

**Minutes of the
Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership Management Committee
held via MS Teams on Wednesday 29 September 2021 at 10am**

Present:

Shona advised that all areas had been invited to participate in the Climate Change group (except for [redacted]), which will address this at the November meeting).

Shona and [redacted] discussed the agenda of each round of meetings to agree a standardised agenda and discussion points. At the last meeting the importance of partners' attendance at ACPGs was highlighted, and it would be appreciated if partner organisations could send representatives to the next ACPG.

Pippa gave thanks to the council members that are stepping down and gave congratulations to Ian on his new tenure. Pippa also praised the good work of the Governance team to enable participation and new ideas at ACPGs.

4. CROSS CUTTING THEMES

(a) Climate Change

Stan provided an update on the work of the Climate Change working group (CCWG) with a short presentation. This highlighted the community projects that are currently ongoing across the area, adding that all partners will also have in place, and will be working on, their own decarbonisations plans. The last CCWG brainstormed excellent ideas of what more can be done, but it is felt that cherry picking projects without that sitting in a strategy or framework was not the most effective course of action. The CCWG propose to develop an overarching strategy (like is in place in other council areas)

Theresa agreed with need for an audit and action plan as we all know where need to get to, but need a route map on how to get there and understand where the gaps are and what we can do about them. Organisations like HiE and Scottish Enterprise are engaging with business on this already and asked how that will fit in with the CCWG plan? Stan agreed that all strands will need to be threaded in to the final strategy. Anthony also thought it would be good for partners to share their own plans to see what the total activity looks like. Theresa added a link to [Scottish Enterprise's Net Zero Framework for Action](#) for information.

Robin said that Argyll and Bute Council want to be the first council to reach carbon zero, but we also need to look at other issues associated with climate change. He gave the examples of the high number of wind farms in Kintyre, yet this is an area with one of the highest areas in the country for fuel poverty, and also the huge increase in energy costs to homes when converting from solid fuel to air source heat systems. Stan agreed this was an issue and suggested this would be for the renewable energy group to address, adding that development companies need to step up to this too.

It was agreed that a Climate Audit and Strategy should be progressed via extended partner participation in a focussed CCWG meeting. Pippa asked all partners to identify an appropriate lead to represent them at that meeting (and any other interested parties). The group should identify a best way forward and route map with plans for comprehensive engagement with communities in the future (will need to consider a comprehensive engagement next year as part of the ABOIP review and that can be combined that with engagement on climate change). Pippa also noted that Climate Change impact would be added to council reports. Progress on this by the CCWG is to be reviewed at the December CPP MC. Albert advised that the SFERS have a national and local environmental officer that can sit on the CCWG, this was welcomed by Stan. Pippa also suggested a representative from Transport Scotland would be a key partner to include. Anyone interested in joining the CCWG can contact Stan on stan.phillips@nature.scot.

ACTION - Stan to identify gaps of organisations not represented at the CCWG and seek partner attendance on the expanded subgroup to prepare a report for review at December meeting.

ACTION - CPP team to work with Stan to get best representative group around table on the CCWG.

(b) Child Poverty

Rona provided highlights from the latest Child Poverty Planning group meeting noting that training on UNCR Convention on the Rights of the Child and child poverty for the Third Sector has completed and options are now being considered to widen this for others including the creation of a Child Poverty Online Hub programme

Services and Live Argyll and learning from this is being evaluated to inform future programmes. Positive engagement is continuing with the Community Food Forum, who met last week. The [AyeWrite campaign](#) is active (part of the [End Child Food Poverty](#) campaign) and calls for people to write to their MPs to ask them to pledge support to end child poverty. #Write Now. The Challenge Poverty Week takes place 4 to 10 October 2021. The group noted that there is little data available to measure the different areas of poverty and they agreed it is helpful to commence with a

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of crime by both financial loss and a negative effect on wellbeing. The funding from the CPP has purchased 150 call blocking devices, and since April, 66 have been installed for vulnerable residents. These devices block nuisance calls and provide reports to the Police. It is estimated that the cost benefit to residents of these devices is in the region of £900,000 (

in how that applies in rural areas. TSI are

structure similar to the NHS. She hoped that these matters will be resolved as the process moves forward. Pippa also noted that if there are to be changes to staff employment, the timescales are ambitious.

Rona asked how the consultation looks to make linkages with national policy elements (Community Wealth Building and its link to procurement, climate change, digital etc.). If it does not address these then Rona suggests that is something the CPP would want to pick up on in their response, and any national work linked to care and reform should ensure to make sure linkages to key national policy areas and be embedding these from the outset.

There were questions around how easy it will be to complete the legislation given the number of questions that need to be resolved. Getting this wrong for communities has big implications. Fiona noted the document is written in a very literally way, and cannot answer these lateral aspects, but it is important to feed these points back to the consultation so they can be considered and she is keen to get as many of those issue on the table for discussion at this stage.

Pippa noted a keenness in the CPP to provide a response to reflect the remote rural voice, looks to, oltsion3emote respo

suitable opportunities for individuals of all ages and capabilities through tackling socio-economic disadvantage, inequalities and removing multiple barriers to securing sustainable employment. On this basis, the ABEP has developed a new Terms of Reference, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report, and adhered to the Scottish Government's requirement to prepare an Improvement Action Plan for consideration,

commented that we need to treat this with urgency it is a huge problem, he is seeing local businesses closing for the day as they have no workforce available or are burnt out. He added that in respect of the driver shortages, we can put in place simple solutions such as improving / increasing roadside rest facilities and we need to join up with HiE and will raise this at the Convention of the Highlands and Islands next month. Pippa agreed action on this is needed now. Fergus reiterated the urgency of the situation with private sector contacts commenting on skill shortages and staff issues they are facing, he is happy to take part in SLWG to address this as we need to manage expectations on what we can do on a local level and identify actions we can take forward. Availability of housing in areas is an issue. We need to look at the practical steps, what are the more pertinent needs in our area and highl7(g)-6(h)56(l)353n1(a)-6(r)2

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