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COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

30 November 2005

A meeting of the **CPP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in the **SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE OFFICES, KILMORY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, LOCHGILPHEAD** on **WEDNESDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2005** at **10:30 AM**.

AGENDA

1. **WELCOME/APOLOGIES**
2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 OCTOBER 2005** (Pages 1 - 6)
3. **MINUTES OF COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2005** (Pages 7 - 12)
4. **MATTERS ARISING**
5. **INITIATIVE AT THE EDGE**
 - (a) Draft Note of Argyll Islands Steering Group held on 20 October 2005 (Pages 13 - 16)
 - (b) Two-monthly Report from the 3 Islands (To be tabled at meeting)
6. **FEEDBACK ON SEERAD RESEARCH ON RURAL SERVICE PRIORITY AREAS (RSPAS): VERBAL REPORT**
7. **COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES**
 - (a) Citizens Panel Feedback: Verbal Report
 - (b) Capacity Building Budget - Decision on second bid submissions (Pages 17 - 20)
 - (c) Update by Theme Group Leaders on Progress with CPP Priorities
 - Health and Wellbeing Theme Group (Gavin Brown) (Pages 21 – 22)
 - Argyll and the Islands Local Economic Forum (No progress to report since last paper to CPP Management Committee on 5 October 2005. Next Meeting: 14 December 2005)
 - Dunbartonshire Local Economic Forum Strategy 2006-2009 – Report by Aileen Edwards, Scottish Enterprise Dunbartonshire (Pages 23 – 34)
 - Sustaining and Developing our Communities, Culture and Environment Theme Group (No progress to report since last paper to CPP on 11 November 2005. Next Meeting: 26 January 2006)
 - (d) Capital Development Partnership: Verbal Report

- 8. AGRICULTURAL STRATEGY FOR THE ARGYLL AREA**
Presentation by Audrey Martin, Senior Development Officer, Argyll and Bute Council
- 9. RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION POST 2006**
Report by European Manager, Argyll and Bute Council (Pages 35 - 38)
- 10. STANDARDS OF ENGAGEMENT TRAINING/SUPPORT**
Report by Jim McCrossan, Community Learning and Regeneration Manager, Argyll and Bute Council (Pages 39 - 40)
- 11. COMMUNITY PLANNING BUDGET 05/06**(Pages 41 - 42)
- 12. AOCB**
- 13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 8 FEBRUARY 2006**

MINUTES of MEETING of CPP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held in the SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE OFFICES, KILMORY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, LOCHGILPHEAD on WEDNESDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2005

Present: Andrew Campbell, Scottish Natural Heritage (Chair)
Brian Barker, Argyll and Bute Council
Peter Minshall, Argyll CVS
Ken Abernethy, Argyll and the Islands Enterprise
David Dowie, Communities Scotland
Gavin Brown, NHS Argyll and Clyde
Andy Law, Argyll and Bute Council
Aileen Edwards, Dunbartonshire Economic Forum
Julian Hankinson, Argyll and Bute Community Council Association
Blair Fletcher, Argyll and Bute Council (Agenda Item 6 only)

Apologies: James McLellan, Argyll and Bute Council
Muriel Kupris, Argyll and Bute Council
Bill Dundas, SEERAD
Marlene Baillie, Strathclyde Police
Donald MacVicar, Argyll and Bute Council
Raymond Park, Strathclyde Police
Hughie Donaldson, Initiative at the Edge

1. WELCOME

Andrew Campbell welcomed everyone to the meeting. Lolita Lavery's progress was noted and the Management Committee wished her a speedy recovery.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 17 August 2005 were accepted as an accurate record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Initiative at the Edge: Andrew Campbell reported that he found the Initiative at the Edge Conference in Caithness to be a very good event and it gave him the opportunity to have a number of interesting discussions with rural communities. Andrew would make available the conference papers to anyone who was interested.

Hughie Donaldson would give an update on the Initiative at the Edge Conference at the next Steering Group meeting in October.

b) Argyll and Bute Housing Stock Transfer: The Management Committee noted that Ministerial approval had been received for the Argyll and Bute housing stock transfer to ACHA. Although the public have still to vote on this issue, the results of recent surveys indicated that there was overwhelming public support for the stock transfer to go ahead.

- c) **Purchase of land for housing** : It was noted that North Ayrshire had started a compulsory land purchase option on Arran in an effort to meet local housing needs.

4. **CONSULTATION ON DISSOLUTION OF NHS ARGYLL AND CLYDE**

Brian Barker reported that the Council's Policy Development Group (PDG) had met to consider a draft response to the Scottish Executive's consultation on NHS boundaries in Argyll and Bute. A copy of the draft submission report tabled at the PDG meeting had been circulated to the Management Committee. Brian Barker stated that one of the key issues was the impact in terms of governance for the different options.

Gavin Brown felt that both Options 1 and 5 would accord with the CPP perspective, but that the other options would fracture existing relationships and boundaries.

Andy Law stated that there was a good case to be made for local decision making and that we need to prove that the Argyll and Bute Single Health Board option was a better administrative model than being joined up through Glasgow or Inverness. He felt it was the only option that provided coterminosity.

Following a general discussion to explore the issues and the positive and negative effects of the various options, it was agreed that there was a role for the Community Planning Partnership to consider the impact of the options on the community and respond as an entity to the consultation document.

The Management Committee agreed the following action:

- a) Gavin Brown, as chair of the Health and Wellbeing Group, and Brian Barker would prepare a draft response on behalf of the Community Planning Partnership and circulate to the Management Committee for their comments.
- b) The results of the recent Citizen's Panel survey would be taken into account when preparing the draft response.
- c) The report would be submitted to the Community Planning Partnership Meeting on 11 November 2005 for ratification.

It was noted that although the deadline for the consultation was 4 November 2005, the Scottish Health Department had advised that they would be happy to accept a response from the Community Planning Partnership on 11 November, which they in turn would feedback to the Executive.

5. COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES

(a) Partnership Capital Development

Brian Barker gave a verbal progress report on the following opportunities where there may be scope for joint partnership development.

Four Waterfront areas in Argyll and Bute:

- (i) **Campbeltown** – very little change.
- (ii) **Oban**: consultants had been appointed to carry out a study.
- (iii) **Helensburgh**: on the verge of creating a partnership to focus on Helensburgh waterfront. This was the most advanced of the waterfront projects.
- (iv) **Dunoon**: the consultation brief has been put out to tender and looking to have a similar partnership as Helensburgh. The Council would be submitting a bid to the Living Landmarks Lottery Fund for the Dunoon Waterfront. An initial outline bid had to be lodged by 6 January 2006 and if successful £250,000 would be awarded to carry out a feasibility study with a final decision in 2007. This bid would have a good fit with the Dunoon Waterfront proposals.

Voluntary Services: It was noted that CVS had received funding to provide shared office facilities for voluntary services.

Scottish Agricultural Council (SAC): It was noted that SAC had been commissioned to carry out research on costs and benefits of co-locating services in rural Scotland. The research was due to be completed by the end of 2005.

Scottish Executive: Andy Law reported that the Executive was looking at integrated services delivery and that James McLellan had already expressed an interest in common public service functions.

(b) Future Action Plan

It was agreed to delay the discussion on future action plans until the Council had received their Best Value Audit report from Audit Scotland.

(c) CPP Budget 2005/06

The Management Committee noted that there was a projected surplus of £12,762 in the CPP budget for this financial year.

Confirmation had been received from Pat Flynn, Communities Scotland, that they would provide a grant of £10,000 to the Community Planning Partnership for 2005/06, subject to certain conditions. It was noted that the conditions were quite wide-ranging and therefore should not cause concern regarding meeting the core costs of the CPP budget.

