

Public Document Pack
COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

8 June 2005

A meeting of the **CPP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in the **SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE OFFICES, KILMORY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, LOCHGILPHEAD** on **WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE 2005 at 10:30 AM.**

AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES**
- 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2005** (Pages 1 - 6)
- 3. COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES**
 - (a) CPP Biennial Conference - feedback and discussion on the conference held on 10 June 2005
 - (b) Partnership Capital Development (Brian Barker)
 - (c) Capacity Building Budget - discussion on how this should be allocated - report to follow (Brian Barker)
 - (d) SIP Annual Report Letter 2004-2005 - Draft Response (Donald MacVicar)
 - (e) Update by Theme Group Leaders on Progress with CPP Priorities
 - Theme Group 1 (Gavin Brown) (Pages 7 - 10)
 - Argyll and the Islands Local Economic Forum (Alan Milstead)
 - Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire (Aileen Edwards) – next meeting of LEF to be held on 28 June 2005 after a workshop session which will report back on what the LEF partners have achieved in terms of the Strategy over 2004-2005
 - Theme Group 3 (Donald MacVicar) – Group next meet on 23 June 2005 which was arranged to go over feedback from 10 June 2005 conference

- (f) Matters Arising from last Citizens' Panel Report - Briefing Paper from Josephine Stojak (Gavin Brown) (Pages 11 - 12)

Specifically –

- Waiting Times for GP Appointments
- Men's Health
- Smoking Cessation

4. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE INITIATIVES

Parliamentary Report – Inquiry into Economic Development in Accessible Rural Areas – Letter and Report to Chief Executive (Brian Barker) (Pages 13 - 18)

5. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP AGENDA

Items for Discussion

6. ARGYLL COUNTY MAPPING PROPOSAL(Pages 19 - 20)

7. AOCB

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

17 August 2005

MINUTES of MEETING of CPP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held in the SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE OFFICES, KILMORY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, LOCHGILPHEAD on WEDNESDAY, 20 APRIL 2005

Present: Andrew Campbell, SNH (Chair)
 Brian Barker, Argyll and Bute Council
 James McLellan, Argyll and Bute Council
 Donald MacVicar, Argyll and Bute Council
 David Clements, Argyll and Bute Council
 Mike Johnstone, Argyll and Bute Council
 Chris Carr, Argyll and Bute Council
 Lolita Lavery, Community Planning Manager
 Peter Minshall, Argyll CVS
 David Dowie, Communities Scotland
 Ken Abernethy, Argyll and the Islands Enterprise
 Raymond Park, Strathclyde Police
 Marlene Baillie, Strathclyde Police
 Pat Logan, Argyll Volunteer Centre
 Aileen Edwards, Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire
 Josephine Stojak, NHS Argyll and Clyde
 Caroline Champion, NHS Argyll and Clyde
 Julian Hankinson, Association of Argyll and Bute Community Councils
 John Scott, ODS Consultants

Apologies: Alan Milstead, Argyll and the Islands Enterprise
 Gavin Brown, NHS Argyll and Clyde

The Management Committee noted the death of Mr Douglas Trigg, a founding member of the Committee and who was immensely active in a whole range of issues in Argyll and Bute. Andrew Campbell expressed his appreciation of the contribution Douglas had made to Community Planning and it was noted that Lolita had arranged for a card to be sent to his widow on behalf of the Partnership.

1. PRESENTATION BY JOHN SCOTT FROM ODS CONSULTANTS ON EVALUATION OF BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUND

The Management Committee heard a presentation by John Scott, ODS Consultants who had been commissioned by Argyll and Bute Council to undertake an evaluation of the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund (BNSF) Pathfinder in Argyll and Bute. A copy of a summary report was also circulated which set out the key findings and recommendations.

After discussion it was agreed that Josephine Stojak, Brian Barker and David Dowie would get together and draw up a remit to enable the Health and Wellbeing Theme Group to identify solutions and make recommendations to this Committee as to the rationalisation of projects with common ground and to sustain projects funded by time-limited, ring fenced funding such as BNSF.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2005 were accepted as an accurate record and the following points were noted:

1. Item 1 - the Minutes of the Previous Meeting of 8 December 2004

Lolita advised she would be meeting with Patrick Flynn shortly to clarify Communities Scotland's contribution to the Community Planning Partnership budget.

