

MARR AREA PLAN

2004-2007

This Plan is a working document that places most emphasis on the key Actions and Projects for 2004/2005. A more detailed schedule to allow officers and the Marr Area Committee to monitor progress on these points is also produced.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1** This Plan for the Marr Area replaces the Plan last updated in 2003. The Plan will be monitored regularly and updated annually. It is part of the family of Community, Strategic, Service and Area Plans, as well as statutory, themed plans, which together represent the output of the Council's corporate planning process. The principles behind the Area Plan can be found in the Council's Statement of Aims and Values. Its Strategic themes mirror those in the Council's Strategic Plan.
- 1.2** It has also been influenced by the outcome of surveys of residents and Council staff conducted regularly. The development of the Council's Sustainability Charter and commitments to Local Agenda 21 and Community Planning are also key considerations in the development of this plan. In all that we do we intend to promote equality of opportunity for all of Marr's residents.
- 1.3** The Plan shows the Council's intentions for developments in the Marr Area for the forthcoming three years, with particular emphasis on the coming financial year (2004/2005).

2. The Marr Area

The area has three river systems running through it; the Dee, Don and Deveron along which the population has tended to cluster in towns and villages. To the west, the spectacular mountain environment of the Cairngorms sustains a well-developed tourism industry based on heritage and outdoor pursuits

Marr is the most sparsely populated part of Aberdeenshire. There are over 30 towns and villages, with a significantly higher number of even smaller settlements. Some settlements are very scattered but all have their own identity and characteristics. Population statistics are used to anticipate growth or decline of the towns in the area. The population is expected to decrease slightly to 2006. Marr contains the highest proportion of retired people in Aberdeenshire. The housing market is buoyant with few affordably priced starter homes available for young people and families. The Council, with its partners has a range of strategies to tackle issues such as provision of affordable housing.

Marr's economy revolves around tourism, forestry and agriculture. The numbers employed in agriculture have declined over the years and now represent a small percentage of total employment in the area. Marr's spectacular scenery, natural and national heritage and Royal connections make the area, particularly Deeside, a centre for tourism. There is potential, however, to spread the benefits of tourism to some of the less frequently visited districts such as Huntly and Upper Donside. In addition, the recent development of the Cairngorms National Park will impact significantly on the area.

Long-term decline in the number of facilities in rural areas is evident, although the trend in Marr is less pronounced than in Aberdeenshire overall. The spread of the area results in the main centres hosting a full range of facilities including primary and

secondary schools and swimming pools with other settlements have little or no facilities.

Although the Council's Area Manager is based in Alford most service provision is managed from Stonehaven and Inverurie. There is an intention, subject to accommodation and budget, for some front line service provision to be relocated to Marr particularly the Marr Development Control team that currently operates out of Stonehaven.

3. Aims and Strategic Themes

3.1 Many of the issues and challenges facing the future of Marr are described above. The Plan sets out how the Council intends to meet these, in partnership with other agencies, the private sector and local communities.

In particular there are 3 significant areas for attention that will help to meet the overall objectives of the Plan.

- Develop a "bottom up" approach to Community Planning.
- Manage community aspirations at a time of reducing or static council budgets.
- Work with partners to find the best solutions to complex community issues.

3.2 The main aim of this Area Plan is to secure a sustainable economic, environmental and social future for Marr and its communities.

3.3 The strategic themes in the Plan are consistent with the Community Planning objectives of community wellbeing, jobs and the economy, learning, a sustainable environment, community involvement and partnership. Indeed the themes mirror the strategic themes in the Council's Strategic Plan. In the development of actions the need to ensure equality of opportunity is a vital component.

3.4 5 strategic themes have been identified, against which we can measure achievement. Actions have been listed under each objective, to allow progress and responsibility to be identified.

3.5 These 5 strategic themes are:

a) Community Well Being

We will work to develop a caring community which supports its more vulnerable citizens and promotes community well being. With the active participation of service users and carers and in partnership with local agencies, we will promote socially inclusive policies.

b) Jobs and the Economy

We will work to create an economy in which sustainable economic activity, steady growth, low unemployment and a broadening and strengthening of the economic base are established.

- c) Learning
We will work to implement a vision of Aberdeenshire, and in particular the administrative area of Marr, as a place where citizens participate in lifelong learning and where everyone is included.
- d) A Sustainable Environment
We will work to ensure that all our actions are as sustainable as possible and meet the needs of the current generation of Marr's people without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This includes working to protect the natural environment.
- e) Quality Services
We will work to maintain and improve the quality of life for everyone in Marr by delivering first class public services.

4. User Groups

- 4.1 The main users of the Marr Area Plan are the public, community groups , outside agencies and bodies, Councillors and Officers. The Plan shows the Council's role in enabling and delivering development, so ownership must develop with and by the various communities and stakeholders. Regular contact with Community Councils and other community organisations is maintained through the Area Manager and through Council Services to mutual benefit.
- 4.2 User groups will be given regular opportunity to continue to contribute and develop the Marr Area Plan. It will have a key part to play in developing community planning in Marr and will require the active involvement of the Marr Area Partnership to ensure effective consultation with Community Councils, community groups and all other interested users.

