

Community Planning Update

March 2009



Local Update - News

Congratulations to **Youth Services**, Community Learning and Development who received three awards at this year's **National Youth Worker of the Year Awards**. Alexander Pettigrew was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award, Morag Gemmill was awarded Youth Worker of the Year Award and Angela Morrell was awarded Innovator of the Year Award.

The **Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) Action Plan** for 2009/10 was approved by the CPP Board on 19 March, for implementation from 1 April 2009. The SOA Action Plan identifies the changes and improvements we are going to make to achieve each of the 35 SOA Outcomes. The SOA Action Plan will replace the current Community Plan Action Plan and Council Plan actions, and will be monitored and reported on quarterly. Each CPP Strategic Partnership, the CPP Board and the Community Health Partnership (CHP) Committee have been allocated lead responsibility for specific sections of the Action Plan. The Action Plan will shortly be available on the CPP website.

The Community Planning Partnership hosted a CPP Briefing on **"New Ways of Engaging Communities"** on Tuesday 24 March 2009 in the Ardeer Neighbourhood Centre, Stevenston. The Briefing demonstrated innovative ways to engage communities in planning for new developments, including the use of new technology, drama, film and other creative approaches.

The new **CPP Community Engagement Network** is taking shape, and will hold its first meeting in June 2009. The Network is part of the new CPP structure, following last year's governance review. The Network's remit focuses on sharing information and best practice in relation to community engagement. The membership will consist of lead contacts from wider networks, forums and federations, who can cascade information out to their wider community members, and bring relevant information to the Network. A membership list is being drafted – please contact Justina Murray (contact details at end) if your organisation is keen to get involved.

The **Fairer North Ayrshire** Lead Officers Meeting took place on Wednesday 25 March 2009 in Cunninghame House, Irvine. Presentations were made on the **Working for Families** Programme and the **Look Ahead** Initiative. A networking session formed part of the meeting.

Preparations are ongoing for **Community Planning Week – 18 –22 May**. Events are planned around the community planning priorities and include a 'Great Green Get Together' and Street Nurse activity. Further details on the programme will follow.

Local Update – Community Planning Groups

The **CPP Board** (Chair: Cllr Margaret McDougall) met on 19 March 2009. David Morrison, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Area Commander, introduced the Board to Hugh Kerr as the new Area Commander – David is heading to HQ in Hamilton, so thank you David for your contribution and welcome (back) to Hugh Kerr – a former member of the CPP Coordination Group, who has spent the past few years working in East Ayrshire. The agenda included a progress report on the submission of the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) to the Scottish Government, and the Board also approved the SOA Action Plan (see above). There were also reports/ presentations on the Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Strategic Assessment 2009; reducing re-offending; and the new Local Development Plan. The Board also approved a new Fairer North Ayrshire initiative, focusing on the early years, to run from 2009/10.

The **CPP Management Group** (Chair: Sandra Bale, NAC) met on the 4 March 2009. Members received reports and updates on the SOA Action Plan; Progress Reports on CPP Strategic Partnerships; Strategic Partnership Chairs' Reporting Arrangements; Community Plan Q3 Performance Report; North Ayrshire Labour Market Report; CPP European Structural Funds- Arran and Cumbrae Bid; Fairer North Ayrshire Q3 Monitoring Report; FNA Finance Report and Community Planning Week. Members received a presentation from John Barrett, Asst Chief Executive (Business Change and Customer Change) on the Community Portal.

The **Community Health Partnership (CHP) Committee** (Chair: Cllr David O'Neill) met on 31 March 2009. The agenda included reports on reporting into the CPP, the SOA Action Plan, Primary Care Strategy, Public Health Priority Areas (Alcohol), Inequalities in Health, the redevelopment of Ayrshire Central Hospital, Delayed Discharges, CPP European Structural Funds for the Highlands and Islands, and the new Mental Health Partnership.

The **Economic and Learning Partnership** (Chair: Alex Anderson, NAC) met on Tuesday 17 March 2009. Members were welcomed to the new group. Members received a presentation on the Employability Programme. Members were updated on the SOA Action Plan; More Choices More Chances; Business Gateway; People's Panel and Community Planning Week.

The **Safer North Ayrshire Partnership** (Chair: Chief Inspector Stewart Rorrison, Strathclyde Police) met on the 20 March 2009. Members received a presentation from Adam Kerr, Community Safety Coordinator, British Transport Police. Members received a number of reports and updates on the following topics: Neighbourhood Forum; Cashback for Communities; Strategy Sub Group; Safer Streets Initiative; National Community Safety Priorities; Tasking and Problem Solving Group; Scottish Executive Information Sharing Demonstration Project; Neighbourhood Watch; Additional warden Scheme; Safe and Secure Action Plan 2008/09; Financial Monitoring; Publicity for Safer Communities Initiatives and CPP update which covered the CPP SOA Action Plan, People's Panel and Community Planning Week.

The **Environment Partnership** (Chair: Cllr Tom Barr, NAC) met on Friday 27 March 2009. Members received a presentation from the Irvine Bay Regeneration Company on the environmental initiatives the Company is involved in. Members received a briefing on the Carbon Management and Carbon Reduction Commitment. All members agreed to provide a position statement for the next meeting. Members were updated on the SOA Action Plan; People's Panel and Community Planning Week.

