LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING ACHIEVEMENTS
REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

ABSTRACT: This report sets out examples of work being undertaken by Local Community Planning.

1. RECOMMENDATION

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

(i) notes the work undertaken by Local Community Planning Teams.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Local Community Planning Teams were established in April 2011.

2.2 Angus Wide Local Community Planning Achievements

- Produced seven Local Community Plans;
- Produced a Newsletter for staff, partners and community, giving a flavour of the Local Community Planning Team activity;
- Designed and produced an Information Leaflet and created a brand;
- Developed and implemented a marketing and awareness raising strategy to raise the profile of the Team;
- Undertaken group training with a focus on improving service delivery including business planning; marketing; social networking; community asset management and publications;
- Held community consultation events to identify key local priorities;
- Introduced dialogue with Local Elected Members and Community Councils;
- Supported Local Area Partnerships in the development and delivery of action plans;
- Provided an interface for consultation between Council Departments and Local Community Planning networks on matters including the Local Housing Strategy; Housing Supply Targets; Traffic Management Review and the West Links Development Strategy;
- Led the first Housing Consultation Roadshows with a particular emphasis on broadening participation;
- Developed relationships with local partners and partnerships who have identified the benefits of involving Local Community Planning;
- Establishing the Local Community Planning Teams as a hub for signposting communities and partners to ensure appropriate links are made with corporate and Community Planning strategies.

2.3 Arbroath East and West LCP Team

2.4 Year of the Light

Angus Council and the Arbroath and Area Partnership, with the assistance of a Special Steering Committee set up for ‘Year of the Light’, has developed an ambitious calendar of events to celebrate 200 years of the Bell Rock Lighthouse. Arbroath played a major part in the building of the Bell Rock Lighthouse and the Group’s aim is to promote this historic occasion locally, nationally and internationally to increase tourism and visitors to the area and boost the local economy of Arbroath and Angus.

Key Project Achievements
Approximately thirty public, private and voluntary sector organisations working in partnership on project;
Early indication of actual increase in tourist numbers;
Co-ordination of innovative funding package including grants, sponsorship and Angus Council investment;
£5,000 funding awarded from the Dundee and Angus Innovation Fund to deliver a high profile marketing campaign and raise the profile of Arbroath both nationally and internationally;
Ongoing legacy for the Arbroath Ward areas and Angus wide.

2.5 Arbroath Town Centre Regeneration

The High Street is at the heart of any town and an exciting redevelopment is underway to transform Arbroath High Street into a more attractive, vibrant and visitor friendly space. The Local Community Planning Team (Arbroath) and Area Partnership and Local Elected Members are working hard to deliver an innovative package of redevelopment to attract more visitors and help existing traders to flourish, encourage new business to the area and invigorate the town centre for the benefit of the local community.

Key Project Achievements

- High impact, A4 promotional brochure designed and produced to promote interest from the tourism sector;
- High impact promotional banners highlighting key attractions to enhance gateway; Ongoing audit of commercial units in High Street to monitor turnover and other key indicators;
- Survey undertaken and dialogue with vacant shop owners underway to inform the design of a collective marketing strategy;
- Town centre information boards refurbished, rebranded and updated (ongoing);
- Finger post signs have been refurbished, repainted and updated;
- Co-ordination of innovative funding package including grants, sponsorship and Angus Council investment.

2.6 Capacity Building

Arbroath has a higher percentage of data zones in the 15% most deprived communities in Scotland than any other burgh in Angus. In response to this, there has been a high level of support and involvement with tenant and community organisations within these areas. Organisational support is provided to community groups to build the capacity of Committees and individuals within it. This enables groups to function effectively, providing them with the skills to engage in the community planning process.