2. Item 2b – Update on CPP Website

Lolita reported that at present the CPP Website was not the final product and reminded Partners to include a link to the CPP Website in their own websites.

3. Item 3a – Preparations for CPP “Biennial Conference”

Contributions for the conference pack would be invited from partnerships and significant partners (rather than all partners).

4. Item 3d – Update from Theme Group Leaders

It was agreed that representatives from this Committee should attend the next meeting of Argyll and Bute Isles Local Economic Forum on 11 May 2005.

5. Item 6 – AOCB

Donald MacVicar reported that the Bid for European Funding for Soroba had been successful.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CPP MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Community Planning Partnership held on 4 March 2005 were noted.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) **CPP Budget**

Lolita reported that the surplus in the CPP Budget was more than originally anticipated and confirmed that she would bring a detailed report to the next meeting.

5. COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES

(a) **Preparations for CPP Biennial Conference**

The Management Committee noted progress on the preparations made for the forthcoming Biennial Conference being held on 10 June 2005.

Julian Hankinson confirmed that he would provide Lolita with a list of the Community Council representatives who would be attending the Conference.

It was noted that Andy McKay-Hubbard had been appointed as the Council's new Research Officer and that he would give a presentation on the Argyll and Bute Profile at the Conference.

(b) CPP Annual Progress Report

Lolita confirmed that the CPP Annual Progress report was still in draft form and would be issued in due course to all Partners for comment.

(c) Results of 8th Questionnaire to Citizens' Panel

The Management Committee noted the final report detailing the results of the 8th questionnaire to the Citizens Panel prepared on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership by IBP Strategy and Research.

Brian Barker confirmed that once the detailed data was received from IBP Strategy Research, Chris Carr, Research Associate for Argyll and Bute Council would be able to provide a more detailed analysis on the results. Brian advised that if any Partners wished further or more specific information on the results they could contact Chris direct on tel: 01546 604260 or email: christine.carr@argyll-bute.gov.uk

After discussion it was agreed that these results should also be passed to relevant Groups to enable them to address issues highlighted in the report.

Superintendent Raymond Park agreed to take this report to the next meeting of the Community Safety Forum.

(d) Update on Bute & Cowal Pilot

Lolita gave an update on progress with the Bute and Cowal Community Planning Pilot and the Management Committee noted decisions taken at the Area Partnership meeting held on 1 April 2005.

**(e) Update by Theme Group Leaders on Progress with CPP Priorities
Health and Wellbeing Theme Group**

Caroline Champion spoke to a report from the Health and Wellbeing Theme Group. It was noted that the Theme Group had endorsed a request for funding from the Health Improvement Fund to provide children in pre school education with fruit and vegetables and the Management Committee agreed to endorse this request also.

It was also noted that the Theme Group had 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. It was noted that the Theme Group had endorsed this report which was submitted separately to the Management Committee for consideration.

After discussion it was agreed to support this initiative in principle but that it would be up to individual Partners to decide if they would wish to buy into this.

Josephine Stojak advised that there may be a possibility of resources from NHS Argyll and Clyde through endowment funds and that she would look into this.

Argyll and Bute Local Economic Forum

Ken Abernethy advised that the Local Economic Forum (LEF) had not met since the last meeting of the Management Committee but confirmed that the LEF would undertake to provide Quarterly reports to the Management Committee. He advised that this would be discussed at the LEF meeting on 11 May 2005. Ken advised that the following items would also be discussed at that meeting:

- LEF Draft Strategy
- Baseline Economic Picture based on 2001 stats
- Presentation from Patrick Flynn on Argyll and Bute Local Social Economy Plan
- Presentation on the National Park

It was agreed that the presentation from Patrick Flynn would also be of interest to the Community Planning Partnership and it was agreed to put this on the agenda of a future meeting.

Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire Local Economic Forum

Aileen Edwards reported on the SED Local Economic Forum meeting held on 2 March 2005 and confirmed that the Forum's Annual Report would be presented to the Community Planning Partnership in July.

