

Arran Community and Voluntary Service (ACVS)
Newsletter **June 2013**

Background

Arran CVS (ACVS) and The Ayrshire Community Trust (TACT) are Partner organisations that form the Interface for North Ayrshire. A key function of the Interface is to represent the 3rd (or Community and Voluntary Sector) in engagement with the Community Planning Partnership (CPP). The Interface has a place on the CPP Board, and currently Jim Nichols represents the 3rd Sector for North Ayrshire and Arran on the CPP Board. This report summarises recent activity that ACVS has been involved in. For more detailed information on the work of the Interface, or any of the following please contact Jim Nichols at Arran CVS (01770) 600611.

Morag Campbell continues to develop the Arran CVS website - arrancvs.org.uk and the Third Sector Interface (TSI North Ayrshire) website - tsinorthayrshire.org.uk

Our partner organisation - TACT - has a website
TheAyrshireCommunityTrust.co.uk

These sites provide up-to- date links to matters of local and national interest. The most recent edition of this Newsletter is always on our website. You can also follow us on Facebook.

Community Health Partnership

1. Reshaping Care for Older People (aka The Change Fund)

What is it?

The Scottish Government (SG) have implemented a "Change Fund" to support the 'Reshaping Care for Older People agenda. The principal goal of this is to optimise independence and

wellbeing for older people at home or in a homely setting. (ie to help older people and their families live as independently as possible in the community through interventions such as re-ablement).

Finance

The North Ayrshire allocation is £2.23 million for 2013/14 - the 3rd year (£1.96 year 1). The allocation to the 3rd Sector for 'Promotion of Community Capacity' was £138,500 for year 2 (£130,000 in year 1). £245000 for year 3 , to be spent:

Information / Events and dissemination £15000

Community Capacity Building (TSI) - Community Connectors etc £110000 (The TSI has not levied a management fee in relation to hosting these posts)

Socialisation - Lunch club development (for distribution to community groups) £30000

Foot Care Service (amount will be subject to tendering to local or national organisations through the TSI)

Carers Centre £40000

Other groups funded late 2012 to March 2013 for start to finish projects include Aims Advocacy, Impact Arts, Carers Centre and additional KA Leisure projects relating to Capacity Building.

Jim has consistently argued the case for investing in other projects, (and in particular Befriending Projects and Community Transport), but the Statutory Agency Partners will not support Change Fund Investment in North Ayrshire.

Why/How are Interface involved?

The Scottish Government (SG) implementation guidance stipulated that there should be 4 Partners involved - the Local Authority (NAC), NHS (Ayrshire and Arran), the Independent Sector (Scottish Care) and the 3rd Sector (the Interface). As the 3rd Sector Interface is the Lead Partner for the 3rd Sector in the Community Health Partnership, and Arran CVS is the Lead organisation in the Interface for Health and Social Services matters (including both the mainland and Arran/Cumbrae), Jim leads engagement activity with the CPP (including the CHP) for the Interface.

Current Position

The approved North Ayrshire submission from the CHP to the SG had identified 4 Priority Areas:

Promotion of Community Capacity

Encouraging independence and self-care

Integrated rehabilitation and enablement services

Intensive support shifting from Acute to Community Services.

The North Ayrshire 3rd year submission was signed off by the SG in March. A Commissioning process (involving the Interface) had awarded £245000 to the 3rd Sector for Developing Community Capacity. This sum is additional to a sum for Lifelong Learning (delivered by NAC £25,000), and falls prevention work (delivered by KA Leisure).

The 3rd Sector funding includes £30000 for further development of socialisation activity (with priority to development of lunch clubs in sheltered housing complexes), and ensuring the provision of signposting to advice agencies, service deliverers and Statutory agencies (esp NAC and NHS). (delivered through the 3rd Sector Interface by the partner organisations ACVS and TACT through 3 Community Connectors and a Development Worker.)

Additionally there is funding available for the 3rd Sector to deliver a Footcare service within North Ayrshire and the the Islands. The TSI (Arran CVS) will facilitate commissioning of this work through a process in the course of development.

3rd Sector Interface approved posts.

Last year, following discussions with NHS A&Arran and NAC it was agreed that the Interface would host a couple of voluntary sector support staff posts, one on Arran and one on the Mainland. It was subsequently agreed that a new post of 'Community Connector' on the mainland would be appointed from August 2012. The Interface was requested to increase the posts to 2 Mainland Community Connectors and a Development Worker, and a further combined post on Arran. The staff are all in post.

