

REPORT TO FORMARTINE AREA COMMITTEE – 7 JUNE 2016

FORMARTINE COMMUNITY PLAN 2016-2019

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Formartine Area Committee:

- 1.1 Provide feedback on the contents of the Formartine Local Community Plan 2016-2019 draft actions for consideration by the Local Community Planning Group (LCPG), and
- 1.2 Note and comment on the progress of actions within the Formartine Community Plan 2013-2016.

2. Background/Discussion

- 2.1 The Local Community Plans will be supported by the publication of annual reports promoting the achievements of the Formartine LCPG, highlighting the value added by the local community planning structure.
- 2.2 The draft Local Community Plan actions can be found in **Appendix 1** of this document and Elected Members are asked to provide feedback on the contents of the document for consideration by the Formartine LCPG.
- 2.3 The final document will be presented to the Aberdeenshire Community Planning Board for adoption on 29 June of this year.
- 2.4 Progress of the Plan will be monitored on a regular basis by the Local Community Planning Group with a six monthly monitoring report to the Area Committee.
- 2.5 The final monitoring exercise for the 2013-2016 of the Formartine Community Plan and a summary of the Plan's Monitoring Table is included in **Appendix 2** of this report.
- 2.6 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments have been incorporated accordingly.

3. Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

- 3.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the recommended course of action has no differential impact on those with protected characteristics. However Formartine Local Community Planning Group is committed to promoting equalities and through the Local Community Plan partners have committed to embedding equalities in their projects and service delivery.
- 3.2 The outcomes within the Local Community Plan seek to promote equality of opportunity across the whole population of Formartine and contribute to the indicators that have been developed to monitor progress.
- 3.3 The Local Community Planning Group recognises that together, organisations can more effectively achieve and demonstrate possible outcomes.
- 3.4 The Plan identifies lead officers responsible for the delivery of the agreed actions and priorities. On the whole this work will be undertaken within existing resources. However it is recognised that new and developing projects may require additional resources and appropriate staffing; budgets and funding opportunities will be identified at that time.
- 3.5 The Plan will influence the allocation of resources across the Partnership and can be used to support future bids for additional resource.
- 3.6 There are no staffing or financial implications arising from this report.

**RITCHIE JOHNSON
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS SERVICES**

Report prepared by: Debra Campbell
Community Planning Officer (Formartine)
Date: 25 May 2016

Priority 1 Stronger Empowered Communities

SUCCESSFUL, INCLUSIVE, RESILIENT COMMUNITIES WITH THE CONFIDENCE, CAPABILITY AND CAPACITY TO TACKLE THINGS THAT MATTER TO THEM

Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership has identified communities and volunteering as a priority for its Single Outcome Agreement

Why is this a priority in Formartine?

- The introduction of the Community Empowerment Act in 2015 will help empower community bodies through the ownership of land and buildings, and by strengthening their voices in the decisions that matter to them. It will also provide opportunities for communities to participate in the delivery of services and by improving the process of community planning will ensure that local service providers work together even more closely with communities to meet the needs of the people who use them. We need to ensure that the communities of Formartine are fully informed, equipped and supported to realise their full potential in the spirit of the Act.
- Community Action Plans help implement change in local areas by identifying local priorities, what actions will be taken and who they will be taken by. They also provide the vehicle to give community groups' ownership over what they wish to achieve. Some communities across Formartine are in the beginning stages of forming a plan. We have several communities proactive in gathering evidence through initiatives such as conducting town surveys or planning for real engagement exercises
- Formartine along with other areas of Aberdeenshire and indeed Scotland experienced unprecedented flooding in early January 2016. The response from the wider community in supporting those affected was, and continues to be, tremendous and several of our communities are already taking steps to develop Resilience Plans to enable them to be in the best possible position should such an emergency arise again.
- Getting people involved in contributing to their local communities can be achieved through volunteering. In 2013, Citizens' Panel respondents indicated a high proportion of volunteering in Formartine, the joint highest in Aberdeenshire.

Already underway

- Community Forums and Health and Social Care Integration Community Engagement events are held to gather views of local communities and their needs and aspirations are captured through Community Action Planning.
- We have further enhanced membership of the Formartine Community Planning Group with additional community council representation (3 in total)
- We are developing a platform for local communities and the FCPG to improve the effectiveness of community planning at a very local level through Making It Real Forums. It is open to Community Councils, community planning partners, local groups and organisations. It provides opportunities for networking, information sharing, further community engagement, project development and delivery, and training

- The communities of Belhelvie Parish; Rothienorman; Auchterless, Inverkeithny & Fisherford; Balmedie; Newburgh; Udney Parish; Turriff and District; and Oldmeldrum, Bourtie and Daviot have all either produced or are engaging with their communities to develop their Community Action Plans.
- Signposting to appropriate funding sources to support community groups and their projects

Outcomes
1. Communities are empowered and supported to develop and deliver a vision for their local area
2. Communities are well informed, involved in decision-making and take a responsibility in delivery of local actions and priorities
3. Stronger local resilient communities through the contribution of volunteers.

