Sub Groups of Fa’side Area Partnership

Bill, Liz and I have raised on a number of occasions that we need some community volunteers and assistance to support the various sub groups that had worked alongside the partnership in previous years.

It was felt that we should consider creating a few sub groups and that some needed to finish the work that been previously started.

1. Existing Sub groups

**A/ Fa’side Active Travel**

*Main purpose is to encourage residents to actively travel and minimise congestion, have more active and healthy lifestyles and monitor and support what infrastructure we have to support these activities.*

Main community support – Alan Bell, Recharge

Participants – Elphinstone Community Association, Tranent and Elphinstone Community Council, Ormiston Community Council, Pencaitland Community Council, Tranent and District Community Sports Clubs, Macmerry and Gladsmuir Community Council/Action group, Path wardens, Elected Members and various ELC staff.

1. Re-formed Sub groups

There was a request for both of these groups to be re-formed however I was asked to lead them and do not have the time or capacity to carry out this task.

**B/ Health Inequalities (some discussions about whether we should review focus and call this an Older Person’s sub group – as this is why it was re-formed?)**

*The purpose of this group was still to be fully defined. It was felt that there was not enough focus on older people in our plan. The group set out to map what services were present and what was missing to then clarify what areas we could add/explore to support our plan.*

Only held one meeting of this group

Participants – Tranent Practice Patients Forum, Lammermuir Community Transport, Crookston management committee, Day Centre committee representative, Dementia Friendly Tranent, Tranent and Elphinstone Community Council, Elected members and some ELC staff.

**C/ Community Facilities**

*Main purpose of this group was to identify what resources we have available in our communities, how well used these are and to clarify if there were any gaps in provision that we could address through our area plan activity.*

Only held one meeting of this group

Participants - Elphinstone Community Association, Tranent and Elphinstone Community Council, Pencaitland Community Council, Tranent and District Community Sports Clubs, The Fraser Centre, Recharge, Dementia Friendly Tranent, Elected Members and various ELC staff.

1. Sub Groups to be created

**D/ Youth Reference Group**

*Main purpose of this group is to encourage younger residents to actively participate in decision making for their communities. We have devolved a small annual budget to the group to help them deliver or to lead on projects contained within the area plan.*

Main community support – Alan Bell, Recharge

Participants – to be identified through outreach work carried out by Recharge.

**E/ Tranent Regeneration group**

*Main purpose of this group is to create a master plan (using the findings and outcomes from the recent Charrette) for Tranent and to help regenerate and sustain the main town in our area.*

Group lead – Paul Zochowski, Principal Planner, ELC

Participants – will be drawn from previous participants of Town Centre Regeneration group. Will be open to all members of the partnership once it is established (*Paul is aiming to do so within the next 6-8 weeks).*

1. Possible New Sub groups

**F/ Area Plan scrutiny and monitoring group**

*There is a proposal to create a group which will scrutinise our performance with regards to ongoing projects, plan priorities and will also assess new project requests and score/weight any applications for funding.*

Main community support – none identified as yet.

Participants – If we can obtain a defined matrix and mechanism for scoring/weighting our projects and applications, we will create this group and request volunteers from our membership/sub groups.

**G/ Communications sub group**

*Main purpose of this group is to maximise publicity for the area partnership and the excellent work carried out by our community groups and organisations. A possible way to achieve this would be to identify, through a range of methods, what support we are giving our communities to tackle inequalities and to ensure that our partnership is open and transparent in a way that encourages new groups to seek representation or to become involved in our projects/priorities.*

Main community support – none identified as yet.

Participants – If there is support for such a group we would seek representation from partnership members and or members of community (either involved in existing groups or keen to support the partnership or community groups).

Summary

We are keen to try and spread the load from our partnership members, as we appreciate that many have more than one community commitment over and above the Area Partnership.

In our active travel group rather than a member of an existing group coming forward as a village’s representation, a community member with an interest in active travel asked to get involved. We directed this person to the existing community group and they are now that groups representative for active travel in that area. So the key thing to focus on is what interest people have within your existing groups or indeed your wider community.

Our active travel group has successfully shown the benefits of getting involved and the difference you can make for your own community and also the wider partnership area.

I am more than happy to discuss with any member, group or organisation or even resident with an interest in a particular aspect how they could get involved and work in partnership with us.

*Simon Davie*

*Area Manager*

*Fa’side Area Partnership*