses down by the following criteria:

- Age
- Area
- Car ownership
- Disability
- Employment status
- Gender
- SIP Panel or otherwise
- Housing tenure.

Where responses vary significantly in relation to these issues then this is noted within this overview report.

A full set of data tables and the electronic file of the results has been produced which is available from the Chief Executive's Service at Argyll and Bute Council. Further cross-tabulation of data can be requested from IBP should this be required.

- 1.7 The remaining section of the report details the findings under each of the key themes outlined in Section 1.4 above.

2.0 FEELING SAFE IN THE COMMUNITY

INTRODUCTION

2.1 The section of the survey on “Feeling safe in your community” addressed four broad headings:

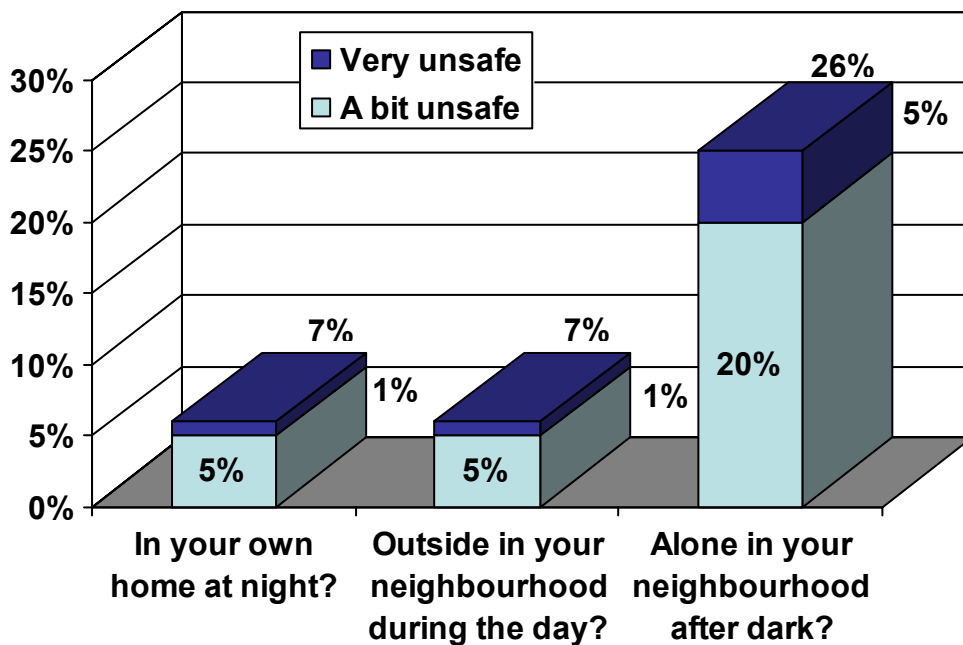
- Perceptions of crime
- Neighbourhood problems
- Attitudes to CCTV
- Road safety issues.

These are discussed in turn below,

PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME

2.2 Figure 2.1 highlights that comparatively few people feel unsafe in their own home at night or outside in their neighbourhood during the day. More people (though still a minority) feel unsafe in their neighbourhood alone after dark.

Figure 2.1: How safe or unsafe do you feel.....



Base: 798

2.3 Some areas are likely to have a higher proportion of people who feel unsafe in their own neighbourhood after dark. These include:

- Helensburgh and Lomond residents (41% feel unsafe to at least some degree)
- People from the former SIP People’s Panel (again, 41%)
- People who rent their homes from the Council (37%).

2.4 Figures 2.2(a) and (b) demonstrate the levels of concern which people have about a range of crimes. No particular crime stands out although the most common issues relate to damage against properties rather than individuals.

Figure 2.2(a): How worried are you about the following?

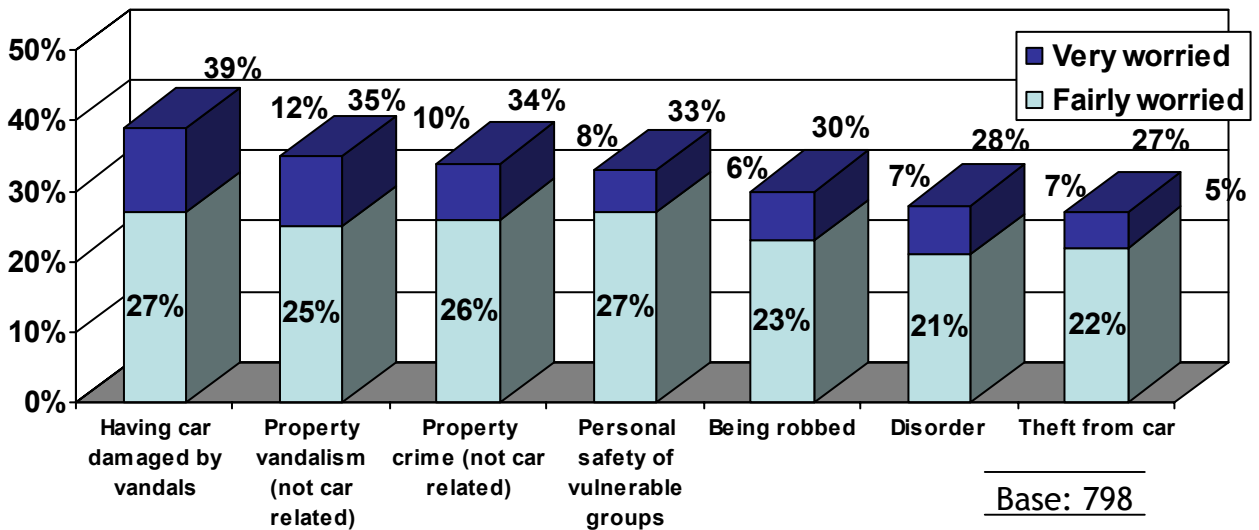
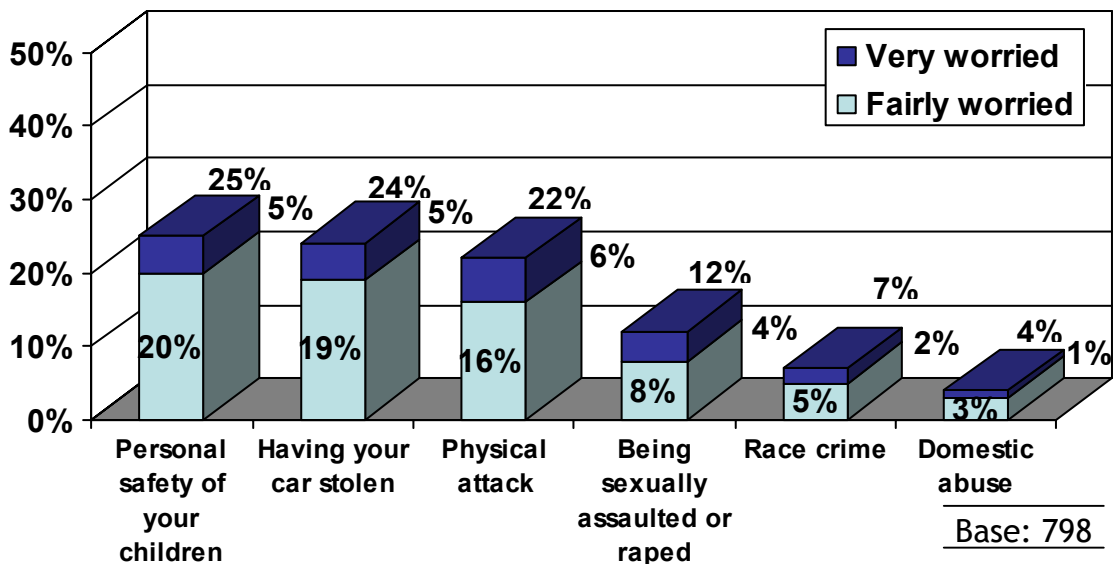


Figure 2.2(b): How worried are you about the following?



2.5 There are again, some slight geographical and demographic variations which are detailed fully in the appendices.

Taking non-car related crimes against property as an example:

- People in the 25-34 age group (41%) and the 35-44 age group (43%) are most likely to say they are worried.
- The same is true of:
 - Cowal residents (42% say they are worried)
 - Helensburgh and Lomond residents (49% worried)
 - People from the SIP Panel (44% worried).

Personal safety of vulnerable groups is another example. Again, people in Helensburgh (43%) and from the former SIP Panel (47%) are most likely to express concerns although this worry is generally held across all sections of the population.

Some issues (such as “being sexually assaulted or raped”) are quite specific to women. In this case, 18% of women actually express a worry.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PROBLEMS

2.6 Figures 2.3(a), (b) and (c) illustrate the extent to which a number of issues are seen as neighbourhood problems. Respondents had the option to describe something as “not a problem”, “a minor problem” or “a serious problem”. It is noticeable that the two stand out issues relate to aspects of anti-social behaviour which could be described as “low-level, but persistent”.

Figure 2.3(a): To what extent do you think the following are problems in your neighbourhood?

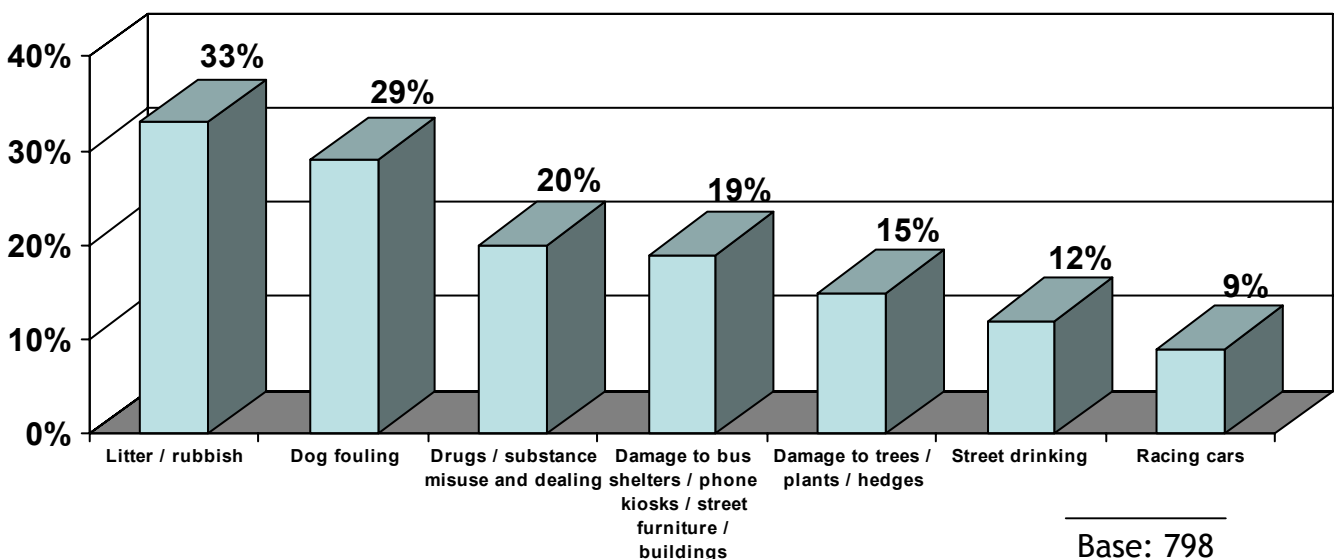


Figure 2.3(b): To what extent do you think the following are problems in your neighbourhood?

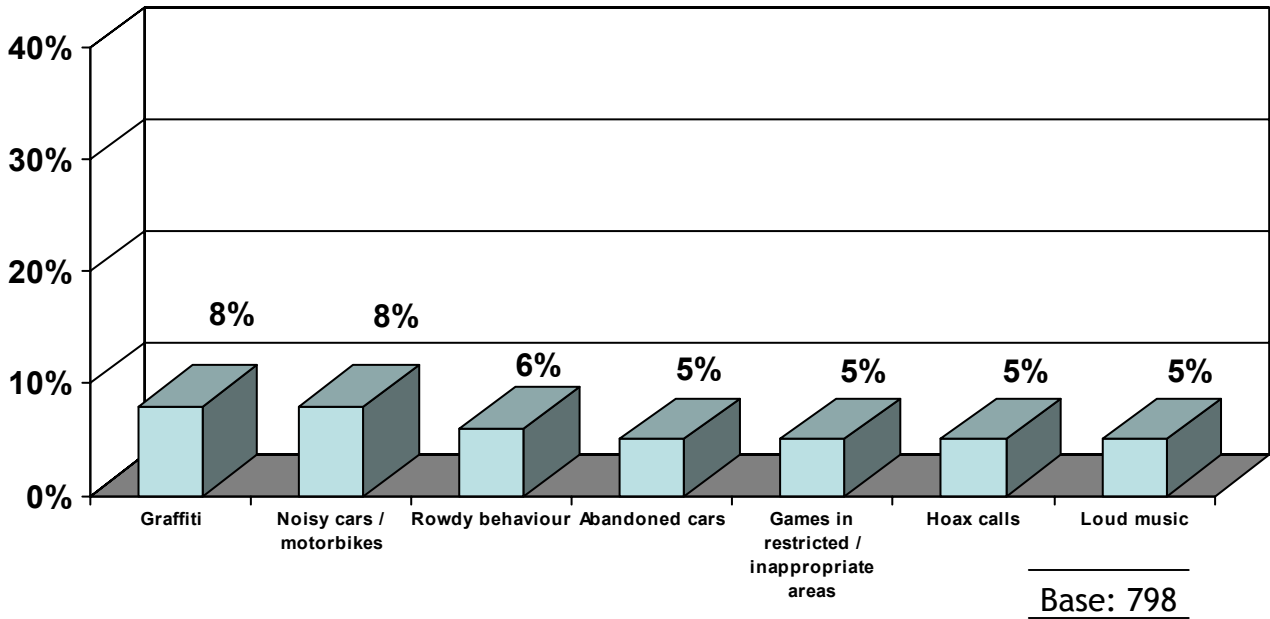
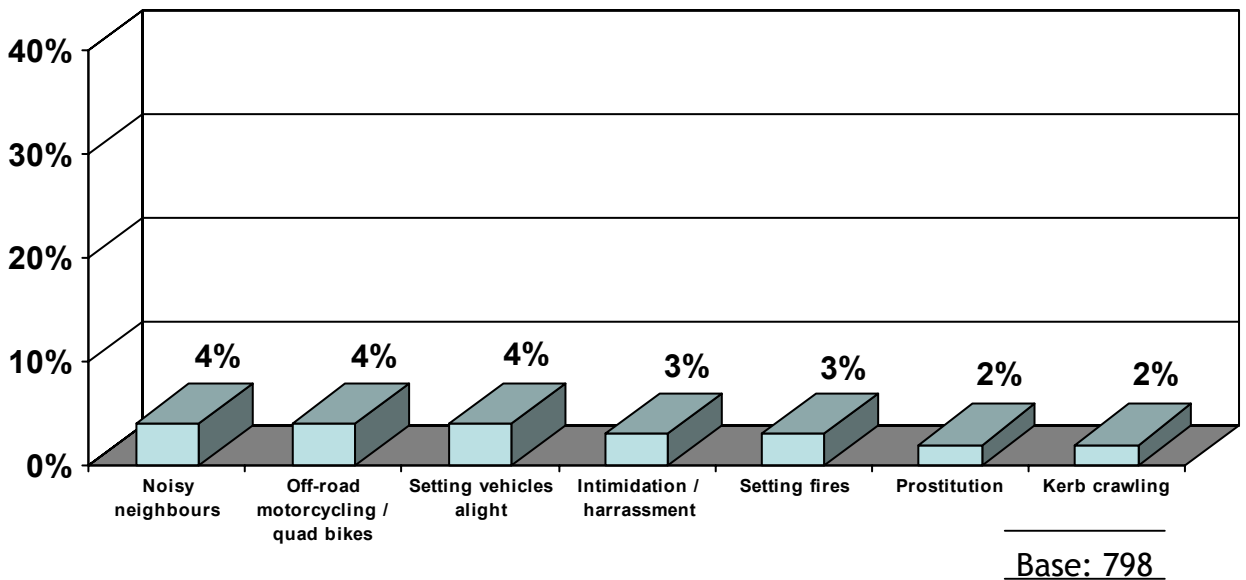


Figure 2.3(c): To what extent do you think the following are problems in your neighbourhood?