Key Project Achievements

- Responded to local demand in Timmergreens area to work with community representatives and in doing so a community evaluation has been undertaken;
- Worked to establish a Steering Group which has recently become established as a new Registered Tenants Association;
- Encouraged key community groups to engage with Local Area Partnership, all of whom are now regular members;
- Facilitated training for groups in skills to equip them for OSCR inspection;
- Supported groups to undertake more independent fundraising activity to ensure long-term sustainability;
- Groups now being supported to engage with service providers to look at how services are provided locally.

2.7 Development of the West Links Area

Overview of Activity

To improve services and the amenity of the area to offer visitors and the local community a quality integrated leisure experience. Angus Council and private sector operators/businesses to work in partnership to develop the economic, social and environmental potential of West Links.
• The development of the West Links Partnership Working Group and subsequent establishment of a formal partnership agreement between Angus Council and commercial operators in the West Links area. The purpose of this being to create opportunities for inward investment and community asset management.

2.8 Carnoustie and District

2.9 Carnoustie Development Group

Overview of Activity

In response to enquiries from within the community, a number of events were held to identify demand for a formal community planning structure for the Carnoustie area. There was a clear desire to promote the local economy and sufficient interest to establish a local partnership.

The Carnoustie Development Group held their inaugural meeting in May 2011 and now the fully established Local Community Planning Partnership for Carnoustie and District.

Key Project Achievements

Supported by the Local Community Planning Team, this new group have already developed an action plan and are working on their priorities whilst hosting monthly meetings open to all groups/residents in the area. Their action plan can be viewed on the local pages of the Angus Community Planning Partnership website. The group have a core membership of approximately 12 representatives from the public, private and voluntary sector. All Local Elected Members are active in this group.

2.10 Three Streets Residents’ Association

Overview of Activity

The Three Streets Residents’ Association represent the geography covering (West Smieton Street, McLagan Road and Thompson Avenue). The group were established to deal with housing and estate management issues including community safety.

Key Project Achievements

• With Local Community Planning Team support, the Three Streets Residents’ Association conducted a door-to-door survey offering general information on the role of a local Neighbourhood Watch Group and how it can help an area and approximately 40% of households responded;
• Officially became a Neighbourhood Watch Area on 21 June 2011;
• A local Garden Competition for the three streets has seen positive improvements and residents taking a pride in their gardens with a high number of households entered into a free prize draw;
• An action plan was developed using the results of a community appraisal in the area.

2.11 Monifieth and Sidlaw

2.12 M Factor Event

Overview of Activity

The fourth M Factor event was held in June this year and reconfirmed the top priorities for Monifieth. These events bring together representatives from a wide range of groups and organisations in Monifieth under a community planning umbrella.

Key Project Achievements

• Over 60 organisations included in the M Factor discussion;
• Local Community Planning Team established and supporting working groups to address identified priorities;
Feedback on progress from Working Group well received and significant achievements were acknowledged by the wider community;
Priorities included within the Local Community Plan for Monifieth;
Collective action plan being co-ordinated by Local Community Planning Team.

2.13 Youth Strategy

Overview of Activity

There was a perception amongst people in Monifieth that there was nothing for young people to do in the town. On further investigation it transpired that there was quite a lot of youth provision but people were unaware.

Key Project Achievements

It was decided to produce a living document that young people could engage with and this could be best served by starting up a Monifieth Youth Facebook page with continuing updates about what was going on for young people in the town. The Facebook Page was set up initially by the Local Community Planning Team and we plan to hand the project over to a group of pupils at Monifieth High School who will take ownership of what could be a pioneering way of disseminating information to young people in Monifieth.

2.14 Monifieth Community Centre Steering Group

Overview of Activity

The Community Centre Steering Group have been in existence for approximately ten years. Last year the Local Community Planning Team began working closely with the group to help them establish the feasibility of their idea. The Community Centre proposal is consistently the top ranking community priority identified through Local Community Planning consultation.

Key Project Achievements

- Negotiated with Council staff to secure a temporary facility “The Cabin”;
- Held meetings with Consultants and key funders to broaden capacity of the Group;
- Produced a brief for a feasibility study;
- Raised their profile;
- Completed funding applications;
- Successfully secured external funding for feasibility study;
- Progressed interviews with identified Consultants.