What we will do

1.1 Community Planning partners, committed to supporting and building, confident, skilled, influential and active communities in Formartine

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
We will continue providing a platform for local communities and the FCPG to improve the effectiveness of community planning at a very local level through <i>Making It Real</i> Forums (previously Ward Forums).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will deliver at least Forum meetings in each Ward each year • We will aim to ensure all local communities are represented by a MiR Forum by end of the Plan (March 2019) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formartine Community Planning Partners • Formartine Rural Partnership • Community Learning & Development (and Local Learning Partnerships) • Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action (AVA) & Third Sector • Local community groups • Formartine Community Councils 	1, 2 & 3
Annual programme of community engagement events, conversations or focus groups, facilitated by Formartine Community Planning partners, inviting Formartine Area Committee, Area Management Team, third sector, community councils, and community groups to encourage a two way flow of information and discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually beginning in 2017 • Annually publicise outcomes to communities & invite feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeenshire Council • FCPG 	1, 2 & 3
Regular community events showcasing and promoting what the partners deliver ie. Open Days etc.	Annually	Formartine Community Planning Partners	1, 2 & 3

All new Community Council members will be made aware of training opportunities to ensure they are equipped with the skills and resources required	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formartine Community Councils Aberdeenshire Council Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action (AVA) 	3
At least 75% of new community Council members undertake online training modules	Ongoing promotion of opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Councils Aberdeenshire Council 	3
We will support communities to understand, participate and take advantage of opportunities around legislative changes (H&SC integration, Community Empowerment Act, Land reform Bill, etc)	Ongoing promotion of opportunities using various methods of communication ie direct mail, social media, local publications etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formartine Partnership Aberdeenshire Council 	1, 2 & 3
Formartine Community Council Forum themed meetings throughout year	Host 4 Forums each year	Aberdeenshire Council	1

1.2 We will support and empower Communities to develop a vision for their local area

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Working with local communities identifying aspirations – Our People, Our Place, Our Priorities	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aberdeenshire Council Formartine Community Planning Group 	1, 2 & 3
Ongoing programme for communities to be supported to develop or deliver a Community Action Plan.	March 2019 Report to Area Committee bi-annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aberdeenshire Council Community Planning Partners Formartine Partnership Community Councils Local groups 	1, 2 & 3
We will continue to support communities in developing and delivering projects, (particularly) those outlined in Community Action Plans	March 2019 Report to Area Committee bi-annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formartine Partnership Aberdeenshire Council 	1, 2 & 3

<p>We will support communities with funding advice as well as providing funding opportunities for inclusive/sustainable projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will regularly share grant award and funding advice with communities ongoing basis Regularly update funding finder database to signpost enquiries by communities/groups Ongoing work with the Formartine Partnership, Environmental Planning and other partners to bring forward viable proposals We will report bi-annually We will allocate funds via the Formartine Community Planning Group, Formartine Area Committee and any other relevant schemes that may develop in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formartine Partnership Aberdeenshire Council 	1, 2 & 3
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1.3 To support Community Resilience Building through services, Community Planning Partners

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Supporting development of local community resilience planning for natural events	Ellon, Rothienorman, Methlick, Newburgh from 2016	Aberdeenshire Council	3
Increase volunteer participation supporting people to take part in building community resilience with the support of services and community planning partners	March 2019	Various local Community Resilience Groups set up from 2016	3

1.4 Continue to support communities during any Community Asset Transfers, where communities have an interest in developing their own facilities and services.

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Creating spaces and venues that support a community and its diverse activities	Ongoing	Aberdeenshire Council	1, 2 & 3
Increase opportunities for greater participation in activities using community facilities run by communities	March 2019		1, 2 & 3

1.5 Building stronger and active communities through promoting participation and volunteering (in particular for older people) through community capacity building initiatives

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Build stronger links between schools, leisure services and community groups.	Projects developed & implemented ie. Tackling Littering in Turriff in 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making It Real Forums AVA 	3
Work with communities to increase number of community groups/volunteers where there are gaps in local support with access to learning and development opportunities	Building capacity through initiatives such as ie. Grow Your Own Community. March 2019 First event to be developed and trialled in 2017 in Turriff & District Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health & Social Care Integration 	3

<p>To share information on volunteering opportunities particularly with older people and encourage participation</p>	<p>Develop an Information database on volunteering opportunities for older people 2016-2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Learning Partnerships in Forthartine Aberdeenshire • Voluntary Action (AVA) Community Councils • Community Planning Partners 	<p>3</p>
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Priority 2 – Safer Communities

ABERDEENSHIRE IS THE SAFEST PLACE IN SCOTLAND

Safer and stronger communities and reducing reoffending has been identified as a national priority for inclusion in the Single Outcome Agreement. It is the aim of the Community Planning Partnership that Aberdeenshire is the safest place to live in Scotland.

Why is this a priority?

Understanding Formartine

1. Formartine is a relatively safe area in the context of Scotland and recorded crime levels (per head of the population) are at their lowest across all of Aberdeenshire.
2. Formartine residents perceive Aberdeenshire to be a safe or very safe place to live and were least likely to consider crime a problem and least likely to say fear of crime had an impact on their lives. Despite this positive outlook and limited fear of crime, Formartine residents were neither more nor less likely than residents elsewhere in Aberdeenshire to have experienced or witnessed crime in the previous year. However for certain issues, such as anti-social driving, Formartine residents report higher experience of this issue than elsewhere.
3. Road Safety is likely to remain a key issue in the foreseeable future and is consistently highlighted as a priority in public surveys. This is despite a downward trend in road traffic incidents in the area. Police Scotland Public Consultation Survey 2014 at Ward level indicated speeding motorists and anti-social driving behaviours as main priorities for members of the public across Formartine. Whilst in 2015 53% Citizen's Panel respondents were worried about Road safety and road crime which was the highest rating across all areas in Aberdeenshire. Road Safety is also a priority in Community Action Plans delivered in the last 4 years and also identified through ongoing community engagement work with other communities across Formartine.
4. However, we cannot discount the younger road user given that they tend to account for the greatest proportion of casualties over any given year.
5. Although there were no fatalities in 2013/14 in Formartine there were 7 non-fatal casualties as a result of an accidental dwelling fire – the highest in 5 years. SFRS increased the number of Home Fire Safety Visits in Aberdeenshire from 283 to 910 in 2013/2014. This remains a priority.
6. Although technological platforms increase engagement opportunities, concerns were raised during the horizon scanning phase around the potentially negative impact that social media can have on young people (cyberbullying, self-esteem). The internet and social media platforms can create a strong online community and offer many social and educational benefits, however, there are potential mental health, wellbeing and child safeguarding issues around the rapidly increasing culture of online sharing and information access that could be harmful to current and future generations.
7. **Priority issues include:** Road Safety; Road Traffic Offences/Anti-social driving; Violence and General Disorder (ie. Anti-social Behaviour); and Promoting Positive Outcomes for Young People.
8. **Issues to keep an eye on over the next year or so include:** Youth Disorder; Accidental Dwelling Fires; and Antisocial Behaviour Driving.