5. Delivering the Plan

5.1 Resources Required

- 5.1.1 Delivering the Plan will require a range of resources, some of which are in the control of the Council. Much will depend on community enthusiasm, private sector inputs and successful bids being made to national or European funding agencies.
- 5.1.2 Within the Council the Area Management Team provides the focus for bringing staff from different Services together. The team and colleagues will develop this role.
- 5.1.3 Marr Area Committee will agree the Plan subject to amendment as necessary to reflect the Committee's priorities and the representations of community organisations. The Plan is a continually evolving strategy that will need the regular attention of the Committee to scrutinise actions, monitor progress, and adjust as necessary. ***Some actions are aspirational and dependent on the availability of budget and other resources. These may not be achievable.***

5.2 Performance Measurement

5.2.1 Actions have been identified in the Plan relating to the 5 strategic themes outlined in Section 3.5. Responsibility will be allocated to a Council officer and Performance Indicators developed against each of the actions.

5.2.2 The Area Plan is the means of showing that the Council is listening to public concerns and priorities. All Area Committee reports will require to show how the recommendations reflect the Area Plan and/or relevant Service Plan. Where this is not achievable, additional objectives may be considered in the next Plan review.

6 Plan Development

6.1 Other Factors Affecting the Plan

6.1.1 The pace of change is rapid and a number of factors will influence the Plan, but are beyond its control. The Plan will develop ways of monitoring how these changes are affecting key issues in Marr, so that future priorities can be looked at again.

6.1.2 Obvious examples of these factors include restricted local government finance, job threats, an ageing population, global economic developments and more demands being made upon social and community services.

6.2 Taking the Plan Forward

6.2.1 A public consultation exercise will take place during May and June 2004. The content of the Plan will then be agreed by the Marr Area Committee. The Plan is a continuing development document and will be reviewed on a regular basis by the Area Committee and the Area Management Team.

6.2.2 The Plan will be used as a basis for the 2005 – 2008 Plan.

7. ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2003 – 2004

Actions (from 2003-2006 Plan)

- A1** Support and advice provided to the following community projects:
- Aboyne Teenpark Group proposal for skatepark and other new facilities
 - Lumphanan community development of all weather multi-use pitch.
 - Braemar community play park development.
- A1** Supported Torphins Community Council in the provision of a community shelter in Torphins Park. Discussions ongoing to consider community learning and recreation needs.
- A1** New skate park developed by Alford Wheelers supported financially by the Council.
- A1** Improved sports and recreational facilities developed around the Nordic Ski Centre. Work almost complete.
- A1** Ballater Planning for Real event strongly supported and well received.
- A1** Participated in community conference in Braemar considering creation of a wood fuel district heating system.
- A2** Banchory & District Initiative set up by community groups supported by Marr Area Partnership and the Council. Bid for lottery funding to provide new play and other facilities unsuccessful. Officers continuing to meet with groups to move forward the Banchory Action Plan.
- A3** Marr Area Partnership sponsored to provide the Marr Area Initiative Grant Scheme.
- A4** Marr Area Top Up Budget used to resolve service provision issues in Marr and to provide community grants for town and village enhancement. The budget was used to support 38 different projects in 21 separate locations in Marr. These projects included:
- Arts and cultural activities;
 - Floral displays;
 - Provision of new notice boards;
 - Replacement benches and/or bins;
 - Signposting;
 - Hall improvement works;
 - Marketing leaflet;
 - Walking to Health project;
 - Safety work to community facilities.

- A6** Summer Village Orderlies provided in Alford, Ballater, Banchory and Huntly. Successful in each town except Ballater,
- A7** Continuing support provided to partnership initiatives between rural partnerships and local community.
- A8** Continued to support Ballater Geddes Project in Ballater. Plaques produced by children are now in place. Geddes bus shelter erected. Geddes exhibition in place.
- A9** Ballater public toilets renovation completed. No funding available to date for full-time attendant.
- A9** Support for the Royal Deeside Partnership, Birse Community Trust, and Marr Area Partnership continues both financially and in officer support to ensure continuing community capacity building, planning and economic and social development across Marr.
- B2** 7 support for Aberdeenshire Business Applications approved in Marr. Project funding achieved for Ballater Forestry Project.
- B2** Broadband promotion ongoing across the area.
- B9** Huntly included within the Area Towns Partnership Scheme.
- C4** Replacement temporary classroom at Monymusk, additional temporary classroom at Finzean School.
- C7** Proposal prepared to extend the modernising local government pilot project in Marr which develops and facilitates access to information resources, predominantly the internet.
- C10** Quality Assurance monitoring visits underway to all schools in Marr.
- C11** Support provided to various under three groups across the Marr Area.
- C13** Marr Youth Work action plan (developed in-line with Aberdeenshire Youth Strategy) implemented.
- C15** Dialogue Youth Project being implemented.
- C20** Support Writers Workshops for Intermediate 2 and Higher English Pupils were delivered at all Marr Academies.
- C29** Youth Shelter erected in Torphins.
- C34** Workshops held in Banchory on Youth Rights and Thing B 4 U Drink.
- C35** Recycling Project was completed in October to raise awareness of recycling in Young people in Banchory and to enable them to contribute to recycling initiatives.

