

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET: 1 APRIL 2009

## MID TERM REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

### Report by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present to Cabinet for consideration and endorsement a high level summary of the actions contained within the revised Community Planning thematic Action Plans 2009-11 and the Mid Term Review of the Improving Community Safety Action Plan.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 East Ayrshire's Community Plan was endorsed by Policy and Resources Committee on 28 November 2002 and by all Community Planning Core Partners by April 2003. In addition, the Community Plan was endorsed as the sovereign planning document for East Ayrshire Council by the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 10 April 2003. The six associated Action Plans were also endorsed by Policy and Resources Committee on 10 April 2003 and again received the formal endorsement of the Core Community Planning Partners.
- 2.2 The Community Plan has a lifespan of twelve years, effective from 1 April 2003. The six related Action Plans have a four year lifespan, with a commitment to a mid term review during each four-year period to take cognisance of new and emerging priorities.
- 2.3 At the full Council meeting of 1 March 2007, Members endorsed the Community Plan Review Supplement 2006/07 and the revised thematic Action Plans, which resulted from the first four-yearly review of the Community Plan.
- 2.4 In the context of changing national priorities such as the move to a Community Planning Single Outcome Agreement (SOA), and the consequent requirement to facilitate reporting arrangements, the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board considered it timely to radically review the thematic Action Plans and consider how they could potentially be rationalised as part of the Mid Term Review of Community Planning, which requires to be implemented by 1 April 2009.
- 2.5 Consequently, at the Board meeting of 26 June 2008, Partners endorsed the following revisions to the current six thematic Action Plans:
  - Amalgamation of the Improving Health and Eliminating Poverty Action Plans to form an **Improving Health and Wellbeing Action Plan** with lead responsibility sitting with the Community Health Partnership.
  - Amalgamation of the Promoting Community Learning Action Plan with the education elements of the Improving Opportunities Action Plan to form a **Promoting Lifelong Learning Action Plan** with lead responsibility sitting with the Council's Educational and Social Services.
  - Amalgamation of the Improving the Environment Action Plan and elements of the Improving Opportunities Action Plan to form a **Delivering Community**

**Regeneration Action Plan** with lead responsibility sitting with the Council's Department of Corporate Support.

- The **Improving Community Safety Action Plan** to continue with lead responsibility sitting with Strathclyde Police.

### **3. MID TERM REVIEW OF THEMATIC ACTION PLANS**

- 3.1 At the Community Planning Joint Officers' and Lead Officers' Group meeting of 15 July 2008, Lead Officers were remitted to develop the three new Action Plans for presentation to the CPP Board in March 2009 for endorsement; and implementation from 1 April 2009.
- 3.2 In addition, Strathclyde Police, as lead agency for the Improving Community Safety Action Plan, was remitted to implement a Mid Term Review of the Action Plan by this date.
- 3.3 The Council's Corporate Management Team has fully considered the content and detail of the report and related action plans. In addition, the Community Planning Joint Officers' Group endorsed the action plans on behalf of their respective partner agencies at their meeting of 24 March 2009.
- 3.4 As part of the review process, Lead Officers were remitted to ensure robust links to the agreed National and Local Outcomes in the SOA in the revision and further development of the Action Plans.
- 3.5 Detailed below is a high level summary of the activity, which will be driven forward through the revised Action Plan over the period 2009-11.

#### **Promoting Lifelong Learning**

- 3.6 The new Promoting Lifelong Learning Action Plan will act as the driver for partnership working in relation to all aspects of lifelong learning and will be driven forward through the Lifelong Learning Partnership.
- 3.7 The priorities for action have been identified through consultation or needs analysis and include providing programmes, in conjunction with schools, early years services, Community Learning and Development, colleges, and voluntary organisations, which meet individual young people's needs through the Curriculum for Excellence and alternative curricular programmes, and support young people through the More Choices More Chances (MC: MC) programmes.
- 3.8 In addition, priorities which aim to divert young people from addiction will be progressed; and partners will address shared issues in relation to parenting, focusing not only on young people before they are parents but also parents themselves.
- 3.9 Partners will retain the actions relating to community capacity and the support to voluntary organisations as priorities together with providing learning programmes to improve the literacy and numeracy skills of young people and adults, with the aim of improving people's life opportunities at work, at home or in accessing public services such as health.

## **Delivering Community Regeneration**

3.10 The focus of the new Delivering Community Regeneration Action Plan is on the key economic, environmental and social factors, which together contribute to community regeneration, and will be driven forward through the Delivering Community Regeneration Action Plan Working Group.

