

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GROUP – 23 APRIL 2009

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

BY: MORAY COUNCIL – COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The reason for this report is to invite the Group to consider and approve further work carried out on the Community Engagement Action Plan since the last meeting of the Group.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Group considers and approves further work carried out on the Community Engagement Action Plan since the last meeting of the Group, including the identification of appropriate milestones, timescales and lead partner responsibility against each of the actions within the Plan.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At its last meeting on 22 January 2009 the Community Engagement Group approved the Community Engagement Action Plan, which had been drawn up by a Task Group, appointed by the Community Engagement Group for this purpose at its meeting on 16 October 2008.
- 3.2 The Action Plan sets out a number of identified actions, which the Community Engagement Group requires to address in order to carry out its role and remit.
- 3.3 It was also agreed at the meeting on 22 January 2009 that further work required to be carried out to identify appropriate milestones and timescales for each action and which partner would take lead responsibility for the effective implementation of each action.
- 3.4 The Task Group met again on 16 March 2009 to consider this matter and add to the detail of the Action Plan accordingly. The revised Action Plan is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 3.5 It will be noted that the lead partner identified to take responsibility for each action is provisional at this stage, pending formal agreement of the partners concerned.

- 3.6 It should also be noted that Action 10 from the original version of the Action Plan – ‘Encourage a culture of continuous improvement in community engagement’ - has now become part of Action 8.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans

The Community Engagement Action Plan sets out the key tasks to be carried out by the Community Engagement Group over the next year in line with its agreed role and remit. This remit includes ensuring that community engagement processes used in drawing up any of the above plans meet the National Standards of Community Engagement.

(b) Policy and Legal

The Local Government Scotland Act (2003) requires that the Community Planning Partnership engages effectively with community bodies as part of the Community Planning process.

(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)

Each of the lead partners identified against actions within the Plan will require to commit appropriate staff resources in carrying these out.

It is not anticipated that there will be any significant financial resource implications arising from the Plan, but any such will be brought back to future meetings of the Group for approval.

The risks of not fully implementing the Action Plan are that the Partnership will not meet its legal obligation to engage effectively with community bodies.

(d) Consultations

The Community Engagement Task Group has considered the various actions contained within the Action Plan and contributed to the process of identifying milestones, timescales and lead partners against each action.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Group considers and approves further work carried out on the Community Engagement Action Plan since the last meeting of the Group, including the identification of appropriate milestones, timescales and lead partner responsibility against each of the actions within the Plan.**

Author of Report: Roy Anderson, Community Planning Officer

Background Papers:

Ref:

Signature _____

Date: _____