



## SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Finance and Central Services Department  
Performance and Improvement Division

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Cllr Allan Macaskill  
Chair  
Argyll & Bute Community Planning Partnership  
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Your ref:  
Our ref:

9 March 2004

Dear Community Planning Partnership Chair

I am writing to you in your capacity as chair of your Community Planning Partnership.

The Executive is looking at how it can best support the Community Planning process, to gain a closer understanding of issues facing delivery agencies and to look at how the Executive improves its own approach to joint and cross cutting working. These areas are often identified by external stakeholders as being key actions the Executive needs to take if the Community Planning process is to be successful.

One way in which we are taking this forward is through an initiative which will develop direct contacts between members of the Executive's Management Group (heads of the Executive's departments) and groups of Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs). This is an initiative which supports us in improving our understanding of and interaction with stakeholders as part of our "Changing to Deliver" programme. Each member of Management Group will take responsibility for developing links with a geographic cluster of CPPs.

We hope this project will help to:

Identify ways to improve and strengthen communication and working practices between local delivery agencies and the Executive;

Look at the links between national and local policy and implementation, highlighting key issues, processes and unblocking issues;

Look at barriers and impediments to effective joint working at a local level and supporting and encouraging the Community Planning process at the national, regional and local levels;

Provide a horizon scan, looking at future developments, joint implications and risks; and

Facilitate information exchange and clarification on issues as they arise.

We hope these contacts will enable Management Group to get a better idea of how Community Planning is progressing and to help build better, positive working relationships between Partnerships and the Executive.

Clearly the detailed working methods will develop but in the first instance we thought it sensible to nominate a Community Planning Partnership to co-ordinate the initial contact. The attached annex sets out the groupings of Community Planning Partnerships and which Management Group member will be responsible for making those links. It also highlights which CPP the Management Group member will be approaching as their liaison point.

The nominated Management Group member will be in contact with the initial contact for your cluster shortly to make arrangements so an introductory meeting can take place in the next couple of months. Clearly you will want to consider how best to liaise with that point of contact and the other members of your cluster to ensure that all CPPs can be engaged in the process. If you would like more information about the project, I would be happy to discuss in more detail.

We are keen that this project provides an opportunity for constructive and useful dialogue for both your partnership and ourselves. We also think it is important to take stock on how the project is working next summer – both for CPPs and for the Executive. We will also need to make sure that these arrangements complement the post CP Implementation Group landscape.

I hope you agree that this will be a valuable project in developing better links between the Executive and those involved in delivery – the initial soundings we took from various stakeholders were supportive. It should help to address some of the concerns which those involved in Community Planning often raise with us. I hope these contacts will lead to a positive working environment and foster closer working relationships.

A copy of this letter goes to the CP Co-ordinator for your Partnership and to the Chief Executive of the local authority, James McLellan.



HEATHER KORONKA

## CLUSTERS OF COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS AND MANAGEMENT GROUP CONTACT

Cluster	“Initial Contact” CPP	MG Member
Edinburgh, West Lothian East Lothian Midlothian	Edinburgh	John Elvidge, Permanent Secretary John Aldridge, Principal Finance Officer
Stirling Falkirk Clackmannanshire	Stirling	Trevor Jones, Health Department
Dundee Perth and Kinross Angus Fife	Dundee	Mike Ewart, Education Department
Aberdeen Aberdeenshire Moray	Aberdeen	Robert Gordon, Crown Office
Highland Argyll and Bute Western Isles Orkney Shetland	Highland	Andrew Goudie, Acting Head, Finance and Central Services Department
North Lanarkshire South Lanarkshire	South Lanarkshire	Nicky Munro, Development Department
Inverclyde Renfrewshire East Renfrewshire East Dunbartonshire West Dunbartonshire	Inverclyde East Dunbartonshire	Jim Gallagher, Justice Department
North Ayrshire South Ayrshire, East Ayrshire	North Ayrshire	Eddie Frizzell, Enterprise, Transport and Lifelong Learning Department
Dumfries & Galloway Scottish Borders	Both	John Graham, Environment and Rural Affairs Department
Glasgow		Contacts already made through Scottish Executive existing membership of the CPP and supporting arrangements