The **CPP Compact Reference Group** (Chair: John McKnight, NAC) met on 30 March 2009. The agenda included progress against the existing Compact Action Plan 2008/9, and the development of a new 2009/10 action plan, a Communications Strategy, re-launching the Compact, plans for Community Planning Week, and re-engaging the public sector partners.

Local Update – Other Partnerships

The **Local Energy Advice Forum** includes North Ayrshire Council, The Energy Saving Trust and all the main housing associations within North Ayrshire as well as Age Concern, 1st Alliance Credit Union and North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service. A wide range of expertise and help is available. Consumers within North Ayrshire will receive advice and assistance with their energy concerns or problems through a partnership approach which is focused and directed to achieve maximum impact. A new energy information folder will shortly be distributed to consumers and services across North Ayrshire and energy surgeries will be extended across North Ayrshire. So far savings of over £200,000 in energy costs have been identified for consumers. There is currently an energy surgery every Monday from 10am to 12 noon in Trading Standards Advice Centre Bridgegate House. For more information contact Trading Standards Advice Centre: 01294 324917

National Update

The **Scottish Government** launched their **Alcohol Framework** this month. The Framework for Action outlines the actions which will be taken forward to rebalance Scotland's relationship with alcohol. Some are specific legislative measures designed to effect change in the short term. Many others focus on creating cultural change over a much longer period. The health service, local government, the alcohol industry, the police and the third sector have crucial parts to play in helping to develop and implement what will be a rolling programme of work over the coming months and years. For more information: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/03/04144703/0>

CoSLA and the Scottish Government launched the **Scottish Community Empowerment Action Plan** on 23 March 2009. The Action Plan aims to:

- Reinforce that the Scottish Government and local government are committed to community empowerment;
- Develop enthusiasm for what can be achieved by empowering communities;
- Celebrate existing examples to show what communities can achieve for themselves
- Provide clarity on key principles and practical action which will help make community empowerment a reality
- Show that this is an agenda shared by all key partners in Scotland

The Action Plan outlines a range of Scottish case studies, including North Ayrshire's Estate-based project, led by North Ayrshire Council's Housing and Building Services. To find out more, see: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/regeneration/engage/empowerment>

New initiatives, publications and resources

Youth Scotland will be delivering an **Accreditation Training Day** in Inverness on 9 April 2009 at the Spectrum Centre, 1 Margaret Street, Inverness, IV1 1LS from 10.30am to 4.30pm

The Accreditation Training Day will consist of Youth Achievement Awards Induction Training and will also include an introduction to Dynamic Youth Awards.

Youth Achievement Awards Induction Training is for anyone that would like to learn more about recognising and accrediting young people's achievements and non formal learning or who are looking to support young people working towards their Youth Achievement or Dynamic Youth Awards. Youth Scotland will also provide an update on the levelling and credit rating of the Youth Achievement Awards against the Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework.

The cost of attending this training is £75. A discounted rate of £50 will apply to groups registered for Youth Achievement Awards or Affiliated to Youth Scotland.

To book places please complete and return the booking form which can be found on our website www.youthscotland.org.uk For further information or assistance please email at awards@youthscotland.org.uk or call me on 0131 554 2561.

NHS Health Scotland has launched a new website to support physical activity in Scotland. www.activescotland.org.uk brings together thousands of activities and places to be active into one easy-to-use website.

The **2009 Enterprising Britain** competition has been launched, to find the most enterprising place in the UK – a place where enterprise is transforming communities, stimulating entrepreneurial activity and creating jobs. The UK competition is run by the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, and the Scottish heat is sponsored by Scottish Enterprise and Highlands & Islands Enterprise. The competition is open to any city, town, community or project that can show how it has transformed the area's economic and social fortunes through enterprising initiatives. Entry is free and simple via a short entry form available at www.enterprisingbritain.org.uk. In 2006, West Kilbride Craft & Design Village was both the Scottish and the UK winner. Closing date for Scottish entries is 30 April and the winner will be announced at an Awards Lunch on 22 May.

New publications from the **Joseph Rowntree Foundation** include (www.jrf.org.uk):

- Poverty, inequality and policy since 1997. This study examines the impact of policy on poverty and inequality in Britain since 1997.
- Options for care funding: What could be done now? An exploration of why and how vital improvements should be made now to improve the UK care funding system whilst we wait for long-term reform.
- Urban extensions, planning and participation: Lessons from Derwenthorpe and other new communities. This report identifies key issues and lessons for current planning policy and practice concerning the development of new urban extensions.

Calendar of upcoming events

You may have been e mailed directly with information on relevant events.

Upcoming events are also listed on our website at www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/communityplanning. Please check regularly as the website is frequently updated.

What's coming up within North Ayrshire CPP

Wednesday 15 April 2009	CPP Management Group
Thursday 21 April 2009	More Choices More Chances Strategy Group

Contact details

The Update is circulated across North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership on a monthly basis. Please let us know of any information we should be highlighting in future editions. Contact us at:

North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE.

Justina Murray, Community Planning Co-ordinator (01294 324715, justinamurray@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Anne Todd, Community Planning Officer (01294 324177, annetodd@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Shirley Laidlaw, Community Planning Assistant (01294 324162, slaidlaw@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/communityplanning