- C39** Marr Groups within the Cairngorms Partnership boundary successfully encouraged into using Leader + Fund for cultural activity.
- D8** Aberdeenshire Local Plan altered to take account of Cairngorms National Park.
- D8** Recycling points installed at Torphins Car Park and Rannes Hall Car Park. Cardboard skip added to the Torphins Facility.
- D11** Flood Risk Assessment across Marr completed.
- E1** Works to improve Council housing in Marr carried out as per plan.
- E2** Ten shared ownership units developed at Hill of Banchory and four discounted self-build plots at Finzean. Various other units for affordable housing identified elsewhere in Marr – enabled through partnership working.
- E3** A number of sites identified for future development around Marr. Nine sites identified via developer contributions.
- E4** Disabled persons Housing Service recently established.
- E6** Tenant Participation Officer (part time) appointed to support existing tenant groups and work towards encouraging feedback from tenants on the use of the Housing Service.
- F6** Traffic Calming Assessments undertaken across the Marr Area.
- J3** Work commenced on building of women's Aid Refuge in Banchory.
- Landscape Services provided flowers to communities to enhance the appearance of towns and villages in the area.
- Three Community School Co-ordinators appointed.
- Two Cultural Co-ordinators appointed. One to Gordon Schools, Huntly and one to Alford Schools.

STRATEGIC THEMES

A Community Well Being

Intention: Work to develop a caring community which supports its more vulnerable citizens and promotes community well being. With the active participation of service users and carers and in partnership with local agencies, we will promote socially inclusive policies.

	<u>Actions and Projects</u>	<u>Lead Service</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
A1	Support Community Councils and other community organisations in Marr to work up proposals for, and develop, or re-develop, community play, sports, recreation and other community facilities.	Chief Executive (Area Manager)	Ongoing
A2	Support the Banchory Community to progress the Banchory action plan developed as a result of the Banchory Planning for Real process.	Chief Executive (Area Manager)	Ongoing
A3	Use the Area Initiative Grant Scheme to assist communities to develop small scale facilities and initiatives.	Chief Executive (Area Manager)	Ongoing
A4	Use Area Top Up Budget to promote better service provision in Marr and encourage community self help particularly in activities which improve the attractiveness of towns.	Chief Executive (Area Manager)	Ongoing
A5	Provide Summer season Village Orderlies to 6 towns locations in Marr – Alford, Banchory, Ballater, Huntly, Aboyne, Torphins and Lumphanan.	Planning & Environmental Services (Environmental Health)/Chief Executive (Area Manager)	Ongoing (Summer Season)

A6	Continue to support the work of the Royal Deeside Partnership and its constituent groups, the Birse Community Trust, the Marr Area Partnership and other community organisations in reviewing and improving “bottom up” community planning.	Chief Executive (Area Manager)	Ongoing
A7	Support the 150 th Anniversary celebration of the birth of Sir Patrick Geddes in Ballater in 2004.	Chief Executive (Area Manager)	2004
A8	Provide footpath links between new housing development in East Ballater and the school, together with information plaques and lighting en route, as required. (In recognition of A8)	Transportation & Infrastructure (Roads)	2004
A9	Area Manager to attend a meeting of each Community Council in Marr at least once per year	Chief Executive Area Manager	Ongoing
A10	Support the provision of a youth shelter in Alford by the community.	Community Learning	2005
A11	Find solution to additional accommodation at Alford depot for the Marr Operations (Roads) Team in order to address the Area focus initiative.	Area Manager (Marr)	June 2005
A12	Investigate opportunities for improvements to approaches/entrances to towns and villages as part of the local plan	Chief Executive Area Manager	June 2005
A13	Review winter maintenance programme in relation to footpath clearing to ensure appropriate degree of priority given to footpaths in areas occupied by elderly population.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Roads)/ Housing & Social Work (Housing)	June 2005
A14	Consider need to promote Aberdeenshire Communities as safe areas to visit and highlight low crime rate.	Chief Executive Area Manager (Marr)	June 2005
A15	Improve the quality of public housing stock in Marr towards the “Aberdeenshire Standard”	Housing & Social Work (Housing)	Ongoing

Programme of Capital Improvements to include:

- Bathroom upgrades
- Kitchen upgrades
- Flat Roof upgrades
- Sheltered Housing Heating upgrades
- Sheltered Housing Warden Call System upgrade
- Electrical upgrades

Environmental Improvements

Consider the possible use of alternative heating systems.

A16	Pursue provision of affordable housing at all available sites.	Housing & Social Work (Housing)	Ongoing
A17	Identify need and type of accommodation for young people previously looked after by the Local Authority and moving on to independence in Marr.	Housing & Social Work (Social Work)	Ongoing
A18	Ensure links between CSGs and other relevant locally based orgs. Exchange minutes and organise networking events eg Retail Crime Seminars	Area Manager (Marr) Community Safety Partnership	Ongoing
A19	Promote the concept of Neighbourhood Watch, Shopwatch, Farm Watch schemes, Pubwatch and Operation Neighbourhood in the area, especially in rural environments.	Area Manager (Marr)/ Community Safety Partnership	Ongoing
A20	Where possible encourage Community participation in any Community Safety projects undertaken.	Area Manager (Marr)/ Community Safety Partnership	Ongoing
A21	Continued monitoring and development of enhanced services in Marr linking services to community planning and need in localities.	Housing & Social Work (Housing)	Ongoing
	Continue to develop the provision of private housing at The Meadows, Huntly.		2004
	Identify need and type of accommodation for young single homeless people in Deeside.		Ongoing
	Identify or provide special needs		

