

Northern Corridor Community Forum Report to Local Area Partnership

Background

This paper aims to give LAP members an update on the Northern Corridor Community Forum activity since the last meeting of the LAP and highlight issues of interest and concern to the Forum and the local communities.

Community Forum Update

The Forum was represented at meetings of NHS Lanarkshire PPF Reference Group, North Lanarkshire Licensing Forum, the Forum Network, Cumbernauld Diabetes Group, the VANL AGM, a Community Payback Presentation Event and a Reshaping of Services for Older People Consultation Event.

The Forum received a presentation at its last meeting from Partnership 4 Change. This stimulated the members to consider further the needs of carers and how the Forum might engage with and support this growing voluntary service in the area.

Since the last meeting of the LAP there was continued consideration of the proposals for the reduction of the number of Local Area Partnerships and in particular working with the other Community Forums on this.

The Forum is anxious to engage with the local Youth Team and will be pursuing this with the local Community Learning and Leisure Team.

In the local area the Forum was involved in and contributed financial and practical support to the Moodiesburn Gala Day on Saturday 28th May. This was the first such event in this area for many years and was deemed to be a great success by the local community and the organisers. The Forum used this event to generate awareness and raise its profile through its participation, support and information stand.

A special meeting of the Forum was held to receive a presentation from the Local Area Team on the Local Plan and to give the Forum's initial comments and opinions on the proposals.

Issues for consideration at LAP

There is considerable disquiet and serious concerns regarding the deterioration of public transport services in the area particularly those provided by Firstbus. The poor communication in regard to recent changes in routes and timetables following the early opening of the Stepps to Mollinsburn section of the M80 left many would be passengers stranded and still impacts on a growing sense of isolation and inadequate public transport provision across the area. There needs to be a fundamental rethink on public transport services in the area and the Local Area Partner might wish to consider initiating a Public Transport Development Plan engaging all the local partners and providers.

Outstanding LAP Issues

An application to the Regeneration Fund for the upgrading a number of pathways which are designated rights of way linking the communities of Moodiesburn Chryston, Muirhead Stepps, Mount Ellen and Gartcosh. This bid requires further consultation with the Regeneration Manager, costing and signing off by the Forum prior to submission to the LAP. Another application under consideration for submission for regeneration funding is for street realm improvements to pavements and pedestrian access areas at the main shopping centres in Moodiesburn, Muirhead and Stepps.

A response to the item raised at the LAP meeting of 22nd July 2010 regarding the Proposed Nature Reserve at Frankfield Loch housing development, Stepps, is still awaited. It is understood that a Plan has been developed by a management team but this has not involved nor been shared as yet with the local community or its representatives. Issues regarding safety of pedestrians and road users in Glenmanor Road, Moodiesburn and Chryston Road, Muirhead due to bus stops located opposite junctions and not set back in laybys and the one in Chryston Road being used as a terminus

Community Forum Meetings

The next meeting of the Northern Corridor Community Forum is on Tuesday 30th August 2011 at 7.00pm in the Stepps Cultural Centre.

**For further information on the Community Forum, or the contents of this report please contact: Marvyn Mackay on 07795 362697.
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