Community Connecting on Arran - Morven Buckby joins the Arran CVS Team

Directly as a result of Change Fund money and match funding from LEADER, Arran CVS was pleased to welcome Morven Buckby to our team last year. With her previous experience as a nurse, Morven was quickly able to take a lead role in our local partnership work with NHS Ayrshire and Arran and NAC Social Services. This has included the new Montrose House Steering Group and the Arran Health Public Reference Group.

In addition to co-ordinating the establishment of lunch clubs and provision of information and advice, Morven has established a network of volunteers older people in the community on a range of issues. Morven's role helps to direct older people to local health and social work services, and to the support services provided by local groups and charities.

This would include where to go to find health advice or information, or to simply find out about services available in the local area that can improve health and fitness. (What,

where, when and how to access), or generally provide for more socialisation opportunities in the community.

This will ensure provision of information to the public through community, peer and primary care routes to enable people to make better and more appropriate use of health services.

Morven was instrumental in bringing together partners that led the establishment of 2 lunch clubs on Arran in the Sheltered Housing Complexes in Brodick and Lamlash.

Both lunch clubs received one-off financial assistance through the Change Fund money administered by ACVS on behalf of the Interface.

Morven is also establishing a volunteer respite service for carers of palliative care residents, a personal footcare service, and working with Macmillan Cancer Support relating to the provision of information and advice.

Governance Aspects of Change Fund

Decisions over what projects are funded are decided through the CHP process, with the primary influencing/decision making group being the Adults and Older Peoples Officer Locality Group (OLG) of the CHP.

The 4 Partners (NAC, NHS A&A, the Independent Sector and the Interface) , in addition to attending the OLG, meet regularly as Lead Partners , and also have attended various meetings with the SG Joint Improvement Team (JIT).

Unlike other areas, there was no bidding process in North Ayrshire. Priorities in North had already been determined and agreed between NHS and NAC prior to the announcement of the Change Fund and the inclusion of the 3rd sector as a Partner.

Regular meetings now take place on a Pan-Ayrshire basis to look at future Joint Commissioning of Services.

Jim Nichols, as Health Lead for the 3rd Interface - North Ayrshire, attends all these meetings.

Arran CVS (on behalf of the 3rd Sector Interface) acts as banker/distributor of the money approved for 3rd Sector projects across North Ayrshire. No management fee has been charged by ACVS for this service.

Arran Health Delivery Model

What is it?

Development of a model by NHS Ayrshire and Arran to deliver future NHS services to the Island, including GP's, the Hospital, Dentists etc.

Why/How Interface involved?

Arran CVS (ACVS) has been involved since Public Meetings held November 2010 and February 2012 in Brodick. A Public Reference Group of 8 people, chaired by former NHS Ayrshire and Arran Non-Executive Director, David Price, had been established at the Public Consultation including the main interested parties - ACVS, the Elderly Forum, the Community Council, the Arran Health Consultative Group, the PPF, Cllr John Bruce, the Arran Practice Manager and an Arran GP. This group regularly meets with senior NHS and Social Services management

Current Position

An on-going series of meetings has seen the original focus shift from a Health Delivery model, to discussions around issues directly related a model to be implemented as a result of changes to the health services on the Island.

This had resulted in the merger of GP practices on the Island, changes to out-of-hours provision and other changes at the Arran War Memorial Hospital, together with the

implementation of NHS 24 on the Island to cover the out-of-hours period.

The Reference Group has now broadened its remit to embrace consultation on the new Care Home to be built to replace Montrose House, and regular meetings with Social services have taken place.

It is anticipated that there will be greater scope for community use of resources in the new building.

The tender for the new building has now been completed and commencement of work is imminent. The work will last 12 months.

CHP Forum

What is it?

The Forum is a formal Governance Committee within the Community Health Partnership structure.

It is primarily used by NHS Ayrshire and Arran as the primary consultation process with non-employees (employees attend a parallel 'Officer Locality Group'). Main purpose has been to use the forum as a sounding board for new ideas or practices.

Approved Minutes from this Forum are on the ACVS Website.

Why/How Interface involved?

CHP -Arran CVS and TACT are both members of the CHP Forum, due to geographic differences and issues between the islands and the mainland. 2 representatives of the PPF also attend the Forum.

Current Position

Change Fund and Arran Health Delivery Model are regular agenda items at the Forum.

Major items of interest currently are the integration of Health and Social Care consultation, and the new Ayrshire Central Hospital .

PPF Core Group

What is it?

Established by Statute, Public Partnership Forums are the main link between communities and the Community Health Partnership. It is the primary consultative process to communicate through a network directly with the public, including community groups. A 'Core Group' of 15 facilitate the business within North Ayrshire. Jim Nichols is a member of the Core Group.

