

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership Annual Report

Health and Well Being Theme Group Update.

The Joint Health Improvement Plan for 2005-06 contains a strategic section and 7 local action plans developed by the local public health networks. Each plan links into the strategic actions, and builds local pieces of work around the 6 health and well being priorities, which are:

- 1.Improving Partnership Working on Health and Well Being
- 2.The Negative Impact of Alcohol Misuse
- 3.Reducing the Incidence of Coronary Heart Disease, Stroke and Cancer
- 4.Improving Mental Health and Well Being
- 5.Helping Communities to Feel Safer
- 6.Reducing Health Inequalities Through the Development of Social Care and Health Care Services.

The theme group has met on a total of nine occasions. In line with ensuring that the work of the theme group is linked into local public health networks and mechanisms, locality representatives now attend every second meeting of the group, bringing updates on progress with implementing their local action plans, networking and sharing best practise.

This year the theme group has taken responsibility for allocating that part of the Health Improvement Fund devolved from the NHS to the Community Planning Partnership. There are detailed criteria for application of funding from the HIF, including the need for projects to be involved with the public health networks, part of JHIP plans (strategic or local), information about expected health outcomes, sustainability of projects and also monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. £83, 498 of HIF funding has been allocated by the group this year towards implementing partnership health improvement work.

A significant priority for health and wellbeing in Argyll and Bute is reducing the negative impact of alcohol misuse, and to this end a conference was held in November by the theme group in partnership with the Substance Misuse Group and the Alcohol and Drug Action Team. This assisted in the process of producing an updated Alcohol and Drug Action Plan for Argyll and Bute, with a strong emphasis on prevention and education, and in the format of the JHIP, ie strategic actions linked to local action plans. This should help focus work towards the prevention agenda, and has helped partnership working across the area by staff involved in service delivery and public health.

Choose Life is the national initiative aimed at reducing suicide and self harm. Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership has benefited from funding for Choose Life from the Scottish Executive since 2004, with a further funding commitment made during this year until 2008. The Choose Life steering group is a sub group of the Health and Well Being Theme Group, and the action plan is agreed and monitored by the theme group on behalf of the full Partnership. An update report will be submitted to the Scottish Executive in

July 2006, outlining progress to date, including integration of Choose Life objectives into key Partnership policies and strategies, and training of frontline workers as follows:

- 176 people have attended ASIST
- 6 ASIST Instructors in place
- 19 People attended Mental Health First Aid
- 14 people attended Promoting Mental Health Training for Trainers
- 26 People attended Dealing with Self Harm Training for Trainers
- 112 people attended Dealing with Self Harm Training.

In addition, £46,462 of Choose life funding has been invested in local Choose Life initiatives across Argyll and Bute.