
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Audit Committee

Community and Culture

23rd September 2016

Review of Community Planning Partnership Governance

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to inform the Audit Committee of the review of governance arrangements for the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership (CPP).

The purpose of reviewing governance of the CPP was to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act and to strengthen governance arrangements regarding the management of the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) delivery plans.

The CPP's governance arrangements will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis as this provides an opportunity to ensure membership and meeting structures are fit for purpose, comply with relevant legislation, and take account of feedback from the Area Community Planning Groups (ACPGs).

The Audit Committee is asked to note that recent improvements to the governance of Community Planning have been in response to the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and recommendations from internal audit report.

Review of Community Planning Partnership Governance

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 The Audit Committee at its meeting in September 2015 was informed of the review of governance arrangements for community planning as per an action required by Audit Scotland in its June 2014 report.

2.2 The CPP has committed to review its governance on an annual basis to ensure it is compliant with any new legislation or feedback from its membership both at the strategic and local level.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To note that the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act in relation to partners requiring to participate within community planning has been met.

3.2 To note the new management arrangements around the SOA delivery plans has been reviewed and strengthened.

3.3 To note that the Community Planning Partnership will continue to review its governance, in light of the decisions made by Area Community Planning Groups and any further legislation requirements, and will report back to the Audit Committee in 12 months.

4.0 DETAIL

4.1 Changes to governance over the last 12 months has focused on compliance with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and revising the management of the SOA delivery plans to strengthen communication between the Outcome Lead and key officers.

4.2 Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act

Legislation from the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 has

required additional partners to participate in local community planning.

Four organisations named within the Act which, not currently represented in the structure of community planning within Argyll and Bute, were:

- Historic Environment Scotland
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Sport Scotland
- Visit Scotland

The Management Committee agreed to invite all four organisations onto the CPP Full Partnership.

4.3 Management of the SOA Delivery Plans

The SOA (Single Outcome Agreement) delivery plans were revised between October 2015 and June 2016. Governance arrangements were put in place to strengthen the management of the new delivery plans.

The delivery plans of the SOA were subject to a review by Internal Audit in August 2015. The report noted that a review of the delivery plans was due to take place and listed an action on strengthening communication between outcome leads and key officers delivering actions contained within the delivery plans.

The Management Committee meeting on the 24th June 2016 agreed a procedural document, outlining roles and responsibilities of the outcome lead, action leads and the Community Planning team.

The procedural document has been enforced within the first round of quarterly meetings. These have seen outcome leads for each of the six delivery plans meeting with relevant officers to note updates on key actions. The update reports from each of these meetings will be reported to the Management Committee. The improved process is clearer on who is responsible for updating on the action. Further to this a traffic light system for flagging exceptions has been incorporated which allows the CPP Management Committee to observe progress and easily identify for scrutiny those actions marked red: 'not on track'.

4.4 Future Governance Arrangements

The CPP is committed to reviewing its governance on an annual basis to ensure it is compliant with relevant legislation and is taking account of feedback from its membership. The improved governance arrangements set for 2016/2017 support the delivery of actions and the CPP's ability to scrutinise progress.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Management Committee of the CPP has ensured its governance arrangements reflect the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act.
- 5.2 The management of the SOA delivery plans has been reviewed and strengthened.
- 5.3 Governance will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 6.1 Policy | Governance will continue to be reviewed to ensure compliance with the legislation and feedback within the current community planning structure. |
| 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 |

Ann Marie Knowles
Executive Director of Community Services

Policy Lead – Councillor Dick Walsh

29th August 2016

For further information contact:

Rona Gold
Community Planning Manager
01436 658 862

APPENDICES

None.