2.15 Monifieth Town Promotion and Tourism

Overview of Activity

As one of the top community priorities, a Steering Group was established to promote the town centre of Monifieth. It was felt that the town could do more to promote its facilities and places of interest to the wider surrounding area and out with. The regeneration of the High Street has provided a focal point for the Group.

Key Project Achievements

- Working on a Monifieth Brochure promoting the town for residents, visitors and local businesses;
- Produce a quarterly events listing;
- Support the Group to host an official launch event in October once the town centre enhancements are complete.

2.16 Monifieth Eco Force/Beach Sub Group

Overview of Activity

The Monifieth Eco Force was recently established as an environmental forum to promote the sustainability of the natural environment. The Group brings together members from the
Monifieth Eco Fest and the Monifieth Beach Sub-Group under one community planning banner.

**Key Project Achievements**

- The Monifieth Eco Fest changed its name to Monifieth Eco Force at its inaugural public meeting in July 2011. They adopted their Constitution and set up a bank account enabling it to operate independently of the Monifieth Landward Partnership;
- The Group have just about completed a very successful series of Dighty Burn conservation initiatives and plan to re-commence them when the better weather arrives next year;
- They also have a number of fundraising events planned over the winter months;
- The Beach Sub-Group has conducted a wide range of beach enhancement activities over the spring and summer this year;
- The Group recently adopted a piece of land from Angus Council - Riverview Rest Garden to be maintained by volunteers to enhance the local environment.

2.17 **Success for Sidlaw**

We have been holding regular meetings with the Chairs of the Community Councils in the Monifieth and Sidlaw Ward. Those positive meetings have lead to the planning of a “Success for Sidlaw” event on 11 October 2011, using the good working model of the Monifieth M Factor.

2.18 **Kirriemuir and Dean Local Community Planning Team**

2.19 **Kirriemuir Pilot**

**Overview of Activity**

A small Partnership Group was established as a Pilot, in the absence of a Local Community Planning Partnership in the Kirriemuir and Dean area. This Group focussed on tourism and in particular, JM Barrie Celebrations.

**Key Project Achievements**

- Successful JM Barrie Celebrations were held, a number of events being held locally;
- 4,000 extra visitors to the areas;
- Local people and partners working together;
- Upgrade of play park and themed Neverland play equipment at Kirriemuir Hill;
- Improvement to the grass on Barrie's family graves and its approaches and signage;
- Renovation of the Barrie family gravestones;
- Creation of the Neverland play park on the Hill and improvements to the Hill roadways, paths and entrance in collaboration with the schools.

2.20 **Kirriemuir BMX track**

**Overview of Activity**

A small group of young people have worked with local businesses, Parks and Local Community Planning Team to establish a BMX track at Kirriemuir Hill.

**Key Project Achievements**

- Act as liaison between young people, businesses and Parks;
- Assisted young people to research, plan and design Kirriemuir BMX track;
- BMX track is completed;
- Young people have had a key role in the development of the track.
2.21 Terra Nova Project

Overview of Activity

A Group has been established to research and plan a commemorative event and a memorial to celebrate the Centenary of Scott’s expedition to the Pole.

Key Project Achievements

- Supported the Group to research the proposed project;
- Work is underway on the design of a new memorial;
- Funding sources are being researched;
- The project will involve schools, local community and relatives of Scott.

2.22 Davidson Park Kirriemuir

Overview of Activity

A group of local residents are working together to improve the play park in their area.

Key Project Achievements

- Supported a group of local people to set up a constituted group;
- Assisted group to consult with others about needs;
- Acted as liaison between Parks and Group;
- Supported Group to research funding and organise fundraising events.

2.23 Capacity Building support to community groups

Overview of Activity

A number of groups have been/are being supported to improve their own communities.