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

Health and Wellbeing Theme Group 1: At their next meeting on 31 October 2005 the Group would discuss the programme and process for reviewing and updating the JHIP for presentation to the Community Planning Partnership for approval.

Argyll and the Islands Local Economic Forum: Ken Abernethy was pleased to report that European monies for Argyll Air Services was secured at the end of September 2005.

Funding for the new Construction Training Centre was now in place, except for European monies element. Decision on European monies expected at the beginning of December 2005.

Dunbartonshire Economic Forum – Updates by the Secretariat (SE Dunbartonshire) on behalf of DEF Board: Aileen Edwards reported that in consultation with key stakeholders and the private sector, the DEF was going forward with a new sharper strategy.

Sustaining & Developing our Communities, Culture & Environment Theme Group 3: The Group would discuss priority 4 and 5 of their Action Plan related to environment issues at their next meeting on 27 October 2005.

6. THE LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY PREPARATION

Blair Fletcher, the Council's Transportation Manager, gave a presentation on the development of a Local Transport Strategy (LTS) for Argyll and Bute. It was noted that the Scottish Executive had issued guidance on the preparation of Local Transport Strategies and wished to see the strategy fit within the overarching Community Plan and ensure that the Community Planning Partners were involved in the process.

The Management Committee noted the requirement to prepare the LTS over the coming months and agreed to:

- a) sign up to the production of the local transport strategy
- b) engage in its development
- c) take ownership of the final strategy document

The Management Committee also noted the proposed use of the Citizens Panel to gauge public opinion on transportation issues.

Ken Abernethy reported that the Scottish Executive were keen to see ambitious and radical solutions to transport problems. Although the strategy was only for a three year period he felt we should be taking the long term view.

Andrew Campbell agreed to issue a letter to all CPP partners asking them to engage in the development of the strategy and invite them to participate in workshops taking place in the Council Offices at Kilmory during November and December this year.

In response to Aileen Edwards concerns regarding the level of commitment required by partners, Ken Abernethy offered to attend LTS workshops on behalf of the Dunbartonshire Economic Forum. This was gratefully accepted and Ken would approach DEF with this offer of support.

7. COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP AGENDA

The Management Committee noted that agenda items for the next meeting of the Community Planning Partnership to be held on Friday, 11 November 2005.

8. AOCB

- (a) **Dates for Management Committee Meetings 2006:** It was agreed that the following suggested meeting dates for 2006 would be circulated to the Management Committee.

Wednesday 8 February
 Wednesday 19 April
 Wednesday 14 June
 Wednesday 16 August
 Wednesday 4 October
 Wednesday 6 December

- (b) **Update on Research Projects Commissioned by Scottish Executive**

i) **Research Project commissioned by Scottish Executive: "Service Priority, Accessibility and Quality in Rural:** Brian Barker reported that focus groups would be set up on Islay, Jura and Colonsay. There had been delays due to Scottish Executive having to issue research as a separate piece of work and also difficulties with ferry timetables.

ii) **Scottish Council Foundation: "Financial inclusion and capacity" research project:** Work was now timetabled.

- (c)

Highland Deprivation Research Meeting: Brian Barker and Muriel Kupris attended a meeting in Inverness to discuss Scottish Executive Multiple Deprivation statistics. The meeting focused on the Inverness area, which highlighted the difficulties of other areas and the islands participating in this type of forum. Brian Barker felt that the only way forward was to try and influence the Executive on how they work out their formula for multiple deprivation.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 7 December 2005 at 10.30 am in the Scottish Natural Heritage Offices, Kilmory Industrial Estate.

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ARGYLL AND BUTE PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**MINUTES of MEETING held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD on FRIDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2005****Present:**

Councillor Allan Macaskill (Chair)	Keith Miller, Forestry Commission Scotland
James McLellan, Argyll and Bute Council	Bill Dalrymple, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park
Alan Milstead, Argyll and the Islands Enterprise	Gordon Donaldson, Forestry Commission
David McGregor, Scottish Enterprise	John Ironside, Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
Dunbartonshire Local Economic Forum	James P Jones, Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
Brian Barker, Argyll and Bute Council	Geoff Calvert, Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
Peter Minshall, CVS Argyll	Donald MacVicar, Argyll & Bute Council
Andrew Campbell, Scottish Natural Heritage	Janet Crook, Communities Scotland
George McKenzie, Bute & Cowal Partnership	Mitch Roger, Strathclyde Police
Carl Olivarius, Argyll and Bute Council	Julian Hankinson, Association of Argyll and Bute Community Councils
Joan Inglis, VisitScotland	Eddy Graham, IBP Strategy
Jim Clinton, Bute Community Links C.V.S.	
Councillor Robin Banks, Argyll and Bute Council	
Andy MacKay-Hubbard, Argyll and Bute Council	

Apologies:

Marlene Baillie, Strathclyde Police	Alistair Oatts, Argyll and Bute Care and Repair
James Fraser, VisitScotland	Lolita Lavery, Community Planning Manager
George Harper, Argyll and Bute Council	Ann Clark, Islay and Jura CVS
Erik Jespersen, NHS Argyll and Clyde	Alan McDougall, Fyne Homes
Colin MacLeod, Careers Scotland	Shane Rankin, Crofters Commission
Andy Law, Argyll and Bute Council	Jacqui MacLeod, Crofters Commission

1. WELCOME

Councillor Allan Macaskill welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 JULY 2005

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2005 were accepted as an accurate record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) **International Links:** Following the CPP meeting on 8 July 2005, the Community Planning Management Committee made contact with various community planning partnerships and other organisations to determine the nature of international links they had developed. The majority of responses received stated that no international links had been developed across the country. The international links that do exist tend to be direct with local authorities rather than the CPPs, with the focus on twinning links or response to crises.
- (b) **Initiative at the Edge:** James McLellan reported that he had attended the Initiative at the Edge (IatE) National Steering Group meeting on 7 November 2005 in Inveraray along with Allan Macaskill, Hughie Donaldson, the National Co-ordinator for IatE, and Andrew Campbell. It was noted that the local IatE groups would provide regular

monitoring reports to keep the Community Planning Partnership informed of their plans and any potential barriers to progress so that partners were aware of what was happening on the ground.

- (c) **Scottish Executive Desktop Study on Public Service Authorities:** The Council had very recently received further information on the Study and how it would be carried out. Part of the process would involve facilitated workshops which would be held over the next few weeks, followed by a National Conference. The CPP would be advised of the suggested dates for the workshops and how this could be taken forward.

4. PRESENTATION BY EDDY GRAHAM, FROM IBP STRATEGY AND RESEARCH ON THE RESULTS OF THE 9TH QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE CITIZENS' PANEL

Eddy Graham from IBP Strategy and Research gave a presentation on the results of the 9th Questionnaire to the Citizens' Panel. It was noted that the results from the survey showed that people were more interested in outcomes and service delivery rather than how it was managed. James McLellan commented that the Scottish Executive was steering Councils towards putting services together as a 'one door' approach, however from the results of the survey this did not appear to be customer led.

Andrew Campbell felt that with regard to sustainable development we should be highlighting issues such as housing and population decline.

5. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Andrew Campbell gave a verbal update on the Management Committee. It was noted that a representative from the Best Value Audit Team attended the Management Committee meeting on 17 August 2005 and stated that she was intrigued by the level of partnerships involved in CPP in Argyll and Bute and that the Chair of the Management Committee was a non-council person.

Andrew Campbell encouraged the partners to look at the Community Planning web site to access papers and minutes of meetings. (www.actionargyllandbute.org.uk).

6. RESPONSE TO HEALTH BOARD CONSULTATION

The Partnership noted the contents of letter dated 19 October 2005 from the Chief Executive, Argyll and Bute Council, to Andy Kerr, Minister for Health and Community Care, in response to the Health Board consultation. It was noted that the Council's favoured option was the amalgamation of Argyll and Bute Council area with Highland Health Board.