What is already happening?

- Education of road safety to young people – Pass Plus Scheme, Safe Drive Stay Alive; Crash Live
- Police Scotland liaison with Community Councils on issues around speeding and parking in towns and villages
- Funding for a mobile speed detection unit by the Formartine Community Planning Group and Formartine Community Safety Group 2013-2016
- Increased home fire safety visits and awareness raising by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Multi agency approach to dealing with incidences of anti-social behaviour

Outcomes
1. Fewer Formartine residents are injured or killed as a result of preventable accidents, particularly in relation to road collisions, accidental dwelling fires and deliberate and non-domestic fires.
2. Formartine communities experience fewer instances of anti-social behaviour and residents experience a better quality of life, particularly in relation to vandalism and perceptions of safety.
3. Greater awareness of individuals, families and the vulnerable within our communities to be safe from harm (<i>cyber safe</i>) while online

What we will do

2.1 To achieve a sustainable reduction in road traffic collisions by implementing a series of preventative measures ie. programs in the education of road safety to young people and the community

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
To use data gathered from speed detection hardware to monitor and enforce speed limits in the communities of Formartine by implementing special initiatives in response to issues raised by communities.	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police Scotland • Aberdeenshire Council – Roads 	1
Continue with the programs about the education of road safety to young people – Pass Plus, Safe Drive Stay Alive; Crash Live	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formartine Community Planning • Aberdeenshire Council • Formartine Community Safety Group 	1

To consider how best to raise road safety awareness through parents on Safer routes to School initiatives (Zig Zag Banner initiative launch 2016; Reflective armbands for children cycling/walking to school)	Ongoing to March 2019 To consider how best to raise road safety awareness through parents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formartine Community Planning Group Police Scotland Formartine Community Safety Group 	1
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2.2 To work with partners to deliver on Community Safety in Formartine and develop a better understanding of safety issues in our community.

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Work with communities (residents and businesses) on <i>how to avoid false alarms</i>	By March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SFRS with community planning partners 	1
Develop and distribute of Community Safety Information booklets	By March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SFRS Police Scotland 	2
Promote referral pathways through CP Partners to enable requests free home fire safety checks.	2016-2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SFRS Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action (third sector) 	2

2.3 Address other issues with Prevention initiatives such as being safer online for both young, older persons and vulnerable most at risk

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Local awareness raising programmes aimed at target groups to be safe online	Ongoing programme of visiting Academies to raise awareness	Police Scotland	3
Link with the Child Sexual Exploitation Working Group (working closely with both Education & Child Protection colleagues) in respect to online safety.	Ongoing	Police Scotland	3
Encourage young people to join the Formartine Community Safety Group to have a say in where money is spent and on what – empowering youths and helping direct how best to tackle this issue interaction with their own peer groups	March 2019	Formartine Community Safety Group	3

Priority 3 Tackling Inequalities

REDUCTIONS IN INEQUALITIES IN HEALTH OUTCOMES BETWEEN COMMUNITIES AND ACROSS ABERDEENSHIRE

The Scottish Government has identified health inequalities and physical activity as a priority for the Single Outcome Agreement. In addition, in Aberdeenshire the Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Strategy Group leads on employability, financial inclusion, youth unemployment and information and advice services.

Why is this a priority?

1. The local Community Planning Group has been working in partnership prioritising resources to take forward the themes of early interventions and prevention
2. Across Formartine, the life expectancy of the majority of communities is better than the Scottish average. Females continue to have a higher life expectancy at birth than males but the gap is lessening in the decade up to 2013.
3. Obesity can increase disease prevalence and negatively affect health later in life. Increasing physical activity and promoting healthy eating should be a priority in order to tackle the increasing numbers of people who are an unhealthy weight.
4. Emergency hospital admission rates per 100,000 are lower in Formartine for all ages compared to elsewhere in Aberdeenshire and have been decreasing almost yearly between 2008 and 2012. In 2015 Citizen panel respondents in Formartine (97%) agreed initiatives to reduce avoidable admissions to hospital initiatives was important. In Formartine in 2014, 40.6% of people with intensive care needs were able to receive care at home.
5. Formartine is better than the national average for the number of alcohol related hospital admissions, and a number of communities are significantly better than the Scottish average. SALSUS Survey results suggest that Aberdeenshire adolescents drink more alcohol than those elsewhere in Scotland but do so less frequently. That being said they are more likely to have seen a doctor or stayed off school as a result of drinking alcohol than those elsewhere in Scotland. However Citizens' Panel responses would indicate that Formartine is less than likely than other areas of Aberdeenshire to witness underage drinking.
6. Mental health and wellbeing impacts on quality of life, the prevalence of poor mental health / illness can put pressure on health and care services. Poor mental health can also lead to premature job loss. This is detrimental for both individuals and for the economy. Effective support through a joined-up approach between health and employment and supportive action by employers can help those both in and out of work. Until now, the quality and amount of information about mental health has lagged behind that about physical health.

7. Aberdeenshire contains five datazones that are classified as making up Scotland's 15% most deprived datazones – none of these are in Formartine.
8. Aberdeenshire has a total of 301 datazones as of the 2012 SIMD release. 45 datazones make up the 15% most relatively deprived areas in Aberdeenshire. Of these 45, only one of these is in Formartine. This datazone is located in Ellon (SO1000431).
9. The greatest proportion of benefit claimants in Formartine are in receipt of Employment Support Allowance of Incapacity Benefit suggesting that those reliant on benefits may be unable to work for health reasons rather than due to a lack of employment opportunities.
10. Child poverty estimates in Formartine suggest that approximately 12% of children are estimated to be in poverty after housing costs, suggesting that a proportion of children in the area start life in poverty in the area. The Ward area with the highest estimates of child poverty is in Turriff and District.