Key Project Achievements

- Village Halls offered support;
- Charleston Village Hall successfully secured Phase 1 funding for their Village Hall.

2.24 Mountain Bike Centre Development

Overview of Activity

Assisted the establishment of a Steering Group to establish a Mountain Bike Centre in Glenisla. Work is ongoing.

2.25 Kirriemuir Garden Project

Overview of Activity

3 garden areas have been identified in Kirriemuir. Rotary Club have now undertaken to undertake a feasibility study and investigate setting up a Trust.

2.26 Forfar and Area Local Community Planning Team

2.27 Padanaram Appraisal

Overview of Activity

A community appraisal was conducted in Padanaram, in partnership with the local community and Servite Housing to identify needs and aspirations of the community.
Key Project Achievements

- Sessions have been held in the community to feedback results of the appraisal;
- A Steering Group has been set up with a view to becoming a constituted group (Paddy Action Group);
- Key issues have been identified;
- Group is working closely with Village Hall Committee to try to increase activity in the Hall;
- A first Newsletter has been distributed in the village;
- Section 75 money is available to support improvement to green space.

2.28 Viewmount Appraisal

Overview of activity

A community appraisal was conducted in Viewmount, in partnership with Community Learning and Development, to identify needs and aspirations of the community and in response to a number of issues being identified by other services.

Key Project Achievements

- A Community Action Group has been established which has now become a registered Tenants’ Organisation;
- The Group has been active in the community in relation to tidying up the area and liaising with Services for Improvements.

2.29 Registered Tenants Groups

Overview of Activity

Three tenants groups operate in the Forfar area. Local Community Planning Team support the groups to contribute to Housing Consultations and to represent their local community.

Key Project Achievements

- Glens United Action Group run a community flat;
- All groups undertake fundraising events;
- Groups contribute to Housing Consultations;
- Groups undertaking activities to improve their areas.

2.30 Forfar Local Partnership

Overview of Activity

Forfar Area Partnership is made up of representatives of groups and individuals who contribute to community planning and undertake community projects. The group have been supported to develop an action plan.

Key Project Achievements

- The Group has been assisted to develop a number of collaborative projects;
- Forfar Gala Week resulting in an additional 4,000 visitors to the town;
- Forfar Tartan events;
- Development of a constituted Fair Trade Initiative;
- Worked collaboratively to undertake a youth consultation;
- Submitted a proposal for a Friday Night Project for young people in partnership with key youth providers.

2.31 Work in Forfar and Kirriemuir Wards
### Access to Information

**Overview of Activity**

The Local Community Planning Team have been instrumental in organising events and activities which has increased the understanding of local opportunities events and information in the local area.

**Key Project Achievements**

- Community Information event;
- Publication of Youth Work Provider list in both Kirriemuir and Forfar;
- Assistance with Business Listing in Kirriemuir;
- “What’s On” leaflets for both Kirriemuir and Forfar;
- Researched and produced a local community plan for both Kirriemuir and Forfar areas which summarises key developments and aspirations for the area.

### Local Community Planning Team Brechin and Area

### Brechin Local Partnership

**Overview of Activity**

Brechin Area Partnership is made up of representatives of groups, businesses and individuals who contribute to community planning and undertake community projects. The group have been supported to develop an action plan.

**Key Project Achievements**

The group has been assisted to develop a number of collaborative projects:

- Fair Trade resulting in Fair Trade status for Brechin;
- Joint work with the High School to get new litter bins around the school area, resulting in a decrease in littering during school lunch times;
- Assistance in a proposal for an all-weather pitch;
- Supported involvement in Brechin Pageant and used the event to consult local people.

### Brechin High School

**Overview of Activity**

Brechin High School is to be rebuilt to include a community campus.

**Key Project Achievements**

- Supported to active involvement of young people in the design of the new High School.

### Brechin in Partnership

**Overview of Activity**

A local event was held last year to look at the top priorities for Brechin. The event brought together representatives from a wide range of groups and organisations in Brechin and area under a community planning umbrella.

