



**Northern Corridor
COMMUNITY FORUM**
The Voice of Local Communities

Northern Corridor Community Forum Report to North Local Area Partnership 6th August 2015

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, the North Area Consortium of Reshaping Care for Older People and the North Area Voluntary Sector Network.

2.2 The Forum has been involved in consultation and the provision of comments on Main Issues Report for the statutory Local Development Plan for North Lanarkshire. In the course of its examination of the Main Issues Report, the Forum found nothing which caused it to reconsider its position that there was no need or justification for the overwhelming number of submissions by housing developers for the rezoning of great swathes of land in the Northern Corridor for residential housing developments land and it will continue to oppose the designation of these sites being changed in the Local Development Plan. The Forum seeks the support and active engagement of the Local Area Partnership in similarly opposing any change to the current designation of these sites so that the integrity of local communities, the amenity of the local area and the quality of life of local residents is not seriously undermined by the excessive growth of residential areas without the infrastructure to support and sustain such developments.

2.3 The Forum has continued to be actively involved in the Reshaping Care of Older People programme through the oversight of the Local Activity Fund administered by the North Consortium. This programme is adapting to meet the new arrangements under the Integration of Adult Health and Social Care Services such that the funding will be increased and be available to all local voluntary groups providing health and social care services and activities for persons over 18 years of age. This is a challenging development and the Forum is still working with its partners in the voluntary and statutory sector on the detailed processes and procedures to ensure straightforward, transparent and accountable systems are put in place to ensure a fair and equitable disbursement of funds which will develop and improve such services provided by the voluntary sector in the area.

3.0 Issues for consideration at LAP

3.1 The Forum remains disappointed that its bids for environmental improvement works in the Stepps/Millerston/Cardowan and Auchinloch were not included in the current round of projects (2015/16) to be funded from the North Locality Regeneration Fund. The Forum remains committed

to these projects and requests that the bids remain on the table for consideration in the next round of funding for 2016/17.

3.2 Although it is some time now since the meeting with FirstBus and representatives of the LAP, the Forum is still keen that arrangements be made for representatives of the LAP to meet with SPT to discuss the need for a review of and consideration of additional subsidised bus services in the north locality.

3.3 The Forum understands that NHS Lanarkshire is unable at the present time to make a commitment to the provision of an infrastructure facility for the provision of a full range of community health services in the Northern Corridor. This is due to a lack of capital funding available to the NHS Board. In the meantime many such services will continue to be provided by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde under a Service Level Agreement which is unsatisfactory, contrary to the intended outcomes of the Health Board Boundary Changes statutory instrument and leaves local residents with a confusing and fragmented community health service provision. The Forum believes that under the Integration of Adult Health and Social Care Services, the local authority could and should be working with the Health Board in the sharing of resources and there is an opportunity for the two authorities to work together on a shared cost basis to build a centre in the Northern Corridor to provide both community health and social care services, and possibly other Council services. The Forum recommends that the Local Area Partnership seeks ways to ensure the two agencies actively consider such joint approach and that officers from the two agencies undertake a feasibility study and bring a Report to a future meeting of the LAP.

4.0 Outstanding LAP Issues

4.1 There are two longstanding items, over a year now, 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 for bus bays outside the Nicolson Recreation Centre which is used by the 38C FirstBus Service as a terminus opposite a road junction.

4.1.2 The provision of bus laybys on Gartferry Road, Moodiesburn, where buses stop on the main carriageway create 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 25th August at 7.30pm in Auchinloch Community Centre, Langmuirhead Road, Auchinloch.

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

Marvyn Mackay by Phone: 07795 362697

Email: secretary.sdcc@gmail.com