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CPP Management Group

## **ARGYLL MAPPING PROPOSAL**

### **1. Overview**

- a. The main thrust of Community Planning Partnership is to improve services and make the county of Argyll a desirable place in which to live work and relax.
- b. This can only be achieved by engaging with the community effectively to introduce economies of scale, having identified duplication of effort. To accomplish this across a county as geographically wide spread as Argyll, there has to be a robust communications infrastructure established for the entire county.
- c. This brief paper sets out the discussion basis for a possible solution.

### **2. Situation**

- a. Many of the problems facing CPP are through lack of cohesive communications. The net result is a top down approach with unsatisfactory bottom up participation, which in turn creates problems when trying to engage more fully with the Community.
- b. CVS Argyll has been asked to manage an AIE initiative, a yet to be launched Argyll Community Website (ACW).
- c. In order for this to be effective it will be necessary to map the voluntary sector and create an interactive database which will be activated through the ACW.
- d. However, at the same time, the Social Economy Partnership Strategic group for Argyll have identified the need to map all social enterprise organisations and in addition, there are currently ROA mapping exercises being conducted in parts of the County.
- e. Consequently we are seeing the emergence of a fragmented approach to the communications problem and have created a position where we are potentially on the brink of duplication of effort.

### **3. Solution**

- a. CVS Argyll are currently managing a successful transport project for the elderly in Dunoon as part of the Northern Periphery Programme. The project is called Cowal DESERVE. It demonstrates what can be gained through sharing experience and information at local, national and international levels to improve services for people actually living in remote rural areas.

- b. The first Scottish conference of DESERVE hosted in Dunoon in late May 2005 provided an opportunity to demonstrate what voluntary organisations can deliver working in partnership with colleagues in statutory agencies to provide innovative ways of inclusion for many different groups of people with a variety of needs.
- c. The international delegation consisted of people from Iceland, Finland, Sweden and Norway. Each country presented the results of their own projects.
- d. Iceland have been involved in an IT based project to effectively network the north of the country in an exercise called Mobilise All. It appears to have been successful (population 300,000).

#### **4. Conclusion**

- a. In September 2005 it will be Iceland's turn to host a conference to which the same countries engaged in NPP projects will be invited and they will present the latest advances of their projects.
- b. It is in this light, one that seeks to address a concerted partnership effort to look at the potential benefits of mapping the entire county of Argyll, that this paper should be viewed.

#### **5. Recommendation**

- a. It is presented that in view of the lack of communications infrastructure in Argyll and the fragmentary effect this has on community engagement, that benefit might be gained, in the first instance, by seeking to send a party at strategic level to understand more fully the success of Iceland's project.

**PETER MINSHALL**  
Chief Executive  
CVS Argyll

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