Theme Group 3

Donald MacVicar gave an update on the last meeting of Theme Group 3 which had been very positive. He advised that a set of meetings throughout the year and a revised membership of the Group had been agreed. He reported that a gap in Environmental and Conservation issues had been identified and that this would be addressed by the Group. Donald also confirmed that the Group had completed the Audit Scotland Questionnaire on Community Planning. It was noted that the Group had heard a presentation by the Advice Network as well as a supplementary presentation by Alison Taylor on the Citizens Advice Bureau.

(f) **Big Lottery Consultation Fund**

The Management Committee gave consideration to a report prepared by Arlene Cullum, Corporate Funding Officer, about the Big Lottery Fund which was seeking views on its proposed outcomes, priorities and ways of engaging with the voluntary, community and statutory sector. Along with this report the Management Committee gave consideration to a response prepared by Muriel Kupris on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership.

After discussion it was agreed that Brian Barker would make some adjustments to this response and arrange for it to be submitted to the Big Lottery Fund.

6. SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE INITIATIVES

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

Brian Barker advised that he had received from the Scottish Executive a process for identifying additional areas. He reported that each Community Planning Partnership would only be allowed to put forward one additional area and advised that this would probably be Colonsay, Jura and part of Islay.

A meeting was planned for 3 May with representatives from the Executive's Rural Policy Team to discuss the research. Members of the Management Committee had already been invited to attend if interested.

(b) **Baseline Review of Community Planning Partnerships**

The Management Committee considered a pro forma regarding the Audit Scotland Community Planning Baseline Review. Lolita advised that she had completed the pro forma and asked the Committee to identify areas where information was incorrect/incomplete (especially the sections on partnership working, policy context and successes/barriers) so that the pro forma could be submitted to Audit Scotland.

It was agreed that Lolita, Andrew Campbell, Brian Barker and David Clements would meet to discuss this further and that if any other Partner wished to make comments to contact Lolita or David (01546 604205 david.clements@argyll-bute.gov.uk). It was noted that the deadline for submission of the pro forma had been extended to 27 April 2005.

(c) **Best Value Audit - CPP Submission**

The Management Committee discussed the draft submission to be included in the self assessment pack to be submitted to Audit Scotland as part of the Best Value Audit and David Clements

confirmed that he was happy with the content of this.

David also asked if each Partner could forward to him a short paragraph to include with the submission on how they perceive Community Planning and how it has helped them do their job including a note of what is working and any areas they feel require improvement - david.clements@argyll-bute.gov.uk.

7. AOCB

1. Josephine Stojak asked if the Community Development Programme could be considered as a future agenda item for the Management Committee and advised that Stephen Whiston would be able to give a presentation on this.
2. Josephine also advised that a Workforce Planning Day would be taking place on 6 May 2005 if anyone was interested.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 15 June 2005 at 10.30 am in the Scottish Natural Heritage Offices, Kilmory Industrial Estate.

The reserve date of 18 May is not being used.

ARGYLL & BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**Meeting of Management Committee: 15 June 2005****Report from Health & Well-being Theme Group**

The April report to the Committee stated that the work on converting the Joint Health Improvement Plan into a pdf format that would enable it to be posted on websites and be distributed electronically was just about complete. This work took a little longer than expected but has now been finished. The Group is making arrangements to place the document onto relevant websites.

The reported also stated that the Theme Group was considering how to monitor the Plan. At the Group's most recent meeting, on Monday 23 May, representatives from four of the seven Local Networks attended to report progress. The Theme Group heard encouraging reports on progress on a range of issues. The Group will continue with the plan of inviting the Networks to attend every second meeting to enable the Theme Group to monitor the Local Action Plans.

The Theme Group itself has to take responsibility for Section 1 of the Joint Health Improvement Plan, the Strategic Section. The Group discussed this and attached to this report is a copy of the draft Action Plan that resulted from the discussion. This has been circulated to Theme Group members for comment to ensure it reflects the discussion. But this should give members of the Management Committee an idea of the work in hand to ensure the implementation and monitoring of the current Health Improvement Plan.

The Group has, of course, to pursue with the three Networks that were not able to attend the meeting on 23 May what is happening in their localities.

The Theme Group also received a further report on the Health Improvement Fund. There were no decisions taken to make any allocation from it. The Group did, however, discuss drawing up criteria for the allocations from the Fund. The Group will return to this at its next meeting on 27 June.

