

# Angus Community Planning

*Working Together For Angus*



June 2011 Issue 4

[www.angus.org.uk](http://www.angus.org.uk)

Welcome to our summer edition of the Community Planning Partnership's e-newsletter. With our brand new community plan and single outcome agreement in place and our new streamlined structure working well we are fighting fit and determined to continue the good work being done by partners to improve the lives of our Angus citizens.

Speaking of which, in this edition check out the results of the Angus Citizens' Panel which shows we are still a satisfied lot when it comes to our quality of life and have a read about what's going on around and about your area in Angus.

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### Angus Community Planning Partnership (ACPP)

#### Change Fund for Angus

We now have a change plan for Angus. As part of the Scottish draft budget the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth announced the allocation of £70m in 2011-12 to a Change Fund. The fund is intended to enable health and social care Partners to implement local plans for making better use of their combined resources for older people's services. £1.691 million was allocated to the Angus Community Care and Health Partnership who have developed a proposal for use of this money in Angus. You can find out more information on Angus' change plan by visiting the Joint Improvement Team's [website](#).

#### NEW Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement

Angus Community Planning partnership has agreed Angus' new Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement for 2011-2014. The Plan outlines the **five priority areas** that the partnership will focus on to support the achievement of our vision. It also outlines the **twelve outcomes** which the partnership wishes to achieve in terms of quality of life and life opportunities for individuals, families and communities within Angus. Although the vision for Angus is long term this community plan and single outcome agreement covers the period 2011-14 and will be reviewed annually. To find out more about what is contained in Angus' new Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement please visit the community planning [website](#).

#### Local Community Plans Launched

Angus Council has launched the first local community plans for each of the seven council wards in the county. The plans set out the different strands of activities and projects to be delivered in each of the seven areas by council departments and their partner organisations, which include Tayside Police, Tayside Fire and Rescue and NHS Tayside as well as voluntary organisations. Included in the plans are improvements which local communities would like to see in their areas. To see what's happening in your area visit the Community Planning [website](#).

## European Workers make a difference

A strategic group set up to respond to the impact of the influx of European workers in Angus has taken some time out to reflect on its role as well as the issues still facing people coming to work in Angus. There was a recognition that farms could not function to the level that they do without seasonal workers however this also came with a recognition of the increase in services that people required to keep them safe and well. The availability of translation services are still paramount as well as the need for good quality information. The group will now consider its position with regard to work in the future whilst the 'Welcome to Angus' booklet produced by the group is still available from [Angus Ahead](#).

## Working Together for Young People

A range of budgets have been brought together to create a single pooled budget to support youth work initiatives. Allocation of over £100,000 of funding provided by Fairer Scotland Youth Projects, Youth Justice and Community Grants will be overseen by the Children's and Learning Partnership who will ensure that arrangements are made for involving young people in the decision making process. For initial information on the fund contact the [Principal Community Learning and Development Officer](#) in the first instance.

## Engaging with Communities

The results of the latest Community Engagement Impact Assessment are now in. Over 380 community engagement exercises were carried out last year with 87% of staff saying 'yes' their service had changed as a result of engaging with communities. For further details and to read the full report click [here](#).

## Spend to Save

Scotland's public services must focus more on preventing social problems arising rather than reacting to problems once they have occurred, according to a report on Preventative Spending published by the Parliament's [Finance Committee](#). The report outlines the scale of the challenge facing Scotland's Public Sector in dealing with child wellbeing and social problems, such as violence and ill health. However, the report strongly backs the claims of expert witnesses who suggest that a preventative approach is one of the best means of tackling these problems and one that can deliver significant financial savings in the process.

## Angus Citizens' Panel

The latest Citizen Panel report analyses the results from the survey of the Angus citizens' panel undertaken in January to March 2011. The survey was specifically designed to mirror the Angus citizen survey which was last conducted in 2009. The survey gives a very positive picture of life in Angus with over nine out of 10 people stating that they were either 'very' or 'fairly' satisfied with the quality of life in Angus (96.9%). This is up 3.9% from the Angus Citizens' Survey in 2009.

In regard to the council there were high levels of agreement that the council:

- has friendly, polite, well informed employees;
- provides good quality services;
- provides an efficient service.

Areas that reported less positively were:

- the council does not promote its services well;
- satisfaction with responses to complaints;

These findings are consistent with the findings of the 2009 Angus Citizens' Survey. Interestingly, one area in which there is no consistency is opinion as to whether the council has the resources to do a good job, which has dropped substantially from 65% in 2009 to 45.2%. You can find out more by reading the [report](#).