It was noted that some issues had still to be addressed such as representation for Argyll and Bute on the new Health Board, delegated powers and the name of the new Health Board.

The Chair of the meeting asking if there were any objections to the Council's decision and a few partners stated that they could not comment on behalf of their organisation as they were not involved with Health Services. In response, Andrew Campbell stated that if there were no Health Service then these organisations could not function in the area and encouraged all partners to consider the implications of the consultation document.

Andrew Campbell stated that a response on behalf of CPP to the Health Board consultation would be prepared and that the results of the latest Citizens Panel survey would be taken into account.

7. LIVING LANDMARKS – DUNOON MARINE GATEWAY

Brian Barker provided a verbal update on Living Landmarks Lottery Fund bid for a Dunoon Marine Gateway and circulated copies of his presentation. It was noted that the project funding could be up to £25m, 75% of the project cost. An initial outline bid had to be lodged by 6 January 2006 and if successful £250,000 would be awarded to carry out a feasibility study with a final decision in mid-2007. A key funding criteria was that the project must have a community/stakeholder involvement and have a significant community impact in the area.

Brian Barker stated that a community project of this nature would raise the profile of Argyll and Bute, bring more people to the area and provide a boost to the economic development of local areas. It was noted that the results of the recent Citizens Panel survey showed that there was significant public support for a Dunoon Marine Gateway.

In response to the question concerning the 25% funding balance, Brian Barker advised that the Council had earmarked monies in their capital budget and partners had also given an indication of support. It was noted that the funding bid would include costs for the replacement of the Queens Hall in Dunoon, which was already in the Council's capital budget programme. Inverclyde had also indicated that they would provide financial support for this project.

Members of the Community Planning Partnership were supportive of the project to develop the Dunoon Marine Gateway.

8. QUALITY OF LIFE FUNDING

In response to the Scottish Executive request that councils discuss the use of Quality of Life (QOL) funds with Community Planning Partnerships, a report by Bruce West had been circulated outlining the proposed use of Quality of Life (QOL) funds for 2006/07 and 2007/08.

The meeting noted the proposed use of QOL funds and the allocated funding of £0.979m for 2006/07 and £0.973m for 2007/08.

In response to Alan Milstead's request, it was agreed that the Project/Initiative column in the report, which largely refers to Theme Group 1, Health and Wellbeing, should be amended to show how the projects were also linked to Theme Group 3 and the Economic Forum.

9. COASTAL AND MARINE NATIONAL PARK

Andrew Campbell reported that the Scottish Executive had announced its intention to create Scotland's first coastal and marine National Park in 2008 and that Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has been asked to provide advice on:

- the statutory and policy framework for a coastal and marine National Park, including the aims, powers and governance structure which would be appropriate for a National Park Authority and its likely running costs;

- recommendations on which area or areas Ministers should consider as leading candidates for designation.

SNH had been asked by the Scottish Executive to work closely in developing its advice with a range of relevant stakeholders, including those from the business, community and nature conservation sectors and report back findings in March 2006.

Allan Macaskill reported that a paper on Coastal and Marine National Park was being tabled at the Council's Strategic Policy Committee meeting on 8 December 2005. It was agreed that a copy of this paper would be forwarded to Andrew Campbell for his comments and also copies would be distributed to CPP partners for their consideration.

10. COMMUNITY PLANNING ISSUES

(a) UPDATE ON CPP PRIORITIES (THEME GROUP LEADERS)

Health and Wellbeing Group

The Partnership noted the report on the activities by the Health and Wellbeing Group.

Councillor Robin Banks asked how alcohol abuse was being monitored and reported in Argyll and Bute. He felt that despite this issue being a significant problem in the area, the Council received very little feedback on what was being achieved by local initiatives. In the absence of Gavin Brown, it was agreed that he would be asked to respond direct.

Argyll and the Isles Enterprise Local Economic Forum

Alan Milstead gave a verbal update on behalf of Argyll and the Isles Enterprise Local Economic Forum, copies of which were circulated.

The Partnership noted that funding for the new Construction Training Centre was now largely in place, with an application of £346,000 to European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

In response to James McLellan's question regarding providing statistics for Argyll and Bute area in respect of JobCentrePlus – Pathways to Work Scheme, Alan Milstead felt it may be difficult to extrapolate the figures but would look into the matter to see if it was possible. James McLellan said that this information would be helpful for the Council's Employability Team.

Donald MacVicar welcomed the news that 50 staff were now employed in the Campbeltown Contact Centre.

Dunbartonshire Economic Forum

A verbal update was given by David McGregor, stating that they had enjoyed a good level of business activity with 31 new business start-ups and over 500 business enquiries. It was noted that the Dunbartonshire Local Economic Forum had refreshed its strategy in line with emerging drivers facing the area. The aim of the strategy was to make the organisation distinctive and provide value added benefits. A copy of the

strategy will be circulated to the Community Planning partners in due course and a presentation on the new strategy will be arranged for the next CPP meeting on 3 March 2006.

Sustaining & Developing our Communities, Culture & Environment Group

The Partnership noted a report on the activities of the Sustaining & Developing our Communities, Culture & Environment Group, presented by Donald MacVicar, copies having previously been circulated.

It was noted that recent meetings of the Theme Group have concentrated on reviewing its six priorities and overall progress was very good.

(b) UPDATE ON BUTE AND COWAL AREA PARTNERSHIP

George McKenzie provided a verbal update on the Bute and Cowal Area Partnership and stated that the formation of the partnership had taken slightly longer than anticipated. It had not yet moved fully into its planning stage, but had identified a few projects to be pursued through the partnership in the coming year.

It was noted that the partnership wished to record their disappointment at the rejection of a funding bid to the Community Capacity Fund, which would have allowed youth in the Bute and Cowal area to look at ways of highlighting and promoting community planning to their peers through the production of a DVD. The partnership may re-submit their bid for the second round of funding from the Community Capacity Fund or may try and obtain funding from other sources.

Alan Milstead reported that there were a number of new people attending the Bute and Cowal Area Partnership meetings and he felt that training issues need to be addressed so that they were clear on their role and remit of the partnership.

11. AOCB

- (a) **Strathclyde Fire and Rescue:** John Ironside reported that as the Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service had recently gone through a restructuring exercise it may be helpful to provide a presentation to the CPP. It was agreed that a presentation would be given at the next CPP meeting in March 2006.
- (b) **Community Engagement:** As a result of the Council obtaining 6 days free consultancy funded by the Scottish Executive, workshop sessions on community engagement will be arranged in January/February 2006 for senior management and partners, followed up with specific surgeries. Further information will be circulated to partners when firmed up.
- (c) **Housing Stock Transfer:** An independent postal ballot will shortly be conducted regarding the transfer of all Council housing stock to ACHA.
- (d) **NPDO/PPP Programme:** Financial close of 9 school projects on four sites had been reached, except for Helensburgh which was out to tender.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY 3 MARCH 2006

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DRAFT

Notes from Argyll Islands Steering Group
Held 20th Oct 2005.
A.I.E. Offices Kilmory

Present :-

James Maclellan Argyll & Bute Council. (JML)
Deirdre Forsyth Argyll & Bute Council. (DF)
Andrew Campbell Scottish Natural Heritage. (AC)
David Dowie Communities Scotland. (DD)
Rhona Sutherland Argyll & Isles Enterprise. (RS)
Hughie Donaldson IATE Coordinator. (HD)

Apologies from :-

Jacqui MacLeod Crofters Commission.
John Dreghorn NHS Scotland.

A general discussion on progress and objectives was had for around 15 minutes prior to the meeting getting under way and this allowed all to highlight personal contacts with the various groups. This gave an atmosphere of continued concern for the progress of the island communities and a note of the achievements which have been secured.

The meeting then focussed on the impending National Steering Group Meeting in Inveraray.

