

## **PROGRESS WITH CPP PRIORITIES**

### **PROGRESS UPDATE: FIRST THEME GROUP**

#### **PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

The two most significant developments in the last twelve months for the Theme Group priorities were as follows:

- Under the Create Safer Communities priority, the DriveSafe initiative was launched in April 2004.
- Under the Improve Mental Health and Wellbeing priority, funding was secured for the Choose Life initiative. A co-ordinator has been appointed and an action plan drawn up. The Theme Group have drawn up a framework within which a Steering Group will take forward the work of Choose Life and, through the Theme Group, report to the Community Planning Partnership.

Other developments in this year included a conference on Poverty and Mental Health. The report is being finalised and an action plan will be drawn up from this. In addition a Food and Health Plan has been completed and circulated to all partners. Two actions in the Joint Health Improvement Plan, relating to Dialogue Youth and diversionary activities for young people and Get Real sexual health work, won awards in the COSLA Excellence Awards in June (first time ever in Argyll and Bute).

The Theme Group has also devoted efforts this year to revising the Joint Health Improvement Plan. The objective has been to make the document more accessible and understandable. The membership of the Theme Group has been reviewed e.g. the Group now includes a representative from Dialogue Youth and the Education Department. The Group is considering inviting a colleague from the Mental Health Services in Argyll & Bute to join it. An earlier idea of involving the Locality Leads on the Group has been revisited. This is to reflect the fact that the Theme Group sets the strategic framework for health improvement activity, leaving the local networks the responsibility and freedom to develop local action plans to implement these.

In the same week as the Management Committee, the Theme Group is organising a workshop. The purpose of this workshop is to publicise the range of information that is available to help inform the planning for health improvement through national data on constituency profiles and the report of the local Director of Public Health. The workshop also looks at the links to Regeneration Agreements and the imminent introduction of Community Health Partnerships in the NHS. This last development could prove particularly significant, as the Community Health Partnerships are to have a major role both in the Community Planning and Health Improvement.

A successful workshop was held in November where members of the Theme Group and others involved in health improvement activity heard about a performance measurement tool (LEAP), which could be used to monitor the activity set out the Joint Health Improvement Plan.

Gavin Brown  
NHS Argyll and Clyde  
Chair: Health & Well-Being Theme Group  
8 November 2004

## **PROGRESS UPDATE: SECOND THEME GROUP**

### **IMPROVING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

Theme Group Chairman's Report for December 2004

#### **PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIONS**

##### Construction Liaison

- Funding has now been received from Argyll and the Islands Enterprise (AIE) and Communities Scotland for training in Health and Safety, IT and Partnering (a procurement process).
- Progress is being made on formation of a joint venture company on Islay with support from local contractors. This will enable local contractors to compete for larger contacts on the island.
- Another current issue is the search for a site for the proposed Construction College.

##### Transport – Key Issues

- The AI LEF Transport Conference suggested an Island Consultative Group be set up. This option was explored but the costs were considered high by the LEF. It was considered that there were sufficient existing structures in place and Argyll and Bute Council (ABC) agreed to ensure that there was good island input to the transport strategy currently being prepared.
- The Argyll Air Service proposal to link the islands of Coll, Tiree and Colonsay with Oban and the Central Belt is progressing. The Scottish Executive request to look again at the airfield running costs has been carried out and the figures found to be robust. A meeting with Transport Minister, Nicol Stephen, was held on 29 November with George Lyon (MSP), and representatives of both AIE and ABC were in attendance.
- There is an emerging issue regarding strengthening the pier at Campbeltown as the tenders have come in at twice the estimated costs. The improved pier would facilitate the moving of larger turbines from the Vestas factory.

##### Promotional CD/Web site

This project is still in its conceptual stage. Support is being investigated for a CD to promote Argyll as a place in which to live and work. If this project goes ahead it will focus not only the quality of life but also the excellent education, health care and arts facilities which are important for individuals who may be considering relocation.