## Third Sector News

The Third Sector in Angus received its funding award for the current year of £193,600 and this has been allocated to AAVO and VCA along agreed lines, to enable both agencies to develop the key strands of Interface activity which are support for: volunteering; third sector development; social enterprise development; third sector engagement with community planning and community capacity building.

VCA are currently out and about finding out what people think of them and the service they provide. Making use of the latest technology you can become a film star for 5 minutes and really let VCA know what you think. Watch out for the web clips to come! For further information contact [VCA](#).

## Thematic Partnerships

### Economic Development Partnership

Changes in national policy regarding Get Britain Working and with it the introduction of the Work Programme has seen the AEP preparing for changes to local employability provision. Part of this preparation has seen the partnership develop its local employability brand 'AngusWorks' and more recently it has 'gone live' with a new management information system that will allow partners to further develop good working relationships across agencies. The launch of Praxis in 2010 and the volunteering project run by Volunteer Centre Angus has been an exiting and unique addition to local provision as it proves to deliver an innovative approach to adult learning based on supporting people with significant barriers to employment, volunteering and education.

Partners have contributed progress updates for 2010/11 for inclusion in the formal Single Outcome Agreement report to Scottish Government later in the year; and have also contributed to the Community Plan/SOA for 2011-14. Much activity continues through the work of the AEDP sub groups, the Angus Social Economy Partnership and the Angus Employability Partnership (AEP). You can find further information on the work of the partnership at the community planning [website](#).

### Children's and Learning Partnership

The delivery of Phase Two of the [Growing Excellence Programme](#) has been completed. Programmes in outcome focused planning were completed in April and lessons learned are now being applied to future continuous professional development activity. A multi agency event took place in May to consider how local partners can improve cooperation in relation to continuous professional development in the future.

Consultants engaged to support partners in developing a more strategic and co-ordinated approach to community capacity building practice, linked directly to

important SOA outcomes and targets have delivered a draft report which will be considered over the summer with a view to informing future action. The consultants also facilitated a multi-agency learning event in June which enabled them to explore issues with a range of community planning partners and explore possible future actions.

The Partnership facilitated a transitions seminar in May which provided lifelong learning partners with an opportunity to explore the findings from national research on facilitating effective transition from community based learning to college and other formal settings. The event was informative and useful and has already informed partnership discussions on actions to bring about improvements in this area of practice.

Work to implement 16+ learning Choices in Angus continues. Additional funding from Scottish Government has allowed the Council to appoint additional staff on short-term contracts to roll-out Activity Agreements. Significant work has also been undertaken to extend the range of non-formal learning and personal and social development opportunities available to support young people who have not secured employment and are not yet ready to progress to college or a training place.

The Angus-wide Pupil Council met again in June, with participation from all eight secondary schools in Angus. The agenda invited young people to consider the outputs from the Children's Commissioner's Right Blether national consultation and agree ways in which emerging issues can be progressed in Angus.

Getting It Right multi-agency training is now well underway across Angus. Six events have taken place with approximately 324 representatives from across children's service partners attending. This has included representation from Health, Police, Education, Social Work and the Voluntary Sector. Four more events are planned for late August.

The Getting it Right approach is about how **all** partners across **all** services for children and adults together take a shared approach and have a joint accountability to meet the needs of children and their families. Following the training the practice tools will be adopted and implemented across partner agencies. Follow up training sessions will be arranged as required.

You can find further information on the work of the partnership at the community planning [website](#).

## Community Safety Partnership

Work is almost complete for a strategic assessment 2012-15. The partnership has agreed that this should be a three year document with an ongoing review to make sure topics remain current and meaningful. High priorities have again included drugs, alcohol and antisocial behaviour. The partnership is meeting most of the targets set for last year.

The Community Safety Survey 2011 was circulated in May/June and asked about general feelings of safety in neighbourhoods as well as asking residents about community concerns such as drugs, noisy neighbours and vandalism. There was also a focus on the concerns highlighted by the previous survey. In 2009, 53% of residents suggested that they were very or fairly worried about dog fouling and littering in their area. Thanks to these responses, services have already been realigned to better tackle these issues.

This year the partnership asked for help to further identify areas of concern for communities as regards dog fouling, littering and fly-tipping. All Angus residents

were able to respond via an online version of the survey. Responses are being compiled by a professional market research company with results being known shortly.