Finally, the Theme Group is considering holding an event in autumn related to the impact of alcohol and how partners could make a difference. This is still in the early stages of planning and the Management Committee will be kept informed of developments.

Gavin Brown
Chair, Health & Well-being Theme Group
31 May 2005

Draft Action Plan

| JHIP Action | Person(s) Responsible | Deadline |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Identify all plans relating to health improvement within partner organisations and highlighting opportunities to reduce duplication | Gavin Brown (NHS) Shirley MacLeod (Argyll & Bute Council) Eleanor Dickie (Communities Scotland) | 27 June 2005 |
| 2. Adopt and roll out FUSIONS with Integration of Integrated Community Schools and Changing Children's Services Funds | Ann Campbell/Sheila Walker to consider and develop into a more focussed objective | 27 June 2005 |
| 3. Roll out of Health Promoting Schools to all schools by 2007 | Sheila Walker to report | |
| 4. Action A1:2 needs the plans to be identified before it can be implemented | | |
| 5. Link in with National campaigns and strategies to promote positive messages | Gavin Brown to co-ordinate – linked to alcohol event (see 6 below) | October 2005 |
| 6. Hold Public Health conference to review action plan and identify funding streams | Idea agreed by Theme Group Ann Campbell, Shirley MacLeod and Gavin Brown to produce proposals | Group to consider proposals at its meeting on 27 June |
| 7. Encourage links between ADAT at strategic levels and with public health networks | Gavin Brown has written to ADAT | Following discussion Gavin Brown to report to Group at meeting on 27 June |
| 8. Action A3:1 emanates from Eating for Health Plan 2004-06 agreed by the Group in 2004/05. | Group to receive a formal report on implementation of the plan (Ann Campbell/Shirley MacLeod) | 23 August 2005 |
| 9. Action A3:2 emanates from the Sports & Physical Activity. The Group heard this was being issued for consultation. | Need to establish progress (Shirley MacLeod) | 23 August 2005 |
| 10. Each local action plan to identify at least one action in relation to smoking and health | Plans will need to be reviewed | |
| 11. Review Tobacco Policies in all partnership establishments | The Group's action will need to take account of legislative changes. GB to write to partners | |
| 12. Implement Choose Life Action Plan | The Group will need a report from the Choose Life Initiative | 27 June 2005 |
| 13. All partners to adopt, | Dave Bertin to consider and | 23 August 2005 |

| | | |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| implement and monitor a mental health in the workplace policy | produce a more focussed plan | |
| 14. Implement actions in the report on the Poverty and Mental Health Conference March 2004 | Group to return to this after report re-circulated | 27 June 2005 |
| 15. All Community Planning Partners and Private Sector to implement DRIVESafe | Under consideration | |
| 16. Implement the approved Building Strong, Safe and Attractive Communities Plan | Shirley Macleod/Gavin Brown to establish | |
| 17. All Community Planning Partners to adopt the Community Safety Strategy | Shirley Macleod/Gavin Brown to establish | |
| 18. Implement the Argyll & Bute Against Domestic Abuse Strategy | Strategy being reviewed | Hold for the time being |
| 19. Adopt the Argyll & Bute Homelessness Strategy | Strategy being reviewed | Hold for the time being |
| 20. Each local network to identify at least one action to improve quality of life for older people living in poverty | Plans will need to be reviewed | |
| 21. Online consultation on health & wellbeing issues | Gary Haldane/Gavin Brown to publicise Dialogue Youth's facility to partners | 27 June 2005 |
| 22. Health Improvement Actions in the Regeneration Outcome Agreements to be reflected in the JHIP | Related to action point 1 | |

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Briefing Paper- CPP Management Committee 15/6/05**LHCC responses to Citizens panel- 8th Questionnaire- health services**

- support available to quit smoking
- availability of well men's clinics

Smoking cessation service provision

Limited smoking cessation services currently provided in Rothesay, Islay, Campbeltown, Oban, Mid Argyll, Dunoon and Tiree. One day per week is provided for this work to be coordinated and supported by Jill Denton

Gaps in service provision are on Mull, Inveraray, Tignabruaich, Lochgoilhead

It is the intention to use identified money to

- support provision of sessional work in the localities by designated trained smoking cessation individuals
- maintain current services
- focus on areas where incidence of smoking is above Scottish average; Bute N (19%) , Port Ellen, Bowmore (12%), Campbeltown (10%), Bute S (4%) , Oban (1%)
- develop services in gap areas of Mull, Mid Argyll, Colonsay, Coll and Jura.