2.7 Taking the issue of litter and rubbish as an example, people in Council housing (45%) and former SIP People’s Panel members (49%) are most likely to see this as a serious problem.

Dog fouling is also most likely to be seen as a serious problem amongst Council tenants (47%) and amongst former SIP Panel members (45%), but is widely held to be a problem across Argyll and Bute.

Substance use is the most prevalent of what might be considered to be higher levels of anti-social behaviour. Again, it is far more likely to be seen as a problem amongst people from the former SIP People's Panel (49% of those respondents saw it as a "serious problem" compared to 20% of the sample as a whole).

2.8 Levels of reporting of such activity is low. For example:

- Only 10% say they have ever reported rowdy behaviour
- 9% have reported dog fouling
- 9% have reported litter/rubbish
- 4% have reported drugs/substance misuse and dealing.

2.9 Table 2.1 below illustrates the prevalence of a range of home security devices amongst respondents.

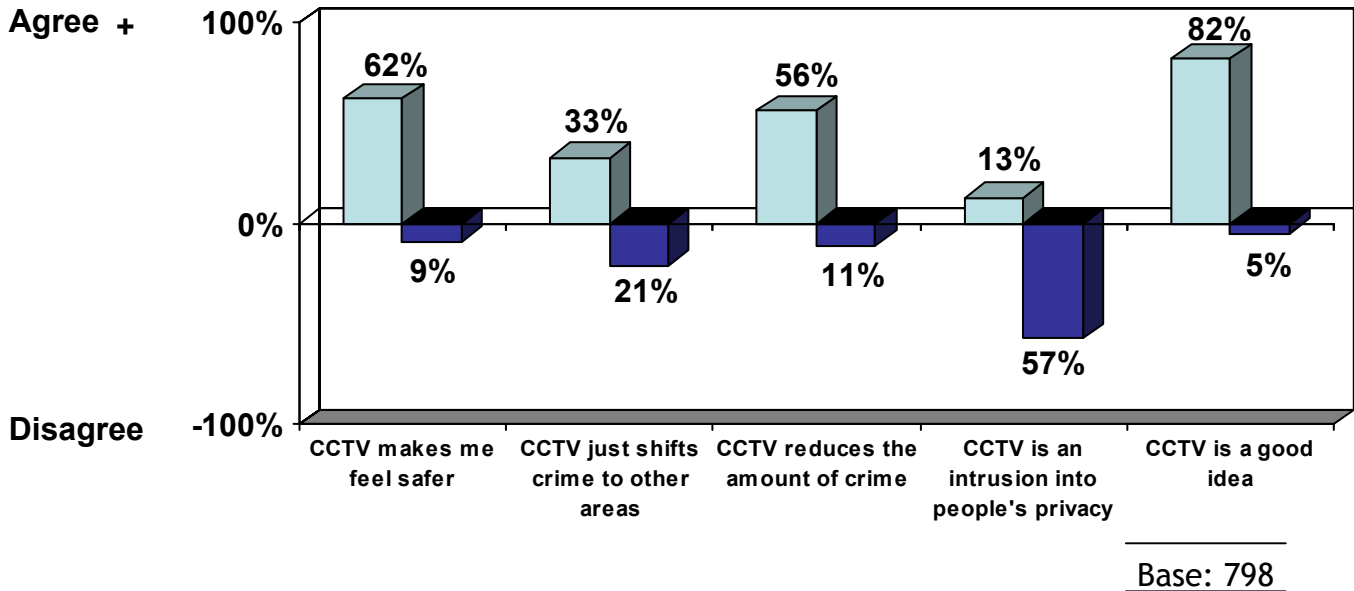
Item	Base of Respondents	% having that feature
Door entry system (if you live in a flat)	256	25%
Main doors with 5-lever lock	798	56%
Window locks	798	76%
Burglar alarm	798	15%
Smoke alarm	798	89%
Lockable cupboard	798	16%

The areas which may give some cause for concern relate to home security (particularly for people in flats).

CCTV

2.10 The survey explored a range of issues relating to CCTV which are summarised in Figure 2.4 below (figures do not add to 100 as people could provide a neutral response).

Figure 2.4: Attitudes to CCTV



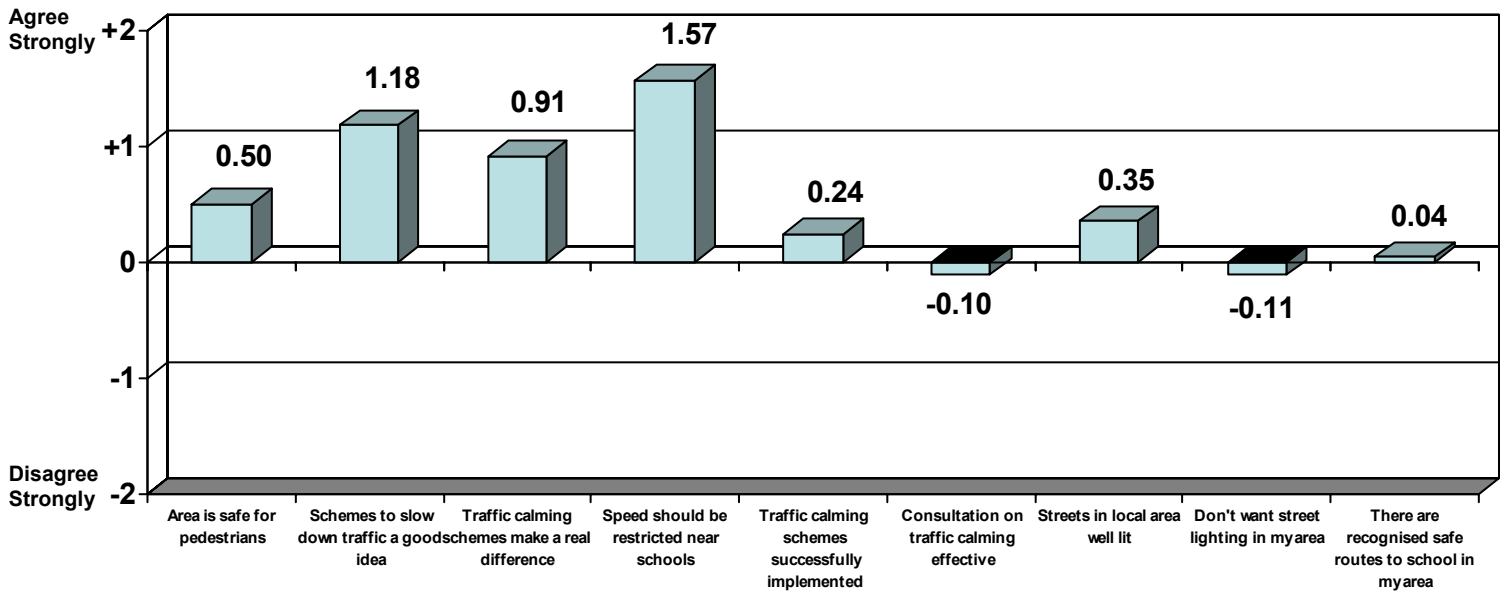
These figures demonstrate:

- Some belief that CCTV has a displacement effect in terms of crime.
- A belief, however, that it still reduces the overall amount of crime.
- A belief that it makes people feel safer.
- Little concern with respect to issues of privacy.
- A strong overall endorsement, in principle, of CCTV.

ROAD SAFETY

2.11 Figure 2.5 sets out the level of agreement with a number of issues relating to road safety within Argyll and Bute. A rating of “slightly agree” is accorded a score of +2, a rating of “agree” a score of +1 and so on, in order to arrive at these mean ratings.

Figure 2.5: Road Safety Issues



Base: 798

2.12 The figures in 2.5 represent a strong endorsement in principle of traffic calming schemes, particularly near schools. There are, however, more mixed views as to whether such schemes have been implemented successfully and a significant minority of people (the figure is actually 23%) do not believe that their area is safe for pedestrians.

2.13 In relation to the statement “I do not want street lighting in my community” the overall disagreement with this statement masks major geographical differences. People in most of the islands and rural settlements were more likely to agree with this statement:

- In Islay, Jura, Colonsay and Gigha 55% agree and 24% disagree
- In Lorn 33% agreed, 18% disagreed
- In Mull, Coll, Tiree and Lismore 30% agreed, 26% disagreed.

In other words, the majority of people in these communities do not want street lighting.

Key Findings

- Most people in Argyll and Bute feel safe in their own home and in the community; a minority feel unsafe alone after dark, particularly in Helensburgh and Lomond and the SIP areas.
- The most common concerns over crime relate to crimes against property.
- Low-level, but persistent problems of anti-social behaviour such as littering and dog fouling are seen as serious problems.
- Substance use is also seen as a serious problem, particularly in the SIP areas.
- Levels of reporting of these problems is low.
- There is strong support for CCTV.
- Some concerns over home security are apparent, particularly for people living in flats.
- Strong support is evident for traffic calming measures but there is scepticism as to whether these have been implemented successfully.

3.0 YOUR HEALTH IN THE COMMUNITY

INTRODUCTION

3.1 Four broad issues were discussed under this overall theme:

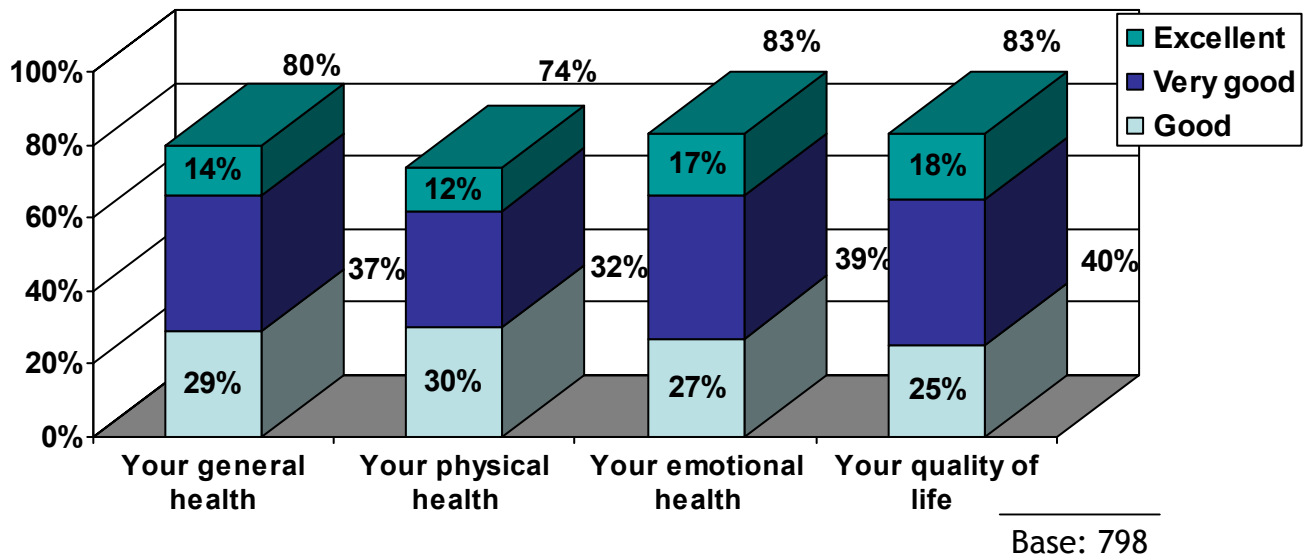
- Perceptions of health and well-being
- Sports and recreational facilities
- Health services
- Housing.

They are discussed in turn below.

PERCEPTIONS OF HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

3.2 Based in a five point scale from “excellent” to “very poor” most respondents rate aspects of their health and well-being in the top three categories:

Figure 3.1: Perceptions of Health and Well-being



These figures can be compared to a similar question which was asked of Citizens' Panel member in 2003:

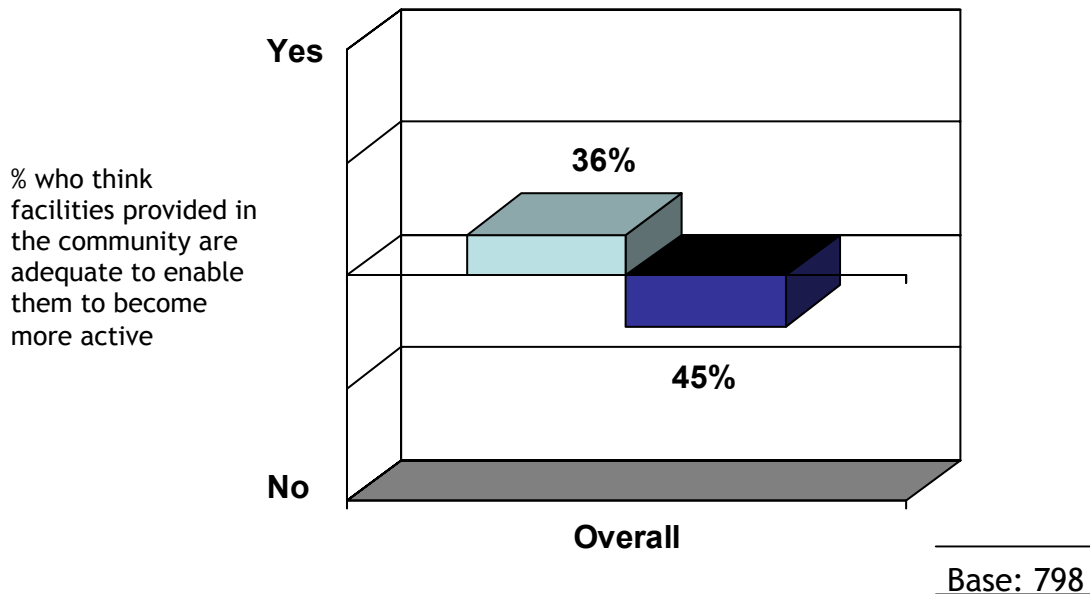
	% rating as excellent, very good or good	
	2003	2005
Your general health	n/a	80%
Your physical health	65%	74%
Your emotional health	76%	83%
Your quality of life	73%	83%

Notable improvements, especially in terms of physical health, are apparent since 2003.

SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

- 3.3 Figure 3.2 suggests that a generally negative view of the availability of sports/recreational facilities is apparent (neutral responses were also allowed for this question).

Figure 3.2: Sports and Recreational Facilities



People in Helensburgh are particularly negative (56%).

HEALTH SERVICES

3.4 Attitudes to a range of issues relating to the provision of health services with Argyll and Bute are summarised in Figures 3.3(a) and (b) below.

Figure 3.3(a): Satisfaction with Health Services

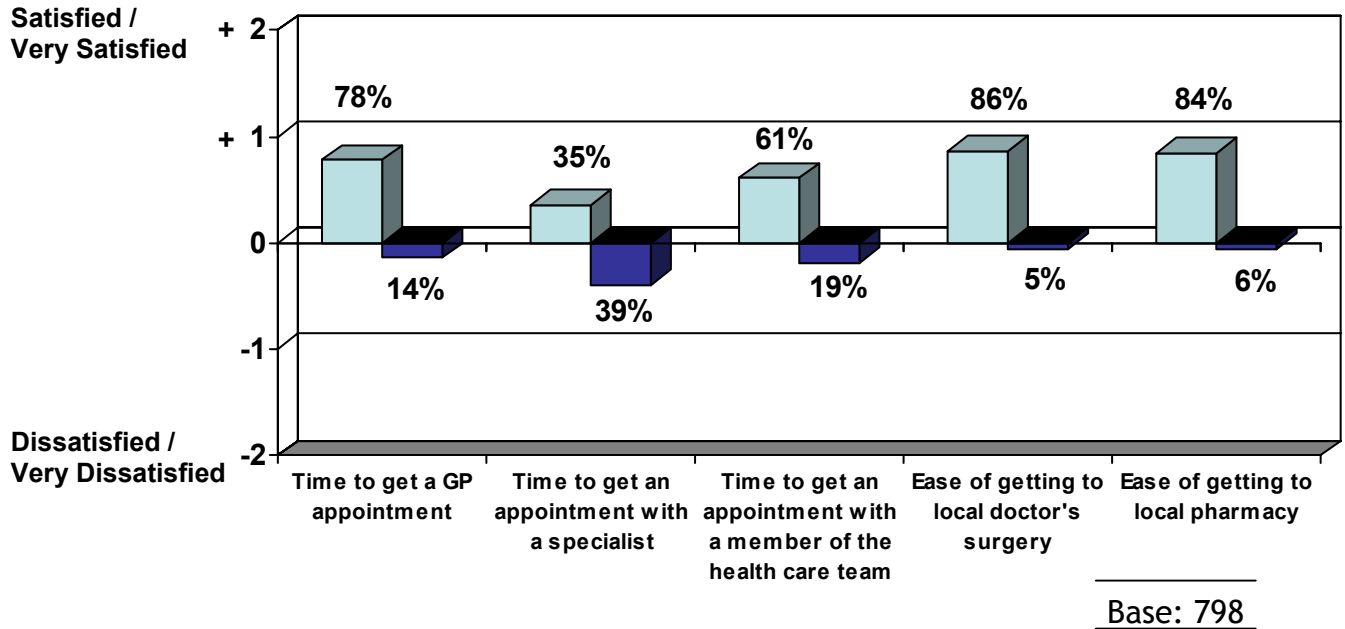
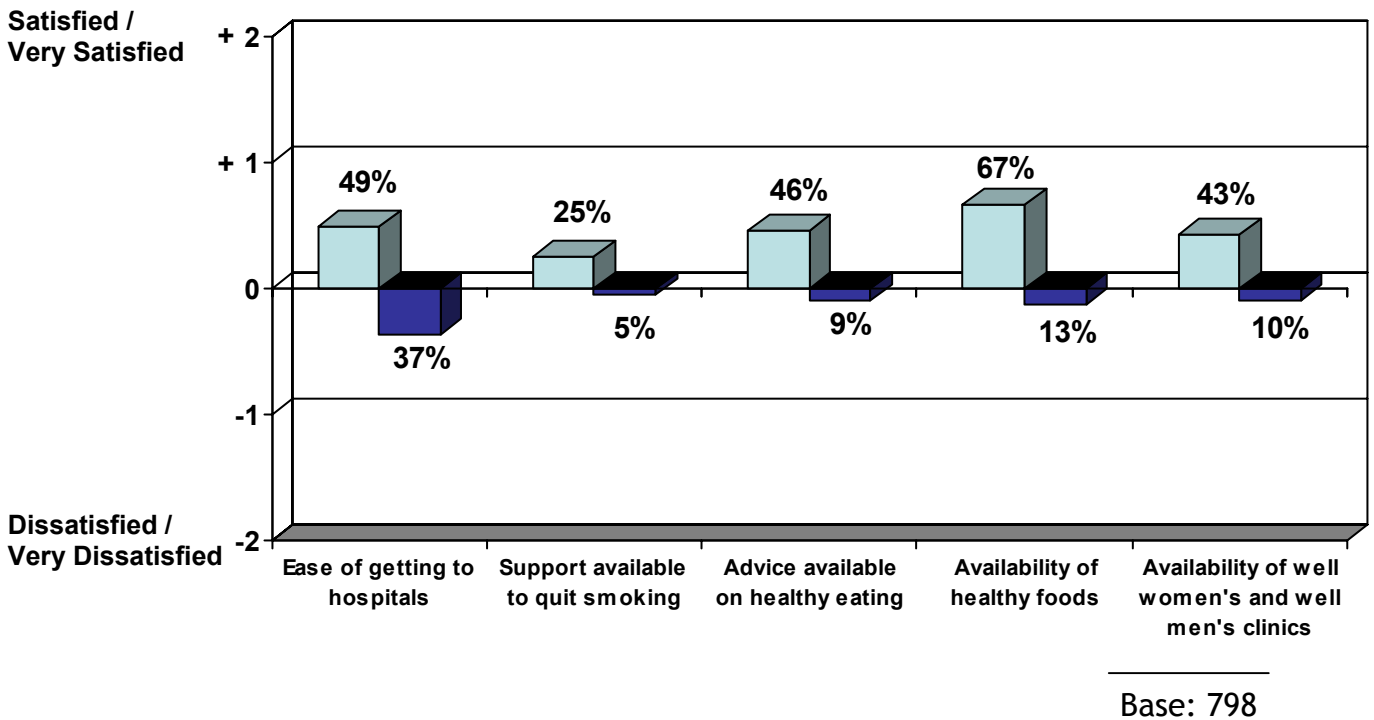


Figure 3.3(b): Satisfaction with Health Services



Generally positive views are evident with regard to:

- The time taken to get a GP appointment.
- Time to get an appointment with a member of the health care team (like a practice nurse or physiotherapist).
- Ease of getting to local doctors' surgeries and pharmacies.
- Availability of healthy foods.

More lukewarm responses are evident with respect to the following (although there is quite a high neutral or "don't know" response in each case):

- Support available to quit smoking
- Advice on healthy eating
- Availability of well women's and well men's clinics.

However, the two areas where significant dissatisfaction is recorded are:

- Time to get an appointment with a specialist.
- Ease of getting to hospitals.

3.5 Some groups are particularly dissatisfied with the time taken to get an appointment with a specialist:

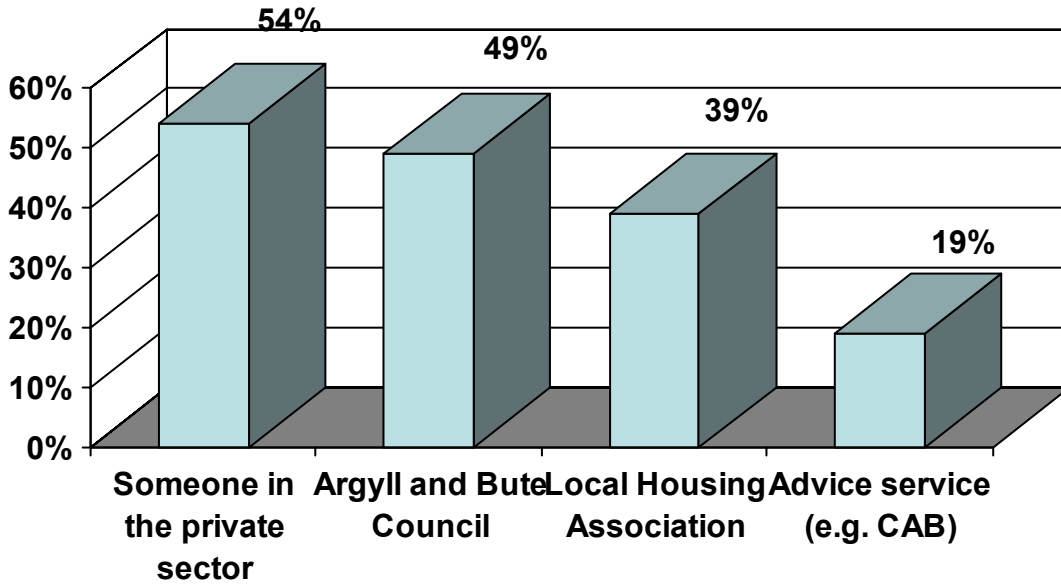
- People in Cowal (47% dissatisfied)
- People from the former SIP People's Panel (45% dissatisfied).

Ease of getting to hospitals was rated particularly poorly in Helensburgh and Lomond (only 16% were satisfied compared to 73% who were dissatisfied). People in the island communities were no more likely to express dissatisfaction than the community as a whole. This may be a function of expectations, based on the lifestyle choices people had made. This is reflected in the ratings for ease of access to hospitals being broadly similar for people with cars and those without.

HOUSING

3.6 Housing was recognised as an important element of people’s health and well-being. The sources of information which people would use with respect to their housing choices are illustrated below:

Figure 3.4: Were you wanting more information about housing choices, where would you go?

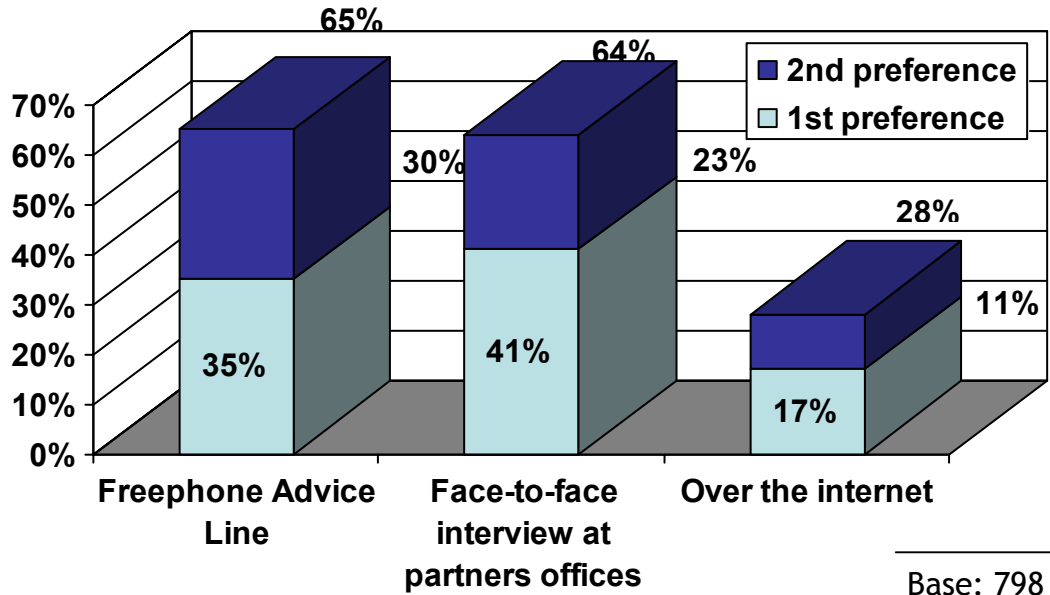


Base: 798

Unsurprisingly, people who rent currently from the Council are most likely to see the Council as their source of information (64%).

3.7 Respondents were also asked to comment on their preferences for accessing a Housing Information Service. As illustrated below, there is a strong demand for both telephone and face-to-face contact, but more limited demand for online delivery of such a service.

Figure 3.5: What would be your preferred method of accessing a Housing Information service?



However, younger age groups were slightly more likely to express a preference for using the internet. For example, 34% of 25-34 years olds placed it in their top two priorities and 23% rate the internet as their first preference for service delivery.

Key Findings

- People in Argyll and Bute generally rate the various aspects of their health and well-being fairly positively. There are indications of improving health.
- There is a negative view of the availability of sports and recreational facilities.
- Concerns are evident with regard to the time taken to get an appointment with a specialist and ease of getting to hospitals.
- The preferred methods of service delivery for a Housing Information Service would be a combination of telephone and face-to-face service provision; young people would be slightly more likely than others to use the internet.

4.0 VOLUNTEERING

INTRODUCTION

4.1 The survey sought to gather information about the extent and nature of volunteering in local communities and what could be done to encourage volunteering. The subject was addressed under four broad headings:

- Volunteering behaviour
- Attitudes to volunteering
- Time banking
- Interest in volunteering activities.

VOLUNTEERING BEHAVIOUR

4.2 A high proportion of the sample (56%) said that they had given up time in the last twelve months to help clubs, charities, campaigns or organisations, in an unpaid capacity. Volunteering was spread across the age groups, geographic areas and other demographic criteria but was less evident amongst members of the former SIP People's Panel (38% had volunteered).