	<p>accommodation to match needs for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled persons • Learning disabilities resettlement programme • Respite care 	Housing & Social Work (Housing)	Ongoing
A22	Increase the level of tenant participation in Marr by promoting and encouraging the development of tenant associations in settlements with significant public housing	Housing & Social Work (Housing)	Ongoing
A23	Encourage feedback from tenants on the use of the Housing Service, particularly with regard to the use of surveys. Also replies to key parts of the service, eg, repairs responses when work is carried out.	Housing & Social Work (Housing)	Ongoing
A24	Reduce the problems associated with substance misuse in Marr.	Housing & Social Work	Ongoing
A25	Develop foyer provision in Banchory	Housing & Social Work (Social Work)	2005
A26	Develop women's aid provision in Banchory	Housing & Social Work (Social Work)	2005
A27	Undertake a settlement review and implement works for: Aboyne, Banchory, Huntly Traffic Management	Transportation & Infrastructure (Roads)	December 2004
A28	Investigate ways to address the issue of public transport accessibility in remote rural areas.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Roads)	2004
	Re-look at the "Upper Donside Rural Public Transport Study" (Aberdeen University – December 1998).		
A29	Adapt public toilets in Ballater for management by a full time attendant	Transportation & Infrastructure (Roads)	2005
A30	Develop an annual programme for the review of speed limits in Marr.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Roads)	Ongoing
A31	Undertake a route action study and develop	Transportation &	December 2004

an annual improvement programme to improve road safety in Marr.

Infrastructure
(Roads)

B. Jobs and the Economy

Intention: To work to create an economy in which sustainable economic activity, steady growth, low unemployment and a broadening and strengthening of the economic base are established.

	<u>Actions and Projects</u>	<u>Lead Service</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
B1	Encourage the development of small business units in rural towns and areas and consider options to link them to development.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	March 2005
B2	Encourage business development and economic diversification in Marr through implementing the Support for Aberdeenshire Business Scheme.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	March 2005
B3	Make information on the implementation of e-business available to all businesses in Marr in conjunction with the existing enterprise agencies e.g. Scottish Enterprise Grampian, Enterprise North East, Grampian Enterprise Trust.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	Ongoing
	Campaign for improved access to broadband connectivity in Marr Area.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	End 2005
B4	To appoint a Rural Development Officer post with the aims of:	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	Complete
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting and developing partnership working, communication and organised lobbying on behalf of local, rural and agricultural businesses and groups, directly or via the North East Scotland Agriculture Advisory Group (NESAAG) and Rural Affairs Working Group (RAWG). Encouraging rural businesses to develop closer links with all sectors in the vertical agricultural/food supply chain. 		Ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting the continued development of produce markets in Marr. 		Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with the Cairngorms National Park Authority in order to maximise the business development and economic opportunities for Marr Area. 		Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postholder to explore funding opportunities for agricultural and rural businesses. 		Ongoing
B5	Promote diversification opportunities for farming families in Marr via the Farm Business Development and Marketing and Processing Grant Schemes.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	Ongoing
B6	Continue to support the work of the Royal Deeside Partnership and its constituent groups, the Birse Community Trust, and the Marr Area Partnership in delivering community economic development and capacity building.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	Ongoing
B7	Promote and support the take up of commercial and industrial property in Marr, as detailed in regular T&I – Property Service bulletins.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	Ongoing
	Establish a system for reviewing property enquiries in partnership with Property Service in order to establish demand levels within Marr Area.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development /Property)	December 2004
B8	Set up a Towns Team for Huntly Area Towns Partnership and develop a town strategy with the community.	Chief Executive (Area Manager)	Dec 2005
B9	Consult on proposal to undertake a civic pride project with Huntly Community Council and other community groups	Chief Executive (Area Manager)	June 2005
B10	Identify land to increase opportunities for creating additional industrial employment sites in Huntly.	Transport & Infrastructure (Property)	April 2005

C. Learning

Intention: To work to implement a vision of Aberdeenshire, and in particular the administrative area of Marr, as a place where citizens participate in lifelong learning and where everyone is included.

	<u>Actions and Projects</u>	<u>Lead Services</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
C1	Monitor the implementation of a programme for the reduction of class sizes at early stages in Marr.	Education & Recreation (Education)	Ongoing
C2	Monitor the implementation of the programme to improve staffing ratios in early stage classes in Marr.	Education & Recreation (Education)	Ongoing
C3	Monitor local needs for pre-school education for 3 and 4 year olds. Continue to develop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the programme of local authority provision. To consider, as appropriate, further development of alternative, sustainable models of pre-school provision in rural areas. b) Partnership arrangements. c) To assess demand for provision of places across multi-locational nursery areas. 	Education & Recreation (Education)	Ongoing
C4	Prioritise and address school accommodation issues within Marr.	Education & Recreation (Education)	Ongoing
	Initiate a series of meetings with consultations group re PPP2 development at Hill of Banchory.		2003 - 2005
	Ensure action is taken to achieve a smooth transition for pupils and staff from Banchory Primary School to the primary school at Hill of Banchory.		2005 – 2006
	Develop proposals for provision in Alford		2004
C5	Develop Community Learning Plans in the Marr area within the context of Aberdeenshire Council Community Learning	Education & Recreation (Community)	End 2004

