

REGENERATION OUTCOME AGREEMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2005 - 2006

1. SUMMARY

The first annual report of progress made under the Community Regeneration Fund through the Regeneration Outcome Agreement for Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership received Ministerial approval in October 2006.

2. STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

The Regeneration Outcome Agreements for Argyll and Bute remained geographically targeted in 2005/06 at the most deprived 15% of data zones within Argyll and Bute.

- Ardenslate, West Milton and the Glebe, Dunoon
- Ballochgoy on Bute
- Dalintober/Millknowe. Campbeltown
- Kirkmicharl/Craigendoran, Helensburgh

Soroba, Oban was a former social inclusion area and does not now meet the criteria to be included in the most deprived 15% of data zones. However, the agreement with Communities Scotland to allow Soroba transitional funding for one year has ensured the ongoing sustainability of the work in this area, namely the Soroba Learning Centre. The funding from Communities Scotland provided match funding to lever in European funding of £73,000 enabling the Soroba Learning Centre became a fully functioning independent company with 15 board members from the local community.

As well as geographically targeting the funding on the most deprived areas within Argyll and Bute, the Community Planning Partnership (CPP), agreed that funding would also be targeted on a thematic basis for young people with disabilities. This integrates the work into the ROA of the former Better Neighbourhood Services Fund. A separate report on the outcome agreement of year 3 and 4 of Better Neighbourhood Services has been prepared for Communities Scotland.

In the Kirkmichael and Craigendoran area of Helensburgh it was also agreed to target twenty per-cent of their funding on a thematic basis to meet the needs of excluded young people within Rosneath and Garelochhead.

The CPP has retained the local partnership arrangement of Area Development Groups (ADGs) within each ROA area. These ADGs ensure a high level of local community engagement and good local partnership arrangements in terms of joint working on the ROA priorities. The ROA remains focused in each area under the CPPs four strategic regeneration objectives and twelve associated regeneration outcomes as follows:

- 1. Improve opportunities for learning, employment and skills development**
 - a. Increase the number of people supported into work
 - b. Enhance the employability of individuals
 - c. Improve the availability of childcare.

- 2. Promote health and well-being**
 - a. Improve the health-related behaviour of the community
 - b. Improve mental health and well-being within the community
 - c. Enable more vulnerable people to live independently.

- 3. Sustain and develop communities, culture and environment**
 - a. Improve the attractiveness of neighbourhoods
 - b. Improve the safety of neighbourhoods
 - c. Enhance neighbourhood facilities.

- 4. Encourage community development and capacity building**
 - a. Enhance the level and quality of community participation
 - b. Improve the sustainability of voluntary organisations
 - c. Enhance the level of social economy activity in delivering key services

At a strategic level the CPP has two thematic groups and two economic forums to take forward the priorities identified by the partnership and communities.

The area where the CPP has struggled most to engage partners at both a local and strategic level has been around the theme of 'Getting People Back to Work'. This strategic priority is dealt with by two economic forums within Argyll and Bute and while some work has been undertaken in strengthening the links at a local level between the ROA and the strategic priorities of Getting People Back to Work more remains to be done during 2006/07.

On the whole the CPP has become aware that partnership working at a local level has been strong and effective when actually working on an outcome of the ROA. The CPP within Argyll and Bute has fully integrated the former Social Inclusion Partnership at both a local and strategic level and is developing based on the successful outcomes achieved.

This has been another extremely busy and challenging year for the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership with regard to the Community Regeneration Fund activities covered by the Regeneration Outcome Agreements for Year 1. Gathering and collation of information required for the regeneration targets to provide more outcome and output driven evidence has involved a good deal of extra work for the many partnerships, agencies and people involved in the regeneration areas and this has been much appreciated.

Community Representation continues to be a real strength of the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership and much of the success relies on those community representatives who are willing to give up their time and energy for the betterment of the community in which they live.

For a copy of the Annual Report please contact Muriel Kupris, Community Resources Manager – muriel.kupris@argyll-bute.gov.uk