#### **DEVELOPING THE GROUP ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Consideration has been given to the role of the group and its relationship to the LEF. While some progress has been made over the summer, resolution is still sought on whether a formal implementation partnership is required.

In order to progress matters, a facilitated Workshop was held in October to enable the Group to agree a structure.

The question was asked as to whether or not the Group should continue to exist or the function of the group covered by the LEF. No decision was forthcoming so it was agreed that a small Working Group should look at the outcomes from the Workshop and propose a way forward.

The work of this Working Group is encapsulated in the note below which will be discussed at the Theme Group meeting on 1 December 2004.

#### **WAY FORWARD**

1. Theme 2 group be dissolved
2. Meeting to 'weed out' action plan and redirect
  - a. To Theme 3
  - b. To LEF

This should be done within the guiding principles etc. agreed at workshop with Richard Scothorne (attached)

3. Recommendation that the membership of the LEF is more 'mobile' (i.e. including from membership of existing Theme 2 Group)
4. That:
  - a) During 'weeding out' exercise, any 'spin out' groups are recognised and further 'short-life groups' established *if required*
  - b) These groups should report as necessary to the LEF
  - c) Further short-life groups may be identified by LEF etc. or emerge 'organically' ( for good practice they should report to the LEF)
  - c) LEF to set up a 'reporting officer function'
5. That the CPP Management Committee receives reports on Theme 2 priorities from both Operational Groups (namely the SED and AIE Local Economic 'reporting officer function')
6. That AIE and SED LEF is consulted on this proposed change with the intention of implementing the changes, with any agreed revisions, as soon as practicable
7. Once agreed, all parties should be informed of the change and the date that the changes are due to take effect

Alan Milstead (Chair)  
Argyll and the Islands Enterprise  
30 November 2004

## **PROGRESS UPDATE: THIRD THEME GROUP**

### **SUSTAINING AND DEVELOPING OUR COMMUNITIES, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

#### **Priority 1: To provide adequate and affordable housing**

There are now four action points under this priority. The macro level action of developing and implementing the Local Housing Strategy is progressing well and the strategy document has received very positive feedback from Communities Scotland. A forum has now been set up to enable all the local housing associations to be regularly involved in the implementation of the strategy. The other three action points relate to more specific projects where work is slowly progressing, but on timescale.

#### **Priority 2: To address accessibility and transportation needs by making more flexible use of existing resources**

The first action point relates to better co-ordination of transportation within the area and a development worker has been in post for two months. She is now trying to put into place a programme of action for the next few years. The second action point relates to Oban Airport and work is ongoing in terms of the Council's corporate priority.

#### **Priority 3: To enhance the sense of community participation and community identity through capacity building and community regeneration initiatives**

This priority focuses on the development of the Regeneration Outcome Agreement and successful progress has been made. A full draft template for submission to the Executive in late December has now been prepared and extensive community engagement has taken place with a very positive partnership relationship between community representatives and officers involved in developing this initiative.

#### **Priority 4: To protect and enhance Argyll and Bute's rich environmental assets and diverse habitats and species**

The action points under this priority have been reviewed and there are now three clearly identified issues. Scottish Natural Heritage is the lead partner in regard to raising awareness and developing options for handling local environment information. Work is on target for April 2005. A grant scheme under new "special places" has been worked up and is planned for April 2006.

#### **Priority 5: To address waste management, renewable energy and energy conservation issues**

Due to staff changes in ALI Energy and with the project officer from the Council leaving post, there has been very limited review of work and this is an area where no progress has been made to date.

#### **Priority 6: To enhance Argyll and Bute's rich cultural heritage**

The action point here was to develop a Cultural Strategy for Argyll and Bute Council and a draft strategy will be presented to the Council's Senior Member Officer Group on 14th December.

Donald MacVicar  
Head of Community Regeneration, Argyll and Bute Council  
Chair: Theme Group 3