	Strategy	Education)	
C6	Improve the education of children and young people looked after by the Local Authority in Marr.	Housing & Social Work (Social Work)/Education & Recreation (Education)	December 2004
C7	Develop and run the Modernising Govt. Fund pilot project in Marr to develop and facilitate access to information resources, predominantly the internet, for older people.	Housing & Social Work (Social Work)	December 2004
C8	Further develop Quality Assurance visits to schools in Marr by Officers from the Education & Recreation Services.	Education & Recreation (Education)	Ongoing
C9	Establish Language Development Outreach provision in the Alford and Huntly areas. Continue to develop appropriate provision for the support of pupils with social and emotional behaviour difficulties.	Education & Recreation (Education)	2004
C10	Introduce school management support for the Marr Area to include Self Evaluation Development Planning Standards and Quality Reports Leadership	Education & Recreation (Education)	2003/4
C11	Develop mechanisms for families with children 0-3 to become involved with their community.	Education & Recreation (Community Education)	2003-2006
C12	Develop youth forums throughout the Marr Area.	Education & Recreation (Community Education)	March 2005
C13	Develop basic skills for new staff in Marr and develop new skills to accord with Scottish Executive guidance programmes.	Education & Recreation (Community Education)	2004
C14	Develop and implement, in Marr, an Aberdeenshire Action Plan for Literacy and Numeracy.	Education & Recreation (Community Education)	2002-2004

C15	Promote social inclusion in Marr by developing a more integrated approach to providing services for children and young people to reduce inequalities.	Education & Recreation (Lifelong Learning)	2003-2004
C16	Implement the People's Network in Marr to enable communities to access free internet and improved ICT facilities and achieve social inclusion.	Education & Recreation (Libraries)	December 2004
C17	Develop staff skills, to support customers in Marr in the use of ICT and learning, including ECDL training.	Education & Recreation (Libraries)	December 2004
C18	Improve customer access to loan status information by installing an automated telephone customer service (Talk Tech) in Marr's libraries.	Education & Recreation (Libraries)	December 2004
C19	Develop after school support, for primary 7 pupils, in Ballater, Banchory and Huntly libraries to achieve Early Intervention, Youth and Community Learning Strategies	Education & Recreation (Libraries)	2004
C20	Run support writers' workshops for Intermediate 2 and Higher English pupils for Marr Academies (Aboyne, Alford, Banchory and Huntly) in partnership with Arts Team	Education & Recreation (Libraries)	2004
C21	Improve access to information and resources, for the community, by developing internet web pages including free access to databases.	Education & Recreation (Libraries)	2004
C22	Improve customer access through a review of branch open hours as part of a Best Value Review	Education & Recreation (Lifelong Learning)	2004
C23	Develop rural community access to library services through automating lending, recording within mobile libraries.	Education & Recreation (Libraries)	2004
C24	Bring forward proposals to resolve access difficulties at the Brander Library & Museum	Education & Recreation (Libraries) & Property	2004
C25	Review the provision of Community Learning opportunities for older people in Marr and develop proposals for action.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	2004

C26	Set up creches in Upper Deeside to support adult learning groups, particularly in smaller communities.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	Dependent on Need
C27	Create with the local area health manager, a youth health panel in Upper Deeside, so that young people have a say about health facilities in their area.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	Ongoing
C28	Identify adult learning needs in Upper Deeside through discussion with community councils and other community organisations.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	Ongoing
C29	Progress the proposal of a youth shelter in Torphins.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	December 2004
C30	Increase access to ICT and to further develop learning opportunities for the community of Upper Donside. This will be achieved through a Community Learning Partnership project to establish a Mini Learning House within Alford CEC.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	December 2004
C31	Promote and develop family learning opportunities in the Upper Donside area to support existing family projects in Lumsden and Alford.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	December 2004
C32	Wheeler's Project – to support a Committee of parents and young skaters in fundraising efforts with the aim to develop a Skatepark in Alford throughout this to support and work with a group of younger skaters.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	2004
C33	Detached Youth Work Project – to broaden the youth work within Alford, meeting young people in their own environment and addressing relevant issues.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	2004
C34	Youth Advice Project: To be promoted through visiting PSE classes, running an Open Day in Banchory and organising workshops to encourage more young people to use the facility and to develop user participation in the management of it.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	Ongoing

C35	Landfill: A recycling project. As part of the Waste Management Project Strategy young people will take part in a project designed to raise awareness of and to contribute to recycling initiatives.	Education & Recreation (Community Learning)	2004
C36	Improve communication/Consultation with School Board/PTA's/PA's by (a) Holding meetings with the Director in Term 3 of each session and, (b) Issuing an Area Newsletter in Terms, 1,2, and 4.	Education & Recreation	Ongoing
C37	Implement Service's Staff Development Review Scheme (SDRS) as part of Quality Assurance framework.	Education & Recreation	Ongoing
C38	Language of Rivers and Leaves Project: Improve access to arts activities and raise awareness of local culture and environment via this schools and community programme.	Education & Recreation (Arts Development)	December 2004
C39	Work with Cairngorms National Park to ensure Marr organisations attract fair share of Leader funds for cultural activity.	Education & Recreation (Arts Development)	Ongoing
C40	Consult on proposal to undertake a civic pride project with Huntly Community Council and other community groups.	Town Co-ordinator When/if applied	June 2005

D. A Sustainable Environment

Intentions: To work to ensure that all our actions are as sustainable as possible to meet the needs of the current generation of Marr's people without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

