



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

Northern Corridor Community Forum Report to North Local Area Partnership 5th November 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 Health and Social Care Integration and the North Area Voluntary Sector Network.

2.2 The Forum awaits with interest the publication of the next stage of the Local Development Plan following the end of the consultation period on the Main Issues Report.

2.3 The Forum has been involved in promoting the Local Activity Fund from the Health and Social Care Integration programme. This has involved three Open Days in Chryston, Cumbernauld and Kilsyth in late September and early October. The response from local groups has been encouraging and it is likely that the Consortium will be able to disburse all the fund of £24k across the North Area so that all areas have access to the fund and can benefit from the additional support it will give to local voluntary groups for older people. The next challenge will come when access to the fund is opened to all voluntary groups for adults with health and social needs over 18 years of age.

3.0 Issues for consideration at LAP

3.1 The Forum requests the LAP gives consideration for inclusion in the next round of funding from the North Locality Regeneration Fund to its submissions for environmental improvement works in Stepps/Millerston/Cardowan and Auchinloch. These were not included in the approved projects for 2015/2016 due to lack of available funds but the Forum remains committed to these projects and requests that these bids be given a priority in the next round of funding for 2016/17.

3.2 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. There is a further concern in relation to Firstbus services given recent press reports that the company is reviewing its Cumbernauld services and the possible withdrawal of the X3 and X5 Services. If this were to happen, many areas would be left without an adequate bus service and links to main centres would be severed. The LAP may want to consider requesting a further meeting with FirstBus to discuss this review.

3.3 The Forum is disappointed 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 Heath Board Boundary Changes statutory instrument and leaves local residents with a confusing and fragmented community health service provision. The Forum is also disappointed that NHS Lanarkshire and North Lanarkshire Council do not seem to have grasped the opportunity for the two agencies 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. Given the ever growing population of the area, now estimated to be 24,000+ a small township, it is an area which is seriously under-resourced in terms of a public services infrastructure. The Forum recommends that the Local Area Partnership seeks ways to ensure the two agencies actively consider such a joint approach and requests 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, well 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 creating a hazard to other vehicles trying to pass due to the bus stops being on blind summits.

5.0 Community Forum Meetings

5.1 The next Meeting of the Northern Corridor Community Forum is on Tuesday 15th December at 7.30pm in Chryston Cultural Centre, Lindsaybeg Road, Chryston.

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

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