

# CPIG community planning implementation group



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

**COSLA**

Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

**William Rae, Chair**

CPIG Secretariat:

Karen Jackson

Karen.Jackson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Tel: 0131 244 7040

Fax: 0131 244 7058

1 July 2004

*Dear Colleague,*

I am pleased to enclose the report of the Community Planning Implementation Group which has just been published. I hope it will make a valuable contribution to the future development of Community Planning (CP) in Scotland.

The report gives a flavour of the Group's work over the past 12 months. We focused on 5 key areas:

- maintaining the profile of CP – work included looking at key issues such as data sharing, regeneration and the engagement of young people, as well as encouraging the development of a performance management framework for CP;
- raising the profile of CP – work included championing the process with Ministers, MSPs and speaking at conferences;
- providing guidance on CP – work included involvement in the production of statutory guidance and advice notes published in April;
- promoting good practice in CP – work included seeking out and promoting good practice and sponsoring a number of conferences to disseminate that work; and
- independent focus to CP – work included challenging a range of organisations involved in the process.

Our report also looks to the future. There have been a number of small task groups taking forward the development of CP over the past few years. They have made a valuable contribution to the development of the legislation, guidance and CP structures. However, more than a year on from the legislation, the Group felt that the time was right to move from a small group of experts to structures which help to ensure that the CP process is owned and taken forward by local leaders and

practitioners. We have identified some key challenges where future action is necessary to ensure CP can deliver improved public services.

Our recommendations focus on 3 areas where future action is necessary:

- Making sure there is high level commitment to CP through a high-profile annual event involving councillors, board members and the Scottish Executive;
- Making sure there are advocates for CP through a network of champions in key sectors and covering the whole of Scotland; and
- Making sure that there is a network of CP practitioners to support discussion of key CP issues and facilitate the exchange of experience and good practice, adding value to current networks and contacts.

We have challenged the Scottish Executive to make sure that progress does not stall and have invited them to develop, in partnership, an action plan to take these recommendations forward. However, if these recommendations are to bring the benefits we hope, then everyone involved in CP must be prepared to look at their own role in addressing them and the challenges that lie behind them. I would encourage you and your organisation to do this. Should you need additional copies of the report, you can find them on our website at [www.communityplanning.org.uk](http://www.communityplanning.org.uk) or obtain them from the CPIG secretariat on 0131 244 0420.

*Yours*



**WILLIAM RAE**  
Chair: Community Planning Implementation Group