Current Position

Core Group meets regularly with a broad agenda of health related issues.

Ratified Minutes are on the ACVS website.

Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

What is it?

Governance committee of the CHP focusing on alcohol and drugs related issues.

Why/How Interface involved?

Lead Interface activity (through TACT at Partnership meetings).

Current Position

Arran Alcohol Forum is currently outwith the formal AD Partnership.

Community Engagement

Community Engagement Reference Group

Formerly the Compact Reference Group.

What is it?

Group comprising NAC, NHS, Police and Fire Brigade together with the Voluntary Sector, looking at all issues relating to the processes used for engaging with the community. Cllr Currie used to represent NAC at the meeting, in addition to officers. A replacement Councillor nominee has been sought.

Why/How Interface involved?

Originally this stemmed from the development of the North Ayrshire Compact agreement, ACVS and TACT have 2 of 5 community places on the reference group..

Current Position

A strategy for Community Planning Partnership engagement with the Community was agreed in March 2013, with the TSI as the Lead Partner on behalf of the CPP. The Community Engagement Reference Group are now holding a series of meetings to develop the actions from the Action Plan.

In June, Jim attended the CPP Board and answered questions related to Community Engagement in North Ayrshire posed by the Commissioner for Audit Scotland and 2 Audit Scotland members.

I was able to give the message that there has been an improvement in the CPP communicating what has been decided (the CPP member plans), and that the main focus for the future from a 3rd Sector perspective will be earlier engagement into the development of 'what should be (priorities etc).

This week 17th June, the CEO North Ayrshire Council asked me to attend (in company with Director of Public Health Ayrshire and Arran and A Senior Police Officer) a meeting with the Scottish Government. This was the Quality Assurance of the North Ayrshire SOA.

The QA panel had Community Engagement as the 1st area they wished to discuss, and again, I was asked to lead the response to questions in this area.

Community Engagement Network

What is it?

A network of interested parties (Statutory and Community), who meet quarterly to discuss matters of interest and activity between the Community Planning partners and the community.

Why/How Interface involved?

Core remit - Connection with Community Planning.

Current Position

Last meeting was 28th May 2013. Bill Calderwood (Secretary of Arran Community Council) and I attended. Presentations were received from the DWP and the Interface. This included the launch of the revised CPP Community Engagement Strategy.

CPP Economic and Learning Partnership (ELP)

What is it?

CPP Strategic Partnership focussing on employability, training, jobs.

Why/How Interface involved?

Evolved from former CVS role. TACT and ACVS both had a seat, geographically representing the 3rd Sector.

Current Position

This Partnership has been dissolved by NAC , and currently the 3rd Sector has been excluded from the new body that is meeting. Further information awaited.

Local Social Economy Partnership

What is it?

This group has now been wound up by NAC. Formerly a Sub group of the now defunct Economic and Learning Partnership, specifically focussing on the development of Social Enterprises.

Why/How Interface involved?

Development of Social Enterprise is a core Interface remit from the SG. Lead area for TACT.

Current Position

TACT leading discussions regarding the future role of Social Enterprise within NAC.

Housing

North Ayrshire Housing Partnership

What is it?

A NAC Strategic group to implement the Local Housing Strategy for North Ayrshire. Membership included NAC Housing Services, NAC Planning Dept., Social Services, Health, the SG, Housing Associations and ACVS.

Why/How Interface involved?

Through the Arran CVS rural housing remit. Jim has seat as Chair of the Rural Housing Group.

Current Position

LHS was submitted to the Scottish Government for 2012 onwards. North Ayrshire new build funding from SG is

significantly down from previous years. Next meeting 10th September 2013.

Local Arran activity

Ferry Committee

What is it?

Meeting of business interests, community interests and NFU with Calmac at the Ferry Committee Monthly meeting.

Why/How Interface involved?

Jim Lees (ACVS Director) is a nominated Ferry Committee member on behalf of ACVS. Elaine Parker provides secretarial support.

Current Position

Last meeting was 10th June 2013. Main topics were provision of a gangway for the second ferry, and the new terminal plans. For information on the FC, contact Jim Lees via ACVS (600611)

Community Council

What is it?

Arran Community Council Monthly meeting

Why/How Interface involved?

Bill Calderwood (ACVS Director) is also a Community Councillor, and Secretary of ACC. Jim attends as Minute Secretary.

Current Position

ACC now have own web site, which includes the Minutes of the Community Council and features this report.

Next meeting 25th June 2013 Ormidale Pavilion 7.30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Elderly Forum

What is it?