Already underway

- A new structure to manage children's services within Aberdeenshire "Getting it Right For Every Child in Aberdeenshire" is under development. This multiagency structure will include local GIRFEC practice groups which will integrate local delivery of children's services, target interventions and align closely with the six Local Community Planning Groups.
- Local health and wellbeing forums and Make It Real Forums undertake various health and wellbeing initiatives in Formartine
- Ellon Men's Shed opened in 2015 to encourage social interaction of men, particularly those who are retired or underemployed. The initiative is now also taking off in Turriff
- Health Walk groups set up across Formartine and walk leaders trained
- Ellon Wellbeing Festival held in May 2016 promoting mental health and wellbeing
- Conversation Cafes held in Turriff and Ellon encouraging social interaction
- A Welfare Reform forum set up during the last Formartine Community Plan 2013-2016
- The Aberdeenshire North (Alcohol & Drug Partnership) community forum has begun to reach out to the more rural areas by holding the forum meetings in different places across the North.

Outcomes

1. Reduction in inequalities in health outcomes between identified communities and across Aberdeenshire
2. Older people will live independent, healthier lives for longer in a homely environment, in a community which respects and values them, with informal carers who receive support to continue to care
3. Increased take up of local community services and health improvement programmes improving physical health, mental health.
4. Greater inclusion and equality of opportunity – recognising some people need additional support to overcome barriers they face.
5. Individuals and families are enabled to make small changes that have long lasting positive impacts for themselves their families and the community they live in
6. Children living in families who are vulnerable are identified and are offered support early

What we will do?

3.1 Equality of access to early intervention & prevention creating healthier and active lifestyle choices, particularly older persons and the vulnerable

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Continuation of Local Health & Wellbeing Forums working in partnership focussing on the underlying health challenges that affect local people.	Ongoing	Health and Wellbeing Forums of participating services, agencies and third sector organisations & groups	1,2,3 & 4
Ensure quality of access to early intervention & prevention; creating healthier and active lifestyle choices, particularly older persons and the vulnerable	Continue to promote opportunities 2016-2019 Ongoing development of initiatives	NHS Aberdeenshire Council AVA Local Health & Wellbeing forums	1, 2, 3 & 4
Engage with communities to identify barriers for individuals difficult to take up early intervention & prevention strategies to support healthier and active lifestyle choices	Conduct surveys to identify barriers across communities – 2016-2019 Ongoing H&SCI consultation & engagement Ongoing community engagement surveys Citizen's Panel Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSCI (AVA CHIps) Formartine Community Planning Group Community Councils 	1, 2, 3 & 4
Identify gaps in intervention & prevention within communities or across communities and working with partners develop community capacity to meet these needs	Develop and pilot Model of Prevention in a community in 2016 and assess success/failure before rolling out across other communities by March 2019	HSCI AVA CHIps Communities	1,2,3 & 4

3.2 Closing the gap by increasing access to mental health and wellbeing activities in communities with an emphasis on maintaining good mental health or recovery, reflecting local needs

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Continuation of Local Health & Wellbeing Forums working in partnership focussing on the underlying mental health challenges that affect local people.	Ongoing Access a more up-to-date and more detailed picture of mental health and wellbeing in Formartine area.	Health and Wellbeing Forums of participating services, agencies and third sector	1,2,3 & 4
Quality of access to early intervention & prevention; creating healthier and active lifestyle choices, particularly older persons and the vulnerable to support better mental health	Continue to promote opportunities 2016-2019	Formartine Community Planning Partners Local Health & Wellbeing forums	1, 2, 3 & 4

	Ongoing development of initiatives and access to local services and opportunities in targeted communities.		
Engage with communities to identify barriers for individuals difficult to take up early intervention & prevention strategies to support to support better mental health	Conduct surveys to identify barriers across communities – 2016-2019 Ongoing H&SCI consultation & engagement Ongoing community engagement surveys Citizen's Panel Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HSCI (AVA CHIPs) • Formartine Community Planning Group • Community Councils 	1, 2, 3 & 4
Identify gaps in intervention & prevention within communities or across communities and working with partners develop community capacity to meet these needs	Develop a model in consultation with one Formartine community and pilot (2016/17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HSCI (Formartine) • AVA CHIPs 	1,2,3 & 4

3.3 Improving life chances for our most vulnerable individuals and families.

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Using existing data to identify areas of greatest needs and develop locally specific interventions	Better collection of evidence to monitor change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garioch & Formartine Welfare Reform Group • HSCI • GIRFEC 	1 to 6
Support communities to participate in an initiatives/schemes such as Dementia Friendly Communities if need is identified	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeenshire Cncl • NHS • AVA 	
Support the ongoing delivery of the IDEA project in Formartine to implement community based opportunities for those accessing day services including addressing the lack of employment/volunteering opportunities	Ongoing work with local organisations and businesses to identify local opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDEA Strategy Group • Eilon Health and Wellbeing Forum 	
Encouraging and supporting local employers/groups/providers to offer opportunities for vulnerable individuals and families	2016-2019 Identify various volunteering/work experience opportunities and promote inclusion to community groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eilon Health and Wellbeing Forum; • Make It Real Forums 	
Key partners delivering front line services and support in targeted areas. Benefits health checks, literacy support, employment skills, budgeting skills, confidence to cook	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS • AVA 	

3.4 Work proactively with Welfare Reform partners in Formartine with the aim to assess, develop and deliver a local action plan to support vulnerable families and individuals.

