



Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership

Marr

2009 Review of the Marr Local Community Plan

What is the Marr Local Community Plan? It's a working plan that belongs to the whole community, made up of key actions and projects aimed at improving services and the quality of life in our area. It was pulled together by the **Marr Local Community Planning Group**, which includes NHS, Grampian Police, Council for Voluntary Services, Cairngorms National Park Authority, Aberdeenshire Council, Grampian Fire & Rescue, Marr Area Partnership and local community council representatives. We are now reviewing what has been done under the current Marr Local Community Plan and what should be added into the next one.



Love Your Hall Manual Launch



parents returning to training, learning or employment.

Jobs & the Economy in Marr includes tourism and we have given local support and funding for several communities wishing to hold events for Homecoming Scotland 2009.

The **Support Aberdeenshire Business (SAB)** funding initiative has supported projects including Huntly Rewards, the Enchanted Glen event and the Dee District Salmon Board.

A pilot **Telecare** project has successfully supported elderly people living at home to

improve their **Health & Wellbeing** and reduce unplanned hospital or care home admissions. The NHS has also enhanced locally available outpatient services.

Affordable Housing provision work is ongoing in Alford, Huntly, Braemar, and Aboyne.

Community Safety initiatives have included Nintendo Wii-based demonstrations of the dangers of drink-driving in the Police Mobile Unit, while free Home Fire Safety Visits have been carried out across Marr.

Working together requires good two-way communication and Marr's **Community Ward Forums** are key to this. The recent Youth Engagement forums helped improve understanding between the generations and resulted in a new Youth Issues Action Plan.

Your Hall Manual was produced and rolled out by the Marr Local Community Planning Group to support and ease the work of village hall management committees.

This is where you come in!

We need your ideas and opinions, both on our questionnaire and in person at the August Community Ward Forums. To show what types of things have been achieved through the current Plan, here are a few examples from across Marr and in your own Ward area (overleaf), including some things you may not know are connected to Community Planning.

Local Community Plan Achievements

Lifelong Learning activities have included "More Choices More Chances" - reaching out to help school-leavers and young adults not engaged in work or learning.

A **Working for Families** project has included one-to-one support in overcoming barriers to

The Marr Local Community Plan can be viewed at Council Offices or on-line at:
www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk/marr

To discuss the review contact: Suzanne Wall on 07786579426
or at enquiry@marrareapartnership.org.uk

Local Community Plan Actions in Ward 16

These examples are from Ward 16, which covers the Banchory area from Crathes to Ballogie and Kincardine O'Neil. They are all taken from the Marr Local Community Plan and have been monitored against it, along with many other actions. The Plan is divided into the five **Community Planning Themes**, as for the actions below.

Health & Wellbeing

Projects have included the **Walking to Health** initiative, which has been implemented in Banchory. Volunteers have been trained and walks are proceeding on a regular basis, supported by booklets detailing the routes.

Community Safety actions have included the creation of the Banchory **Young People & Alcohol Group**.

The **Finzean Community Graveyard** project met the community's desire to have its own graveyard. It was supported through to completion - and handed over to Aberdeenshire Council for maintenance in May 2009.



Community Tree Planting at Finzean

Jobs & the Economy themed projects include those that improve the local trading environment and local tourism prospects. In Banchory, the **Town Hall** has been painted and new Banchory-branded litter bins installed on the High Street.

A play developed by the community is to be performed at Crathes Castle July 09; this forms part of the **Homecoming** Celebrations, as does the **Portrait of Our Time** heritage project, also supported by us.



Youth Engagement Forum, February 2009

Lifelong Learning

Activities have included an increase in the number of people being taught **English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)**.

In a positive move forward, a group of young people from the Banchory area have become involved in the project planning for **King George V Park** leisure facility.

Working Together in partnership, we have supported **Banchory's "Making It Real"** public community consultation and the new Town Forum.

Sustainable Environment

A draft Feasibility Study on the **Deeside Park & Ride** scheme is complete and will now be consulted upon.

Royal Deeside Bus Services' improvement in service has resulted in +24.9% increase in passenger numbers.

Work on the **Deeside Way** long-distance path is ongoing, including the new section from Potarch to Kincardine O'Neil.

