

# ANGUS RURAL AND ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP

MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009  
10.30AM, ANGUS HOUSE, ORCHARD BANK, FORFAR

## Present:

Eric Lowson	<b>EL</b>	Director of Infrastructure Services
George Chree (Chair)	<b>GC</b>	Head of Planning and Transport, Angus Council
Lee Haxton	<b>LH</b>	Angus Community Planning Partnership
Kelly Ann Dempsey	<b>KAD</b>	Environmental Strategy Project Officer, Angus Council
Murray Ferguson	<b>MF</b>	Cairngorms National Park
Cllr Ian Mackintosh	<b>IM</b>	National Farmers Union (Scotland)
Genna Dall	<b>GD</b>	Angus Community Health Partnership, NHS Tayside
Catherine Lloyd	<b>CL</b>	Tayside Biodiversity Partnership Co-ordinator
Lindsay Harper	<b>LH</b>	Tayside Police
Anne Mollison	<b>AM</b>	Principal Planning Officer, Chief Execs Dept, Angus Council
Kevin Murphy	<b>KM</b>	Director of Learning and Teaching, Angus College
Eric Guthrie	<b>EG</b>	Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership ( <i>tactran</i> )
Mark Crush	<b>MC</b>	Tayside Fire & Rescue
Bill Strachan	<b>BS</b>	Senior Service Manager, Corporate Planning, Angus Council

## Apologies:

Andrew Harper – Cairngorms National Park Authority  
Phil Gaskell - Scottish Natural Heritage  
Mai Hearne - Chief Officer, AAVO  
Mike Strachan - Forestry Commission Scotland

## ACTION

### 1 Welcome and Apologies

GC welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted. BS and LH informed partnership that due to the change in the administration of the partnership, they would be ceasing their involvement with the group. EL noted that their expertise was always welcome.

### 2 Minute of Previous Meeting Matters Arising

The partnership agreed the minute of the March meeting.

LH confirmed that title has been officially changed from group to partnership.

IM asked if FWAG would be reinstated, CL informed that this would be discussed in the Autumn.

### 3 Presentation from Lindsay Harper (Tayside Police)

LH gave an informative presentation on Tayside Police's approach to sustainability covering topics such as alternative transport methods, Green construction and building renovation, CO2 reducing heating systems and solar energy. LH said that these measures saved around £8500 per annum and would take approx. 15 years to recuperate costs but that working life of components was longer. EG offered TACTRAN's services for enhancing staff travel plans etc.

### 4 Single Outcome Agreement 2009-2012.

## **SOA Implementation Group Reporting Arrangements & 2009-2012 Local Outcomes and Targets (AREP)**

AM advised that the SOA Implementation Group have agreed a reporting calendar for monitoring performance of the 2009/12 SOA. Six-monthly progress reports will be expected in December and June of each year from all of the Thematic Partnerships. In addition, each Thematic Partnership will be asked to do a presentation on their key priorities, evidence base in relation to local and national outcomes – the date for the AREP presentation is 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009.

Over the past few months, each Thematic Partnership has been working on identifying and agreeing appropriate indicators, targets and actions to help deliver on local and national outcomes. Final drafts of the performance templates for AREP were circulated prior to the meeting. AM suggested a deadline to report back to GC on any 'below the waterline' indicators and/or actions which need to be included.

ALL

AM said that the 2009/12 SOA is now signed off and although we can be flexible on modifying local outcomes, to do so, may result in a lack of statistics for analysing trends if frequent changes are made.

GC/AM

Also, AM suggested arranging meetings with partner agencies before the next meeting of AREP in September to discuss the above.

### **5 Any Other Competent Business**

#### **6.1 Angus Woodland and Forestry Framework**

LH reported that work had begun on the project, a consultant was in place and a draft questionnaire would go live in the next two weeks. Public events are also to be organised. All work is to be complete by the end of the year. Final report to go to Gordon Pyper in Infrastructure services.

#### **6.2 Survey of Rural Facilities**

LH reported that this project could still potentially be conducted through a student placement from Dundee University but the project had now been passed to Prue Dowie within Economic development, Angus Council. Information gathered would be used to update the out of date 2004 report and the database would be available to partners and the public.

PD

#### **6.3 Local Community Plans and Teams**

LH informed the partnership that the structure of the Local Community Plans Team would be changing and that there would now be three staff members with specific roles e.g. learning & development per region. He stated that this may have implications for the partnership. EL advised the partnership that he had been in discussion with the Chief Executive to retain LH services in the partnership.

#### **6.4 Green Volunteering**

LH advised that partners such as SNH and the Biodiversity Partnership were involved in the scheme which hoped to place volunteers in green projects throughout the area. Gary Malone from the volunteers centre is to be invited to the September partnership meeting.

GC

#### **6.5 Abertay Centre for the Environment**

LH advised the ACE would like to work more with the public sector. Their role is mainly in expertise and guidance rather than in the research field, although they will sponsor research. It was proposed that they are invited to present at the November meeting.

GC

#### **6.6 Angus Tourism Strategy**

Comments are welcome on the Angus Tourism Strategy, these are for the attention of Anne Camus and can be forwarded to EL. SNH, TACTRAN and the National Parks Network has already commented. MF pointed out the potential for the area by expanding activity under the National Parks banner.

**6.7 Presentation at next meeting**

LH asked for a volunteer to present at next meeting, MC obliged and will give a presentation in September.

**MC**

**6.8 National Park Authority CO2 emissions paper**

LH passed round copies of the Cairngorms National Park Authority paper entitled "Energy in the Park: Towards a low carbon National Park for information purposes.

**6.9 Change to NHS Tayside representation on partnership**

GD advised that due to a change in her role she would no longer be attending the partnership meetings and an alternative member of staff would attend in future.

**6.10 Partnership participant details**

GC to email out contact details.

**GC**

**6.11 Local Climate Impact Report**

GC passed out copies of the executive summary of Perth and Kinross Council's Local Climate Impact Report. Angus are about to begin collecting data for their own report and will be looking to partners for information on adverse weather in the Angus area, its affects and how partners have reacted to it.

**7 Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the group will be Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September and Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 10.30am. Location tbc.

**GC**