This work will be supported by a new Heart Health post to be funded through Managed Clinical Network

There is also to be an additional SE funding allocation of £355k to NHS A&C in 2005/06 to support smoking cessation work.

Availability of well men's clinics

NHS Argyll and Clyde was successful in bidding for funding from Scottish Executive to develop services to improve men's health.

In Argyll and Bute the focus of this work is to be outreach and awareness raising work building and expanding on the activities of Healthy Living Centres. This will involve awareness raising, information and MOT checks being offered at agricultural shows, highland games and local festivals and more detailed assessments for those in need being provided through local primary care centres.

Information is to be gathered as part of this pilot to identify gaps in current service provision and to enable men to influence future developments.

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To Chief Executives

CC: Rural and Urban Affairs Executive Groups

Dear Chief Executive

Inquiry into Economic Development in Accessible Rural Areas

The Scottish Parliament's Environment and Rural Development Committee has just announced its Inquiry into Economic Development in 'Accessible Rural Areas.' A copy of the Committee's news release is attached and further details and background information on the Inquiry can be found on the Inquiry homepage –

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/environment/inquiries/rd/env-rd-home.htm>

Briefly, the Inquiry will focus on the effectiveness of the Scottish Executive's rural development policies in ensuring the economic prosperity of accessible rural areas – areas that are rural (settlements of less than 3,000 population) but are within a relatively short travel time of major urban centres (30 minutes drive to the nearest settlement of over 10,000 population.) The aim of the inquiry is to focus on:

- The aims of accessible rural communities for the development of their area, and the challenges they face in achieving those aims.
- How these issues are reflected in government policy and funding initiatives, (by the Scottish Executive and across other levels of government and public agencies), including the way initiatives are targeted.
- Policy priorities which should be pursued in order to help secure economic prosperity in accessible rural areas.

It is intended that a draft COSLA response will be discussed at the next Rural Affairs Executive Group meeting on 30 June 2005 together with a progress report of the working group coordinated by the South of Scotland Alliance to review policy on small towns. Given the interest of the Urban Affairs Executive Group in the development of City-Regions (and also small towns) the Inquiry will also be discussed at their meeting on 17 June.

Whilst final responses to the Inquiry are not required until 15 July, I would be grateful if you could arrange for views on the issues raised in the Inquiry to be sent to me by 24 June. This would enable me to prepare a first draft of the COSLA response for the meeting of the Rural Affairs Executive Group on 30 June.

Yours faithfully,

Jon Harris
Strategic Director

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13 May 2005

**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE LAUNCHES
INQUIRY INTO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN
'ACCESSIBLE RURAL AREAS'**

The Scottish Parliament's Environment and Rural Development Committee today announced an open call for evidence for its inquiry into rural development. The inquiry will examine how effective the Scottish Executive's rural development policies are in ensuring the economic prosperity of accessible rural areas.

The inquiry will focus on a number of points, including:

- the aims of accessible rural communities for the development of their area, and the challenges they face in achieving those aims.
- how these issues are reflected in government policy and funding initiatives (by the Scottish Executive and across other levels of government and public agencies), including the way initiatives are targeted
- policy priorities which should be pursued in order to help secure economic prosperity in accessible rural areas.

Sarah Boyack MSP, Convener of the Committee, said:

"During our fact-finding visits around Scotland in March it was obvious to us that there are some common issues, but there are very different perspectives in different parts of rural Scotland.

"For the next part of our inquiry, we are focussing on what are described as 'accessible' rural areas, to examine what appears to be an emerging gap between policy and funding which addresses city-regions and that which addresses more remote rural areas.

"Many rural areas seem as though they should be prospering because they are relatively near to urban centres, but they are

finding it hard to regenerate and finding that local people have to look to cities for employment and to access services. We want to examine how rural development policy can address the needs of these areas.”

The Committee has already visited different rural areas to find out what difference local people believe the Scottish Executive’s policies are making to rural areas, and what they think the Executive’s priorities should be for taking action to improve prosperity across rural Scotland.