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Using existing data to identify areas of greatest needs and develop locally specific interventions	Better collection of evidence to monitor change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garioch & Formartine Welfare Reform Group • Aberdeenshire's Tackling Poverty and Inequalities Group 	4, 5 & 6
Vulnerable families identified early and offered support as required	March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garioch and Formartine Welfare Reform Group • SCARF (Save Cash & Reduce Fuel) Advice Promotion • North Aberdeenshire Foodbank 	4, 5 & 6

Priority 4 – Transport and connectivity

ABERDEENSHIRE WILL BE RECOGNISED AS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, VISIT AND INVEST WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership has identified 'transport' as a local priority because of both the rurality of Aberdeenshire and the cross-cutting potential of transport to contribute towards a broad range of outcomes. Therefore transport is afforded a particular focus within this outcome. In Formartine some residents have better access to services compared to others, particularly in the rural areas and access to health and social activities is becoming increasingly important for our residents.

Why is this a priority?

- Access to services across Formartine is good, on average, with it taking fewer than 6 minutes average drive time to reach a GP and 4.2 minutes average drive time to a post office for those in major towns. This journey is, on average, three times as long when taking public transport. However some parts of Aberdeenshire has no community transport. The main factors limiting the growth of community transport are the lack of funding and the shortage of volunteers.
- Older people are at risk of social isolation due to reduced mobility and possibility that friends and family have relocated or are deceased. Particularly for those isolated within their homes in more rural areas with limited transport opportunities to activities.
- The majority of people in Formartine travel to work or study as either a driver or passenger of a car or van. 6.5% walk to work and 0.4% cycle. 4.3% travel to work by train, bus, taxi, motorcycle or bicycle combined. The high proportion of those walking is likely to be linked to the urban nature of smaller and larger villages where individuals are able to walk to work and school and are therefore travelling smaller distances. Half the population of Formartine travel between 6 miles and 18 miles to their place of work or study, with only 30% having to travel less than 6 miles. This suggests a greater opportunity to encourage sustainable travel in the area for 30% of people covering shorter distances, to either walk or cycle all or part of their journeys.
- Turriff has been consistently moving up the rankings since the first check Town Health Checks in 2003. It scores poorly for the number of public transport links to Aberdeen and neighbouring towns and it has a limited range of retailers and restricted facilities for cyclists. However more positively Turriff rates highly for a good number of independent retailers and a variety of shops, including a good provision of professional services. Good disabled access in the town also acknowledged.
- The development of technology continues at a rapid pace and this has several implications for the local delivery of services and for communities in Formartine.

What is already happening?

- Regular Formartine Bus Forums are held throughout the year with bus operators
- Dial A to B services operating in Ellon and Turriff
- The Transport to Healthcare Information Centre (THInC) provides practical transport advice to people who have difficulty getting to and from medical appointments in Grampian.
- New walks and cycle paths maps of Ellon developed, published and promoted
- Meldrum Paths Group Flagship Project – Meldrum Meg Way (Oldmeldrum to Inverurie) & Udny (Pitmedden & Tarves)
- Ythan Trial applying for funding to construct the first section – one mile long connection between existing paths will then provide an eight mile continuous footpath from eastern end of Haddo Estate and finish at Gight Forest.
- Integrated Travel Masterplan for Ellon being developed

Outcomes

1. Responsive transport and supported bus network across Aberdeenshire for Formartine is improved.
2. An improved transport provision to access healthcare and wellbeing activities to address challenges of inequality, social exclusion, rural isolation and vulnerability
3. More users of public transport as a means to travel to places of employment, health and wellbeing and social activities
4. Greater opportunity to encourage sustainable travel in the area for 30% of people covering shorter distances, to either walk or cycle all or part of their journeys

What we will do

4.1 Better connectivity for bus users to City and Town Centres and to neighbouring communities

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Engage with communities to identify improvements to bus services including timetabling	Ongoing March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeenshire Council Transport Unit • Formartine Area Bus Forum • Community Councils • Making It Real Forums 	1 & 2
Work with partners and local communities to review bus services & connectivity between communities	Ongoing March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeenshire Council Transport Unit • Formartine Area Bus Forum • Making It Real Forums 	1 & 2

4.2 To work with service providers and communities to explore possible community based transport initiatives to improve access to services and better access to hospital and health appointments and social opportunities particularly for rural communities in Formartine.

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Participate on Aberdeenshire's Community Transport Forum on issues experienced by local Formartine communities seeking to use existing initiatives such as Dial A to B	Ongoing identification of gaps in provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formartine Partnership • NHS • Aberdeenshire Council Transport Unit • Aberdeenshire Community Transport Forum 	3 & 4
To work with an identified champion/s or key community activists to look at a community led initiatives ie shared use of existing buses operated by Community Groups or shared car schemes.	Develop transport initiatives from 2016	Aberdeenshire Council	3 & 4

4.3 Multi-use paths and connectivity

How will we do it?	When will we do it?	Who will do it?	Outcome
Support greater use of existing and new cycle ways and walk ways to achieve 10% increase (healthier communities)	New walking/cycle maps launched in 2016 for Ellon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeenshire Council • SUSTRANS • Formartine Partnership 	4
Through consultation, engagement & partnership support development of a cycling strategy in Formartine highlighting new infrastructure and opportunities for cycling and promote for cycle tourism.	March 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeenshire Council • SUSTRANS • Formartine Partnership 	4
Support more communities in their aspirations to develop local paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Info session for community councils in May 2016 • Support communities ie funding applications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeenshire Council • Formartine Partnership • Paths for All 	4

Formartine Local Community Plan 2013-16 – Monitoring Report – June 2016

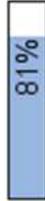
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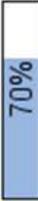
Action Status	
	Cancelled
	Overdue; Neglected
	Unassigned; Check Progress
	Not started; In Progress; Assigned
	Completed