The group felt that items for discussion at the meeting would be

- Royal Mail reorganisation - especially Jura.
- Scottish Water Liaison Officer.

These items were agreed for discussion.

JML then tabled a position paper on current understanding of the structure of the Rural Development Regulation (RDR). This is still being worked on for specific measures but the framework appears to have been agreed.

It was agreed that **DF** & **HD** work on papers to inform future work. This would be derived from **DF**'s work with SISU and **HD**'s work with LEADER + in order to build a case for a LEADER type model for future community based initiatives.

In the meantime the A&B European officer would be asked to table a paper as an item for the NSG and based on developing this train of thought.

The group agreed that efforts would be made to try to gain support from the NSG for this approach to future development.

JML informed the meeting of the themes for the Convention of The Highlands & Islands (COHI) which for this meeting would be

- Population Growth
- Health Service Issues
- Transport & Infrastructure.

JML offered to present these papers to this group when available **DF** to action.

HD then asked for local progress reports regarding the groups contacts with the islands.

Particular concerns were

- Position (grading) of LDO on Jura.
- Community confidence regarding forthcoming Crofters Commission Hearing on Coll
- Position of Coll development Group as motivators for change.
- Progress of Coll development plan and approval of same.

RS then clarified the situation on Jura where clear boundaries have been drawn between the Jura Development Trust, Feolin Study centre and IATE. A significant public meeting will take place on Jura on 1st Dec where the HiTrans paper and feasibility study for the possible Jura direct link will be discussed as well as a full community meeting in the evening.

The CC hearing is causing concern and the local dev group have withdrawn from community contact in order to remain neutral. **HD** confirmed he would attend the hearing and subsequent community meeting in an effort to offer support where asked and necessary. The opportunity to progress the community plan would also be taken while on Coll.

HD also highlighted the forthcoming Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTA Scot) event which will be held in Oban on 22nd & 23rd Nov. This will be a good networking event for the island LDO`s and they will be encouraged to attend.

In addition the LDO`s will be asked to attend web based training in Inverness on 24th & 25th Nov in order for them to become familiar with the IATE web site workings. They will all be able to access the site for admin and be able to post their own pages after this event. Discussion groups will also be set up during the training in Inverness.

AC then gave a feedback summary from the Lybster Conference.

AC`s comments were

- A useful and informative event.
- Excellent network opportunity for community reps.
- Caithness contacts highlighted lack of authority support at the beginning.
- A lot of common problems across areas.
- Youth engagement and work was an issue almost everywhere.
- Access to wider resources was seen as a major problem.

HD then offered the 4 main points which had arisen from the Lybster event

- A common funding application form for IATE capital projects endorsed at CPP level.
- Local groups to develop links to CPP`s
- Develop Training & Skills packs for small communities.
- Develop community networks for LDO`s and community volunteers.

JML was keen to see the CPP endorsement form progressed and all agreed that this could be a positive step.

Further discussion saw agreement that linking to CPP was the best way forward for the local groups. **HD** was asked to make sure that the local groups could raise their voice in the CPP forum. **AC** gave the example of the Nadair Trust as a motivator for change in bottom up development.

It was agreed that **DF & HD** enable the 3 LDO`s to participate in the Spring meeting of the CPP. This would necessarily be a low key introduction by the LDO`s and used as an information gathering event for them.

DD then asked if we could further develop this theme from the spring meeting and look to enabling a long term action plan for the Argyll Islands which will be derived from the local efforts and plans of the communities.

JML asked if it would be possible to insert links to CPP documents and agendas, meeting papers and feasibility studies on the IATE web site and this was agreed. Similarly links from community plans on IATE site back to CPP and again agreed that LDO attendance of spring meeting would be a good start to this process.

DD offered the chance for LDO`s to meet with communities Scotland staff if they were off the island at any time. **HD** to progress this.

Suggestions to alter dates for IATE conference were not favourable and it was agreed to try to keep dates just prior to Autumn COHI and NSG meeting.

RS made a plea for more targeted support for the IATE islands as she felt that over a short timescale more could be achieved with this type of mentoring and hand holding exercise.

JML asked if more targeted finance was the answer and it was agreed that this was not the basic problem.

The problem was slightly different in each location but boiled down to the capacity of each community to engage with and work effectively with the various agencies and local authority.

Mention was made of recruiting community champions, defining unique identities for communities, finding good selling points for each island but in the end no clear resolution could be found to the problem.

No action was agreed on this point.

However the work of the LDO's in reporting to the CPP could again be the start of targeted support and it was agreed to make sure that they attended the spring meeting. **HD & DF** to ensure.

DD asked if it would be possible to centralise a support team within CPP and this team could effectively work with one community at a time to bring forward ideas and build the capacity to deal with the support issue. Further discussion on this is required with partners at CPP level.

Formal part of the meeting ended and further discussions on various points of interest were continued over tea & coffee. The main item of agreement was that if we are successful in enabling the communities to interact with the CPP we would have no need for a local steering group and this group could be stood down. This was seen as an objective for the next 12 months.

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Capacity Building Fund – Round 2

CPP Management Committee – 7 December 2005

Responses

There were five responses to the request for bids this time round – a smaller number than the first round.

The quality of bids had improved significantly. A summary analysis is appended, as are the complete bid submissions.

All the available funds will be allocated if the bids are supported in line with the recommendations below

Recommendations

- To provide the requested amount for the YACES project
- To part fund the Kintyre Toolkit and Carers Support projects
- To decline the request for funds from the Voluntary Sector Policy group and Nàdair Trust

Brian Barker

Policy and Strategy Manager
Argyll and Bute Council
30 November 2005

Capacity Building Fund – summary of submissions

August 2005

Project (inc description)	Submitted by	Additional partners (yes/no who)	Expected benefits	Skills development (Yes/No)	Amounted requested (max £5k)	Comment	To fund or not?
<p>YACES – Young Active Citizens Essential Skills</p> <p>Develop the confidence and skills of young people and engage them in community activity through citizenship training.</p>	Argyll and Bute Volunteer Centre	Bute and Cowal ADG, Links to Learning, Learn Direct, The Prince's Trust, HELP Project, Argyll CVS	<p>Focus on Bute and Cowal CPP pilot area.</p> <p>Target 11-25 year olds to become more confident and active in decision making structures – e.g. community planning, lottery youth panels etc</p>	yes	£3600 – matched by £3790 from partners	Project needs to link to the Youth Forums being developed by the Council	Yes (£3600)
<p>Voluntary Sector – Child Protection</p> <p>Audit of training needs for the voluntary sector with respect to child protection</p>	Voluntary Sector Policy Group	Argyll and Bute Council, Argyll CVS, Argyll and Bute Volunteer Centre	To provide baseline information for development of training	No	£2500	<p>No detail on costs</p> <p>No emphasis on skills</p>	No

Project (inc description)	Submitted by	Additional partners (yes/no who)	Expected benefits	Skills development (Yes/No)	Amounted requested (max £5k)	Comment	To fund or not?
<p>Working together – Toolkit for Kintyre</p> <p>Produce a toolkit to map out partnership and how organisations link together with associated training</p>	South Kintyre Community Learning Partnership	Campbeltown ADG, Kintyre Healthy Living Partnership, Voluntary Sector Policy Group	<p>Overcome barriers to involvement in planning and decision making</p> <p>Improved working relationships, networks and understanding</p> <p>Encourage local members of partnerships through increased self esteem and knowledge</p>	Yes	<p>£4630</p> <p>£3475 if pack printed by partners</p>	<p>Uses the National Standards for Community Engagement</p> <p>No matched funding from partners</p> <p>Training needs to be shared and developed with other people rather than restricted to initial participants</p>	Yes – at reduced level of £3475
<p>Support for carers</p> <p>Development of a group to support carers who in turn will support other carers (as 'expert carers')</p>	Dochas Fund	ARMS Centre	<p>Build confidence and skills of 'expert carers' to provide counselling and support to help other carers.</p> <p>Carers will feel valued and so regain confidence and energy.</p>	Yes	<p>£5000</p> <p>Matched funding of £15000 from other sources</p>	<p>AIE are able to provide some support for skills development.</p> <p>Links with CPP partners, especially related to health and social care is not explicit</p>	<p>Yes - £2500 with suggestion to contact Alan Milstead at AIE to apply for support for the outstanding £2500</p>