	<u>Actions and Projects</u>	<u>Lead Services</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
D1	Assist with the development and implementation of local biodiversity action plans (Cairngorms, LBAP, North East Scotland LBAP)	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning)	Ongoing
	Assist in the development and implementation of River Dee Catchment Management Plan (and European Interreg Project (3 Dee Vision) if approved).		April 2003 – 2006
D2	Contribute to (1) the implementation of the Deeside Forest Initiatives and (2) development of the Indicative Forest strategy for Aberdeenshire.	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning)	1. Ongoing work 2. December 2004
D3	Provide advice and assistance to developers and property owners in relation to Listed Buildings and other Council Services and Conservation Area within Marr.	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning)	Ongoing
D4	Provide information and advice on and ensure new archaeological sites in Marr are recorded and protected.	Planning & Environmental Services (Archaeology)	Ongoing
D5	Conservation Area Designations as in Local Plan – Programme to be agreed and implemented.	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning/Built and Cultural Heritage)	Ongoing
D6	Develop the access strategy in Marr including appropriate consultations.	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning/Natural Heritage)	Ongoing Report annually to Committee/May.
D7	Assist with access developments in Upper Deeside Access Trust area detailed in Eastern Cairngorms Access	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning)	Deliver Eastern Cairngorms Access Project 2003-2006

Project. Work in partnership with the Business Plan

D8	Work with new Cairngorms National Park Authority to maintain influence on National Park issues.	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning)	Ongoing.
D9	Review/prepare management strategies for weekend visitor "hotspots" at Potarch, Feughside and Cambus O'May.	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning)	2004
D10	Implement planned improvements to provide integrated waste management services in the Marr Area.	Planning & Environmental Services (Environmental Health)	2006
D11	Investigate flood events in Marr and propose appropriate engineering works to reduce the likelihood of further flooding.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Roads)	Ongoing
	Review flood risk assessments across Marr periodically.		
	Determine areas with unacceptable likelihood of flooding of non-agricultural land and undertake appropriate works.		
D12	Continue the recording and protection of existing important sites and archaeological sites.	Planning & Environmental Services (Archaeology)	Up to 2005
D13	Prepare a Development Brief for Park and Ride/Employment/Retail use at East End of Banchory.	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning)	Revised target date to be advised
D14	Undertake a Feasibility Study and Phase 1 implementation of a Deeside Way long distance path between Aberdeen and Ballater	Planning & Environmental Services (Planning)	Revised target date to be advised

D15	Encourage the installation of energy efficiency measures in private dwellings in Marr in accordance with the Council's HECA Strategy, prompted through Aberdeenshire Energy Efficiency and Advice Project.	Planning & Environmental Services (Environmental Health)	December 2004
D16	Encourage and support Marr communities in exploring the options for renewable energy generation, and promote the development of wood fuel to the benefit of Aberdeenshire's forestry sector.	Planning & Environmental Services (Environmental Health)	December 2004
D16	Encourage and support Marr communities in exploring the options for renewable energy generation, and promote the development of wood fuel to the benefit of Aberdeenshire's forestry sector.	Planning & Environmental Services (Environmental Health) Transportation & Infrastructure (Economic Development)	December 2004

A.
B. E. Quality Services

Intentions: To work to maintain and improve the quality of life for everyone in Marr by delivering first class public services.

	<u>Actions and Projects</u>	<u>Lead Services</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
E1	Identify suitable accommodation to locate the Marr Area Development Control Team and Environmental Services staff together with staff from other services requiring office accommodation in Banchory.	Transportation & Infrastructure	2004
E2	Use the opportunity presented by the review of the housing service to provide a stronger and more local housing service with staff based within the Marr Area. Review	Housing & Social Work (Housing)	Ongoing
E3	Review Health and Safety Risk Assessments in Area Offices in Marr.	Area Manager (Marr)	December 2004
E4	Implement the annual Road Maintenance Works Programme to improve Safety, Economy and Transport.	Transportation & Infrastructure (Roads)	2004

**MARR AREA PLAN 2005-2008
MONITORING TABLES**

Broad Objective: Community Well Being

To develop a caring community which supports its more vulnerable citizens and promotes community well being. With the active participation of service users and carers and in partnership with local agencies, we will promote socially inclusive policies.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
A1	Review winter maintenance programme in relation to footpath clearing to ensure appropriate degree of priority given to footpaths in areas occupied by elderly population	Within existing resources	T & I H & SW Housing/Roads (MAMT Rep: D Anderson, M Skilling)	June 2005	Programme reviewed and in place.	Existing procedures to continue. Awaiting estimates from contractor. Cross-reference Community Well-Being
A2a	Improve the quality of public housing stock in Marr towards the Scottish Housing Quality Standards (SHQS)	Housing Revenue Account Capital Plan	H & SW Housing (A Mutch)	Ongoing	Marr Committee report & expenditure updates.	Capital report approved by Marr Committee and works ongoing.
A2b	Programme of Capital Improvements to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bathroom upgrades • Kitchen upgrades • Flat Roof 	2005/06 £322,584 (subject to review)				Works addresses for 2005/06 Torphins 8 houses; Kitchens Huntly 2 houses, Rhynie 11 houses, Lumsden 18 houses, Monymusk 16 houses, Flat Roof Braemar 8 houses, Sheltered Housing Heating Doune Ct, Strathdon;

