

JUNE 2021

**LOCAL PLACE
PLANS
WORKSHOPS
REPORTS**

**North Ayrshire
Community
Planning
Partnership**



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

INTRODUCTION

Two workshops were held on the afternoon of 12th May and evening of 8th June. These involved around 50 representatives of Community Planning partners and community representatives.

The purposes were:

- Understand what Local Place Plans are
- Consider how this might work in North Ayrshire
- Gather feedback to inform a Community Planning Partnership response to the Scottish Government consultation on the Local Place Plans guidance

The combined presentations and discussions are summarised below.

CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND ASPIRATIONS

Community representatives were asked:

Question 1: **How strong is your knowledge and understanding of local place plans.**

- Strong: I have a good understanding. 31%
- Medium: I have some awareness. 40%
- Weak: I have little to no knowledge of them. 27%

Question 2: **Would you be interested in developing a Local Place Plan?**

- Yes. 75%
- No. 0%
- Don't know. 25%

Question 3: **How capable do you feel you would be to develop a Local Place Plan?**

- Very capable: would require little to no assistance. 18%
- Fairly capable: would require some assistance. 45%
- Not capable: would require lots of assistance. 36%

PRESENTATIONS

COMMUNITY AND LOCALITY PLANNING

Attendees also considered how Local Place Plans relate to the work of the Community Planning Partnership

- Aligns to our responsibilities under the Community Empowerment Act
- Should consider how this will help us address inequalities at a local level
- Have 6 well established Locality Partnerships with local priorities – how will this interact with them?
- New Local Outcomes Improvement Plan from 2022
- Influence work of individual CPP partners
- Practical aspects – working with community bodies
- Consultation on guidance on Local Place Plans – CPP response

Presentations were shared providing an overview of how Local Place Plans will fit within the wider planning landscape.

Planning Overview

- (Most) development or changes in the use of land and buildings requires planning permission
- Applications for planning permission are decided in accordance with the Development Plan
- The planning system in Scotland is changing:
 1. development planning
 2. development management
 3. leadership skills and resourcing
 4. permitted development
 5. planning obligations
 6. community engagement

What are Local Place Plans?

- A local place plan is a proposal as to the development or use of land prepared by a community body
- May also identify land and buildings that the community body considers to be of particular significance to the local area
- Set out reasons for considering that the Local Development Plan should be amended
- North Ayrshire Council must take any registered local place plans into account when preparing or amending the Local Development Plan

THEMES EMERGING FROM WORKSHOPS

Fit with Other Areas of Work

- Looking at our landscape and what the opportunities are already out there and what can feed into a Place Plan
- Fit with community asset transfer
- Role of Community Councils both in developing Local Place Plans and in the wider planning landscape
- 20-minute neighbourhoods
- Fit with Community Wealth Building
- How regeneration and community access to services work together
- Equality of opportunity to develop Local Place Plans
- Value of creating a FAQ guide and toolkit
- How to draw from existing work such as charrettes
- Resourcing Local Place Plans
- Agreement that LPP should consider Locality Plans and LOIP. Acknowledge it could be difficult for community groups to be aware of all relevant partner plans and community-led plans. This means that officer support will be needed.
- Role of Third Sector Interface in supporting groups
- Potential for using a similar process to that of the Community Investment Fund where Locality Partnerships codevelop proposals with community groups, i.e. there is early engagement and collaboration

Local Place Plans will be community led, underpinned by collaboration – synergies with how we already work with communities. We have long supported the Place Principle, and links with public health priorities.

Using a workshop format participants considered themes of:

- **Form and content of Local Place Plans**
- **How community bodies should consult on Local Place Plans**
- **Relationship to other plans**
- **Levels of interest in developing a Local Place Plan**
- **What Local Place Plans could achieve**
- **Resources and support to create Local Place Plans**

THEMES EMERGING FROM WORKSHOPS

Consultation

FORM AND CONTENT OF LOCAL PLACE PLANS

- **The government should set out the minimum expectation of the content of a place plan**
- **Template – who have you engaged with, proposals, visuals, rational for proposals.**
- **Consistency to allow assessment of the plans**
- **the government has produced a draft 'How To' guide. An NAC version of this would be useful and may drill down to being a template.**
- **Incumbant on the community body if they are coming from the view of one organisation or a collective of organisations which is a more strategic implementation of a plan**
- **Issues with timing – how they fit into the process of preparing an LDP. If community organisations don't get in early could be waiting 10 years for a refresh**

- How do we make sure the place plans have a strong evidence base?
Importance of consultation vs concerns that if consultation is a legal requirement, it might put community bodies off from participating depending on their resource and skill level. Who is the arbiter of the legality of the consultation process?
Training and resources will be required for some community bodies to support any consultation process. If there is no legal requirement then how this could be carried out could vary across local authorities.
- The guidance around this from SG needs to be far clearer than that provided for the CEA around CAT and participation requests etc
- Elected members should be involved in the process so they are kept up to date about the needs/ aspirations of their community
- How does a community body link to a geographical area, what does the geography look like? This should be outlined and made clear in the guidance as could be confusing for communities and partners
- If a community body agree based on consultation something and it's contrary to the LDP, then what happens?
- Some sort of legal requirement around consultation would be beneficial, but only if the legislation and guidance are extremely clear. They need to set out the roles and responsibilities involved for each party very clearly. Where is all the resource coming from to cover everything required?
- Minimum requirements: A guidance document on good consultation practice for community bodies and training provided. This could link into Consultation Centre of Excellence work-staff are already trained by the Consultation Institute

NEXT STEPS

SCOTTISH
GOVERNMENT
CONSULTATION
RESPONSE

PROMOTION AND
COMMUNICATION

DEVELOP NORTH
AYSHIRE COUNCIL
INTERNAL PROCESSES

WORK WITH
COMMUNITY GROUPS
TO INFLUENCE AND
SUPPORT OUR LOCAL
APPROACH