Groups of Committee members visited:

- Barra
- Walkerburn and Jedburgh in the Borders
- Lochgelly and Anstruther in Fife,
- Durness in the north-west Highlands.

Details of the programme and timetable of the inquiry are available on the Environment and Rural Development Committee homepage at

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/committees/environment/index.htm>.

How to have your say

Evidence should be submitted no later than 12 noon on Friday 15 July 2005. Late submissions can be accepted only by prior arrangement with the Committee Clerk.

Evidence should be reasonably brief and typewritten (normally no more than 4 sides of A4). It would be most helpful if responses could be submitted by email:

<mailto:ERDC@scottish.parliament.uk>

Alternatively, responses can be submitted by letter to Christine Lambourne, Assistant Clerk, Environment and Rural Development Committee, Room T1.01, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh EH99 1SP.

Evidence received may be published by the Parliament and will be treated as a public document unless the submission specifically requests otherwise. If you wish your evidence not to be public, please discuss this with the Committee Clerk before submitting it. All responses will be circulated to the Committee. All responses become the property of the Scottish Parliament and we are unable to return documents.

For further information, the media contact is:

Richard Holligan: 0131 348 5605

email: richard.holligan@scottish.parliament.uk

For specific committee information, contact:

Mark Brough, Clerk to the Committee: 0131 348 5240

or

Katherine Wright, Senior Assistant Clerk: 0131 348 5221

email: ERDC@scottish.parliament.uk

For public information enquiries, contact: 0131 348 5000

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Distribution:-

CPP Management Group

ARGYLL MAPPING PROPOSAL

1. Overview

- a. The main thrust of Community Planning Partnership is to improve services and make the county of Argyll a desirable place in which to live work and relax.
- b. This can only be achieved by engaging with the community effectively to introduce economies of scale, having identified duplication of effort. To accomplish this across a county as geographically wide spread as Argyll, there has to be a robust communications infrastructure established for the entire county.
- c. This brief paper sets out the discussion basis for a possible solution.

2. Situation

- a. Many of the problems facing CPP are through lack of cohesive communications. The net result is a top down approach with unsatisfactory bottom up participation, which in turn creates problems when trying to engage more fully with the Community.
- b. CVS Argyll has been asked to manage an AIE initiative, a yet to be launched Argyll Community Website (ACW).
- c. In order for this to be effective it will be necessary to map the voluntary sector and create an interactive database which will be activated through the ACW.
- d. However, at the same time, the Social Economy Partnership Strategic group for Argyll have identified the need to map all social enterprise organisations and in addition, there are currently ROA mapping exercises being conducted in parts of the County.
- e. Consequently we are seeing the emergence of a fragmented approach to the communications problem and have created a position where we are potentially on the brink of duplication of effort.

3. Solution

- a. CVS Argyll are currently managing a successful transport project for the elderly in Dunoon as part of the Northern Periphery Programme. The project is called Cowal DESERVE. It demonstrates what can be gained through sharing experience and information at local, national and international levels to improve services for people actually living in remote rural areas.

- b. The first Scottish conference of DESERVE hosted in Dunoon in late May 2005 provided an opportunity to demonstrate what voluntary organisations can deliver working in partnership with colleagues in statutory agencies to provide innovative ways of inclusion for many different groups of people with a variety of needs.
- c. The international delegation consisted of people from Iceland, Finland, Sweden and Norway. Each country presented the results of their own projects.
- d. Iceland have been involved in an IT based project to effectively network the north of the country in an exercise called Mobilise All. It appears to have been successful (population 300,000).

4. Conclusion

- a. In September 2005 it will be Iceland's turn to host a conference to which the same countries engaged in NPP projects will be invited and they will present the latest advances of their projects.
- b. It is in this light, one that seeks to address a concerted partnership effort to look at the potential benefits of mapping the entire county of Argyll, that this paper should be viewed.

5. Recommendation

- a. It is presented that in view of the lack of communications infrastructure in Argyll and the fragmentary effect this has on community engagement, that benefit might be gained, in the first instance, by seeking to send a party at strategic level to understand more fully the success of Iceland's project.

PETER MINSHALL
Chief Executive
CVS Argyll

6th June, 2005