Project (inc description)	Submitted by	Additional partners (yes/no who)	Expected benefits	Skills development (Yes/No)	Amounted requested (max £5k)	Comment	To fund or not?
Sustainable development on Atlantic Islands capacity building bursary fund to subsidise assistance provided by Nàdair Support Services	Nàdair Trust	Partners form Nàdair Trust board including VisitScotland, RSPB, Argyll and Bute Council, SNH, AIE and Historic Scotland	Support for groups in the Atlantic Islands on a range of topics, under the general heading of sustainable development of the region's natural and built heritage	Not clear	£5000	Objectives sound good Bursary fund does not fit with the CPP objectives. Groups could have been encouraged to apply directly Little detail with regard to finances Lack of clarity on how capacity will be built – the direct beneficiaries are not clear	No

ARGYLL & BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**Meeting of Community Planning Partnership Management Committee:
7 December 2005****Report from Health & Well-being Theme Group**

In my last paper, I reported on the allocations made at the meeting on 19 September from the Health Improvement Fund. Since then the Group met on 31 October and agreed to fund the following.

Helensburgh Public Health network - £2,000
Argyll & Bute Against Domestic Abuse - £5,000
Three Health Improvement Projects for Young People (Kintyre) - £8,500

Earlier this year the Management Committee had asked the Theme Group to consider how Care and Repair and the various initiatives might tie together. This would fit with the remit of integrating health and housing projects in Argyll & Bute. A group, consisting of representatives from Strathclyde Police, Better Neighbourhood Services and Communities Scotland, met on 14 November to scope the exercise. I had planned to have a paper reporting the outcome of this meeting to the Management Committee but other commitments have prevented this. I shall brief the Committee at the meeting.

The conference on alcohol, in partnership with the local Substance Forum & ADAT, took place on 18 November in the Argyll Hotel, Inveraray

As I have reported before the Group is planning the update of the JHIP. Its meeting on 12 December has been brought forward to 7 December and the Group has asked for written reports from the local networks and some idea of changes to their local plans. The Group set up a small sub-group to report at the same meeting on the updating of Section One. This work will update the JHIP, without carrying out a major revamp, as happened last year. This timetable is intended to allow presentation of the JHIP, through the Management Committee, to the Partnership to the same early time scale as the Group managed for this year.

Gavin Brown
Chair, Health & Well-being Theme Group
25 November 2005

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Dunbartonshire Local Economic Forum

Strategy 2006-2009

Draft 2 – 22 September 2005

- 1 Introduction**
- 2 Dunbartonshire – A Changing Context**
- 3 Priority Issues for Growth**
- 4 Releasing Constraints to Growth**
- 5 Performance Measures**
- 6 LEF Role and leadership**



1 Introduction

This document sets out the second three-year strategy prepared by the Dunbartonshire Local Economic Forum (LEF). In preparing it the LEF has considered both:

- past experiences and the lessons learned from LEF operations
- future challenges in a changing economic context for Dunbartonshire, the Glasgow City Region and for Scotland

It is the view of the Dunbartonshire LEF that it must now adopt a clearer and more narrowly focused role in contributing to developing the economy.

Reflecting this new agenda the rationale for the contents of this strategy is to:

- achieve impact at a Glasgow City Region level
- support Scottish level strategic development objectives
- develop sustainable competitive advantage in Dunbartonshire organisations
- require multi-partner engagement to enable delivery
- set out a role for the LEF as a niche player with both strategic thinking and delivery roles
- offer strategic leadership and challenge for Dunbartonshire's stakeholder organisations
- offer a route to more effective engagement by the private sector in the region's economic development

This strategy will not:

- replay activities from within individual stakeholder strategies or operating plans
- present lists of established projects and programmes
- avoid making decisions about priorities and thereby 'spreading the jam too thinly'
- propose excessive or inconsequential measurement frameworks that do not track progress on the critical issues set out in this strategy

This strategy does not set out to address every economic development issue in Dunbartonshire. It will focus on driving the *causes* of economic growth, rather than dealing with the *effects* of there not being enough growth. We believe that this offers a more attractive and business-orientated case for private sector participation based on growing opportunity and demand. This leaves a clear public sector role in correcting market failures that could constrain that growth.



2 Dunbartonshire – A Changing Context

The 2005 Metropolitan Glasgow Economic Audit produced a base of evidence and analysis to help guide the development of the regional economy. As part of the city region, Dunbartonshire is subject to the key strategic choices set out in that work as the challenges for 'step change' in:

- **building the business and employment base** – the stock of businesses in the metropolitan area is substantially lower in comparison to the rest of Scotland and the UK. Hence there is not enough wealth and employment creating capacity in the region and this must be increased
- **raising the quality of the business and employment base** – recognising the need for increasing competitiveness across all sectors and the migration of manufacturing and service jobs overseas, local companies need to generate higher added value outputs and incomes, and stimulate the growth of higher skilled and higher paid jobs
- **selecting key sectors and using our assets** – the Glasgow area has a relatively low degree of sector specialisation in comparison to all other UK city regions and there are no significant clusters. Building on existing, and developing appropriate new, specialisms offers a route to competitive advantage
- **building from the bottom up** – growing self employment, which is significantly under-represented in Glasgow, will contribute more micro-business and may offer a route to tackle worklessness as well as building the business base, this is an alternative to making 'big bets' on key sectors

The LEF will focus on contributing to success in these factors where Dunbartonshire can make a positive contribution at the City Region level as well as locally.



3 Priority Issues for Growth

The selection of priorities is based on the rationale and the economic issues set out in the previous sections. The choices have been made by identifying those areas that offer the best match between current assets and maximising leverage from development opportunities. The priority contributions that Dunbartonshire could make at the City Region level have roles in being both:

- place specific – offering a readily identifiable and tangible focus for activity that enables close identification with its role and contribution at the city region, and Scottish levels. In the diagram attached these are presented as **Wealth Hubs**
- sector specific – recognising the benefits of activities that are identified with national level priorities and enable concentration of technical competences that will deliver a distinctive and sustainable competitive advantage based on **Sectoral Specialisms**

For each of these a third category **Delivery Focus** is added with three elements that reflect Smart Successful Scotland and the already well understood needs of the Dunbartonshire economy. These are:

- **business base improvement** – addressing both the underperformance of the economy in the creation of businesses, and the need to ensure that Dunbartonshire's businesses make progress in increasing their value add and the quality of employment opportunities
- **people development** – supporting both those in work, to help them improve their individual and business competitiveness, as well as those coming into the labour market as young people or adults returning to work
- **enhancing attractiveness** – recognising Dunbartonshire as a place that is a contributor to the Glasgow City Region and that simultaneously competes with and complements parts of it in attracting and retaining the people and businesses that will drive growth

The choice of priorities in this strategy is based on maximising leverage possibilities where a wealth hub is underpinned by a sectoral specialism, which is in turn strengthened by that wealth hub. These combinations offer specific opportunities for delivery focus on higher impact outcomes for Dunbartonshire and the city region, as well as contribute to national level objectives.



3.1 Wealth hubs

This strategy sets out three wealth hubs for Dunbartonshire's contribution at a city region level. These are:

Clydeside Regeneration – the physical renewal of the Clyde riverside extending from central Glasgow through Clydebank and down the river. This will provide opportunities to attract new residents and businesses as well as deliver a step change in the physical attractiveness of the area.