Priority					
Formartine Community Plan 2013 - 2016					
Code & Title	Status	Due Date	Progress Bar	Commentary	Lead Officer
LCPF01 PRIORITY 1: Ensuring Residents of Formartine enjoy healthy and active lifestyles.		31-Mar-2016			
LCPF0101 To set up a Welfare Reform Action Group in Formartine whose remit will be to implement local measures and projects to mitigate impact of the changes to the benefit system.		31-Mar-2016		The Formartine and Garioch Welfare Reform Action Group which merged in Spring 2014 continues to meet regularly to discuss issues.	Elaine Brown
LCPF0102 To support and develop existing and new social enterprises to help		31-Mar-2016		Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action's (AVA) continues to work with social enterprises in the Formartine area to assist with constitutional reform, charitable status, funding, governance and quality assurance.	Elaine Brown
					

<p>increase opportunities for sustaining communities while increasing employment and volunteering possibilities.</p>				<p>A range of training opportunities have been delivered to social enterprises in Aberdeenshire through AVA's Training Initiative.</p> <p>Update Briefing provided to Area Committee by AVA early 2016 by AVA</p> <p>Increasing access and take up of volunteering is a priority being carried forward to the next Plan.</p>	
<p>LCPF0103 To improve the general health and wellbeing of our communities by implementing a number of projects and initiatives promoting active lifestyles</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">▲</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">31-Mar-2016</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ellon Health & Wellbeing Group meet throughout the year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Turriff Conversation Cafe takes place each month with good attendances. - Conversation Cafes has been launched in Ellon. The venues has alternated between National Autism Society, Ellon Resource Centre etc. Guest speakers invited ie SFRS on Home Fire Safety • HIF funded events and projects included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Turriff Conversation Cafe - Ellon Conversation Cafe. - B Fit 4 U - Food 'n' Mood - Funky Fridays for young mums - Ellon Academy Grow Cook Eat Project – funding towards purchase of polytunnel - A Case in Time – Memory suitcases for older people - Fit's for Supper – Intergenerational supper club in conjunction with Garioch Community Kitchen - REHIS Food Hygiene Course x 3 for Turriff Conversation Cafe Volunteers • The Meldrum Wellbeing and Health Improvement Group continue to meet to discuss Health Issues, particularly within the Academy, <p>Tackling inequalities and access to healthier and active lifestyles remain a priority into the next Plan.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF0105 To work with the Formartine GIRFEC group and Early Years Forum to</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">▲</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">31-Mar-2016</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p>In 2015 the GIRFEC Management Group has been reviewing the model/structure of GIRFEC groups across Aberdeenshire. The revised structure will be in place in 2016.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Elaine Brown</p>

<p>establish the learning and social needs of children and young people.</p>					
<p>LCPF0106 To support the delivery of the IDEA project in Formartine</p>	<p></p>	<p>31-Mar-2016</p>	<p></p>	<p>The IDEA Locality Development Group developed and progressed an action plan based on the outcomes and findings from the Service User, Family Carer and whole community engagement exercises. A Development Officer leads on local initiatives.</p> <p>This initiative will continue into the next Plan particularly identifying more volunteering opportunities for service users and encouraging greater inclusion within communities participating in activities.</p>	<p>Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF02 PRIORITY 2: Road Safety</p>	<p></p>	<p>31-Mar-2016</p>			
<p>LCPF0201 To achieve a sustainable reduction in road traffic collisions by implementing a series of programmes to increase education and knowledge to driving, particularly around young people.</p>	<p></p>	<p>31-Mar-2016</p>	<p></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Formartine Community Safety Group meet regularly to discuss Community Safety issues and funded various driving awareness initiatives Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Crash Live event in September 2015 as part of its commitment to reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads in Aberdeenshire. Planning for Crash Live Events will continue into the next plan. Funding by FCPG for banners in early 2016 and launched in April 2016 – safety around schools 	<p>Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF0202 To use the data gathered from speed detection hardware to monitor and enforce speed limits in the communities of Formartine, by implementing special initiatives in response to issues raised by communities.</p>	<p></p>	<p>31-Mar-2016</p>	<p></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Scotland deployed the additional speed detection unit at various locations in Formartine over this period. Locations are dictated by knowledge of collision hotspots and at areas highlighted as of concern by the community. Police Scotland presents reports to Area Committee for the three Wards providing statistical data (Road Safety & Road Crime). There has been local focus on 'Education through Enforcement' and this has seen more officers trained in use of speed detection equipment and a significant increase in local speed enforcement activity. 	<p>Elaine Brown</p>

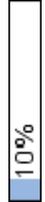
<p>LCPF0203 To work collaboratively on proposals including using research such as the A947 Route Study, to reduce the number of collisions on the A947 and A90.</p>		<p>31-Jan-2016</p>		<p>A947 Collision Reduction was identified as one of the priorities and was included in its Community Plan developed in late 2014 by the Turriff & District Making It Real Group. The Strategy Manager (Transportation) and the Route Study consultants briefed the Group in August 2015 on the A947 Route Study, and also on the wider consultation exercises undertaken for local communities in 2015.</p>	<p>Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF03 PRIORITY 3: Community Capacity Building.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>			
<p>LCPF0301 To work with communities in the Planning for Real process by offering support, advice and time to implement the process.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Auchterless, Inverkeithny and Fisherford Community Action Plan is being finalised with the Community Council & published. Rothienorman Community Action Survey Report completed Making It Real forums held in Turriff & District (now including Auchterless, Fisherford & Inverkeithny CC & Fyvie, Monquhitter & Rothienorman CC) and Belhelvie Parish to support community-led projects in these wards. Meldrum, Bourtie and Daviot Community Council working with Aberdeenshire Council & Formartine Partnership to undertake a Community Research Survey in 2016 Current discussions with Fyvie Community following request for Planning for Real exercise for that community <p>The Programme will continue into the next Plan and will remain a priority – Priority 1 Stronger Empowered Communities.</p>	<p>Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF0302 To develop community action plans including the provision of community profiles and support communities through the process using a community development approach and to provide statistical evidence and to help seek funding for implementing those plans.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auchterless, Inverkeithny and Fisherford CC (AIF CC) Community Action Plan 2015 based on the priorities identified in AIF CC Planning for Real published and Make It Real Forum in June 2016. Belhelvie Community Trust (BCT) successful in the first phase of their CAT application the ex-Ranger's Hut in Balmedie Coastal Park taken on lease in early 2016. During the summer, Ellon Community Council conducted the survey and were overwhelmed by the response. The Community Council confirmed that almost 1,000 Ellon residents responded. 	<p>Elaine Brown</p>