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
A2c	upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System upgrade • Electrical upgrades Environmental Improvements.		(MAMT Rep: D Anderson)			Electrical Banchory 76 houses.
A2d	Consider the possible use of alternative heating systems					
A3	Pursue provision of affordable housing at all available sites in Marr.	Housing Revenue Account (Capital budget) Planning Gain (developer contribution) Staff time	H & SW, Housing (D Newlands/ A Mutch/ K Lovie)	Ongoing	Housing Units completed	Units in pipeline: Braemar, 5 x rented units, provider Springfield Properties, Elgin, Hill of Banchory, 44 x rented units, Grampian HA by July and September 2005. Watson Street, Banchory, 5 x rented units, (planning permission refused) Tenants First. Kingsford Road, Alford, 4 x affordable units, Choice Properties.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
A4	Identify need and type of accommodation for young people previously looked after by the Local Authority and moving on to independence in Marr	Young People Leaving Care Social Workers	H & SW, Social Work (Les Valentine) (MAMT Rep: D Anderson)	Ongoing	Scheme identified and enacted on	6 Units currently being built at Hill of Banchory to accommodate young people. The provision is being made through Aberdeen Foyer, completion anticipated June 2005.
A5	Ensure links between CSGs and other relevant locally based orgs. Exchange minutes and organise networking events eg Retail Crime Seminars	In place	Area Manager/ Community Safety Partnership (C Walker/ K Rigby) (MAMT Rep: L Allan)	Ongoing	Number of relevant groups exchanging minutes. Number of Network events held each year.	Website in place to highlight recent projects/initiatives, good practice, links to more info and community safety groups minutes. Retail Crime Seminar held in Westhill, alcohol seminar in Inverurie/Woodhill House, Community Safety Partnership annual seminar planned 19 March 2005.
A6	Where possible encourage Community participation in any Community Safety Projects undertaken.	In place	Area Manager/ Community Safety Partnership (C Walker/ K Rigby)	Ongoing	Number of relevant Community Safety Projects with Community participation and involvement.	All projects funded by us are for local groups working within the community. The Partnership were allocated £109k from the Scottish Executive under the heading Local Action Fund which was to be used to support small local community based projects. Consequently young people in Marr benefited to the tune of £20,085. A further £121k has been allocated to

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
			(MAMT Rep:L Allan)			Aberdeenshire for 2005-2006 and will be looking to involve young people and community groups once more.
A7a	Continued monitoring and development of enhanced care services in Marr linking services to community planning and need in localities.	Full time Development Officer Housing Revenue Account and Social Work Modernising Community Care Services	H&SW, Housing (Sally Wilkins)	Ongoing	Services and schemes identified and enhancements progressed.	Bonty Court enhanced care resource now in use.
A7b	Continue to develop the provision of private housing at the Meadows, Huntly	Existing Housing Revenue Account Capital	(A Mutch)	2005	Planning Permission granted, Sale of Plots Flood prevention measures reviewed and enhanced if necessary.	Planning permission received, subject to Scottish Executive approval. Area to be surveyed to ensure flood prevention measures meet engineers' spec.
A7c	Identify need and type of accommodation for young single homeless people on Deeside	Housing Revenue Account	(A Mutch/ G Allen)	Ongoing	Committee Report	
A7d	Identify or provide special needs accommodation to match need for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled persons • Learning disabilities 	Housing Revenue Account		Ongoing	Committee Report	

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	resettlement programme • Respite care		(MAMT Rep: D Anderson)			
A8	Increase the level of tenant participation in Marr by promoting and encouraging the development of tenant associations in settlements with significant public housing.	Housing Revenue Account	H & SW, Housing (A Mutch) (MAMT Rep: D Anderson)	Ongoing	New tenant groups established	No new groups established in Marr to date. Questionnaires sent out with tenants newsletters with interest on returns shown in Huntly, Alford, Aboyne and Torphins.
A9	Encourage feedback from tenants on the use of the Housing Service, particularly with regard to the use of surveys. Also replies to key parts of the service, e.g. repairs responses when work is carried out.	Housing Revenue Account	H & SW, Housing (D Newlands/ A Mutch) (MAMT Rep: D Anderson)	Ongoing	Survey Results, Repairs Comment Slip Analysis	Methods of collection being investigated. This is part of Regulation and Inspection preparation. Guiding Standards Group is pursuing this for the whole of Aberdeenshire.
A10	Reduce the problems associated with substance misuse in Marr	Aberdeenshire Drugs Action Team	H & SW Social Work (Les Valentine) (MAMT Rep: D Anderson)	Ongoing	Projects identified and carried out as necessary	No update provided by Service

Broad Objective: Jobs and the Economy

To create an economy in which sustainable economic activity, steady growth, low unemployment and a broadening and strengthening of the economic base are established.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
B1	Encourage the development of small business units in rural towns and areas and consider options to link them to development.	To be bid from within existing sources.	T & I Property (David Young)	March 2005		2 Wards in Huntly area have been included in Objective 2 as area with potential for grant assistance. Exploring opportunities for development of business centre.
B2	Encourage business development and economic diversification in Marr through implementing the Support for Aberdeenshire Business Scheme.	Within existing resources	T&I Economic Development (Robert Armstrong)	March 2006	Support for Aberdeenshire Business applications submitted/agreed for Marr businesses.	6 Support for Aberdeenshire Business applications approved for Marr businesses,33 project grants approved
B3a	Make information on the implementation of e-business available to all businesses in Marr in conjunction with the existing enterprise agencies e.g. Scottish Enterprise Grampian & Enterprise North East Trust.	Within existing resources	T & I Economic Development (Valerie Gunn)	Ongoing	Development of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aberdeenshire Council Economic Development web pages Community web sites 	E commerce course programme hosted in partnership with Scottish Enterprise Grampian.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
B3b	Campaign for improved access to broadband connectivity in Marr area and continue to lobby the Scottish Executive to get funding for broadband & connections for local business.	Within existing resources	(MAMT Rep: R Armstrong)	End 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 businesses to develop their first web site on the aberdeenshirebusiness.net website. All exchanges areas in Marr to have access to affordable broadband by the end of 2005 	<p>68 Exchanges have been ADSL enabled. 5 remaining exchanges will be ADSL enabled by end of July. Leaves 18 below the trigger point. Awaiting details as to how Scottish Executive is to meet commitment to provide all communities with affordable broadband by end of 2005.</p> <p>Business Broadband Incentive Scheme now fully drawn down. Awaiting details of alternative scheme.</p>
B4	Rural Development Officer aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting and developing Partnership working, communication and 	Within existing resources	T & I Economic Development (Vicky Thomson)	Ongoing	NESAAG meetings scheduled twice per annum	NESAAG – meeting held 04/03/05 Main topic – resumption of beef exports and prospects for relaxing the Over Thirty Months Scheme (OTMS)