Loch Lomond and Clyde – the ongoing development of the tourism product in Dunbartonshire built around the global branding potential of Loch Lomond, the National Park and the River Clyde

Beatson, Gartcubie and Golden Jubilee – Development of healthcare and life sciences industries around the established facilities and hardcore science based on these sites and working with their supporting academic institutions

It is important to recognise that none of these is based on a single location, but all three have regional, national or international 'flagship' potential in projecting Dunbartonshire as progressive and successful.

3.2 Sectoral specialisms

Each of the wealth hubs is underpinned by a sectoral specialism that has strategic significance at the Scottish level and has the potential to make high impact contributions to the Dunbartonshire economy. These are:

Construction – identified at a Scottish level as an employment growth industry which has particular value in providing work opportunities for both young people and adults across a range of skills. This is an important agenda for the West of Scotland and the Scottish Construction Industry initiative is led by SE Glasgow. More effective engagement with employers is essential to ensure that these employment and training opportunities for Dunbartonshire people are realised.

Tourism and Leisure – Dunbartonshire is an important player in the Scottish tourism business, the development of Loch Lomond and the creation of the National Park offer a platform to develop that further. There is recognition of the need to lift levels of quality, productivity and innovation in the Scottish tourism product and cascade that through the sector. This will be critically dependant on engagement with the private sector operators.

Healthcare and Life Sciences – the importance of life sciences to Scotland is well evidenced in the national level investment in the ITI and in the significance of Glasgow's international reputation and attractiveness in aspects of medical research and healthcare. However, there is much to be done to reflect those academic strengths in the development of Scottish globally competitive healthcare businesses and in the high value employment opportunities those businesses offer. The role of public sector employers in healthcare and higher education is recognised as critical.



3.3 Delivery focus

The delivery focus for the LEF strategy in support of the wealth hubs and sectoral specialisms proposed is defined as:

Business Base Improvement – *more and better businesses*

- New business creation in tourism and life sciences – both of these established as priorities at the city region level in line with eg City Science in Glasgow
- Inward investment – recognising that both the life sciences and tourism inward investment strategies will be highly niche and focused around specific locations
- Innovation – linking with Scottish level initiatives in tourism innovation and eg the Proof of Concept funding in relation to relevant academic research and development. Using physical regeneration to drive up the innovation and competitiveness of construction companies

People development – *more employment at higher skills*

- People into Employment – recognising the opportunities to get many of Dunbartonshire's longer term unemployed and vocationally oriented school leavers into training and work opportunities in construction and tourism. The role of employers in this, and the difficulties to date, are recognised as an area for further work
- Workforce development – the problems of workforce development in the life science and tourism sectors are quite different but the benefits to the competitiveness of the people and businesses of Dunbartonshire are the same. The size and nature of many of these businesses offers particular challenges that have to be solved across Scotland in its tourism and science based small businesses
- Leadership development – the leadership and management competencies of those charged with creating and growing the business base are a critical success factor in the wealth hubs and other industries. The relative concentration in these sectors offers opportunities for Dunbartonshire to develop distinctive competencies in improving management and leadership competencies

Enhancing place attractiveness – *more people wanting to come here*

Dunbartonshire's 'reach' in terms of whether these priorities should be targeted and resourced to have impact at the level of significance:

- City region impact
- National reach and impact
- International reach and impact

Both the tourism and life sciences components have the potential to make an international level contribution. However much of the direct economic impact will be as a result of local activity and a balance will be required to ensure optimal benefits and the highest level outcomes.



4 Releasing Constraints to Growth

The LEF recognises three areas of activity where work could help stakeholders release constraints to economic growth and development. These are:

- external lobbying
- efficient public services
- improving futures awareness and appreciation of change

4.1 External lobbying

There are genuine brakes to progress in Dunbartonshire over which the LEF and other individual stakeholders have limited direct control. The role of the LEF is therefore to:

- gather appropriate information and flag these issues up
- assess the opportunity costs being incurred
- lobby appropriate agencies to have these issues addressed, prioritised and resolved

Examples include:

- transport links – the location of Dunbartonshire on the north and west of the city region has long been recognised as an important constraint to both personal and commercial mobility. This impacts both individual and business locational decisions and is recognised as a significant constraint to growth
- planning processes – frequently raised as an issue by the business community in terms of both the complexity of the processes and the timescales involved in concluding planning applications
- quality of public service delivery – the attractiveness of Dunbartonshire and Glasgow to new talent will be increasingly influenced by perceptions of the quality of services such as education, health and community safety that potential investors and their families would expect

The LEF has no power to change either of these issues however it will lobby at the appropriate political and administrative levels to project the case for Dunbartonshire and its development.

4.2 Efficient public services

A culture of collaboration in innovation and continuous improvement across Dunbartonshire's stakeholders will support the delivery of economic development services, and increase the attractiveness of the area for talent and businesses. Identifying and developing the appropriate competencies across the area will accelerate Dunbartonshire's competitiveness.

Dunbartonshire has seen significant development of partnership working processes and the LEF believes that it is worthwhile continuing to refine and



develop them. Early LEF work in looking at business support mechanisms proved that multi-agency working in environments where organisations must respond to new ministerial initiatives tends to give rise to ‘institutional clutter’ that requires ongoing review and maintenance to:

- draw on and recycle learning from the best experience
- ensure early recognition of redundancy
- identify new needs and responses as quickly and flexibly as possible

4.3 Improving futures awareness and appreciation of change

The LEF believes that it has a key role in helping stakeholders and agencies in Dunbartonshire achieve a higher level of awareness and appreciation of the longer-term threats and opportunities facing the region. Greater levels of futures awareness will increase our organisations’ preparedness for change and thereby our likelihood of yielding better benefits from those changes.

The LEF recognises that individual organisations and businesses do not have the time and resources to devote to this work and a LEF facilitation role will deliver a value add for all players. This work should include:

- pooled research and foresighting work on key issues for Dunbartonshire and the city region
- challenging and provocative presentation of the findings to the public and private sector stakeholders
- gathering responses and driving up the quality of strategic thinking and planning in the area making it more resilient and future focused



5 Performance Measures

Dunbartonshire is subject to an array of performance measurement systems. The LEF will not want to add to or duplicate these. The success of this strategy will be measured in success and progress on the key projects

(These will be done when the key themes are agreed).



6 LEF Role and Leadership

For a LEF strategy to carry any weight the LEF itself must have a clear role that is recognised by stakeholders across the region. In this strategy we set out these roles as:

- strategic leadership
- effective partnership working
- accelerating performance

6.1 Strategic leadership

The LEF must become the 'voice' of Dunbartonshire and be viewed as this by partners and the wider community and it should be central to economic development in the area. The LEF should be contributing to regional and national level issues and should be a forthright advocate of the case for Dunbartonshire.

6.2 Effective partnership working

There must be more active communication channels between the LEF, the partners, the sub groups and the Community Planning community within which it sits. The LEF has a role in providing more direction as to the rationale for the strategy, highlighting the benefits to all partners and the wider Dunbartonshire area. The LEF should be a driver of Community Planning ie we need people from community planning around the table.