3.11 Key actions will include:

- making work pay by providing people with the skills and training they need to progress in or into work and realise their potential;
- supporting new businesses and the sustainability of existing businesses;
- ensuring a robust transport infrastructure to support economic growth and regeneration through meeting the needs of business and the workforce, as well as residents and visitors;
- promoting tourism, and culture and leisure offerings;
- maximising the potential for people to work by ensuring the provision of more accessible and affordable childcare;
- developing sustainable housing solutions;
- focusing on the physical regeneration of town centres and communities for the benefit of the people who live in them and to create the right environment for private and public investment; and
- continuing to protect our environment and respond to climate change.

## **Improving Community Safety**

3.12 The Improving Community Safety Action Plan remains as a discrete Action Plan, driven forward by the Community Safety Partnership.

3.13 The Action Plan currently focuses on four key aims, namely to:

- tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour;
- work with young people to reduce the likelihood of them getting involved in crime and anti-social behaviour;
- improve community safety in neighbourhoods and homes; and
- promote child protection and the safety of vulnerable adults.

3.14 The four Aims continue to encompass relevant actions which will address the issues that affect our communities in relation to community safety as we go forward over the period 2009-11.

3.15 The focus will remain on violent crime, anti social behaviour and vandalism and actions will be introduced as necessary to effectively tackle these issues through partnership working.

3.16 Diversionary activity for young people, working with young offenders and tackling alcohol and drug misuse by young people remain a priority, and actions will build on and enhance the significant success of initiatives such as New Sporting Futures and support Community Wardens to engage with young people in their communities.

- 3.17 Fire, home and road safety will remain a priority and, in addition, actions will be incorporated in relation to home and personal safety.
- 3.18 There will be a greater emphasis on issues surrounding Child Protection and domestic abuse.

### **Improving Health and Wellbeing**

- 3.19 The Improving Health and Wellbeing Action Plan will be led by the Community Health Partnership and driven forward through its revised structure, which has allowed the integration of the improving health element of the Community Plan with wider agendas, including Children and Young People's Service Planning, Early Years, Leisure and Culture, and Joint Futures arrangements for health and social care.
- 3.20 The focus of the existing Improving Health Action Plan is on improving the health of the whole population and addressing health inequalities through targeted activity.
- 3.21 The scope of the new Improving Health and Wellbeing Action Plan has been expanded to encompass the Partners' shared agenda in relation to health and will include activity in relation to:
- Health improvement - with improving the health of the whole population and addressing health inequalities remaining a priority;
  - Shifting the Balance of Care – with an emphasis on partnership working to provide effective care in the community for older people, people with long term conditions, carers and people requiring rehabilitation; and
  - Wellbeing – with an emphasis on financial inclusion in recognition of the impact of a benefit income, debt and an inability to access basic financial services on health and wellbeing.

## **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Given its status as the Council's sovereign planning document, service plans are geared towards delivering the key objectives included within the Community Plan. The service resource allocations arising from the three year revenue budget and the ten year capital investment strategy are therefore fully informed by the requirement to achieve the outcomes identified within the Thematic Action Plans.

## **5. COMMUNITY PLANNING /POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Community Plan acts as the sovereign strategic planning document for the East Ayrshire area. The Community Plan thematic Action Plans require to be reviewed and revised, as appropriate, to be effective from 1 April 2009. All issues contained in this report have been discussed and approved by the Council's Corporate Management Team.
- 5.2 Robust links and consistency between the Community Plan Action Plans and the SOA have been ensured in their development.

## **6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 Community Plan Action Plans, developed and implemented jointly by relevant partners, mitigate the risk of failing to work in partnership to address identified priorities and maximise the resources of individual organisations.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 Cabinet is requested to:

- i) endorse the new Community Plan Action Plans in relation to Improving Lifelong Learning, Delivering Community Regeneration and Improving Health and Wellbeing;
- ii) endorse the Mid Term Review of the Improving Community Safety Action Plan; and
- iii) otherwise, note the content of the report.

**Elizabeth Morton**

**Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support**

**25 March 2009**

### **LIST OF PAPERS ON MEMBERS' PORTAL**

Promoting Lifelong Learning Thematic Action Plan 2009-2011  
Delivering Community Regeneration Thematic Action Plan 2009-2011  
Improving Community Safety Mid Term Review 2009  
Improving Health and Wellbeing Thematic Action Plan 2009-2011

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The Local Government in Scotland Act, 2003 – Community Planning Guidance  
(<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/localgov/cpsg-00.asp>)  
The Local Government in Scotland Act, 2003 – Community Planning Advice Notes  
(<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/localgov/cpan-00.asp>)

Any person wishing to inspect the above background papers or seek further information on this report should contact Gwen Barker, Community Planning and Partnership Manager, (Tel: 01563 554602).

**Implementation Officer:** Gwen Barker, Community Planning and Partnership Manager.