The Community Wardens drive towards reducing dog fouling, littering and fly tipping in Angus continues. A follow up street survey for dog fouling is being undertaken to help see the physical impact of the warden's redeployment. In April/May 2011 wardens have issued 50 litter warning notices to under 16s, visited 50 residents regarding their complaints about dog fouling and issued 8 Fixed Penalty Notices.

ACSP supported the work of the Joint Services Team in organising the Safe Angus project at the Jock Neish Scouting Centre, Tannadice in June this year. Over 1300 P6/7 pupils in Angus learned practical ways to deal with everyday dangers, risks and hazards and is supported by Angus Council, Tayside Police, Tayside Fire and Rescue, NHS Tayside and other community planning partners.

Over the course of the day, those taking part are faced with real-life scenarios depicting emergency situations. The pupils then assess the dangers and risks presented and learn how to deal with them in a safe setting. Scenarios include house fires, water hazards, road safety, railway safety, first aid, home safety, smoking, countryside, internet safety and other risks. After completing the course the pupils complete a knowledge check in the form of an interactive quiz which helps to reinforce the messages learned during the day.

The work of Safe Angus was acknowledged this year when the project was highly commended by the judges after being short-listed for an Angus Council Excellence Award.

Officers from Tayside Polices community task force have been deployed in the Arbroath area for the last three months, tackling problems such as illegal drugs activity, anti-social behaviour and a range of other crimes. The task force has:

- Seized bottles of vodka and spiced rum from children in their mid-teens, in addition to cans and bottles of lager, cider and alco pops.
- Searched 300 drinkers were for weapons and raided seven properties after drug search warrants were obtained.
- Reported three people for offences relating to cannabis resin.
- Arrested a disqualified driver and issued fines for speeding to six drivers, a further 16 motorists were warned for speeding and other driving issues.
- Recovered £300 of stolen property and arrested seven people for crimes such as shoplifting and theft.

You can find further information on the work of the partnership at the community planning [website](#).

## **Community Care and Health Partnership**

The Angus Partnership has seen an increase in volunteering activity in community care. This will continue to be a priority area for the partnership, particularly in the current economic climate. The volunteering strategy "Beyond the Trolley", developed in conjunction with Angus Volunteer Centre, specifically highlights a target of 250 additional volunteers in health by 2013.

Integral to the Community Care Change Programme for older people is the establishment of enablement teams across Angus to help more people maintain their independence in the community. Enablement teams are now fully operational

in Forfar/Kirriemuir/SW Angus and in Brechin/Montrose locality. Early indicators suggest a reduction in care packages and services for those individuals who have accessed the enablement service. Despite this the average number of personal care hours following enablement equates to a small number of non-complex cases. The further roll out of the enablement teams across Angus will provide a more comprehensive analysis of the impact of the enablement model.

In general there is a raised awareness of the importance of being active with a great deal of work being done by Active Schools and Leisure Services to promote and develop sport and physical activity. Coordination of partnership working, volunteer development and working with the voluntary sector have made this possible. Recent development of existing programmes through partnership working has included the development of exercise classes for people with long term illnesses. The exercise classes operate in all burgh towns through collaboration between Leisure Services, Angus CHP and the Angus Activity Programme for People with Long Term Conditions.

Volunteer Gold, a new community group supported by Angus Gold, was awarded with £10,000 funding from NESTA's (National Endowments for Science, Technology and the Arts) Age Unlimited programme. A volunteer recruitment campaign held earlier this year resulted in the recruitment of 3 volunteers for the Seated Exercise programme training.

The Angus Exercise on Referral programme, a partnership venture between Angus Council Leisure Services and NHS Tayside which was introduced to Angus in 2002. The programme was rebranded earlier this year and will now be known as Refer 2 Exercise. Ask your GP or local Leisure Centre for more information.

The Angus Tobacco Control Alliance was reconvened in May this year and will be the key driving force towards meeting the new Heat 6 target which was introduced in April 2011. While smoking rates in Angus are similar to the national average, there are still areas across Angus – particularly in Arbroath, Montrose, Brechin and Forfar – that have high numbers of smokers. As a result, the Angus Smoking Cessation Service has increased the number of group and one-to-one sessions which has led to a significant rise in 4 week quit rates. The possibility of introducing the Quit4U incentive programme to Angus is also being explored in an attempt to drive down smoking rates in these areas.

