

**REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 27 OCTOBER 2008**

**REPORT ON: LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANS**

**REPORT BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES**

**REPORT NO: 517-2008**

## **1.0 PURPOSE**

1.1 This report presents the rationale, structure and processes underpinning the development of Local Community Plans (LCP's) and asks Committee to recommend the approval of the draft summary documents for endorsement to the Dundee Partnership Management Group prior to publication.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee agree to:

- 2.1 note the rationale, structure and processes underpinning the development of LCPs.
- 2.2 recognise the high level of collaboration, co-operation and support between Dundee City Council, partner agencies and community stakeholders in the development of LCPs.
- 2.3 refer the draft summary documents for endorsement to the Dundee Partnership Management Group.
- 2.4 agree that Dundee City Council should continue to work with public, private and voluntary sector agencies in partnership with local communities to address the long term aspirations, needs and issues identified in each LCP.
- 2.5 refer the responsibility for monitoring the implementation of LCPs and the annual update of targets to the Local Community Planning Partnership for each area.
- 2.6 request the Director of Leisure and Communities to report progress on the implementation of LCPs annually during the period 2009 – 2011.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The implementation of LCPs will be conditional on the outputs being contained within the existing resources of the Dundee Partnership and additional community regeneration monies made available by the Scottish Government, the European Union and other sources of external funding.

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

### **4.1 The Dundee Community Plan**

Community Planning is now a statutory requirement placed on local authorities (Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 – Community Planning Statutory Guidance issued April 2004). Community Planning Partnerships are expected to produce a plan which is signed up to by each of the key strategic partner agencies and which is the subject of community consultation.

In Dundee's case, the decision has been made to construct the Community Plan around the following themes:

- Building Stronger Communities
- Community Safety
- Lifelong Learning
- The Dundee Environment
- Health and Care

- Work and Enterprise

There is a strong correlation between these themes and the Scottish Executive priorities.

#### 4.2 **Local Community Planning Guidance**

The Community Planning Guidance accompanying the Local Government in Scotland Act states that:

*“In the context of Community Planning, the main aim of community engagement should be to improve the planning and delivery of services to make them more responsive to the needs and aspirations of communities. This will require the Community Planning Partnership to seek the views of communities, but also to secure their active involvement as partners in Community Planning”.*

*“It is particularly important that communities are engaged in the process at the local level, as it is at this level that agencies can come together to work with communities to address local problems and concerns in a way that cannot be achieved at a council-wide level alone”.*

#### 4.3 **Dundee Partnership's Commitment**

Following the Community Planning Guidance, the Dundee Partnership made a commitment to:

- place communities at the heart of community planning
- promote effective collective engagement by agencies with communities
- develop effective joint working practices between public, private and voluntary sector bodies
- improve the connection between national and local priorities
- achieve agreed outcomes and targets
- promote active citizenship, community capacity and social inclusion

#### 4.4 **Local Community Planning 2004-2007**

To demonstrate the commitment outlined in 4.3, the Dundee Partnership charged local officer groups, Neighbourhood Partnership Networks (NPN's), with the responsibility for the development and implementation of local community plans for the period 2004-2007.

With the support of the Community Regeneration Fund and local community organisations, particularly the Community Regeneration Forums, the NPN's achieved a significant success rate in the delivery of the local community plans with 93% of the actions identified either delivered or subject to work in progress. The final monitoring reports can be found on the Dundee Partnership website at <http://www.dundeepartnership.co.uk/page.php?id=804>.

### 5.0 **LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING 2008-2011**

#### 5.1 **Local Community Planning Partnerships (LCPP'S)**

The recently formed Local Community Planning Partnerships will be charged with the responsibility for the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of local community plans for the period 2008-2011.

#### 5.2 **Local Community Plan Areas**

The Dundee Partnership and Dundee City Council have agreed to re-align the local community planning areas with the multi-member wards and produce one plan for each area.

#### 5.3 **Local Community Plan Framework**

LCPs will be developed around the Dundee Community Plan Themes to provide a connection between national, city-wide and local neighbourhood priorities. Community learning and development priorities will be integrated into the local community plans.

This framework will be used to produce working documents which identify:

- key issues/identified needs (based on community priorities)
- baseline information (describing the current situation in relation to identified needs/issues)
- what will happen (outputs)
- what results will be achieved (outcomes)
- inputs (a combination of resource requirements and agency inputs)
- timescales
- lead contacts

The fully detailed working documents will be used as a tool for implementation, monitoring and evaluation and will be available on request.

