
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Audit Committee

Community and Culture

25th September 2015

Review of Community Planning Partnership Governance

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main purpose of the report is to inform the Audit Committee of the 2014/15 review of governance arrangements for the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership (CPP).

The purpose of reviewing governance of the CPP was to strengthen roles, remits and membership of Community Planning in Argyll and Bute.

The 2014/15 review resulted in an increase in membership of new partners and, at a local level, a greater balance in membership between public sector, third sector and community members.

The CPP's governance arrangements will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis to comply with the decisions made by local Area Community Planning Groups (ACPGs), ensure its relevance to strong partnership working towards achieving the Single Outcome Agreement, and to ensure compliance with any relevant legislation.

The Audit Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

Review of Community Planning Partnership Governance

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The review of the governance arrangements for community planning was an action identified within Argyll and Bute Council's Follow-up Audit report, prepared by Audit Scotland in June 2014.
- 2.2 The CPP undertook a review of its full governance structure in 2014/15. A number of areas were identified for improvement and the Management Committee approved the new governance arrangements at its meeting on 31 October 2014.
- 2.3 The results of this review were implemented immediately with both the Area Community Planning Groups and the Management Committee seeing an increase in membership of new partners and at local level, a greater balance in membership between public sector, third sector and community members.
- 2.4 The CPP has committed to reviewing its governance on an annual basis to ensure it is compliant with any new legislation or feedback from its membership.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To note that a review of governance arrangements for the Community Planning Partnership was completed in 2014/15 resulting in an increase in membership of new partners, and at a local level, a greater balance in membership between public sector, third sector and community members.
- 3.2 To note that the Community Planning Partnership will continue to review its governance on an annual basis.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The main elements of the Community Planning structure in Argyll and Bute are:
- Full Partnership (CPP FP)
 - Management Committee (CPP MC)
 - Chief Officers Group (CPG)

- Area Community Planning Groups (ACPGs)

4.2 The review took into consideration how best to improve the following:

- The scope, role and responsibility of each of the main elements of the Community Planning Governance Structure.
- The membership of each of the elements in the community planning structure.
- The levels of interaction and engagement within the structure to allow efficient delivery of the outcomes in the Single Outcome Agreement.
- The communication channels between all of the elements of the governance structure.
- Performance management at a strategic and local level.
- Localising of community planning.
- Opportunities for meaningful engagement, adding value and developing the delivery of the Single Outcome Agreement.

4.3 The following actions were taken:

- A Terms of Reference was developed each of the elements detailing the role and responsibility of that element of the CPP and its membership.
- A new structure was agreed to include a link to private sector (Economic Forum) and public reform areas (Health and Social Care Integration).
- The role of the Outcome Lead was refined.
- A process established whereby the Management Committee and ACPGs share highlights of their meetings with each other.
- Arrangements were made for the appointment of Area Community Planning Groups chairs to be open to all members of the group.

4.4 Area Community Planning Groups were actively involved in considering their Terms of Reference, along with reviewing meeting arrangements to facilitate better communication with the Management Committee, and updating their agreed membership. They also revised arrangements for chairing of meetings.

4.5 The review has resulted in:

- The CPP MC membership increasing with Scottish Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland and the Outcome Leads of the SOA all joining.
- Scottish Enterprise joining Helensburgh and Lomond ACPG.
- The sharing of meeting highlights between the area and strategic level being well received.

4.6 Further to this at a local ACPG level there is:

- Ongoing dialogue with CPP MC through meaningful agendas focused on specific Outcomes.
- A concentration on the local dimensions to Outcomes at meetings highlighting good practice and partnership working at local level, and raising any concerns to the Management Committee in relation to existing work, gaps or opportunities.

Future Governance Arrangements

4.7 The CPP is committed to reviewing its governance on an annual basis.

4.8 The Area Community Planning Groups agreed that the revised ways of working are undertaken on a trial basis for a period of one year (from March 2015), with a review on their effectiveness then being carried out by the Management Committee and the Council's Policy and Resources Committee. This review is therefore likely to take place from late March 2016.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The Governance of the Community Planning Partnership was reviewed in 2014/15 and is working well.

5.2 The Governance will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis as per commitments to this.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	Governance will be reviewed annually to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and policy development
6.2	Financial	None
6.3	Legal	None
6.4	HR	None
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	None
6.7	Customer Service	None

Cleland Sneddon
Executive Director of Community Services

Policy Lead – Councillor Dick Walsh
4th September 2015

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APPENDICES
None.