The NHS Tayside Healthy Working Lives Team continue to progress the Healthy Working Lives programme within workplaces across Angus. As part of this work, workshops/awareness sessions are delivered to workplaces on a range of subjects including mental health and wellbeing, weight management, drugs and alcohol awareness and healthy eating. In addition small/medium sized workplaces (employing less than 250 people) throughout Angus have been accessing the services of the Occupational Health and Safety Adviser within the team to receive guidance and support in addressing health and safety issues.

Healthy Working Lives also facilitates partnership working – a joint initiative between Angus Council and Healthy Working Lives offers people in workplaces (with the exception of NHS Tayside and Angus Council employees) the opportunity to access Angus Council Leisure Facilities for half price over an 8 week period. Half the cost is met by the participant with the other half being met by Scottish National Centre for Healthy Working Lives. Currently 80 people have participated in this programme – look out for information if your workplace is registered with Healthy Working Lives.

You can find further information on the work of the partnership at the community planning [website](#).

## Rural and Environment Partnership

In May members of the partnership combined a business meeting with a visit to Brechin. Focusing on the local natural environment, a comprehensive presentation on The River South Esk Catchment Partnership was provided, including an insight on progress achieved in the eradication of invasive non native weeds such as Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed. For the built environment, an overview of the Brechin Townscape Heritage Initiative was followed by a walking tour of the conservation area, with fascinating commentary from the Project Manager.

Tayplan's proposed Strategic Development Plan and Proposed Action Programme were published on 1st June 2011 for representations to be made. A series of supporting documents have also been published.

The period for representations runs for 8 weeks between Monday 6th June and Monday 1st August 2011. During this period you are invited to make representations on changes you wish to see in the Proposed Plan or to support it. Your representations should be brief, focus on the things you wish to change and should be made through the online response form. Find more details [here](#).

Partners have contributed to the development of the Community Plan/SOA for 2011-14; and provided progress updates for the content of the full year progress report to Scottish Government for 2010/11, currently being finalised. You can find further information on the work of the partnership at the community planning [website](#).

## Local Community Planning

### Arbroath East and Lunan and Arbroath West and Letham

Discussions are being held with members of the local community, including pupil council reps, and Angus Council Cultural Services to consider how they can work together on the film programme and facilities at the Webster Memorial Theatre. This would enable the community to monitor and evaluate the success of the cinema and have some influence over the programme, gain a sense of ownership and therefore feel more inclined to use and promote the facility locally.

The [Arbroath Town Centre Regeneration Group](#) continues to move forward on a number of actions which includes the following:

- [Finger post signs](#) have now been refurbished and work is set to begin on refurbishing benches by the Summer.
- Designers are pulling together the [Arbroath tourist brochure](#) and retailer advertising is currently being sought. Alongside the brochure, design work is also being undertaken with regard to the three [pole banners](#).
- A survey is currently open to allow individuals to give their views on their shopping experience in [Arbroath Town Centre](#) by completing an [on-line survey](#). The results will be analysed and will help inform future work.

[Bruce Road Community Flat](#) are continuing their work including holding arts and crafts homework clubs and developing a pool league for local people to act as a year round fund raiser. The group continues to act as an advisory body for local people on housing issues.

Information on the bicentenary [Year of the Light](#) celebration 2011 events are still available by visiting Arbroath and Area Partnership's [Year of the Light](#) web page on Angus Ahead.

The findings of the [Arbroath Traffic Management Review](#) has now been

submitted to the Infrastructure services committee and recommendations for a list of measures to improve access to the town centre were approved. Further information can be found in the [report](#).

The housing sub-group of the Clifftown and Hayshead community planning group are currently compiling a health and wellbeing questionnaire. If you would like any further information on any of the above projects please contact the [Arbroath Local Community Planning Team](#)

## Brechin and Edzell

Brechin Round Table, along with local businesses and community members and groups, once again staged the Brechin Pageant on Saturday, June 4, in the public park. This year, as a new attraction, the Youth Bytes Bus made an appearance. The bus provides youth information, support and advice from the Youth Bytes team and external agencies and organisations interested in providing relevant services to young people who, for a number of reasons have had little opportunity in the past to access such services. For more information on the Youth Bytes Bus contact the [Community Learning and Development Service](#).

