Locality Partnership Briefing Notes

What is a Locality Partnership?

Reflects a geographic locality

There are six Locality Partnerships within North Ayrshire – North Coast, Garnock Valley, Kilwinning, Irvine, Three Towns and Arran. Devising and agreeing these six areas involved considering:

- what geographic areas local people identify with

- the common factors that bring different communities together

- what size and number of Locality Partnerships would be most effective

Membership – local people along with partnership officers with a local remit, plus link to North Ayrshire level

Locality Partnerships include Elected Members, Community Council Chairs, community representatives, and Community Planning Partnership officers.

Appropriate decision-making at a local level

The Locality Partnership will make decisions at a local level about things that affect them, such as what should be in the Locality Plan, and allocating grants.

Better relationship between those who deliver and receive services

They will have a focus on services that are delivered locally, and will work to improve relationships between those who deliver and those who receive services.

Maximise the knowledge, talents and experience of local people

As the Locality Partnership has clear local links they will be well placed to build on the skills of local people, helping them to work with partners to tackle local issues.

Address local need

The Partnership will have a strong focus on addressing local need, through the Locality Plan.

How did we get here?

There has been a long and detailed process of developing and establishing Locality Partnerships. Working in this way means that we have been able to properly engage and consult and respond and adapt our approach.

There is a clear national policy directive that encourages this partnership working at a local level. The Community Empowerment Act requires Community Planning Partnerships to create localities and work with them to tackle inequalities.

We went through a process of pre-engagement followed by formal consultation. The calibre of this was recognised by the Consultation Institute. The feedback we received was taken on board and has clearly influenced the final terms of reference for the Locality Partnerships. For example by increasing the number of community representatives on the Locality Partnership to match the number of Elected Members on each Partnership, and establishing a mechanism to link to Youth Forums.

The proposals were recently agreed both by North Ayrshire Council and the Community Planning Board. They therefore have the support of the Council, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services, The Third Sector Interface, Ayrshire College, Skills Development Scotland, and Scottish Enterprise, amongst other partners.

What is next?

Agree community representatives

The next steps for the Locality Partnership include agreeing community representatives based on the applications received.

Identify local priorities

We need to identify local priorities. We can draw on a range of information sources to do this. This includes the outputs on the pre engagement and consultation, data analysis and discussions on local priorities.

Develop locality plans

We will use the local priorities to develop Locality Plans.

Link with Community Planning Partnership

We will work with the Community Planning Partnership partners at a North Ayrshire level.

Deliver local priorities

We will have a clear focus going forward on delivering on the priorities in our plan.

Locality Plans will not. . .

Contain everything that is relevant to the locality

It doesn't cover everything, i.e. transport, education, employment, economic growth, tourism, health and social care. It is more focused and targeted.

Be a wish list

It is not a wish list of things that, in an ideal world, we would like to have. While we should be aspirational for our communities we need to recognise the resources that we can draw upon and what we can and cannot influence.

Cover "business as usual"

The Locality Plan does not cover "business as usual" – by that we mean what communities and partners would be doing anyway if the Locality Plan did not exist.

Focus only on delivery by other organisations

It should not just focus on what the Locality Partnership wants an organisation to deliver locally, but how communities and partners can work with other organisations.

Replace all other partnership working

It is not designed to replace the good work that is already going on, it should complement and influence this.

<div align="center">The Locality Plan will. . .</div>

Be focused, prioritised, locally relevant and evidence based priorities

In contrast the Locality Plan will be focused and prioritised, containing a small number of priorities. It will be clearly relevant to the communities it relates to. It will be evidence based, i.e. from the local data or consultation.

Short term and longer term

Some of the priorities will be short term, and capable of being dealt with over weeks or months. Other actions will be longer term, possibly needing a year to implement fully.

Link to health and social care, community learning and development

The Health and Social Care Partnership also has locality structures that the Locality Partnership will link to. The specific priorities that they agree will be consistent with and reflected in the Locality Plan. It will also link to the Community Learning and Development strategic plan, acknowledging the key part that developing our communities will play.

Tackle inequalities

In order to make a real difference the Locality Plan will tackle inequalities. This may be issues relating to employment, health, or access to services.

Be about partnership working

The Locality Plan will consider the added-value of partnership working, for example we can achieve greater than the sum of our parts by working in partnership.

Agree actions to tackle priorities, supported by localities and partnership organisations

Finally it won't just be a list of things that we want to be addressed. It will have actions to tackle priorities, supported by localities and partnership organisations.