Forum established on Arran in 2009 to provide a focus for the interests of the elderly (membership open to over 55's). Meets monthly (3rd Wednesday, Ormidale Pavilion).

Why/How Interface involved?

Communicating role in terms of what's going on at CPP (and in particular - Health matters eg reshaping Care for Older People). Morven is expected be a regular contributor to the Forum in future.

Current Position

Meets monthly in Ormidale Pavilion.

Next meeting July 2013.

Access Trust

What is it?

Local forum of access providers and users, meeting together to provide new paths and maintain existing paths on Arran.

Why/How Interface involved?

Elaine Parker, who recently joined our team, provides secretariat to the Trust, and ACVS Company Secretary this year.

Current Position

Main discussion at the last meeting was the on-going talks with National Trust relating to the near mile long wall at Brodick Castle, and how the proposed new Multi Use Trail might be accommodated for this section of the proposed Brodick -

Corrie, and the new Car park for the Standing Stones on the West side of the Island.

Isle of Arran Homes Sub Committee

What is it?

Trust Housing Assn. - Local Governance Committee for Isle of Arran Homes. Attended by Trust Directors and Managers from Edinburgh, NAC Councillors, Tenants Representatives and Community representatives.

Why/How Interface involved?

ACVS Manager is Adviser to Committee
(historical remit)

Rural Housing Group (RHG)

What is it?

A Sub-Committee of NAC Local Housing Partnership.
RHG was originally established by NAC to address the shortfall of affordable housing shortfall on Arran. Key involvement included the 2 Craigforth Studies and the Study relating to Forestry Commission sites. Members of the Rural Group include NAC Housing Services, Scottish Government, NAC Planning Department, NAC Social services, Trust Housing, ACVS, Community Council and the NFU.

Why/How Interface involved?

Originally ACVS was instrumental in helping NAC to ensure the appropriate community reps were round the table.
Jim chairs the Rural Group, and as Chair, attends the NAC Housing Partnership meetings.

Current Position

Next Meeting September 2013. Main issues for discussion expected to be the new Craigforth Housing Needs and Demand Assessment, and the latest on the new development in Park Terrace, Lamlash. Irvine Housing Association are the RSL for the development of the new site of 56 houses in Lamlash. These are being built by John Thompson
The site is a mix of social rented and shared equity properties.

The money allocated by Scottish Government for new builds over the next 3 years gives cause for concern in the context of Arran and North Ayrshire.

Arran attendees:

John Inglis, Arran Community Council, John Murchie (NFU) and Jim Nichols ACVS.

Next meeting September 2013
(Meeting held 26th June 2013)

LEADER

What is it?

European funding to support community projects

Why/How Interface involved?

Jim sits on Argyll and the Isles Leader Local Action Group (LAG)

Current Position

Allocations of the last remaining funding for the last programme have now been made. Discussions have commenced regarding the operation of the next programme, due to commence late 2014.

Volunteering

Volunteering

Morag Campbell has established a Volunteering Network on Arran, whereby ACVS connects volunteers with opportunities and promotes opportunities via the website, social media and the local community. ACVS enables local people between the ages of 12 and 25 to access the Saltire Awards Scheme.

Representation on Committees

The following are Committees that ACVS Directors and staff are involved in

Community Planning Partnership -

Board member (representing mainland and Arran) Jim Nichols

Community Council

Secretary

Bill Calderwood

Minute Secretary

Jim Nichols

Transport

Ferry Committee

Jim Lees

Health

Arran Public Reference Group (PRG)

Jim Nichols

CHP Forum

"

CHP Adults and Older People Officer Locality Group

"

CHP " " (Sub Group)

"

Public Partnership Forum Core Group

"

RCOP (Joint Commissioning) - Programme Board

"

RCOP North Ayrshire

"

North Ayrshire Adult Protection Committee

"

Ayrshire Central Hospital PRG "

Housing

North Ayrshire Strategic Housing Partnership "

Arran Rural Housing Group (Chair) "

Isle of Arran Homes Committee "

Outdoor Access

Arran Access Trust Jim Nichols/Elaine Parker
(Minute Secretary)

Community Engagement

Reference Group Jim Nichols

Network Jim Nichols / Bill Calderwood

Argyll and the Isles LEADER Programme

Local Action Group Jim Nichols

Federation of Village Halls

Coordination Morag Campbell

Elderly Forum

For further information on any of the Committees, please contact the named person on (01770) 600611.

Arran CVS would welcome feedback on this report, especially in terms on content, usefulness of information and suggestions for improvement.

Please contact Jim Nichols
Jim.Nichols@arrancvs.org.uk
Or phone 01770 600611.