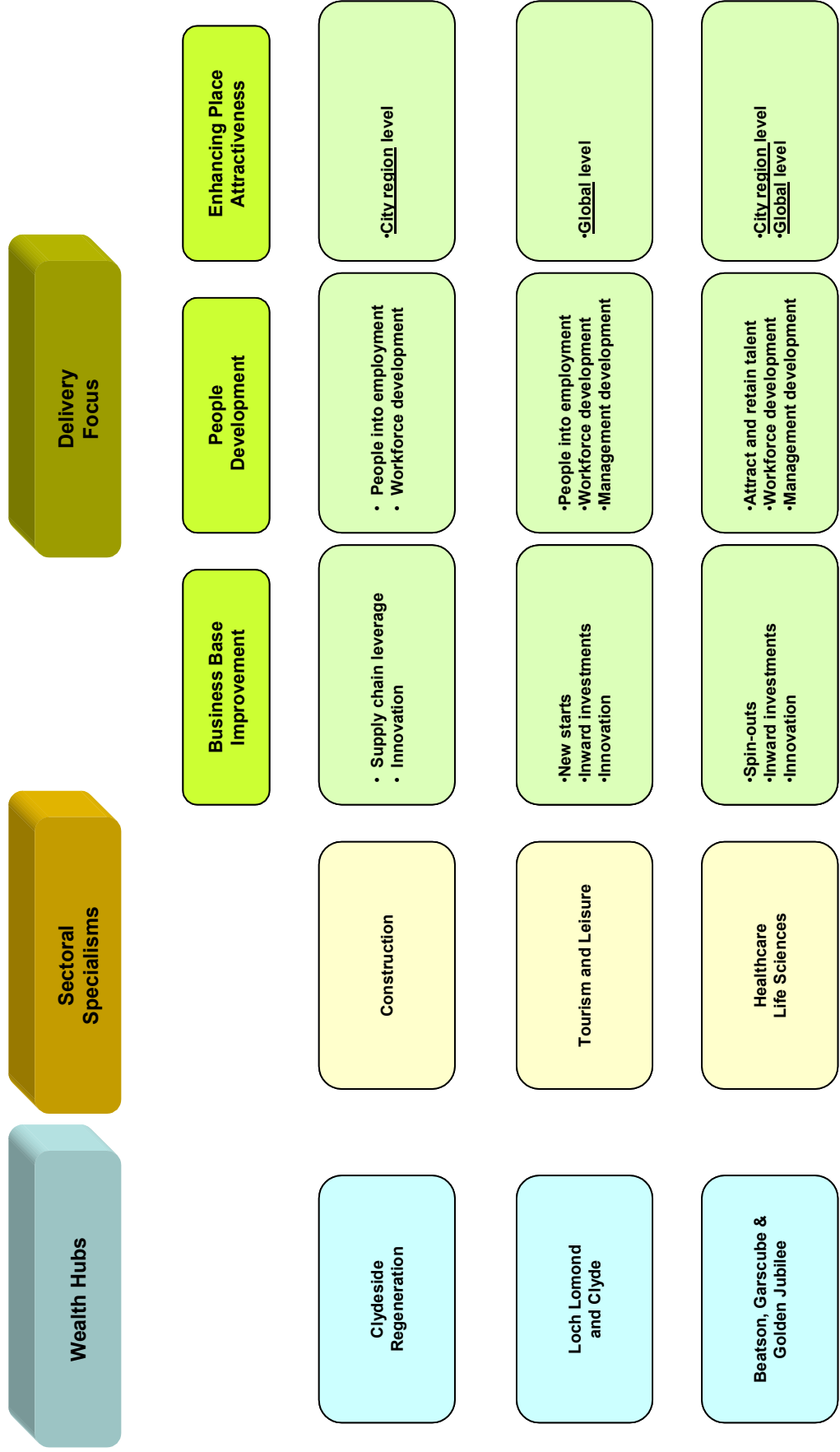
There will need to be more formal reporting of progress on activities coming from the LEF strategy and better clarity of actions coming from meetings.

6.3 Accelerating performance

The LEF will have a focus on activities that add value to the local economy by driving up performance in the wealth hub 'flagships'. LEF partners also have a role to play in, for example, supporting SED build a case for attracting increased resources from SE. The LEF will focus more on deliverables, setting out actions and timescales.

The remit of the current sub-groups will be reviewed and aligned to each groups' respective roles and responsibilities. This could relate to alignment with wealth hubs or it may be themed to cross-cut the three delivery focus themes.

Dunbartonshire LEF – Strategy Framework



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ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL**COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP****ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL****DEVELOPMENT SERVICES 7 November 2005****REPORT ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION POST 2006****1. SUMMARY**

- .1 The Rural Development Regulation (RDR) sets the policy context within which the European Commission will allocate the European Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) in the period 2007 to 2013. This is known as the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy, and it complements direct funding to the agricultural sector for market support under Pillar 1.
- .2 The Regulation's objectives are set out in four Axes, each of which has a minimum percentage allocation required by the Commission;
 - Improving the Competitiveness of the Agricultural and Forestry Sector (10%)
 - Improving the Environment and Countryside (25%)
 - Improving the Quality of Life in Rural Areas and encouraging diversification (10%)
 - LEADER (5%)
- .3 SEERAD is currently consulting on the required Scottish Rural Development Programme which will set out the Scottish framework for the RDR and mechanism for the implementing the EAFRD. There are objectives within this proposed plan for implementation of the RDR at Scottish, sub regional and local Levels. The Plan preparation phase is ongoing, with proposals currently being sought. Stakeholder meetings, including one in Oban, have been held, and the Plan will be circulated for consultation early in 2006.
- .4 The Regulation presents an opportunity for partnerships in rural areas such as Argyll and Bute to enable communities to benefit directly from rural development funding by taking an integrated local approach to RDR delivery. In fact, Argyll and Bute is in a unique position to do so, given the current partnerships and strategies which are in place. The European Commission's Strategic Guidelines for the EAFRD place particular emphasis on building local partnership capacity and improved local governance at community level. The Scottish Executive has made it clear that it wishes to see more integration between the implementation of the RDR and

Community Planning Partnerships. Both of these issues, therefore, indicate that the implementation of the RDR is particularly relevant to the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership.

The preferred mechanism for doing this, as proposed by the Commission, is to use what is known as the LEADER approach. LEADER programmes in Scotland currently deliver bottom up rural development with funding from European Commission. This delivery mechanism brings together agencies and community representatives to develop a strategy, bid for funding and then allocate that funding to local projects.

The RDR makes provision for this approach to be widened across ALL axes of the RDR, enabling the existing partnerships to come together and deliver a truly integrated rural development programme in Argyll and Bute. This would be developed in the context of a Local Development Strategy which builds on local strengths and combines all RDR objectives.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That CPP respond to the SEERAD RDR consultation proposing local, integrated RDR delivery in Argyll and Bute to achieve some of the key CPP objectives.
- 2.2 That CPP support local delivery of appropriate elements of the RDR using a LEADER approach.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The RDR sets the context for EAFRD funding for all rural areas in Europe for 2007-2013. The scope of the Axes is wide and covers many activities in the rural economy and environment. It illustrates the Commission's commitment to CAP reform, and a broader approach to rural development, moving away from direct subsidy and recognising the complex nature of rural areas in Europe.
- 3.2 The emphasis of the RDR is on
 - Competitiveness
 - Environment
 - Quality of Life (creating employment)
 - LEADER (bottom up Rural Development)

Current delivery of European to support for rural development, apart from LEADER, is undertaken by agencies in Scotland on a Scottish-wide and also a sub regional basis (e.g. Highlands and Islands). There is very little local input into the prioritisation of this funding, or integration with local partners' development plans or priorities.

- 3.4 In contrast, LEADER programmes are delivered by Local Action Groups that comprise members of local communities and local agency representatives. These groups undertake decision-making on small to medium sized grants to communities at a very local level.
- 3.5 The RDR offers an opportunity, set out by the Commission, to deliver an integrated programme of rural support via the locally determined partnerships using the LEADER process. This will enable partners and communities to implement priorities which have already been identified and also to support communities to identify their needs and to find mechanisms for addressing those needs.
- 3.6 In Argyll and Bute, the local LEADER+ Programme is delivered by Argyll and Bute Council over an area including Lochaber and the small isles, and Arran and Cumbraes. This necessitates a strong and broad partnership to deliver a programme, which covers a wide geographic area. The principle themes of the programme are:
- Making best use of natural and cultural heritage
 - Improving quality of life

The programme has delivered over £1.5m European funding to projects totaling over £4m since 2001.

