

Northern Corridor Community Forum

Report to Local Area Partnership 16TH October 2014

1.0 Background

1.1 This Report provides the LAP with an update on recent activities undertaken by the Northern Corridor Community Forum and highlights issues of interest and concern to the Forum and the local communities it serves.

2.0 Community Forum Update

2.1 The Forum was represented at the meetings of NHS Lanarkshire North PPF Reference Group, the Community Forum Network, Moodiesburn Development Trust, Muirhead and Chryston Gala Day Committee, North Area Crime Prevention Panel and the North Area Voluntary Sector Forum.

2.2 The Forum gave financial and practical support to the Muirhead and Chryston Gala Day which was held on Saturday 30th August in Moor Park, Muirhead. This was a very successful day and once again the local community responded with a great turnout.

2.3 The Forum is preparing a submission as its contribution to the preparation of the statutory Local Development Plan for North Lanarkshire. The Forum remains concerned about the significant and substantial number of submissions (35) by housing developers to have huge tracts of land in the Strathkelvin Ward re-designated for residential developments. As previously stated, if included in this Plan this would allow subsequent planning applications for residential developments which would forever change the fine balance of urban and rural mix in the Ward to the great detriment and loss of amenity in the area. The Forum is campaigning to ensure that these submissions are thoroughly scrutinised and where appropriate seek to have them rejected for inclusion in the Plan on the basis of them being undesirable, unnecessary and detrimental developments for the area which in addition does not have adequate infrastructure to support any additional residential developments.

2.4 Following on the success of the Family Health Event held earlier this year, The Forum is making plans to hold a similar event in February 2015 in Chryston High School. In the main this event will be funded by the grant received from NHS Lanarkshire Health Improvement budget. Health Improvement Staff and Community Engagement staff will assist the Forum which will work in partnership with staff and pupils from Chryston High School.

2.5 The Forum has used part of its Health Improvement grant to fund First Aid courses sponsored by the 1st Chryston Boys' Brigade Company. These courses have attracted a wider interest and this year there will be three such courses.

3.0 Issues for consideration at LAP

3.1 Building on the success and the very favourable public reaction to the environmental improvements recently completed in Muirhead and Chryston, the Forum has agreed to bid for similar funding from the North Locality Regeneration Fund for similar projects to be undertaken in the Stepps/Millerston/Cardowan area and Auchinloch. Based on the experience of Muirhead/Chryston the Forum would consider the amount required

would be around £70 - 80k for Steps/Millerston and Cardowan and £40 – 50k for Auchinloch. The Forum would hope for the support of the LAP in agreeing to these projects being included in the Regeneration Fund Programme as and when funds are become available.

3.2 As a follow-up to the meeting with FirstBus, the Forum is keen that arrangements be made for representatives of the LAP to meet with SPT to raise the need for more a review of and consideration of additional subsidised bus services in the area. There is a need to enhance the provision of public transport services in the area and reduce the areas which have no such provision leaving vulnerable older people and those without access to private cars and unable to afford taxis, isolated and stranded in their local communities without ready access to vital services and amenities.

3.3 The Forum was encouraged by the action proposed at the last LAP that a meeting be arranged between representatives of the LAP and officers form NHS Lanarkshire and North Lanarkshire Council to look at ways the two agencies might work together to resolve the issue of an inadequate infrastructure within the Northern Corridor to deliver locally based safe and effective health and social care services. The Forum has highlighted this problem for some time now and is in full agreement that the matter has now become more urgent since the implementation of the Health Board boundary changes and the transfer of responsibility for community health services in the area from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde to NHS Lanarkshire. The Forum would be keen to be involved in this meeting and any subsequent meetings seeking to resolve the problem.

4.0 Outstanding LAP Issues

4.1 There are three longstanding items regarding road safety and amenity for which the Forum and subsequently the LAP have requested reports and or action to resolve.

4.1.1 The need or otherwise for a pedestrian controlled crossing on Lindsaybeg Road at the junction with Main Street, Chryston. The existing junction layout with a mini-roundabout and incomplete pavements, together with the increased pedestrian use associated with the Jamieson Medical Centre, the new High School and Cultural Centre all suggest the need for a pedestrian controlled crossing at this location to be re-examined.

4.1.2 The need for bus bays outside the Nicolson Recreation Centre which is used by the 38C Service as a terminus opposite a road junction.

4.1.3 The provision of bus laybys on Gartferry Road, Moodiesburn, where buses stop on the main carriageway creating a hazard to other vehicles trying to pass due to these stops being on blind summits.

5.0 Community Forum Meetings

5.1 The next Meeting of the Northern Corridor Community Forum is on Tuesday 4th November 2014 at Pivot Community Centre, Glenmanor Avenue, Moodiesburn.

For further information on the Community Forum, or the contents of this report please contact:

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