The next **Brechin in Partnership** event is to be held in the Cathedral Hall on Tuesday 21st July from 12 Noon to 2pm. Updates will be given by the 'Vision' Group the heritage trail group and the group looking at improving public transport. There is also to be a discussion with local arts and crafts enthusiasts with regard to developing a co-operative or network of artists in the Brechin area.

All the High Street projects as part of the **Townscape Heritage Initiative** are now on site. This includes works at 25-27 which were delayed due to structural issues to the neighbouring building. A number of the projects are nearing completion, and should be completed in the next two months. These include building repair projects at 39-41, 51-55 and 33 High Street.

**Merchant's House/ 68-72 High Street:** The contractor, WH Brown Construction, has recently received funding from Historic Scotland for two joinery apprentices under the Craft Fellowship Scheme. These apprentices will attend their local colleges at Dundee and Arbroath and will be engaged on Brown Construction sites in Angus, Tayside and Fife. The sites will include the Merchant's House and they will also receive training on other restoration projects during their four year apprenticeship. Further information can be found at the [Townscape Heritage Initiative](#) webpage.

The findings of the consultation with regard to **Brechin High School** community campus have now been published and are available at [here](#).

If you would like any further information on any of the above projects please contact the [Brechin and District Local Community Planning Team](#)

## Carnoustie and District

**The Carnoustie Development Group** will now take forward the work of the area partnership in creating a vibrant Carnoustie for residents and visitors alike. You can keep up to date with the work of the group [here](#).

Work on Angus Council's new £9m care centre and supported housing project, and family housing development, at **Kinloch, Carnoustie** can now be viewed by a live [webcam link](#).

If you would like any further information on any of the above projects please contact the [Carnoustie and District Local Community Planning Team](#)

## Forfar and District

**Forfar Gala Week** started with a 'Sing Forfar's praises' event and ended with the main Gala day on 26th June in Myre Green.

**Viewmount Voices** are currently working with Council departments and local residents on a number of identified projects. To find out more about the work of Viewmount Voices, please contact the chairperson, Iain Robb.

If you would like any further information on any of the above projects please contact the [Forfar and District Local Community Planning Team](#)

## Kirriemuir and Dean

**Charleston Village Hall Committee** are seeking to raise £200k for the re-development of the hall, watch out for their fund-raising events over the coming months!

More hall news, **Kingoldrum hall committee** are looking for ways to increase the use of their hall as well as upgrading parts of the building. Village halls can often be the centre of our more rural communities in Angus so if you can, please support them.

The now constituted **Davidson Park Action Group** continue to work hard towards their goal of renewing the play equipment in their local park. Consultation with local Southmuir Primary School and local residents has taken place and the group are now identifying the pieces of equipment they would like to see in the park. This will enable them to establish an estimated cost for the project as a whole.

Work to improve the **BMX track** is moving along with local company S & S Grewar. The track has now two newly developed tracks - beginners and advanced. Young people have put a lot of effort into bringing the track back to life and should see the project finished in the next few months.

If you would like any further information on any of the above projects please contact the [Kirriemuir and Dean Local Community Planning Team](#)

## Monifieth and Sidlaw

**Monifieth Eco Fest** are working towards becoming an independent constituted group and a public meeting will be held in July to formally adopt a constitution and launch the group. Despite all this formal administration the group are continuing their practical work and were delighted to see Keep Scotland Beautiful awarding Monifieth a yellow flag for a safe and clean beach.

The **Monifieth Community Cabin** (temporary home for the Monifieth Community Centre Steering Group) has become an extremely popular and well used service. The process of obtaining a feasibility study into a more permanent facility is well underway with 7 tenders being received and 4 consultants being selected for interview. Interviews will take place in August.

There are currently vacancies on the **Monifieth Landward Partnership**. If you or anyone you know is interested in getting involved please contact the local community planning team below.

If you would like any further information on any of the above projects please contact the [Monifieth and Sidlaw Local Community Planning Team](#)

## Montrose and District

**Borrowfield Community Group** has set a date for this years gala day as the 21st August, watch out for news in the local press.

**Montrose Moving Forward** are leading on the work and priorities identified in consultation with local people including, tourism leaflets, developing the East Links Area and investigating the possibility of cinema provision for all ages in the Burgh. You can find more information about the partnerships work [here](#).

Happily, a concerted effort to request information with regard to future events in the area has reaped rewards with a new edition of the **What's On** guide being produced. For further information use the contact details below.

If you would like any further information on any of the above projects please contact the [Montrose Local Community Planning Team](#)