The LEADER + partnership is currently working closely with the Argyll and Islands Agricultural Forum to develop a proposal for a local integrated RDR programme for the area. The recent completion of the Agricultural Forum Strategy is an extremely strong justification for a local RDR programme, as, uniquely, the priorities and action plan for the industry have already been identified. The combination of the locally delivered and determined but rural development focused LEADER partnership, with the agricultural industry focused Forum presents an ideal joint partnership for post 2006 RDR delivery. Bringing this joint partnership together with the CPP to deliver brings an additional strength to that partnership, presenting CPP with an opportunity to achieve rural development and environment outputs to complement the regeneration partnership focus of theme 3.

The RDR offers a wide scope for activity and implementation across a number of strategic plans, including the Argyll and Bute Local Plan, the Council's Corporate Plan, Local Economic Forum business support priorities, Initiative at the Edge capacity building priorities, biodiversity action plan priorities as well as the wider agricultural forum and community development priorities.

Implementation of a future Programme could be delivered via a number of models, which can be developed by the partnerships over the forthcoming

period, but with local prioritisation and decision-making being at the core. It will be vital to utilise the exiting partnerships, organisations and skills, such as the Rural Business Ring, LEADER and the Agricultural Forum to enable this to happen.

- 3.7 The budgetary context for the RDR has not yet been agreed, as the EU budget agreement remains unresolved. The current position therefore is one of principle.

Other Scottish LEADER and rural development partnerships are supporting local delivery of the RDR. These include:

- South of Scotland Partnership
- South Lanarkshire LEADER +
- Rural Dialogue Group
- Local Government Rural Network
- Cairngorms LEADER+ Partnership
- Initiative at the Edge
- Dumfries and Galloway Council

4. CONCLUSION

The RDR offers CPP an opportunity to work in partnership at the local level to support a locally delivered EAFRD through the RDR and achieve some of its key priority actions by using a LEADER approach. This integration between CPP and RDR/EAFRD delivery is sought by the Scottish Executive in principle, and in Argyll and Bute there is an opportunity to develop it and make it best practice.

For further information, please contact

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ARGYLL AND BUTE**COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP****NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT****1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Scottish Executive commissioned the Scottish Community Development Centre to produce a set of national standards defining good practice in community engagement.
- 1.2 These standards were developed over a period through a widespread consultative process involving six pilots across Scotland. There was considerable input from Argyll and Bute as one of the pilots was in Bute and Cowal and another was in Helensburgh.
- 1.3 The intention is that these standards should provide guidance in promoting community engagement in areas such as community planning and community learning.
- 1.4 To further this process the Executive commissioned the Scottish Community Development Centre to provide support to Community Planning Partnerships and Community Learning Partnerships to promote the use of the standards. This support takes the form of an allocation of days which can be used flexibly to provide training, advice, information or consultancy. The allocation for Argyll and Bute is 6 days.
- 1.5 Lead officers from community planning and community learning were asked to produce a co-ordinated response to the use of this support. Brian Barker and Jim McCrossan met on 2 November 2005 to discuss the issue and have come up with the proposal outlined below.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 The proposal has three separate but inter linked elements, these are described below with suggested dates which have been provisionally agreed with the Scottish Community Development Centre:
 - **6 February 2006** -an initial one day training/discussion session for key strategic community planning partners;
 - **2, 3 and 9 March 2006** -3 days of localised training for staff of partner agencies and community representatives;
 - **16-17 March 2006** -2 days of consultancy for agencies, officers, groups of officers to assist with consultation and application of the standards.

- 2.2 **Initial training/discussion** – This would be targeted at key strategic partners and would provide an opportunity to raise awareness about the standards and discuss issues arising around adoption of the standards. There would be an input from the Scottish Community Development Centre about the standards and also from staff from Argyll and Bute on the experience of piloting the standards.
- 2.3 **Localised training** – This would provide a more accessible opportunity for staff from partner agencies and community representatives to participate in awareness raising, training and discussion about the standards and would follow a similar format to the training for key partners.
- 2.4 **Consultancy** – This would provide an opportunity for a range of people with an interest/responsibility for consultation and engagement to obtain advice on a surgery basis. It could range from officers with a responsibility for designing and managing consultation processes to agencies seeking advice on how to adopt the standards effectively.
- 2.5 **Adoption of Standards** – The purpose of this process is to raise awareness about the standards, but also, crucially, to encourage Community Planning Partnerships and partners to adopt the standards in their dealings with communities, as the Council is proposing to do as part of the Best Value review of consultation procedures. It is hoped that partners will take the opportunity offered by the training and the consultancy to actively pursue this aim.
- 2.6 The offer of 6 days consultancy has to be taken up by the end of the financial year. It will be necessary to finalise dates with the Scottish Community Development Centre; this should be done as soon as possible.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Management Committee agree to the proposals and dates for use of the time available from the Scottish Community Development Centre.
- 3.2 The Community Planning Partnership and partners should be asked to consider adopting the standards and to use the time available through the training and consultancy to raise awareness of the standards and to resolve any obstacles to their adoption.

COMMUNITY PLANNING BUDGET 2005/06		
April-November 2005		
INCOME	Budget	Income
Funding c/fwd 04/05		Year to Date
CPP budget surplus from 04/05	£17,938	£17,938
Scottish Executive Capacity Building Grant	£20,000	£20,000
Project Funding		
Communities Scotland	£10,000	£0
Core Funding Contributions from Partners/Others:		
AIE	£13,721	£13,721
NHS	£12,194	£12,194
Communities Scotland	£7,622	£0
SNH	£11,013	£11,013
Scottish Enterprise - Dunbartonshire	£4,244	£4,244
Forestry Commission	£3,183	£3,183
Strathclyde Police	£3,183	£3,183
Strathclyde Fire Brigade	£3,273	£3,273
Careers Scotland	£3,183	£3,183
Tourist Board	£1,524	£1,524
Argyll and Bute Council	£22,866	£22,866
Total Income	£133,944	£116,322
EXPENDITURE	Budget	Year to Date
		Spend
Direct/Indirect Employee Costs		
Staff Costs (Includes Admin, NI/Pension, Car allowance/Travel & Subsistence)	£51,873	£21,085
Conference Fees	£1,000	£0
General Costs		
Furniture	£100	£100
Printing and Stationery	£8,000	£1,656
Postage	£1,000	£249
Telephone	£1,040	£39
Computer Software	£200	£0
IT Consumables	£800	£103
Publicity	£1,000	£0
Routine Hospitality(catering for meetings)	£6,700	£2,317
Hire of Facilities	£1,469	£273
Third Party Travel & Subsistence	£2,000	£1,607
Consultants		
IBP (Citizens Panel)	£16,000	£5,530
Grants to Other Organisations		
Capacity Building Fund	£20,000	£10,000
Total Expenditure	£111,182	£42,959
Surplus 05/06	£22,762	

DRIVE SAFE INITIATIVE		
Income		
Strathclyde Fire Brigade	£3,000	
Strathclyde Police	£3,000	
NHS	£3,000	
Scottish Executive	£9,000	
Total Income	£18,000	
Expenditure		
DriveSafe Packs for Scottish Local Authorities	£9,000	
Tax Disc Holders	£135	
AdTrailers/Banners	£2,480	
Total Expenditure to Date	£11,615	
CHOOSE LIFE INITIATIVE		
Income		
Scottish Executive Funding c/fwd 04/05	£68,290	
Scottish Executive Funding 05/06	£83,000	
Total Income	£151,290	
Expenditure		
Salary plus general expenses	£39,964	
Postage	£247	
Total Expenditure to Date	£40,211	