**Key Project Achievements**

Several collaborative projects were set up:

- Retailers’ workshop – working towards the creation of a retailers’ network for Brechin and area;
• Marketing Brechin; early stages the group are looking at promotion and marketing of the area;
• Town Heritage – the group are producing a leaflet about the heritage and the “closes” in the area;
• As well as a Heritage Trail leaflet;
• Support has been given to the Mechanics Institute and Damacre Arts Group with their recent exhibition resulting in closer co-operation between professional and amateur artists, including young people in promoting the city.

2.37 Hillview Flat

Overview of Activity

The Local Community Planning Team have access to a community flat in Hillview. Work is underway to promote the use of the flat.

Key Project Achievements

• A series of open days/events have been held to consult with local residents about the use of the flat;
• A small group of interested people have been identified, including members of the Polish community;
• Liaison with other service providers has resulted in a number of one-off drop-ins being established.

2.38 Local Community Planning Team Montrose and Area

2.39 Montrose and Area Partnership

Overview of Activity

Montrose Area Partnership is made up of representatives of groups, businesses and individuals who contribute to community planning and undertake community projects. The group have been supported to develop an action plan.

Key Project Achievements

Organised community events which articulated a local vision and provided the basis for a range of community initiatives including:-

• Agreed a range of improvements to the town centre and provided the basis for a range of community initiatives including;
• Adopt a station – information posters have been produced and cut-outs have been placed in the fence to allow viewing over the Basin.

2.40 Montrose Moving Forward

Overview of Activity

A local event was held last year to look at the top priorities for Montrose. The event brought together representatives from a wide range of groups and organisations in Montrose and area under a community planning umbrella.

Key Project Achievements

• A “What’s On” guide has been produced for the area;
• Local staff have also produced an events listing.

2.41 Registered Tenants Organisations

Overview of Activity
Three Tenant Groups operate in the Montrose area. Local Community Planning Team support the groups to contribute to Housing Consultations and to represent their local community.

**Key Project Achievements**

- Borrowfield Action Group have been supported to organise Borrowfield Gala Day;
- A Neighbourhood Watch Group has been set-up in Condor area.

2.42 **Hillside Scouts**

**Overview of Activity**

The present Scout Hall is in desperate need of repair, younger children are not able to meet there during winter months. The group are looking to provide new build and open provision to the wider community.

**Key Project Achievements**

- A community survey has been undertaken to assess community use of the new hall;
- Work is ongoing with regard to fundraising;
- Negotiations are in the early stages of with landowners to secure the land in their own right.

2.43 **Across Angus**

2.44 **Out of School Care**

**Overview of Activity**

20 Out of School Care Clubs operate across Angus. All have SLA’s with Angus Council. These are supported and monitored by Community Planning Team.

**Key Project Achievements**

- 600 children attend Out of School Care provision enabling their parents to work;
- 100 staff are employed by Out of School Care providers;
- Management Committees are supported to run their affairs in all areas.

2.45 **Angus Broadband Provision**

**Overview of Activity**

A Broadband Co-op has been set up for the Angus Glens Area. Scottish Government has released funding to support the development of Broadband provision in all areas of Scotland by 2015.

**Key Project Achievements**

- Community Planning staff act as a liaison between and Angus Council on the Broadband issue;
- Staff support the Broadband Group;
- Staff have contributed to discussions within Angus Council of the best use of Government money for Broadband in Angus.

3. **RISKS**

3.1 An assessment has been undertaken for this report and a detailed risk assessment is not considered to be required.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.
5. **HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

6. **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An equalities impact assessment is not required.

7. **ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN AND SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

7.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome(s) contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2011-2014:

- Individuals are involved in their communities;
- Our communities are safe, secure and vibrant.

8. **CONSULTATION**

8.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance and Head of Law and Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

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**NOTE:** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

LCP/NS/RA/BDS