

## New Third Sector Interfaces

Progress Report for Inverclyde

18 February 2009

A "cluster meeting" is scheduled for Monday 23 February 2009 and will be attended by Geoff Pearson and Ruth Hutton from the Third Sector Team and representatives from the Volunteer Centre and its parent body, Inverclyde Community Development Trust, CVS Inverclyde and the Local Social Economy Partnership. The Community Planning Partnership cannot be represented at this meeting but will be kept informed of developments.

To date, the key organisations have not entered into joint discussions about the way forward for Inverclyde but individually there have been meetings with officers from the Third Sector Division. The "cluster meeting" provides the first opportunity for all the stakeholders to come together.

### Current arrangements

A Compact exists between the voluntary sector and Inverclyde Council. At the time of its formal launch in 2006, over 45 individual organisations signed in support of the Compact principles and commitments but since then, for a variety of reasons, its implementation has stalled. There is now growing support for the Compact to be re-drawn to include all community planning partners.

The voluntary sector has one place on the Board of Inverclyde Alliance (CPP) which is supported by CVS Inverclyde. The representative was nominated and elected for a 3 year term by CVS members and groups that had signed in support of the Compact between the voluntary sector and Inverclyde Council. CVS Inverclyde also facilitates and supports voluntary sector representation in other partnerships and working groups and is a member of the Community Engagement Network, a sub-group of the CPP.

The Volunteer Centre and CVS Inverclyde have a clear understanding of their complementary roles and enjoy a good working relationship.

The LSEP, which covers Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire, is attended by representatives from Inverclyde Council and CVS Inverclyde.