A full listing of the examples given by respondents is set out on the appendices, but typical examples included:

"McMillan cancer relief committee member - raise money. Christian aid - fund raising, sponsored walk for cancer. Tsunami appeal"

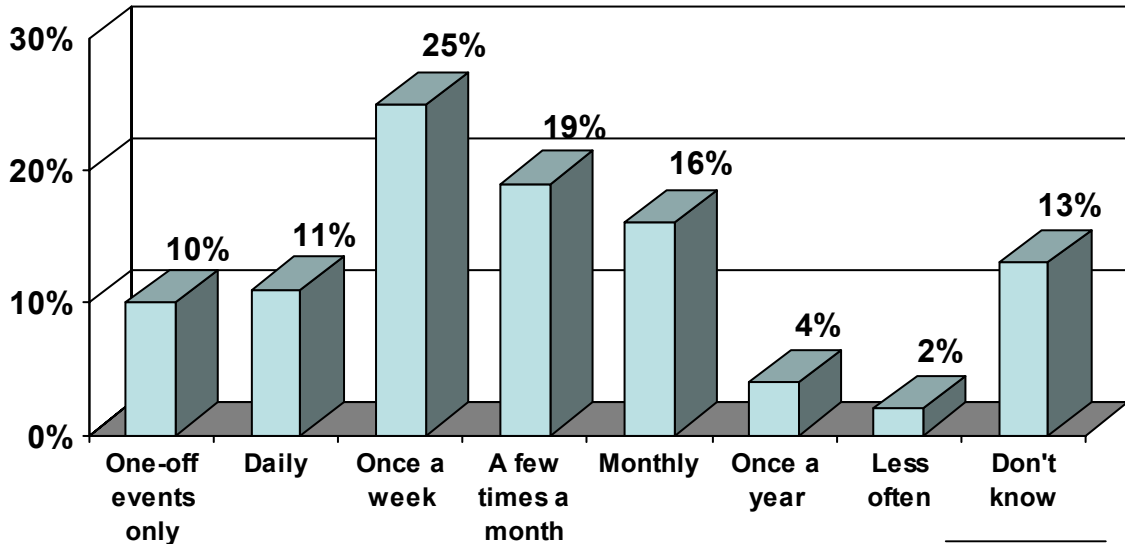
"Coaching shinty - organise, coach one hour sessions to primary school age children at my local primary school where my own children are at school"

"Youth work - Sunday school, youth club, beavers, community council member, school board, church board, kirk session, social committee, community first responders"

"Scouts group Treasurer, swimming instructor, church/Christian aid committee member, neighbourhood watch co-ordinator".

4.3 Figure 4.1 summarises the frequency with which people undertake this voluntary work. Clearly, for those who do undertake such work there are varying levels of time commitment, but these can sometimes be very significant (36% claim to undertake such work at least weekly).

Figure 4.1: Frequency of voluntary work

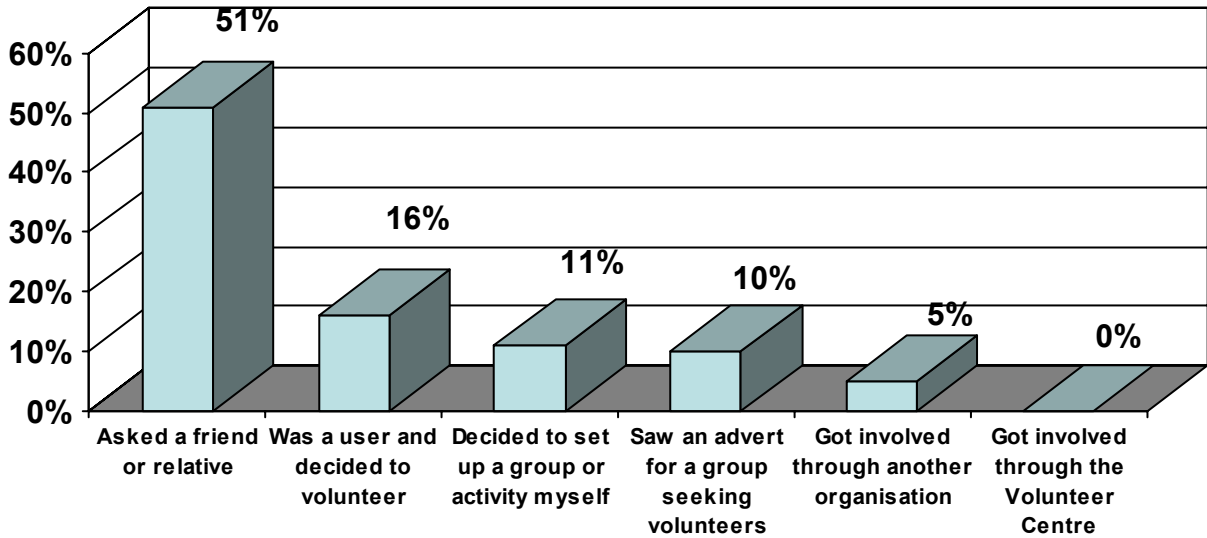


Base: 445

4.4 332 respondents quoted a number of hours which they had given up as a volunteer in the past month. The average figure was 18 hours equating to a total of 216 hours per year per volunteer. The aggregate economic value of such "labour" assuming a nominal value of the national minimum wage of £4.50 is very significant at £972 per volunteer. The average value, taking account of the 44% who do not do any such work would be £428. Extrapolating this to the overall adult population of Argyll and Bute (91,390) one can estimate an aggregate nominal economic value of this volunteering effort at over £39m.

4.5 By far and away the most common method by which people are attracted to volunteering is by invitation from a friend or relative.

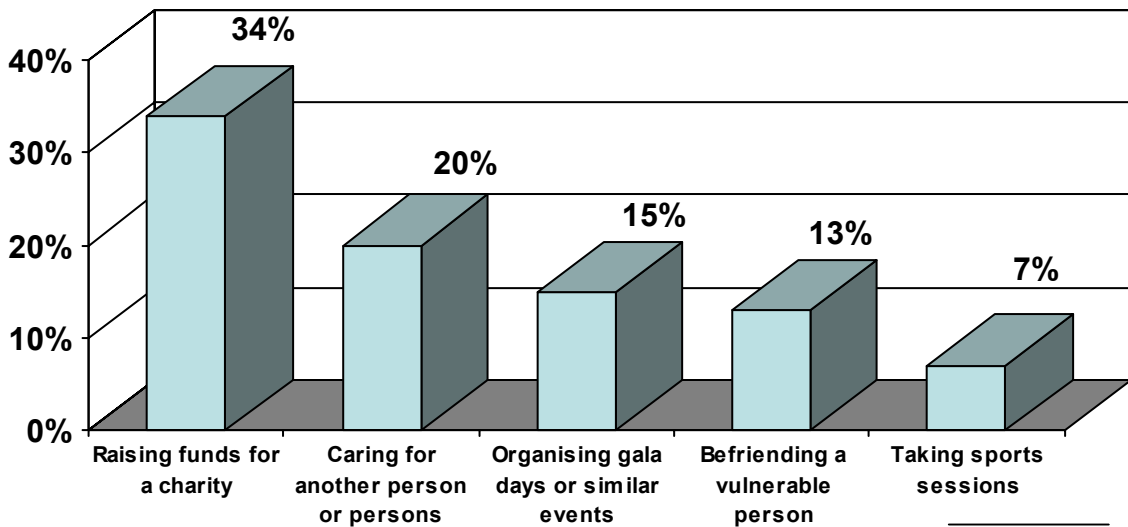
Figure 4.2: How did you first get involved in this volunteering activity?



Base: 445

4.6 There is also evidence of a reasonable level of informal volunteering taking place within Argyll and Bute:

Figure 4.3: Informal Volunteering

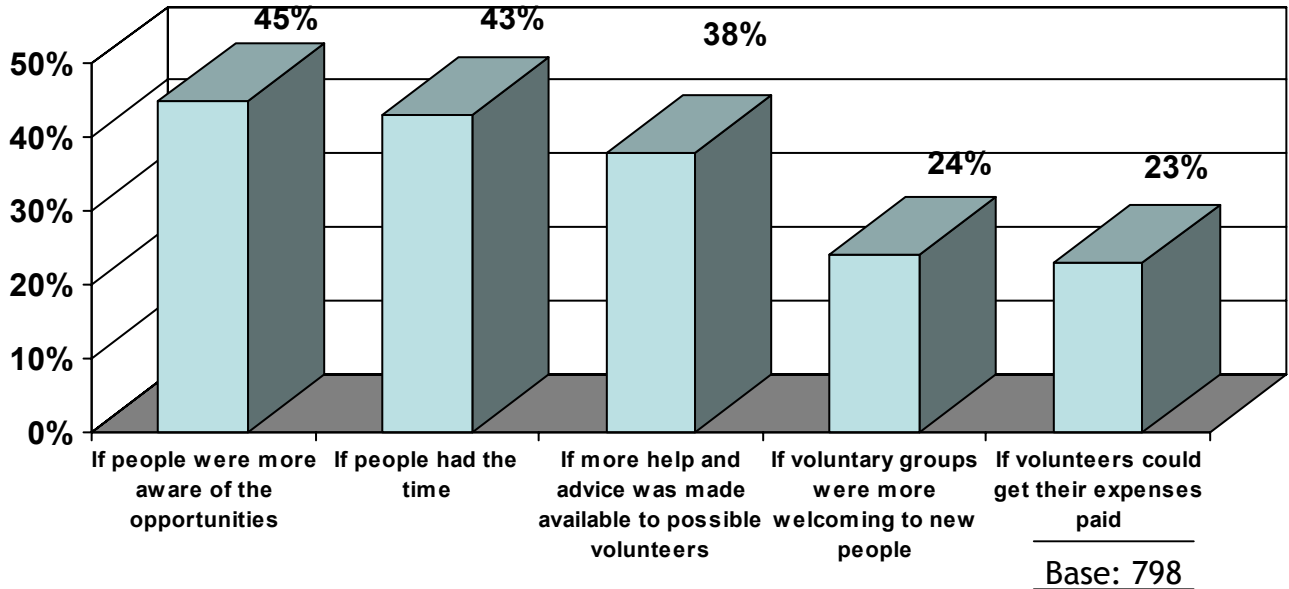


Base: 798

Again, volunteers are to be found across all demographic criteria.

4.7 There is no single thing which would encourage more people to get involved in volunteering. Improved awareness and better help and advice could make a contribution, although people’s lack of time does remain a significant barrier.

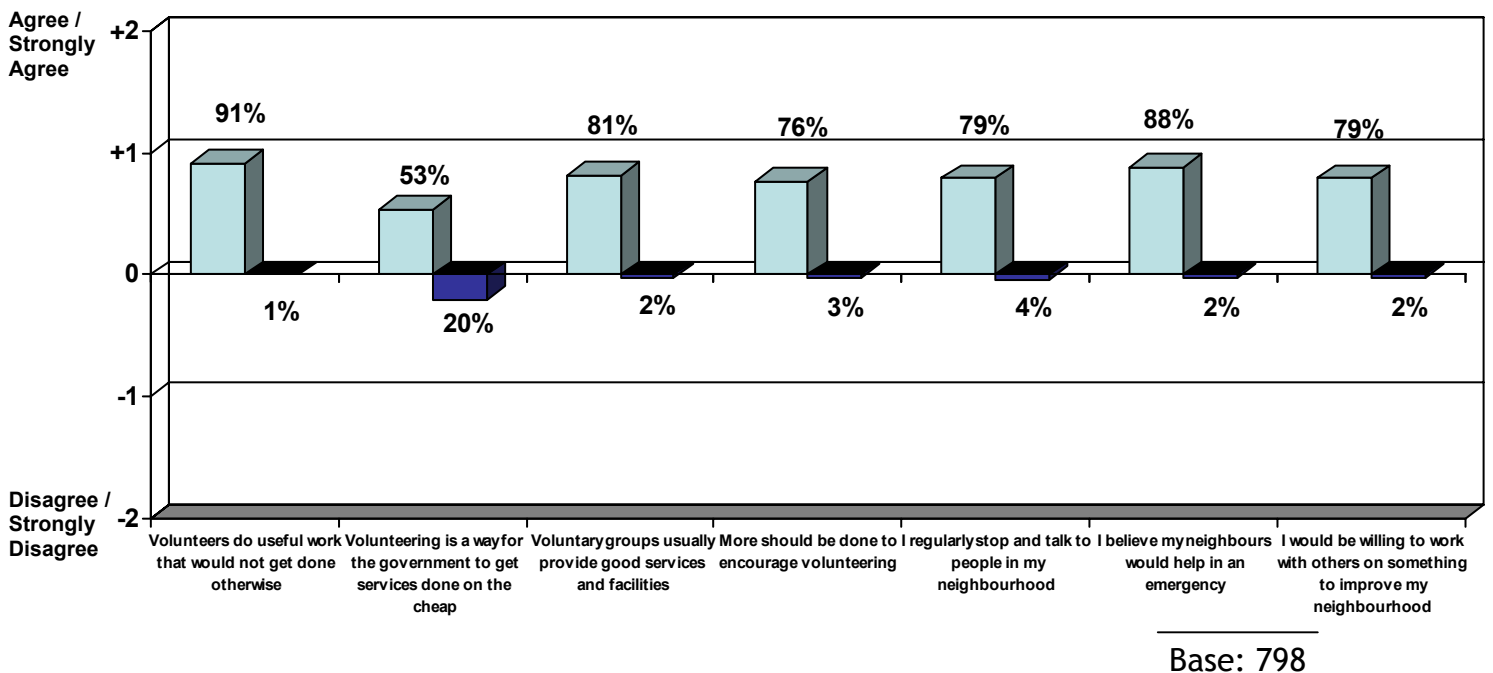
Figure 4.4: Which of the following do you think would encourage more people to get involved in volunteering?



ATTITUDES TO VOLUNTEERING

4.8 Responses to a range of attitudinal statements on volunteering are illustrated below:

Figure 4.5: Attitudes to Volunteering



The following broad conclusions can be drawn from this:

- Volunteering is seen as “additional”; it get thing done that would not get done otherwise.
- People believe that the voluntary sector generally provides good services.
- There is a perception that volunteering helps the government to “get things done on the cheap”.
- Despite this, people believe that more should be done to encourage volunteering.

4.9 Figure 4.5 also provides evidence of strong neighbourly values being evident within Argyll and Bute:

- People regularly stop and talk to their neighbours.
- People feel their neighbours would help in an emergency.
- People would be willing to work with others to improve their neighbourhood.

This sense of neighbourliness is fairly spread across all of the geographical communities, including the SIP areas.

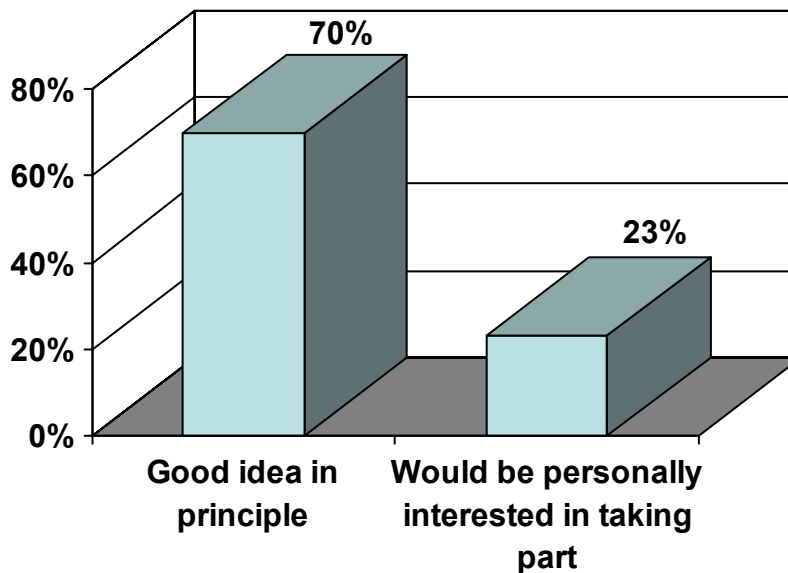
TIME BANKING

4.10 “Time banking” was described thus to respondents:

“Time banking is a way to encourage self help and enable local people to assist each other in remote communities where access to services is difficult. People register to provide certain services on a voluntary basis and can “bank” this time and use the services of another volunteer. For example, someone might offer to cook meals for a neighbour and, in return, get some work done around the home by another volunteer”.

