

**Arran Community and Voluntary Service (ACVS)**  
**Newsletter      October 2011**

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> (or Community and Voluntary Sector) in engagement with the Community Planning Partnership (CPP). The Interface has a seat (shared between ACVS and TACT) on the CPP. This report summarises recent activity that ACVS has been involved in. For more detailed information on any of the following please contact Jim Nichols at Arran CVS (01770) 600611.

Arran CVS also has a website [arrancvs.org.uk](http://arrancvs.org.uk)

This site provides up-to-date links to matters of local and national interest

**Community Health Partnership**

**1. 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 £1.96 million for the current year. Currently the Fund rules do not provide for carry over, hence allocations will be pro-rata for 2011/12 fiscal year.

### **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 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector (the Interface). As the Lead Partner is the Community Health Partnership, and Arran CVS is the Lead organisation for Health and Social Services matters (both mainland and Arran/Cumbrae), Jim leads engagement activity for the Interface .

### **Current Position**

The approved North Ayrshire submission has 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 submission was signed off by the SG in March. The money was received by NHS A&Arran in June 2011. An allocation process (involving the Interface) had awarded £150000 to Developing Community Capacity. This sum will be used for Lifelong Learning, Active Lifestyles, development of socialisation activity (eg new lunch clubs, extending befriending services), and ensuring the provision of signposting to advice agencies. I am still in discussions with NHS A&Arran and NAC over how the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector money will be utilised, but direction of travel is that the Interface will use some of the money to establish a couple of voluntary sector support staff, to cover both the mainland and Arran. This would lead to Arran CVS employing a part-time member of staff to co-ordinate the lunch club and befriending activities.

Current situation is I am still in discussions with NHS and NAC over the service specification to accompany an appropriate Service Level Agreement.

### **Governance Aspects of Change Fund**

3 Partners' (NAC,NHS A&A the Independent Sector and the Interface) meetings have held with the SG Joint Improvement Team ( May 2011 and August 2011.)

Longer term there are still governance issues to be resolved. I attended a National meeting at Dunblane together with our Partners on 21<sup>st</sup> September. Subsequent to this I recently met with South Ayrshire and East Ayrshire Interfaces . Some issues are still to resolved, as there are disparities of treatment within the 3 Local Authority Areas.

### **Arran Health Delivery Model**

#### **What is it?**

Development of a plan 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) was involved following a Public Meeting November 2010 in Brodick. A Reference Group of 6 people, chaired by NHS Ayrshire and Arran Non-Executive Director David Price, was established at the Public consultation including ACVS, the Elderly Forum, the Community Council, the Arran Health Care Group, the PPF, Cllr Currie and, (more recently), an Arran GP.

## **Current Position**

An on-going series of meetings had seen the original focus shift from the Health Delivery model, to discussions around issues directly related to the future model that must be implemented as a result of the Arran doctors withdrawing from the out-of-hours contract on the Island.

NHS are now looking at how health is delivered in other parts of rural and island Scotland, to determine future practice on Arran. Timescale set by NHS was originally the end of September 2011. This is now in slippage.

## **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.

The last meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> September was poorly attended, and the scheduled agenda item on Arran Health delivery was pulled due to no written report being submitted, and non-attendance of the 2 people involved.

### **Why/How Interface involved?**

CPP decided both Arran CVS and TACT should be involved, due to geographic differences. 2 representatives of the PPF also attend.

## **Current Position**

Change Fund and Arran Health Delivery Model are on the agenda of each meeting.

## **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. Janet Lacey and Jim Nichols are members of the Core Group.

### **Current Position**

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

Last meeting of the Core Group was 18th October.

## **Alcohol and Drugs Partnership**

### **What is it?**

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

### **Why/How Interface involved?**

Through Interface Lead for Health. At recent request of NHS A&Arran officers, I was asked to try to increase involvement of mainland North Ayrshire and Arran Groups in the Partnership. This is to ensure a democratic nomination process for the Community seat in the Partnership in the longer term.

### **Current Position**

Arran Alcohol Forum is currently outwith the formal AD Partnership. I attended 2 meetings of the ADP, and have now remitted future attendance to TACT, as issues are almost 100% mainland focus.

## **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 represents NAC at the meeting, in addition to officers.

#### **Why/How Interface involved?**

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

#### **Current Position**

NAC are working up a strategy for NAC engagement with the Community. The Community Engagement Group are holding a series of meetings to inform this work through the NAC Officer leading.

## **Community Engagement Network**

#### **What is it?**

A network of interested parties, 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 met late August. Arran was represented through Cllr Currie and Bill Calderwood, who attended representing their respective roles as Elected Member and Community Council.

For info on the August meeting content please ask either, as I was on leave.

### **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 have a seat, geographically representing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector.

#### **Current Position**

Attended last meeting 26<sup>th</sup> September. Main focus was on the poor situation in North Ayrshire for job prospects for 16 - 24 year olds and impact of benefit changes relating to Incapacity benefits.

### **Local Social Economy Partnership**

#### **What is it?**

Sub group of the 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. Direction of travel is towards Interface taking a co-ordinating role in the future and forming a Social Enterprise Network.

#### **Current Position**

TACT in discussions regarding the future role with NAC Economic development. Next LSEP meeting scheduled for 17th November.

## 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 has been submitted to the Scottish Government for 2012 onwards.

### 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. Jim Nichols provides secretarial support.

##### **Current Position**

Main interest recently was the possibility of revising the ferry timetable for earlier Sunday sailings, and of the potential for special deals in the winter. 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**

Key issues discussed included Arran Roads and other matters of local interest (eg Pirnmill Bridge), ACC now have own web site, which includes the ACVS Managers Report

Next meeting 25<sup>th</sup> October 2011 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.

### **Why/How Interface involved?**

Communicating role in terms of what's going on at CPP (and in particular - Health matters)

### **Current Position**

Meets monthly in Ormidale Pavilion.

Jim gave an update on the Change Fund, and received the views of the Forum members.

Next meeting- 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011

## **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?**

Arran CVS provides secretariat to the Trust, and will become Company Secretary this year.

### **Current Position**

Last meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011. Main discussion was the lack of progress on the Multi User path between Brodick and Corrie, and future applications for funding. The Visitor Payback initiative (Arran Trust) is starting to benefit the Trust, and has part funded remedial work in Glen Sannox.

## **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)

### **Current Position**

Main issues discussed were an on-going governance and service delivery review, and the new SG Innovation and Investment Fund. Next meeting 27<sup>th</sup> October.

## 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 Craigforth Study 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, the NFU, and our Elected Member.

### **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**

Meeting held 12th October. Main issues discussed were:  
Exploration of engagement with Private Housing Sector for affordable housing rentals, Submission to Scottish Government information relating to the LDP and the North Ayrshire Local Housing Strategy, the Innovation and Investment Fund outcomes and a local issue relating to the siting of sewage facilities in Corrie.

### **Arran attendees:**

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

Next meeting                      January 2012

## **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**

To see the awards made through LEADER, please access the website Argyll and the Isles LEADER, or visit the portal through the ACVS website [arrancvs.org.uk](http://arrancvs.org.uk)

**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](mailto:Jim.Nichols@arrancvs.org.uk)**

**Or phone 01770 600611.**