

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GROUP MEETING – 22 APRIL 2014**

ITEM NO	TITLE OF REPORT	DECISION	ACTION BY
	Present	<p>Convener, Councillor Cree (Chair), Tracey Gervaise (NHS), John Ferguson (Moray Council), Jacqui Graham (Clerk), Don Vass (TSI Moray), Judith Franklin (Equalities Forum), Steven Christie (Tenants Forum), Irena Patterson (Moray Disability Forum), Alastair Kennedy (Joint Community Council) and Alison Thow (Police Scotland)</p> <p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b> Apologies were received from Colin Mowat (Police Scotland), Kieron Young (Youth Council), Jo Fergusson (Moray Collaborative Learning), Anita Milne, (Moray Federation of Community Halls &amp; Associations) and Fiona Rolt (Area Forums)</p> <p><b><u>IN ATTENDANCE</u></b> Gary Templeton (Moray Council)</p>	
1.	Previous Minute – 12 March 2014	The minute was agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.	
2.	Matters Arising	<p><b>(i) Supporting Communities</b> John advised that he had spoken with Barbara Allen and agreed that this would be dealt with as a separate item. Barbara had suggested dates of 19/20 May or the following week. It was agreed that 27 May looked the most suitable date for everyone and John is to go back to Barbara with this date.</p> <p><b>(ii) Citizens' Panel Update</b> John advised that the procurement process had now been finished and that Craigforth have been appointed following a detailed procurement process.</p> <p><b>(iii) Update on 10-Year Plan</b> Councillor Cree advised that the 10 Year Plan had been approved by the Community Planning Board as had the plan to consult on the plan This should be on the agenda at the next CEG.</p>	JF

3.	Access to Streets	<p>Don Toonen was at another meeting but he had presented an update on 'Access To Streets' initiative' Since he wrote the report Lossiemouth Community Council have also become involved. John advised that there is to be a training event to interested groups by Living Streets Scotland on carrying out street audits in the summer of 2014.</p> <p>It was also agreed to look at safety and security particularly around women's and vulnerable people's access to the streets being developed under this topic.</p>	
4.	Local Development Plan	<p>Gary Templeton, Principal Planning Officer with the Moray Council was invited to discuss the consultation on the new Moray Local Development Plan. There had been correspondence from the Joint Community Council raising issues that related to the timescales and the importance that the National Standards For Community Engagement were not fully applied. Gary had made arrangements to extend response times in specific cases. The process is statutory and he was anxious not to issue a blanket extension. There was a general discussion on the need to support the engagement of the harder to reach groups and it was clear that the CEG could assist. The next plan will be consulted in 2 years time and it was felt that early contact with the CEG would be helpful in the engagement process. It was felt to have been a useful experience so far. It was also agreed that the CEG would receive feedback on this consultation. Gary advised that there had been road show events and the attendance had been good.</p>	
5.	Community Awards	<p>Steven advised that these were still ongoing. They now have 6 categories.</p>	
6.	Community Empowerment Bill Discussion	<p>John raised this issue to see if anyone else in the group had information as at one point there was a rumour the actual Bill had been delayed for up to 2 years and then a range of possible timetables from the summer on. Although there appeared to be no concrete timetable the Bill was expected to be approved in the Autumn. There seemed to be an interest in Community Planning from organisations that were not as involved previously and it was agreed that the implications for example around land and asset transfers, will have significant impact on a range of public bodies.</p>	

7.	Action Plan Toolkit	John had hoped to present a draft toolkit to this meeting however due to work commitments he asked if this item could be deferred to the next meeting. This was agreed.	<b>JF</b>
8.	Current & Proposed Consultations	<p>The Convener was glad to see that organisations were referring to the CEG with consultations and that information on consultations were being forwarded to the meeting. There was discussion on the review of funding for Community Engagement and it was felt that a more accurate description was a review of Moray Council Funding for Community Organisations. The purpose and background behind the review was discussed. More detail will be available at the next review.</p> <p>The other consultations discussed included ;</p> <p>A Moray Council consultation on Social Care Contributions Policy between April and July</p> <p>A Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy which the Moray Health and Social Care Partnership is putting out an initial questionnaires in May for this and the Physical and Sensory Disability Strategy .</p> <p>There was discussion on a Consultation which had been distributed on the Moray &amp; Aberdeenshire Forest District Strategic plan There was discussion on the importance of forestry to the environment, education, health and fitness, leisure, tourism and the economy and it was agreed to invite John Thomson from Forestry Commission along to the next meeting.</p>	<b>JF</b>
9.	AOCB	There was no additional business and the Convener thanked everyone for their attendance	
10.	Next Meeting Date	The Group noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 3 June 2014 at 10.00am, Meeting Room 1, Moray Council Annexe Building.	