

## **Bellshill & District Community Forum** **Report to Local Area Partnership**

### **Background**

The Bellshill & District Community Forum last business meeting was held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

### **Community Forum Update**

The forum is currently detailing their four year development plan and has scheduled a development day for the completion of this document that will assist a more focussed way forward.

The three International Women's Day events were heralded as a massive success enabling women to voice their concerns and increasing the participation of women within the forum.

The AGM took place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April where the forum presented their accounts, constitutional changes, a Representatives Expenses Policy and elected the incoming Community Forum.

### **Issues for consideration at LAP**

The Forum wish to propose a partnership approach to binge drinking and it's associated anti social behaviour. The proposal wishes to include the associated MSP's and a desire to seek permission of a pilot initiative calling for a ban on alcohol sales from 5pm onwards within the localised shops where it is perceived that is where young people are accessing drink. The forum also acknowledge that there may be a requirement to map existing youth services in the area to ensure alternatives/diversionary services are in place to meet the needs of the young people

The forum also wishes to note concerns over the closure of youth services at the weekend as a result of funding implications for the YM.

### **Community Forum achievements/new developments**

- The Forum has been proactively targeting new members and is delighted to date regarding the inclusion of the Black and Minority Communities.
- International Women's Day was celebrated by a visit to the Scottish Parliament , networking event and the development of a specific event for the Humjolie Asian Women's group.
- The PR sub group is working towards a press release for the next edition of the NL News.
- The Forum are seeking funding to enhance youth engagement.