		31-Mar-2016		<p>Aberdeenshire Council is planning to hold an Ellon Town Centre summit which will explore opportunities for Ellon and the responses will be studied.</p> <p>Integrated Travel Team consultation on draft Masterplan summer 2016 underway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Area Office continues to work closely with groups to assist them in the CAT process and identify any potential land/buildings suitable for CAT transfer. Last year Ellon Men's Shed application was successful. Recent approval for the Balmedie Ranger Hut and Auchterless Residents Committee in exploring a CAT to take over the Village Hall; 	<p>Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF0303 To continue to support communities during any Community Asset Transfers, where communities have an interest in developing their own facilities and services.</p> <p>LCPF0304 To increase the skills, capacity and effectiveness of community councils and community groups by implementing a number of measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing the membership of community councils to include young people. - To develop a social media training programme - To provide additional volunteering opportunities in our communities. - To develop training and development plans for community councils. 		31-Mar-2016		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of learning opportunities have been offered to community groups through AVA's Training Initiative. Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action has worked with a range of community groups in the Formartine area to establish new organisations, advise on funding and/or charitable status Formartine Partnership also works to increase the skills, capacity and effectiveness of Community Councils and community groups. Training and development sessions (Supporting Our Communities Events) for Community Councils rolled out across Aberdeenshire. There was a training and development session (Supporting Our Communities Events) for Community Councils. Another event is planned for 2016 Community Council Forums continue to be held on a regular basis within Formartine and provide a useful discussion forum for Community Council issues. A new Community Council website, www.formartinecommunitycouncils.co.uk was created to help Community Councils have an online presence (including copies of minutes, agendas and useful documents) and encourage greater public interaction with Community Councils. 	<p>Elaine Brown</p>

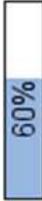
<p>LCPF04 PRIORITY 4: Securing improved community facilities and partnership delivery of services.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		
<p>LCPF0401 To work with communities to bring forward proposals for enhanced community facilities by offering support, advice and guidance to deliver these projects. Daviot, Collieston, Newburgh, Udney, Balmedie, Meldrum, Methlick, Turriff.</p>		<p>30-Jun-2015</p>		<p>Elaine Brown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 Day Projects completed as of 31st March 2015 Daviot, Collieston, Newburgh, Balmedie and Turriff. • Formartine Partnership has been involved in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Action Plan: Auchterless and Fisherford Community Council - CAT: Belhelvie Community Trust; Auchterless CC - Funding applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Auchterless CC - new Playing field, village hall, car park o Belhelvie CC - Landfill fund projects - Balmedie 7-a-side pitches, Potterton and Belhelvie football pitches and Play park, Blackdog football pitch o Blackdog - Play park equipment o Cultercullen - new Playing field o Cuminstown- James Tennant Playing Field- storage building o Fisherford Community Association - Events and equipment for Social Cohesion from Community Benefit Fund o Forsythe Hall, Belhelvie - major expansion o Greeness Community Hall Association - new community centre o Rothienorman Hall - major upgrade and expansion o Turriff Silver Band Hall - new roof and mezzanine floor o Udney Green Hall - major upgrade and expansion o Udney Station Community Centre- new car park o Udney tennis court - new playing surface and safety fence • NHS Grampian and Aberdeenshire Council continue to discuss opportunities for new Health Care Facilities, Ellon has been identified as a priority by NHS Grampian. Land remains allocated in the Local Development Plan for Balmedie.
<p>LCPF0402 To progress with the delivery of new Health Care facilities in the Ellon and Balmedie areas as a result of community need.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<p>Elaine Brown</p>

<p>LCPF0403 To work with local communities and education, leisure and library venues to make best possible use of buildings when not being used, exploring possibilities for community use.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership held events in September 2015 designed to engage with the local community on the future direction of health and social care services in Aberdeenshire. The events were held in Turriff and Ellon. The feedback from these events held in March informed the development of the Strategic Plan in 2015. <p>The Formartine Area Manager supported by Property & other services are currently looking at office rationalisation in Ellon and the existing Ellon Academy site.</p> <p>There have been wellbeing activities; social inclusion initiatives at the local Library in Ellon. Also volunteer support providing storage for the recent community AB41 response</p>	<p>Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF0404 To work with community planning partners including the Formartine Community Safety Group to identify high risk areas in local communities to reduce incident numbers, increase home fire safety visits and improve public safety.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish Fire & Rescue is increasing awareness of their free Home Fire Safety Visits to all potential referrers, particularly aimed at the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach groups. Police Scotland identified concerns regarding youth disorder within Oldmeldrum as a Community Safety concern & worked positively with all local partners, including Education/ Community Learning and Development/ Social work and Aberdeenshire Council to address the issue. The Formartine Community Safety Group in Formartine regularly meets throughout the year. In 2015 a new Chair was appointed. <p>Community Safety will remain a priority for the new Plan.</p>	<p>Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF05 PRIORITY 5: Support the development of economic activity and healthy town centres.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Award Ceremony for Formartine in Bloom and Formartine Beginning to Blossom 2015 competitions A record number of communities (19) competed with 10 schools in 2015. The Inaugural Floral Trail was established to widen knowledge of completion and quality of display and proved popular through social media. 	<p>Elaine Brown</p>