#### 5.4 **Community Engagement**

The LCP summary documents have been subject to extensive community engagement, the detail of which can be found in Appendix 1. The levels of community engagement in the local community planning process and the type of methods used vary from area to area according to differences in the local context.

#### 5.5 **Local Community Plan Content**

LCP content is driven by the identification of local communities' priority needs and issues.

A strong emphasis has been placed on developing LCP content around high priority/high partnership actions. These do not include routine operational items but focus instead on developmental/regenerative actions that target identified community needs.

Where appropriate, agency-led service developments, projects and initiatives, based on the identification of local needs and issues, have also been included.

Some targets identified in LCPs represent longer term aspirations whereas other targets should be achieved within a three year timescale.

### 6.0 **PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

6.1 There has been a high level of collaboration, co-operation and support between Dundee City Council, partner agencies and community stakeholders in the development of LCPs.

6.2 Multi-agency working has been supported by the establishment of firstly by the Neighbourhood Partnership Networks and latterly by the Local Community Planning Partnerships.

6.3 Voluntary Sector Projects have also supported the development of LCPs, particularly in the designated community regeneration priority areas of Dundee.

### 7.0 **STRATEGIC LINKS**

7.1 The development of LCPs have established connections between national, city-wide and neighbourhood priorities. Issues identified in the first round of local community plans (2004-2007) are reflected in the Dundee Community Plan (2006-2011).

7.2 The output from this round of LCPs will be passed on to the Dundee Community Plan Theme Groups and other Strategic Partnership Structures, to allow city-wide issues to be addressed which cannot be dealt with locally, by LCPP's.

7.3 LCPs will inform the development of policy, and in particular the preparation of Regeneration Outcome Agreement between Dundee Partnership and Communities Scotland. They will also inform the planning and delivery of Council services, projects and initiatives.

## **8.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

8.1 LCPs will cover the period 2008-2011. They will be reviewed and updated annually.

## **9.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk management.

9.2 The principles behind local community planning is to empower all sections of the community to participate in decision-making, to encourage collective action and engagement in the political process and the representation of interests. These objectives are entirely consistent with the principles which underpin the Council's Sustainability Policy.

9.3 LCPs will be made available in other formats and languages on request and will be written with minimal use of jargon. Priority will be given to taking forward actions contained in LCPs which address poverty, inequality, and social exclusion. The production of LCPs will help make services, projects and initiatives more sensitive to the needs of all sections of the community.

9.4 The Dundee Equalities Partnership has agreed to develop a consultation framework which will measure the impact of local community plans on equalities groups.

## **10.0 CONSULTATION**

10.1 Consultation has taken place with the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executives (Finance and Support Services), Head of Finance, Directors of Social Work, Economic Development, Planning and Transportation, Housing, Education, Dundee Contract Services and Heads of Waste Management and Environmental and Consumer Protection in the preparation of this report.

10.2 Consultation has also taken place with all Community Planning partners and with representatives of Dundee's communities as detailed in Appendix 1.

## **11.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1 The following background paper as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 was relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report.

Local Community Plans 2008-2011.

11.2 Summary copies of drafts of the Local Community Plans have been distributed separately to Group Leaders and Bailie Borthwick.

**C WARD**  
**ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE**  
**15 OCTOBER 2008**

**S MURDOCH**  
**DIRECTOR OF LEISURE & COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT**  
**15 OCTOBER 2008**

## LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STATISTICS 2007-2008

Area	Community Planning Events	Postal Surveys/ Questionnaires	* Community Group Consultations	Street Work Door-to-Door Surveys	Youth Consultation	* Stakeholder Meetings	Project/ Workers Consultations	Total No. Individuals	Total No. Group/ Project
Area 1 - Strathmartine	4	200	12	274	120	8	9	836	24
Area 2 - Lochee	5	63	27	N/A	150	6	3	566	30
Area 3 - West End	3	70	2	0	312	11	0	642	13
Area 4 - Coldside	4	465	1	52	280	2	3	1,525	17
Area 5 - Maryfield	6	305	2	75	232	3	0	1,374	9
Area 6 - North East	5	634	7	515	320	16	9	7,121	200
Area 7 - East End	5	200	13	104	300	11	15	616	34
Area 8 - The Ferry	3	284	3	100	172			669	20
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2,221</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>1,886</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13,324</b>	<b>319</b>