

Geoff Pearson  
Public Service Reform Directorate,  
Third Sector Division  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh  
EH6 6QQ

16<sup>th</sup> February 09

Dear Mr Pearson,

### **Third Sector Interfaces**

I write on behalf of the three intermediaries in North Ayrshire to update you on our progress towards establishing a fit for purpose infrastructure. While both the Councils for Voluntary Services and the Volunteer Centre have enjoyed cordial and productive relationships over the past few years, we will move forward to establish a greater clarity on how we interact with the Community Planning Partnership to contribute to the Single Outcome Agreement.

To this end we have begun a series of meetings among ourselves to examine possible models of interfacing with the CPP. Thanks to contributions from colleagues in both networks we intend to explore options relating to 3 versions, the West Lothian Model, Edinburgh's Compact System and a "quasi status quo" version. At this point we should state that we are at the very early stages of developing any concrete solution, as you will realise what works in one area may not work in another, however we do anticipate that we will have a structure in place for March 2010. We are aiming to put in place a flexible but robust interface that will be long lasting and best suited to meet, at least, the minimum set of functions outlined in your last letter.

Our Local Social Economy Partnership is currently under review as the review of Communities Scotland and Scottish Enterprise has removed two of their original members, but as the CVSs are key partners we believe that the LSEP, in its renewed format, may be easy to incorporate into the interface.

We are informing the Community Planning Partnership Coordinator of our progress and discussion to ensure their understanding and agreement on developments. They are currently quite happy with the progress being made and like us believe that March 2010 is a realistic target for a pilot form to become operational.

Naturally as the process develops we will update you but please feel free to contact us should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen McLaughlin	Jim Nichol	Craig Crosthwaite
Manager	Manager	Manager
VCNA	Arran CVS	CVSna