<p>villages in the area through the development of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formartine Bloom Competition - Provision of planting material - Haddo Country Park - Nature Conservation - Coastal and beach areas - Paths and outdoor access - Towns and Village Enhancement Grant - Public Art 				<p>Aberdeenshire Council has been working with Ellon residents, local school children and conservation groups to improve biodiversity in the town's parks. A community consultation in asking local people about their use of green spaces within the settlement and how these areas could be improved for wildlife was completed late last year. Community planting days have also been held.</p> <p>Formartine in Bloom by Formartine Partnership continues in 2016.</p>	
<p>LCPF0502 To work with, and meet regularly, developers and investors to ensure maximum benefit for our communities and businesses.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<p>Close working relationship with the Developers' Obligations Team are maintained to pursue the interests of Formartine communities. On a quarterly basis the circulation of the most up to date developers' obligations funding is provided to all community councils in Formartine.</p>	<p>Elaine Brown</p>
<p>LCPF0503 To work proactively with Visit Scotland and other agencies and with the community to promote Formartine as a visitors destination by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The regeneration of Haddo Country Park. - Securing Ellon Castle Gardens as a visitor's destination. - Developing coastal paths and the Formartine and Buchan Way and the proposed Ythan Walkway. 		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regeneration of Haddo Country Park - after a successful relaunch event in July 2014 the Capital Phase has now been completed and now progressing audience development plans and recently was awarded the Green Flag. • The Inaugural Floral trail was established • Ythan Trail currently applying for funding. 	<p>Elaine Brown</p>

- Working closely with tourism groups to promote the area.							
LCPF0504 To work with communities on the development and protection of town centres by engaging the business community, developing an action plan in Ellon and Turriff and by the use of Formartine Retail and Enhancement and Improvement Scheme (FRIES).		31-Mar-2016			FRIES schemes completed. Town Summit to be developed for Ellon and further consultation with the community.	Elaine Brown	
LCPF0506 Explore European Funding opportunities through partnership working for collaborative bids.		31-Jan-2016			The CPO and Area Project Officer are currently working with the Formartine Partnership, Environmental Planning and other partners to bring forward viable proposals for the new LEADER scheme. An information forum on LEADER was held in Turriff in November 2015.	Elaine Brown	
LCPF06 PRIORITY 6: Transport and accessibility to services.		31-Mar-2016					
LCPF0601 Investigate the potential for a Park and Ride Scheme on the A947 connecting the Turriff, Oldmeldrum and Dyce Route.		31-Mar-2016			The potential for mini transport interchanges on the A947 continues to be explored. Transport and connectivity remains a priority carrying forward to the next Plan.	Elaine Brown	
LCPF0602 To implement a cycling strategy in Formartine following community consultation highlighting new infrastructure and opportunities for cycling.		31-Mar-2016			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are current initiatives ie Ythan Trial To develop and implement a cycling strategy in Formartine is an action to be carried forward into the new Plan. Transport and connectivity remains a priority carrying forward to the next Plan.	Elaine Brown	
LCPF0603a To protect the former railway line between Aberdeen and Peterhead		31-Mar-2016			All partners are aware of the need to protect the former railway line. Nestrans commissioning a multi-modal study of the corridor between	Elaine Brown	

through Formartine from developments that would prevent reinstating these as future transport corridors.				Fraserburgh and Peterhead and Aberdeen to look at all options to improve transport links.	
LCPF0603b To identify the optimum route for a proposed rail network through Formartine connecting Aberdeen and Peterhead by conducting a feasibility study.		31-Mar-2016		See 6.3a	Elaine Brown
LCPF0604 To work with service providers and communities to implement community based transport to improve access to services and facilities in more rural areas of Formartine.		31-Mar-2016		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal Voluntary Service transport from Rothienorman to GP surgeries at Insch, Fyvie and Oldmeldrum This continues to be an issue in Formartine and will be an action to continue into the new Community Plan for Formartine. 	Elaine Brown
LCPF0605 To improve the parking situation in our towns and villages by working with the community to educate drivers on safe and considerate parking in towns and villages and near schools.		31-Jan-2016		Where possible local Police give attention to schools at the key times. Work is ongoing and funding from FCPG approved for a mobile advice banner that can be attached to school railings to give drivers advice regarding dangerous parking and launched in April 2016. Safety around schools will carry through to the next Community Plan and remains a priority.	Elaine Brown
LCPF07 Other Local Priorities		31-Mar-2016			
LCPF0701 To ensure the delivery of affordable housing and appropriate sized housing to address the identified housing need and to sustain existing communities in Formartine.		31-Mar-2016		No further updates on previous update provided to Area Committee in January 2016	Elaine Brown

<p>LCPF0703 To work with local communities on enforcement, education and prevention in relation to dog fouling by reducing the number of times dog fouling is highlighted or reported as an issue.</p>		<p>31-Mar-2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Community Councils signed up to the Green Dog Walking Scheme since launching in January 2015. Turriff, Rothienorman, Oldmeldrum, Newburgh, Auchterless and Fyvie • Police Scotland has also provided advice with respect to Dog Fouling in media releases. • Suggestions come forward time to time on potential initiatives and these receive attention and feedback. Particular problem areas such as tourism facilities (ie Haughs in Turriff) would benefit from more consideration by dog owners to avoid potential problems for locals and visitors alike. • FCPG approved funding for a Community Research Survey in early 2016 for the Newburgh area. Awaiting results. • Approaches are likely to emanate from community-led Community Action Plans potentially additional solutions that suit that particular community. <p style="text-align: right;">Elaine Brown</p>
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