In general, time banking is perceived to be a good idea in principle and, whilst only a minority say they would be willing to take part, at 23% this is still a significant proportion.

Figure 4.6: Time Banking



Base: 798

These groups who would be most willing to take part include:

- People aged 25-34 (28%) and those aged 35-44 (31%)
- People in Islay, Jura, Colonsay (31%)
- People in Lorn (28%)
- People who are unemployed (33%) or who are employed part-time (32%)
- People from the former SIP People's Panel (28%).

4.11 The range of services which people would like to see provided as part of time banking are detailed in the appendices but typical examples included:

"Childcare"

"Housework"

"Cooking, housework, gardening, shopping and decorating"

"Shopping, transport"

"Baby sitting, gardening"

“Care of elderly”

“DIY”.

4.12 From the other angle, the typical services which people said they would be willing to provide included:

“DIY assistance, painting, gardening, paperwork, letter writing, errands”

“Childcare, home help, cooking”

“General help, driving, gardening, cleaning up most things”

“Befriending, tutoring, basic literary skills”

“Sitting with old and infirm people to give carers a rest”

“Ironing service, making meals”.

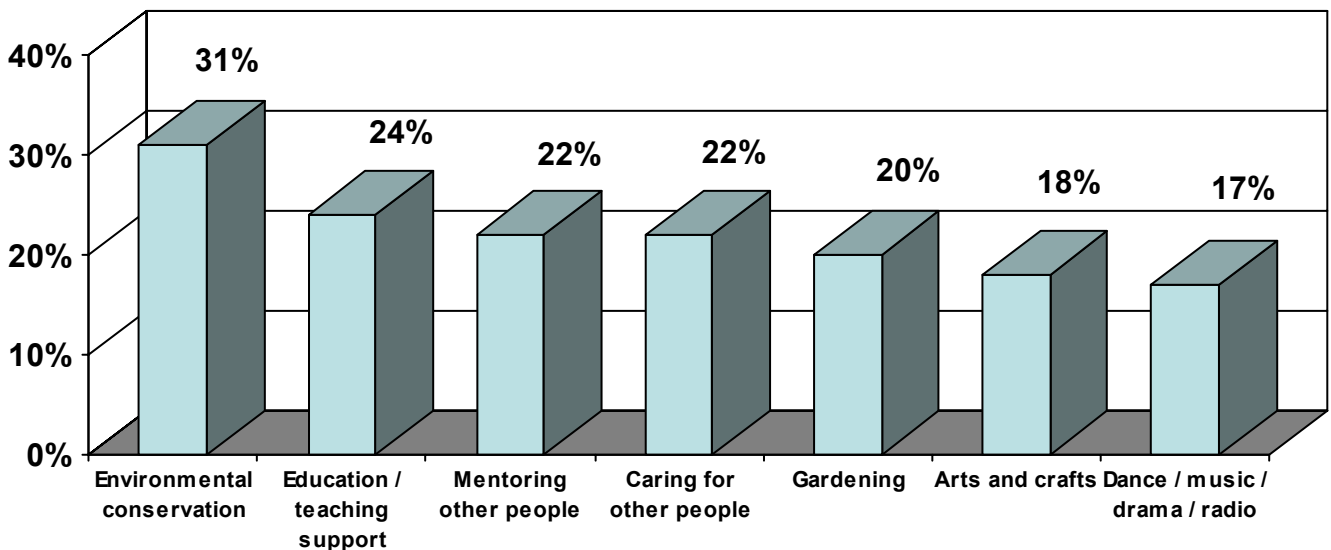
There appears to be a generally good fit between the potential supply and demand of services in relation to time banking.

These responses are, once again, detailed in Appendix 2.

INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES

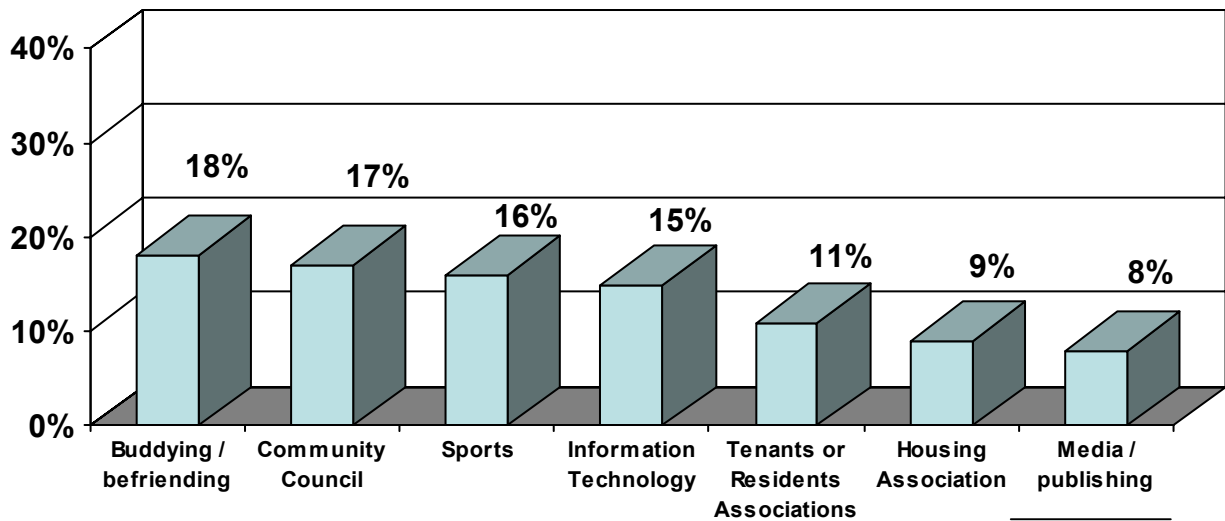
4.13 Levels of interest in a range of volunteering activities are summarised in Figure 4.7(a) and (b) below. The figures illustrate a broad range of potential interests, although the most common themes relate to environmental conservation and caring for others.

Figure 4.7(a): Interest in Volunteering Activities



Base: 798

Figure 4.7(b): Interest in Volunteering Activities



 Base: 798

Key Findings

- A high proportion of residents are engaged in volunteering.
- Their time commitment to this is significant and has a substantial nominal economic value.
- People are encouraged into volunteering by friends or relatives.
- Improved awareness and better help and advice could help to encourage more volunteering but people's lack of time remains a significant barrier.
- The public is very positive about the quality of services delivered by the voluntary sector.
- There is a strong sense of good neighbourliness within Argyll and Bute.
- Time Banking is perceived to be a good idea and there is a reasonable level of interest in participating.
- The most common aspects of volunteering in which people are interested relate to environmental conservation and caring for others.

5.0 EQUALITIES

INTRODUCTION

5.1 The final element of the survey addressed attitudes to a range of “equalities” issues, taking its lead from the Community Planning Partnership’s desire to ensure that all people in Argyll and Bute are treated equally and have equal opportunities to take part in community life. This part of the survey had three elements:

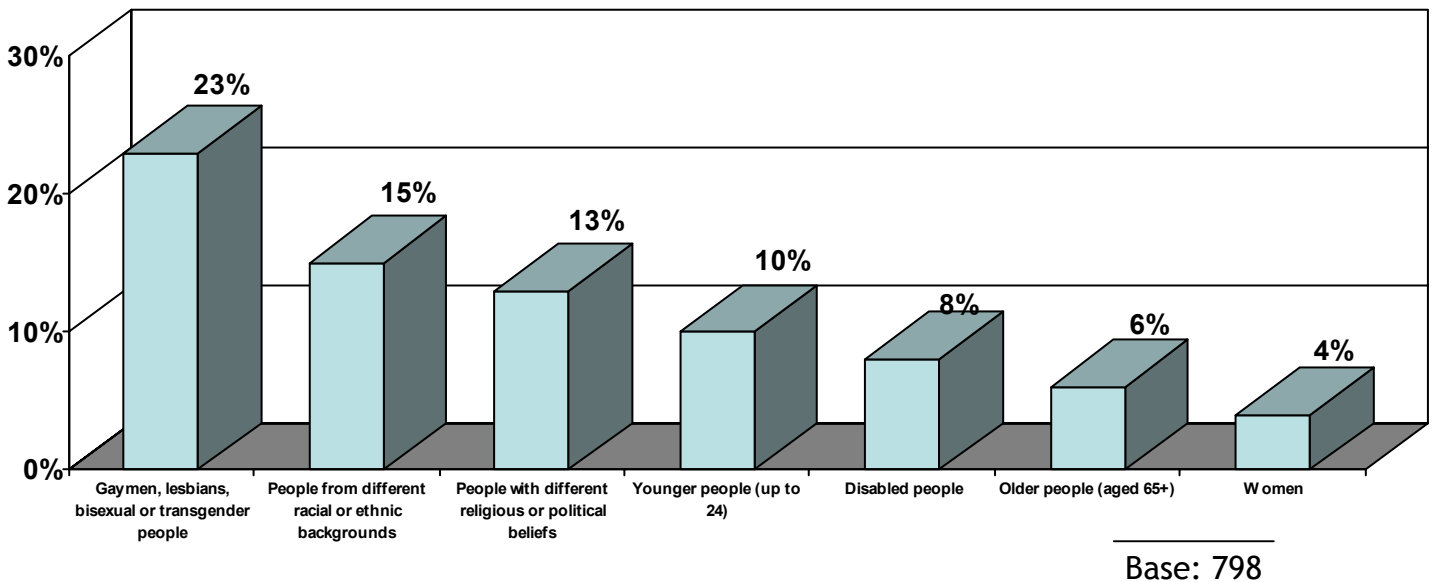
- Perceived prejudice
- Perception of equal opportunity attempts
- Experiences of discrimination.

These are discussed in turn below.

PERCEIVED PREJUDICE

5.2 Respondents were asked about the extent of prejudice which they believed to be faced by a range of groups within Argyll and Bute. The options were: “no prejudice at all”, “a little prejudice” and “quite a lot of prejudice”. Figure 5.1 illustrates the proportion who believe that particular groups face “quite a lot of prejudice”.

Figure 5.1: Perceived Prejudice



Typically, fairly similar views are held within different areas and across a range of demographic criteria. Women are no more likely than men to perceive that there is prejudice against women and people with a disability were no more likely to perceive there to be discrimination against people with disabilities.

PERCEPTION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ATTEMPTS

- 5.3 Respondents were then asked whether they felt that attempts to give “equal opportunities” to a number of groups had been “about right”, whether these had “gone too far” or had “not gone far enough”. “People living far away from population centres” were added into this analysis as it was perceived that rurality and peripherality could limit the opportunities available to some people.

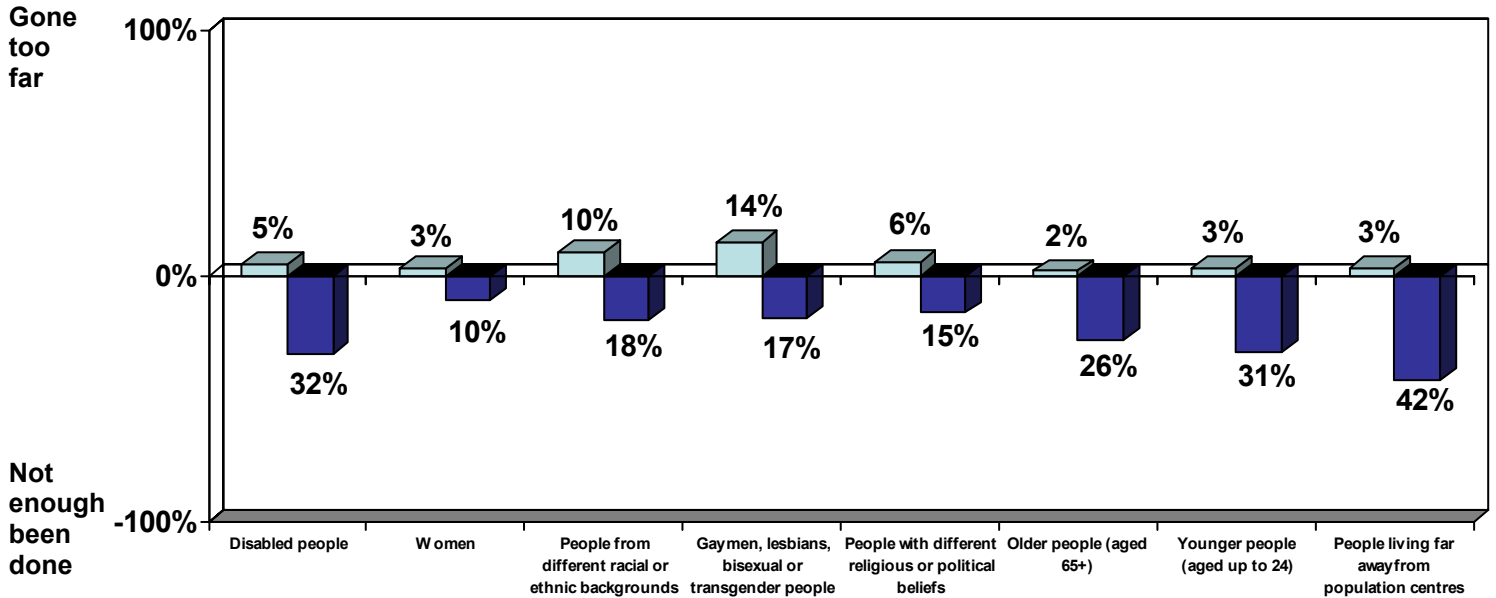
The proportions of people who considered such attempts to be “about right” were as follows:

Group	% who believe equal opportunity attempts to have been “about right”
Disabled people	52%
Women	72%
People from different racial or ethnic backgrounds	57%
Gay men, lesbians, bisexual or transgender people	52%
People with different religions or political beliefs	64%
Older people (aged 65+)	59%
Younger people (aged up to 24)	50%
People living far away from population centres	37%

In most cases, people consider the attempts made to have been “about right”.

5.4 Figure 5.2 below illustrates the views of those people who felt that such attempts had either gone too far or that not enough had been done.

Figure 5.2: Perception of Equal Opportunity Attempts



Base: 798

Only in two cases do even a significant minority feel that efforts have gone too far (the two cases relate to race/ethnicity and sexuality). Even in these instances, more people believe that not enough has been done to promote equal opportunities for these groups than believe the efforts have gone too far.

Again, these views are fairly generally held and distinctions across geographical areas and other criteria are fairly modest.

5.5 In some cases, a fairly significant proportion of respondents do not feel that equal opportunity efforts have gone far enough. This is in relation to:

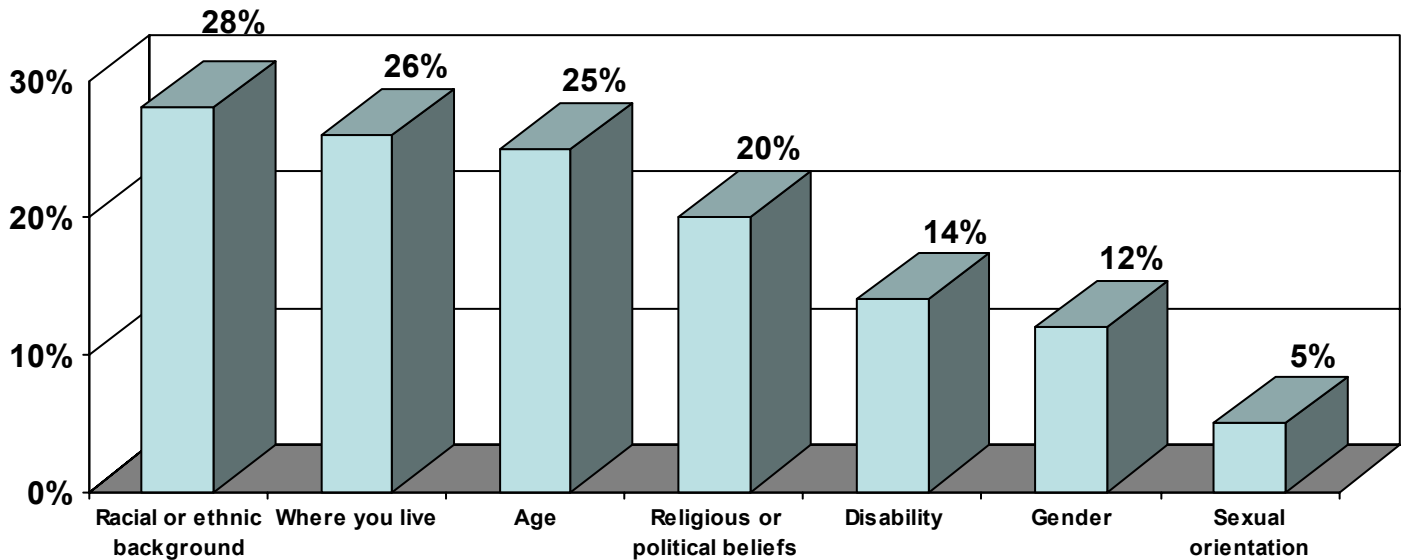
- People living far away from population centres
- Disabled people
- Younger people (aged up to 24)
- Older people (aged 65+).

Interestingly, people across all geographical areas are quite likely to perceive that not enough has been done for people living far away from population centres; this view is not limited, for example, to people from the islands or other rural communities.

EXPERIENCES OF DISCRIMINATION

5.6 17% of the sample (133 people) said that they personally had experienced discrimination. The grounds cited for this discrimination were as follows:

Figure 5.3: Experiences of Discrimination



Base: 133

Clearly, quite a range of instances are evident. There are few statistically significant variations in terms of people having experienced discrimination. People with disabilities are slightly more likely to have experienced discrimination, but the level reported is 19% compared to 17% overall. Men and women are equally likely to say they have faced discrimination. People from Cowal are slightly more likely to say they have experienced discrimination (27%).

5.7 The examples of discrimination experienced are listed in Appendix 2, but typical examples included the following:

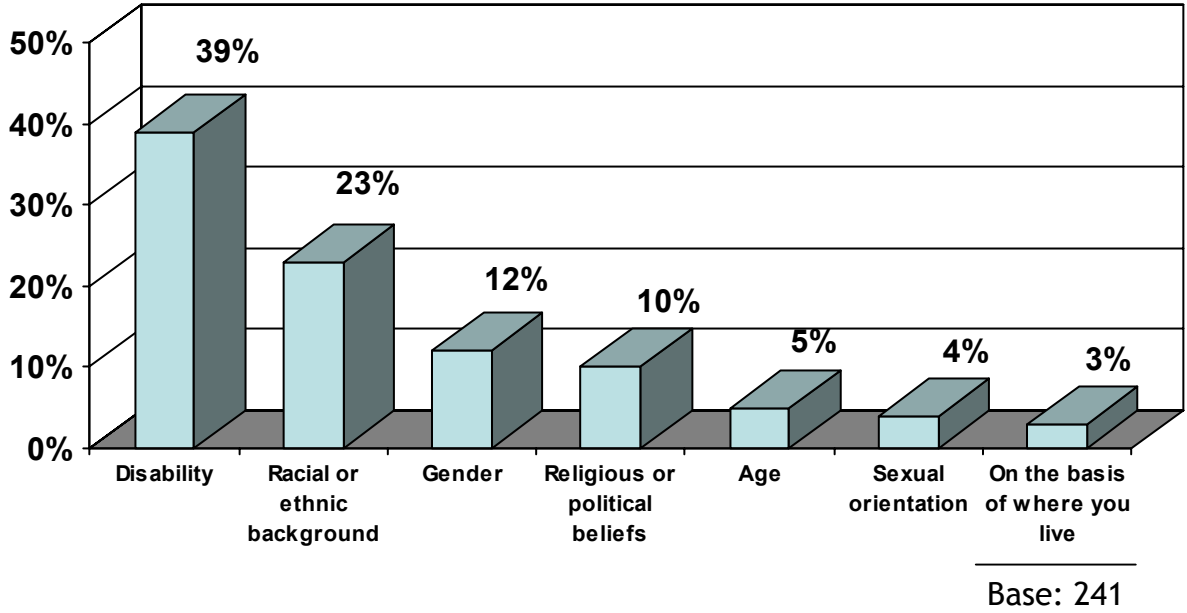
“Abuse/comments on English origins, job discrimination on age”

“There still exists a male culture, this is not something which exists only in Argyll and Bute which in many ways has less discrimination than some other areas. Nevertheless, this culture inhibits many women”

“Elements of anti-English (I am English, but it has very rarely been directed at me personally). There is still an element of anti-catholic by older people, not serious, just uncomfortable”.

5.8 A slightly higher proportion (30%, 241 people) said that they had witnessed discrimination. As noted in Figure 5.4 below, this was most commonly on the basis of disability or racial/ethnic background:

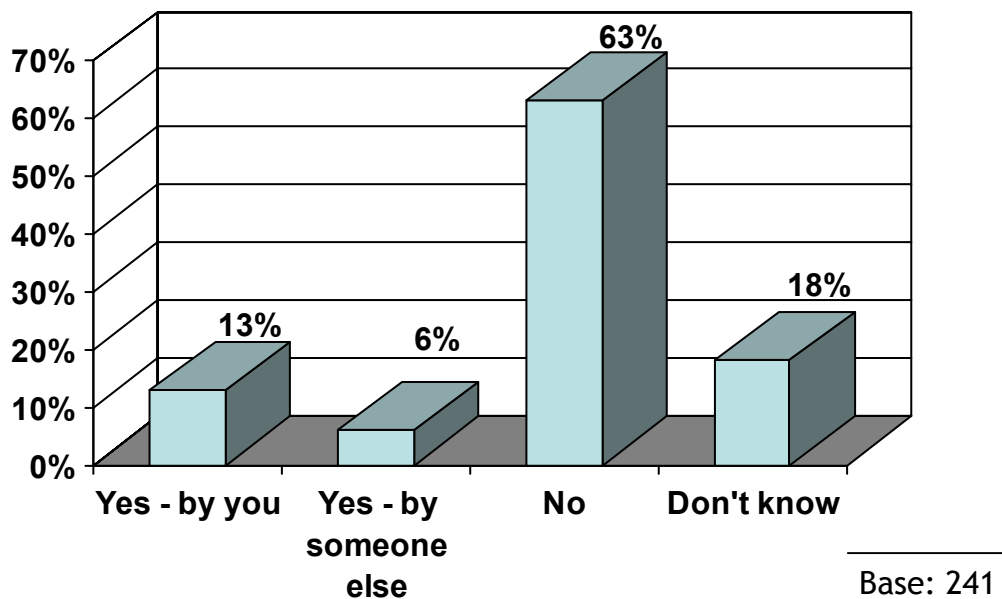
Figure 5.4: Witnessing Discrimination



Again, the geographical and demographic distinctions in terms of people having witnessed discrimination were fairly modest.

5.9 As illustrated in Figure 5.5 below, most instances of discrimination were not reported:

Figure 5.5: If you have witnessed or experienced discrimination, was the incident reported?



- 5.10 When incidences were reported, then this was most commonly to the Police, the Council and employers.

Key Findings

- There is perceived to be limited prejudice against particular groups in Argyll and Bute, but when this does occur, it is most likely to be on the basis of race/ethnicity or sexuality.
- In most cases, people feel that the level of equal opportunity attempts has been “about right”.
- Some people believe that equal opportunity attempts could go further particularly in relation to “people living far away from population centres”.
- Only a limited number of people have experienced or witnessed discrimination in Argyll and Bute and this does not vary significantly across geographical or demographic criteria.
- However, there is limited reporting of that discrimination which is experienced or witnessed.

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BUTE AND COWAL COMMUNITY PLANNING PILOT

REPORT TO CPP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Progress

Since the CPP meeting on 4 March 2005, there has been one meeting of each level of the Bute and Cowal Pilot.

A Level 1 meeting was held on 23rd March when the officers discussed the proposed agenda for the next Level 2 meeting, additional community representation from South Cowal, replacement community reps from Bute, youth representation at Level 2 and the identification of 2/3 common areas of priority throughout the Bute and Cowal area. The most recent Citizens' Panel response and a Community Questionnaire for Ardenslate and Milton ADG were to be circulated to Level 2 Members to facilitate this task.

Prior to the Level 2 meeting I met or spoke to the 3 remaining community representatives to run through and discuss the agenda business for the meeting.

The Level 2 meeting on 1st April was attended by all community representatives (3) and all bar one of the strategic representatives, an apology being tendered from Caledonian MacBrayne. The issues on the Level 2 Agenda (Copy attached) were comprehensively discussed with agreement on the following:

Agenda Item 4:

- Community Reps from South Cowal to follow the appointment of a CVS support officer
- 2 Youth workers to be invited to represent youth at Level 2 on an interim basis
- Replacement Community Reps to be identified for Bute as soon as possible

The Chairman suggested that representatives should come from each of the Community Councils in the area but in discussion it was agreed that this would be addressed by the setting up of each area Forum with one representative from each on Level 2 giving 50% community representation at that level.

Agenda Item 6:

The CP Pilot to be the first point of contact for any Bute and Cowal consultation by partners.

Agenda Item 7:

There was a general awareness of the need to adhere to the standards for community engagement.

Agenda Item 8:

Each partner agreed to identify 3 individual priorities for refining in a brainstorming session at the June meeting in an attempt to produce 2/3 immediate priority issues which the Pilot could try to address in 2005/06.

The issues common to more than one partner were immediately identified:

- (i) The problems associated with under age drinking in the area
- (ii) The opportunities presented by the replacement of Spence Court, Dunoon through regeneration funding when ACHA is formally constituted with the inclusion of a community meeting/leisure/recreation facility in this project.

A further Level 1 Group meeting will take place on 27th April to pursue the community/youth representation issues and to look at the need for training, capacity building, support of these representatives.

The next Level 2 meeting will take place in Rothesay on Friday 3rd June 2005.

Networking

On 28th February Lolita and I visited Stirling Council to examine how their scheme of Community Compacts had been formulated and how the system is operating. From discussions it would appear as if we are making good progress in engaging with communities at local level and are even more advanced in some aspects of our structure, namely the fact that we have key agencies represented on our Area Partnership.

On 11th March we both attended a full day conference in Motherwell and an Audit Scotland Briefing at COSLA on 22nd March. On both occasions I was included in the workshops discussing the problems and different approaches to community engagement. It appears that the methods used are as different as each authority, some centralistic and others totally devolved but I did not come across any on an area basis similar to Bute and

Cowal. It also appears that some Councils, through their elected members, are taking over the process on the basis that community planning is now their role and they will run it as part of the democratic process (as councillors they are elected by the community, represent communities and therefore no other community representation is necessary). This is causing concern amongst communities who have established good working relationships through SIP's and ADG's.

George B. McKenzie
Pilot Co-ordinator, 4th April 2005

AREA PARTNERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Apologies
3. Minute of meeting of 4th February
4. Additional Community Representatives
 - South Cowal – update
 - Youth – consider options

5. Area Partnership Issues

- Argyll and Bute Council
- Argyll and the Islands Enterprise
- Bute Community Links/CVS
- Caledonian MacBrayne
- Communities Scotland
- Community Representatives
- Fyne Homes
- NHS
- Strathclyde Police
- West Coast Motors

This agenda item is intended as an opportunity for partners to report, question or raise particular area partnership issues to be addressed by immediate response or included by way of a report in the next meeting.

6. Bute and Cowal Pilot – Consider feasibility of reaching a protocol as first point of contact with the community
7. Standards for Community Engagement – for information
8. Bute and Cowal Priorities – identify 2/3 common issues to take forward in year 1

Current priority areas:

Scottish Executive

1. Building Strong and Safe Communities
2. Promoting Employability and Training
3. Health and Wellbeing
4. Promoting Community Development and Capacity Building

Community Planning Partnership

1. Promoting Health and Wellbeing
2. Improving Opportunities for Learning Employment and Skills Development
3. Sustaining and Developing our Communities, Culture and Environment.

9. Dates of future meetings – 1st Friday in June, Aug, Oct, Dec.

UPDATE BY THEME GROUP LEADERS ON PROGRESS WITH CPP PRIORITIES**REPORT FROM HEALTH & WELL-BEING THEME GROUP**

At our last meeting members of the Management Committee agreed that we could present to the Community Planning Partnership at its meeting in March the Joint Health Improvement Plan. The Health & Well-being Theme Group had revised the Plan considerably.

The Partnership approved the Plan. The Communications Department of Argyll & Bute Council is helping to convert the document into a pdf format that will enable it to be posted on websites and to be distributed electronically (as well as printed from this). This work is just about complete.

At its last meeting the Theme Group considered the monitoring arrangements for the Plan. The Group intends that it should spend part of every second meeting on monitoring. It intends to follow the lead of the Management Committee by requiring locality groups to provide a one-page update on progress. The Group will also ask the local groups to send someone to these meetings – although this will be reviewed in the light of experience to determine its effectiveness.

The Theme Group also heard a report on the Health Improvement Fund that has been devolved from the NHS Board. It has taken some time to ascertain the allocation and the commitments already made on it but this work is now almost complete. This means that there should be clarity about what funding is available, on what it is being spent and what remains to be allocated. A report on the Health Improvement Fund and expenditure under it will be a standing item at future meetings of the Health & Well-being Theme Group so that the Group can consider allocations under the fund to activity within the Joint Health Improvement Plan.

At its meeting the Group considered a request for funding from the Health improvement Fund. This was for fruit and vegetables for children accessing Pre-School education with Argyll & Bute Council. The number of children attending pre-school education is 1545. The funding would be made available to children any pre-school education whether provided by Local Authority, Voluntary, Private or Independent sectors. The cost of this provision for twelve months from 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006 amounts to **£15,500**. The Theme Group agreed this request.

The Theme Group also considered a report from DRIVESafe on progress to date and a request for support in putting a bid to the Management Committee for Partnership funding to enable the initiative to continue to develop and build on this progress. The Theme Group endorsed this report and it is submitted separately to the Management Committee for consideration.

GAVIN BROWN
CHAIR, HEALTH & WELL-BEING THEME GROUP
6 April 2005

REPORT TO COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE BY HEALTH AND WELL BEING THEME GROUP

WEDNESDAY 20TH APRIL 2005

'DRIVESAFE IN ARGYLL AND BUTE'

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1** Since the production of the first Joint Health Improvement plan for Argyll and Bute in 2002, the Community Planning Partnership has recognised the need for partnership work to be undertaken to address the area's statistically high incidence of serious and fatal road crashes. This issue has been highlighted in the Annual Reports of the Director of Public Health for Argyll and Clyde, in Police statistics, and in the Community Health and Well Being profiles recently produced by NHS Health Scotland.
- 1.2** In November 2002, a successful road safety conference, held in Dunoon, identified the need for the development of a Road Safety Charter for employers in Argyll and Bute. It was hoped that this would put road safety at the heart of the operation of all businesses who committed to the Charter. A working group, comprising members of Community Planning Partnership organisations and the private sector, have been engaged in the development of 'DRIVESafe in Argyll and Bute' since that time. Group members have been drawn from Argyll and Bute Council, Strathclyde Police, Strathclyde Fire Brigade, NHS Argyll and Clyde, the Safe and Healthy Working Lives initiative and various private sector companies. This initiative has been supported by the Partnership at all stages.

2. PROGRESS TO DATE

- 2.1** On 13th April 2004, 'DRIVESafe in Argyll and Bute' was launched in Lochgilphead. Twenty four organisations signed up to the initiative and in so doing each agreed to:
- Provide a named contact within the organisation that will monitor employee crash data
 - Arrange the distribution of Road Safety materials which will be provided free of charge
 - Encourage all employees to be more aware of Road Safety measures by promoting and publicising a series of themed campaigns

Since the launch of the campaign, publicity material incorporating the DRIVESafe logo has been distributed to Charter organisations and is now regularly seen on vehicles across Argyll and Bute. Road safety information in relation to safe driving practices and safe driving at work has been distributed. Monitoring of employee crash data is being undertaken, with individual organisations implementing measures to address issues which these processes raise. In some instances these measures include re-training of drivers.

- 2.2** DRIVESafe has recently been awarded Health Improvement Learning Zone status from CoSLA, and is identified as an example of good partnership working in addressing a public health issue. CoSLA has awarded a grant to the steering group to develop resource materials for charter development for distribution to other Community Planning Partnerships who may wish to replicate the work undertaken by our group.
- 2.2** This progress report builds on regular updates which have been provided since early 2003, and in particular on decisions taken by the Management Committee and the full Partnership.
- a) At its meeting on 8th October 2003, the Management Committee noted the contents of a report that recommended the development of a three year DRIVESafe in Argyll and Bute strategy, along with the need to identify the necessary resources.
 - b) At its meeting on 14th November 2003 the Community Planning Partnership discussed and agreed the basis of the three year strategy, and also accepted there was a need to identify the necessary resources to allow 'DRIVESafe in Argyll and Bute' to proceed.

As a result of these decisions, 'DRIVESafe in Argyll and Bute' was awarded £5000 from the Community Planning Partnership for the year 2004-05, to develop the Charter, launch the Charter, and begin the implementation of the scheme. This budget has been utilised in provision of the launch event, and the development and distribution of DRIVESafe materials to those organisations who 'signed up'.

3. ACTION FOR 2005/06

3.1 The steering group now wishes to consolidate the DRIVESafe work undertaken to date, and support partner organisations in full implementation of the scheme. Partner organisations will be completing their first year of DRIVESafe in the next few months, and will begin collating their crash statistics and information, and may begin to identify trends in driving practices and procedures. They will then need to be supported in putting in place remedial measures to address particular issues. Central collation of information across all of the Charter partners will need to be carried out, to look for issues which may be common to more than one organisation, and identify steps forward. It is hoped that driver assessor training can be offered to Charter partners by the steering group. In addition to this development work, there is a need to continue to publicise DRIVESafe effectively, and more publicity materials are needed.

The steering group hope to carry out the following specific pieces of work in the next year:

- Development of a driver assessor training package which would be offered to all Charter partners. This could utilise local resources e.g. Accident in Helensburgh, but would require expenditure for it to be offered in different locations and to different organisations.
- Extension of the publicity surrounding DRIVESafe. Proposed specific initiatives include the development of a suite of radio adverts for seasonal broadcast on local stations, licensing of a DRIVESafe screen saver for distribution to Charter partners and the use of an Adtrailer, suitably branded, for one month during the summer period. The trailer will be positioned at various locations throughout Argyll and Bute and will bring the DRIVESafe message to both locals and tourists alike. The logo will be manufactured in such a way so as to be re-usable in future years.

3.2 The breakdown of proposed expenditure during 2005 – 2006 shown overleaf is based on costs incurred during 2004-05 and assumes telephone and internet quotations are accurate.

3.3 Proposed expenditure 2005-2006

• Managing Occupational Road Risk printed materials and software (supply to Charter signatories)	£ 1,500
• Radio campaign on Your Radio, Argyll FM and Oban FM (Cost based on 4 seasonal themes each lasting one week. Each will consist of 40 slots at 30 second duration).	£ 2,236
• 4 x 30 second radio advert production	£ 440
• Adtrailer skin production(2 sides of 6000 x 2400 mm approx)	£ 1,070
• Pull up banner display	£ 250
• Vehicle decals	£ 2,000
• Promotional items, pens, tax disc holders, etc	£ 1,000
• Contingency fund	£ 1,504
Total	£10,000

An application for £3000 has been made to the Strathclyde Fire Brigade Community Fund and indications suggest an award will be made for 2005-06.

3.4 Before considering the recommendations laid out below, the Management Committee should consider the implications for the Partnership if this initiative ceased to exist. DRIVESafe had a high profile launch and, by pooling resources, has demonstrated the benefits of Partnership working in the struggle to drive down crash and casualty numbers in Argyll and Bute.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 DRIVESafe continues to be supported by the CPP Management Committee, and the full Community Planning Partnership.

4.2 Large organisations identify link/support person to co-ordinate implementation of DRIVESafe within their own organisations. They will need to ensure appropriate 'driving at work' policies are in place, crash data is collected and that the current theme is delivered to all employees, e.g. staff publications, notice boards, vehicle stickers, leaflet distribution, etc. Depending on level of employer support this person may have to commit up to two days per month.

- 4.3** All Partners identify “Champions”, whose time commitment is likely to be half a day per month.
- 4.4** The DRIVESafe steering group continues to develop and implement the Charter, building on the strong foundations set down to date. The steering group will continue to meet approximately four times per year.
- 4.5** The Road Safety Officer in Argyll and Bute Council is allowed dedicated time within his work plan for DRIVESafe implementation, as the most likely point of contact, the link/support person for the local authority, and the convenor of the DRIVESafe steering group. This time commitment is likely to be four days per month.
- 4.6** An annual allocation of £10000 is made by the Community Planning Partners to cover campaign running costs as noted at 3.3. The mechanism for establishing this additional Partner contribution would utilise the existing formula currently used to ingather CPP funding. In order to minimise costs it is suggested that Partners take account of other successful grant applications before calculating annual allocation, e.g. current £3000 application to Strathclyde Fire Brigade Community Fund.

Gavin Brown
Chair of Health and Well Being Theme Group.

For further information contact:
Carl Olivarius, Road Safety Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
Tel 01 546 604 114

BRIEFING SHEET: BIG LOTTERY FUND CONSULTATION WITH COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS AND SCOTTISH LOTTERY OFFICERS GROUP ON 18 MARCH 2005

Purpose	The Big Lottery Fund is seeking views on its proposed outcomes , priorities and ways of engaging with the voluntary, community and statutory sectors.
Strategic Fit	<p>The Big Lottery Fund is a new organisation formed from a merger of the Community Fund and New Opportunities Fund. Overarching themes for BLF are set by UK Government and are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) community learning and creating opportunity 2) promoting community safety and cohesion 3) promoting well-being <p>In Scotland, outcomes have been proposed by Scottish Ministers and the potential priorities reflect phase one consultation findings and areas identified by Scottish Ministers.</p>
Outcomes	<p>Are designed to be relevant to Scotland and provide a flexible framework that will potentially enable local need to take priority over nationally prescribed programmes. The new funding framework is attached and the outcomes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) People have better chances in life 2) Communities are stronger and work together to tackle inequalities. 3) People and communities are healthier 4) People have access to better and more sustainable services and environments.
Priorities	<p>For outcome 1) childcare, confidence, employment, financial exclusion, lifelong learning, community networks.</p> <p>For outcome 2) strengthening voluntary and community action, capacity building, impact of discrimination and harassment, locally shared values and inclusive communities.</p> <p>For outcome 3) community involvement in regeneration, community environments and green spaces, access to services in rural areas, community land ownership, environmental awareness and good practice, community approaches to biodiversity, sustainable food and energy.</p> <p>For outcome 4) improving health and tackling health inequality esp. through diet, physical activity and young people, new approaches to mental health and well-being, good practice in community based health promotion, links between health and well-being and community regeneration.</p>
Consultation with CPP	<p>BLF are exploring ways of working with Community Planning Partnerships and asked the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How, if at all, can Big Lottery Fund use Community Planning as a grant-making tool? 2. Does Community Planning offer a short cut to strategic fit on evidence of need and How can Big Lottery Fund outcome funding help deliver local regeneration needs? 3. Should Big Lottery Fund consider investing some funding in facilitating partnership working? 4. Where and how could we deploy this funding? 5. Could our funding have an impact in legitimising the role of the voluntary sector within community planning? <p>Suggestions on the day included (i) using the CPP Plan as evidence of need but minimum standards required of CPP, (ii) having regular meetings with key partners such as the local authority, council for voluntary service, Communities Scotland and other CPP partners as appropriate to discuss local issues and sustainability of projects, (iii) building the capacity of community representatives and indeed other</p>

partners around the table to facilitate partnership working. BLF will provide a written note from the day should you wish to see this. Please note that working with CPPs is only one of a host of ways of funding projects in Scotland.

Timescale Deadline for this, the second stage consultation, is 16 May 2005.

Further info Consultation questions are on-line at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk.

*Arlene Cullum
Corporate Funding Officer
Argyll and Bute Council*

BIG LOTTERY FUND – COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS RESPONSE TO SECOND STAGE CONSULTATION

The following response has been prepared by Muriel Kupris on behalf of the CPP. The Management Committee is invited to discuss the response prior to it being submitted to the Big Lottery Fund.

1. How, if at all can Big Lottery Fund (BLF) use Community Planning (CP) as a grant-making tool?

We would suggest that BLF participate in meetings with Argyll and Bute Council, CVS, other CPP members and also other Lottery Funders e.g. Heritage Lottery Fund, SportsScotland and Scottish Arts Council. This would be a first step in addressing local issues, especially those that are related to the interaction of the funders themselves, timescales and priorities etc and provide some hope of sustainability for successful projects. This builds on the previous 3-way agreement that the former Community Fund had with councils and CVS network.

2. Does CP offer short cut to strategic fit on evidence of need and how can BLF outcome funding help deliver local regeneration needs?

CP could offer important detail on local need and strategic priorities through the information gathering process of all partners and the link to a wide range of strategies and plans. The Regeneration Outcome Agreement (ROA) for Argyll and Bute CPP will evidence clear priorities within the worst 15% of deprived areas, Community Planning and Argyll and Bute Council are collating information in relation to the wider issue of rural deprivation and participating in the work of the Rural Advisory Group within the Scottish Executive.

3. Should BLF consider investing some funding in facilitating partnership working?

Yes. The co-ordination of numerous initiatives and funding streams is critical to ensure best use of resources, especially in a large dispersed rural authority. Funds could be deployed to develop potential for joint projects.

4. Where and how could this funding be deployed?

If funding was available for this function, it would be best directly managed by the CPP and reported back to either the Management Committee or a theme group.

5. Could BLF funding have an impact in legitimising the role of the voluntary sector within CP?

Working through the CPP, the Community Regeneration Board and ROA would access large community and voluntary representation. If this were linked to improving partnership working across all sectors, it would be possible to enhance and encourage the meaningful participation of the voluntary sector.

*Muriel Kupris
Community Resources Manager
Argyll and Bute Council*

AUDIT SCOTLAND COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BASELINE REVIEW: PRO FORMA

The following pro forma was completed in part by Audit Scotland using the sources of information listed below. They have asked the Partnership to verify the data and complete the blanks which has been done. The Management Committee is invited to discuss the pro forma and identify areas where information is incorrect/incomplete (especially the sections on partnership working, policy context and successes/barriers) so that the pro forma can be submitted to Audit Scotland.

Lolita Lavery
Community Planning Manager
April 2005

PROFILE OF Argyll & Bute Community Planning Partnership	
Boxes to be completed where information available. To be checked and verified by CPP.	
Name of person verifying form:	Lolita Lavery, Community Planning Manager on behalf of CPP Management Committee
Date of verification:	20 April 2005
Sources used to complete form to date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'A Vision for Action in Argyll and Bute' • 'A Vision into Action for Argyll and Bute' • Argyll & Bute community planning website (www.actionargyllandbute.org.uk) • CPP Overview, Dec 2004 • CPP Proposed Transitional Structure
Date first Community Plan published:	Autumn 2001
Updated:	Summer 2002
Date of current Community Plan:	Summer 2003 (new priorities decided at CPP Conference held in June 2003 – Actions Plans are reviewed on an ongoing basis)
Duration of current Community Plan:	2 Years – will be revised after CPP Biennial Conference in June 2005
STRUCTURE	
Partners: (X the appropriate boxes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Council X Transport Authority X NHS Argyll & Clyde X Police X Communities Scotland X Fire X Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire X Argyll and the Islands Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Further & Higher Education Sector (represented through LEF's) X Voluntary organisations (list) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argyll CVS • Bute Community Links • Islay & Jura CVS X Other (please list all) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argyll and Bute Volunteer Centre • Association of Community Councils • Tourist Board • Caledonian MacBrayne

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careers Scotland • Crofters Commission • Forestry Commission Scotland • Housing Associations (Dunbritton, Fyne Homes & West Highland) • Jobcentre Plus • Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park • Ministry of Defence • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Water
Chair:	Allan MacAskill, Leader of Argyll & Bute Council
<p>Formal sub groups / strategic partnerships: (those which report directly to CPP) <i>Please attach a structure plan, if possible.</i></p> <p><i>For others – include management or support groups</i></p>	<p>Management Committee (Chaired by SNH)</p> <p>Thematic Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting Health & Wellbeing Theme Group (Chaired by NHS) • Improving Opportunities for Learning, Employment and Skills Development Theme Group (Theme Group 2 has recently amalgamated with 2 Local Economic Forums operating across Argyll and Bute – Chaired by LEF’s) • Sustaining and Developing our Communities, Culture and Environment (Chaired by Council) <p>Others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bute & Cowal Local Community Planning Pilot (Chaired by Council)
Reporting arrangements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Management Committee (comprising 10 Partners) reports to the CPP and is responsible for the day-to-day running of the partnership. • The 3 strategic theme groups (see above) translate the CPP’s priorities into Action Plans and are responsible for taking these Action Plans forward. The Theme Groups report to the Management Committee. • The Area Partnership (part of Bute & Cowal Local Community Planning Pilot) reports to the Management Committee and will develop “Themed” Area Strategies which will be informed by Local Community Action Plans. These Local Community Action Plans will be produced by Local Community Forums who in turn will have representatives on the Area Partnership. • Note: The Bute and Cowal Local Community Planning Pilot is only just getting underway
<p>Does the CPP have arrangements for independent scrutiny / challenge: <i>(We are looking for arrangements designed by the CPP itself and not things like Best Value)</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>If yes, what are they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPP Biennial Conference (attended by partners, other strategic partnerships, MPs/MSPs, voluntary orgs, youth, citizens’ panel, press, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – identifies strategic priorities for CPP/reviews progress – acts as “community watchdog/sounding board” for CPP • Community representatives on the various levels of the CPP participate in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – As watchdogs of organisations providing services (a community conscience/scrutiny role) – As development partners (active participation)

Formal arrangements: <i>(For example terms of agreements, remits, constitutions, etc.)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signed protocols (all Partners at the time signed up to the CPP's vision at the formal launch of the Partnership on 2 April 2001. New partners are invited to join but do not sign up to any protocol) <input type="checkbox"/> Legal arrangements (eg, Company Ltd) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other arrangements (please list) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each of the components of the CPP's structure has a stipulated remit, membership, accountability and frequency of meetings 	
BUDGET If you cannot provide financial information split out as below, please affix the relevant information in whatever form it is available. <i>Please also make explicit what is included and excluded in figures quoted.</i>		
Dedicated budget this year:	£79,476 p.a Year: 2005 / 2006	
Source of this budget and exact contribution:	Council	£22,866
	NHS	£12,194
	Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire	£4,244
	Argyll & the Isles Enterprise	13,721
	Scottish Executive	£ -
	Communities Scotland	£7,622
	SNH	4,573
	Forestry Commission Scotland	3,183
	Strathclyde Police	3,183
	Strathclyde Fire Brigade	3,183
	Careers Scotland	3,183
	Tourist Board	1,524
	Scottish Executive "ring-fenced funding" for 2005/06 Choose Life Initiative Community Voices Programme ROA's	 £83,000 £60,000 £986,000
MEETINGS		
Partnership meeting cycle:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPP Biennial Conference: Every 2 years • Full CPP Meetings: 3 times a year • Management Committee meetings: Every 2nd month • Theme Groups: Approximately every 6 weeks – varies for each Theme Group • Bute & Cowal Area Partnership: Every 2nd month 	
PARTNERSHIP WORKING		
Informal partnerships / joint working arrangements which CPP is involved in: (those with no direct reporting arrangements to CPP) (X the appropriate boxes)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transport Forum <input type="checkbox"/> Local Economic Forum (direct reporting to CPP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Health Partnership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please list all) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety Partnership • Biodiversity Partnership • Childcare Strategy Partnership • Children's Services Partnership • Young Scot /Dialogue Youth • Community Learning Partnership • Employability Team/New Deal Partnership • Community Regeneration Partnership • Various other smaller partnerships through the work of the Theme Groups (see Theme Group Action Plans) 	
How are these arrangements managed?	Through the various theme groups	

POLICY CONTEXT	
Community Plan themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting health and well being • Improving opportunities for learning, employment and skills development • Sustaining and developing communities, culture and environment
Policy areas with performance indicators: (X the appropriate boxes) <i>(If you are in the process of developing indicators on some areas, please make this clear and give details of timescales)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Community safety <input type="checkbox"/> Economy and employment <input type="checkbox"/> Education and life long learning <input type="checkbox"/> Environment, infrastructure and transport <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and social care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing and anti poverty/social inclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Community engagement
SUCSESSES / BARRIERS	
Please list the main strengths of the CPP:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established separate identity for CPP with own logo, letterheads and website • CP Manager employed jointly by CPP • Dedicated budget funded by 12 Partners • Wide and varied partner involvement • Clear structures and reporting mechanisms • Community involvement and engagement at local level • Reduced duplication by amalgamating Theme Group 2 with Local Economic Forums • Citizens' Panel used by the Partnership as a whole to consult local communities on a wide range of issues • Drivesafe Initiative • Joint Health Improvement Plan • Bute & Cowal Local Community Planning Pilot • Amalgamation of 2nd Theme Group with Local Economic Fora
Please outline what impacts, if any, the Local Government Act 2003 has had on community planning in the area: <i>(If the Act itself has made little difference to what was being done already, you can say this)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the LGA and other policy directives, the CPP held a Review Day in June 2003 to take a fundamental look at how it operates and how it can engage more effectively with communities at local level • As a result the structure of the CPP was changed to take community planning down to local level (Bute and Cowal Pilot) • Other than that, the LGA has made little difference to what was/is already being done
Three main barriers to community planning effectiveness:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Partner boundaries that are not co-terminous 2) Initiative overload 3) Overlap and duplication of activity

Listed below are some of the barriers identified in previous studies that can affect achievements within CPPs.

- I. Please identify **in column a**, if this has ever been a barrier for your CPP
- II. For each one with an X at column a, please state if the partners have resolved the problem in the main (**in column b**) or if it is still an issue (**in column c**)
- III. And finally, **in column d**, please select the 5 barriers that have had the greatest negative impact on the work of the CPP

(X the appropriate boxes for each part of this question)

	(a) Ever a barrier	(b) Resolved	(c) Not yet resolved	(d) 5 main barriers
Partnership complexity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boundary issues	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	X
Involving the community	X	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Administrative issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Requirements of central govt / new initiatives	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	X
Requirements of partners (new priorities / initiatives)	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	X
Decision making processes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Achieving a balance between partner interests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication amongst partners	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overlap and duplication of activity	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	X
Continuity of commitment and effort	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of dedicated budget	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other resource constraints	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	X
Other (please list all) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to promote CP amongst general public • More emphasis on cultural and organisational change 				
What are the key improvements that could be made to the current structures and arrangements of the CPP?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to be more effective in conveying community planning message to general public • Need to demonstrate and report successes 			

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BEST VALUE AUDIT: DRAFT COMMUNITY PLANNING SUBMISSION

The Community Planning Manager (CPM) was requested to draft a short submission that could be included in the self assessment pack to be submitted to Audit Scotland as part of the Best Value Audit. The CPM was asked to look at the Community Planning Statutory Guidance and draft a submission detailing what the CPP has achieved from a Council perspective for each of the sections outlined in the Guidance. The Management Committee is invited to discuss the draft submission.

COMMUNITY PLANNING STATUTORY GUIDANCE**Local Government in Scotland Act 2003**

The Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership (CPP) was established in September 1999 when the Rural Partnership was transformed into the CPP, thus well ahead of the requirements of the Act. The CPP was formally launched at a media event on 2 April 2001 and to date comprises 25 statutory and voluntary sector partners.

Duty to Initiate and Facilitate Community Planning

The CPP is chaired by the Leader of the Council as it was recognised from an early stage that the Council has a major role to play in initiating and facilitating the community planning process. The underlying ethos that has made the Argyll and Bute CPP successful, has been the real focus on partnership working. Although the Council has taken the lead in many aspects, the Council does not dominate the process. For instance, the Management Committee which is responsible for the day to day running of the Partnership, was firstly chaired by Argyll and the Islands Enterprise and is currently chaired by Scottish Natural Heritage.

The fact that the Community Planning Manager is appointed jointly by the Partnership and is accountable to the Partnership, is also viewed in a positive light as well the fact that the CPP has a dedicated budget funded by 10 of the partners and a separate identity and logo. This lends an air of independence to the process and ensures that it is jointly owned by all Partners.

Duty to Participate in Community Planning

The public bodies mentioned in the Act, except for SPTA and the Fire Board who became involved at a later stage, have all been strategic partners since the CPP was established in 1999. The Enterprise Companies and NHS also Chair the remaining two Theme Groups and have played a pivotal role in shaping the priorities and realising the objectives of the CPP relating to promoting health and well-being (Theme Group 1) and improving opportunities for learning employment and skills development (Theme Group 2). A significant recent development has been the amalgamation of Theme Group 2 with the two Local Economic Fora (LEF) operating across Argyll and Bute. This has eradicated duplication and now the LEF are truly the "economic arms" of the CPP as envisaged by the Guidance relating to LEFs.

Engaging Community Bodies

The voluntary sector and Community Councils have been strategic partners since the CPP was established in 1999. The CPP realised at early stage that increased public involvement was a prerequisite for good governance and essential for an effective Community Planning process and therefore established a Citizens' Panel comprising 1,000 local residents in 2001. The Citizens' Panel has recently been amalgamated with the SIP People's Panel and now comprises 1,200 members. The broadly representative membership of the Panel means that particular groups such as the elderly, minority ethnic groups, people living in particular locations, etc. can be specifically targeted for their views on various issues.

One of the strengths of the Panel is that it is used jointly by the Partnership and is not dominated by the Council. The Citizens' Panel consistently achieves high response rates and is a cost-effective consultative tool used by the Partnership to consult a broad spectrum of the population on a wide range of issues. Partners are also continuously challenged to indicate what the results mean for their organisation, what action they need to take as a result and how they are using the results to improve their service delivery. Feedback is given to the Panel by way of a Citizens' Panel Newsletter.

However, it is recognised that consultation alone is not sufficient and that communities need to be fully engaged in the community planning process. Due to the requirements of the Act and other national policy directives, the CPP took a fundamental look at its structure and how it engages with communities at local level and subsequently a Local Community Planning Pilot was launched in the Bute and Cowal area towards the end of 2004. The Pilot is chaired by the Chair of the Council's Area Committee and Co-ordinated by the Council's Corporate Services Manager. The pilot will be evaluated on an annual basis and if successful, will be rolled out to other areas of Argyll. The Partnership has, however, realised that a flexible approach is needed to engage with communities and that different methods and levels of engagement are needed at the different levels of the CPP structure and that the community should participate in the following ways, namely:

- As watchdogs of organisations providing services (a community conscious/scrutiny role)
- As development partners (more active participation)

Engaging Other Public Bodies

Membership of the CPP is wide and varied and comprises 25 of the main public and voluntary bodies operating across Argyll and Bute. Depending on their focus, some public bodies are more actively involved at theme group or local level rather than at a strategic level. One of the major difficulties in trying to co-ordinate the community planning process, is the fact that boundaries of partners organisations are not co-terminous. For instance, Argyll and Bute has two Enterprise Companies operating within its boundaries and some agencies like SPTA only cover a section of Argyll and Bute whilst others like the NHS cover 5 different Council areas. This has led to competing priorities especially in terms of funding arrangements.

Mainstreaming Community Planning within the Organisation

The Council's Corporate Plan has been amended to reflect the three strategic themes of the CPP. However, on-going work still needed to firmly embed CP within all levels of the Council and other Partner organisations. The CPP Communications Plan should help to raise the profile of Community Planning within Partner organisations.

Leading on Community Planning Themes

Three strategic Theme Groups with wide ranging membership have been established to address the Partnership's priorities, namely:

- Promoting Health and Well-Being (Theme Group 1)
- Improving Opportunities for Learning, Employment and Skills Development (Theme Group 2)
- Sustaining and Developing our Communities, Culture and Environment (Theme Group 3)

Detailed Action Plans outlining targets, outcomes, timescales, resources and partner involvement have been jointly developed for each of the CPP's priority areas. As mentioned earlier, only one Theme Group is chaired by the Council.

Some of the successes of the Theme Groups include:

- Drivesafe in Argyll and Bute – an initiative to reduce the number of road crashes in Argyll and Bute
- Joint Local Health Improvement Plan – the CPP's shared vision for health improvement
- Formation of a Construction Alliance – to maximise opportunities for skills development and economic benefit in the construction industry

Community Planning Partnership – Fit for Purpose

One of the key strengths of the CPP is its wide and varied membership and the fact that it has a clear structure, remit and reporting mechanisms for each operating level of the Partnership. This has enabled it to respond well to national initiatives and address cross-cutting partnership issues.

Mainstreaming Equal Opportunities in the Community Planning Process

The two underlying principles that underpin each strategic theme and priority are sustainability and equity. Both are central to achieving the overall vision of the Partnership and have been endorsed by all Partners.

Reporting on Community Planning

The CPP produced its first Community Plan in 2001. The vision, strategic themes and priority areas were jointly agreed by the CPP in conjunction with local communities through the Citizens' Panel. Progress on meeting the Partnership's objectives has/will be reported in the following ways:

- Community Planning Leaflets/Community Plan:
 - Two leaflets outlining the CPP's strategic themes and priority areas were distributed to all households in 2001 and 2002.
- CPP Biennial Conference:
 - Attended by partner organisations and representatives from other strategic partnerships, MP's/MSP's, the Scottish Executive, business communities, voluntary sector organisations, community councils, youth forums, Argyll and Bute Citizens' Panel and the media
 - Forum for reviewing progress and identifying new strategic CPP priorities
 - Acts as a "community watchdog/sounding board" for the CPP
- CPP Website:
 - Website developed in 2002 and is in the process of being revised. Although the Council hosts the site, it has an independent address and is a valuable tool for communicating to a variety of audiences, including partner agencies and groups/individuals working within them, the Scottish Executive, other CPPs and the general public. It provides a platform for both sharing information and informing others. It has the potential for supporting two-way communication through forums, surveys and e-mail.
- CPP Communications Plan:
 - Developed for the Partnership by the Council's Communications Manager, in collaboration with PR officers from key partner organisations. The aim of the Communications Plan is to raise the profile of the Community Planning Partnership, both internally and externally and to improve opportunities to share information between partnership agencies
- Annual Progress Report:
 - The first "public facing" Annual Progress Report focussing on the successful outcomes of individual projects, linked by an overview from the CPP is currently being finalised and will be published in June 2005.

Lolita Lavery
Community Planning Manager

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