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	<p>organised lobbying on behalf of local, rural and agricultural businesses and groups, directly or via the North East Scotland Agricultural Advisory Group (NESAAG).and Rural Affairs Working Group (RAWG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations • Encouraging rural businesses to develop closer links with all sectors in the vertical agricultural/food supply chain. • Promoting the continued development of produce markets in 			<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>CAP reform/Rural Dev. Regs</p> <p>Appraisal of Development of Farmers and Produce Markets</p> <p>Research potential expansion Of market circuit</p>	<p>RAWG Meeting held 11/03/05 Subjects included potential for biomass renewable energy, bio-diesel using oil seed rape and Scottish Planning Policy 15 – Planning for Rural Development</p> <p>Ongoing meetings with SEERAD re. CAP Reform and EU Rural Dev. Reg. Provisions.</p> <p>Cairngorms National Park – consideration of park wide circuit of markets. First attendance at</p>

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	<p>Marr.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with Cairngorms National Park Authority in order to maximise the business development and economic for Marr Area. <p>Postholder to explore funding opportunities for agricultural and rural businesses.</p>		(MAMT Rep: R Armstrong)	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Links established with CNPA and Cairngorms Chamber of Commerce.</p> <p>Signposting and referral for FBDS and SAB enquiries.</p>	<p>Scottish Association of Farmers markets. re: future role of Association. Meeting of Aberdeenshire markets held 17/03/05. Consideration of future marketing and promotion actions. Requirement to increase web site population.</p> <p>Meetings ongoing with CNPA. Main topics markets (above) and land management within CNP.</p> <p>Regular referrals. Farm businesses considering direct marketing. Information and promotion to business advisors.</p>

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
B5	Promote diversification opportunities for farming families in Marr via the Farm Business Development and Processing and Marketing Grant Schemes	Within existing resources	T & I Economic Development (Morven Harper) (MAMT Rep: R Armstrong)	Ongoing	Cases processed	14 rounds completed since launch. 153 projects approved with a total grant value of £2.4m. Statistics are available for East North PAC Area as a whole only and not on an individual area basis.
B6	Continue to support the work of the Royal Deeside Partnership and its constituent groups, the Birse Community Trust, and the Marr Area Partnership in delivering community economic development and capacity building.	Within existing resources	T & I Economic Development (Reid Hutchison) (MAMT Rep: R Armstrong)	Ongoing	Delivery of Community Economic Development projects	Support to Local Rural Partnerships scheme for 2005/6 approved. Scottish Enterprise Grampian renewed their commitment to match Council's contribution. Extension to Objective 2 being explored with Marr Area Partnership and Royal Deeside
B7a	Promote and support the take up of commercial and industrial property in Marr, as detailed in regular T&I Property Service bulletins.	Within existing resources	T & I Economic Development/ Property (David Young)	Ongoing	System agreed and operational	This work is ongoing and has been helped by the Council's commercial and industrial properties now being promoted on the Council's website.
B7b	Establish a system for reviewing property enquiries in partnership with		T & I Economic Development/ Property		System established	It has not proved possible to implement a formal database. However, enquiries are

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	Property Service in order to establish demand levels within Marr Area.		(MAMT Rep: R Armstrong)			now forwarded to a designated contact in Property Service. Local demand & supply issues are now better understood. Regular monthly bulletin published Vacancies exist in Aboyne and Ballater only.
B8	Set up a Towns Team for Huntly Area Towns Partnership and develop a town strategy with the community.	Staffing from frontline services. Bids for resources to Europe, Council and partners.	Chief Executive, Area Manager (L Allan)	2006 December 2005	Team established. Strategy in place.	Town Strategy to be developed by end of summer 2005 – Consultants working in Huntly. Town Team established. European funding bid successful. Town Co-ordinator position filled. Postholder starts 3/5/05.
B9	Identify land to increase opportunities for creating additional employment sites in Huntly.	Capital Budget	Transportation & Infrastructure Property (D Young)	April 2005	Alternative sites identified	Awaiting outcome of discussions with landowner on possible alternative uses.

Broad Objective: Learning

Work to implement a vision of Aberdeenshire, and in particular the administrative area of Marr, as a place where citizens participate in lifelong learning and where everyone is included.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
C1	Monitor the implementation of a programme for the reduction of class sizes at early stages in Marr.	National Priorities Fund (formerly Excellence Fund)	E&R, Education, Head of Service (Community Inclusion); Area Snr Education Recreation Officer; Area Education Recreation Officer (K McGoldrick) (MAMT Rep: A Barnett)	Ongoing	Additional class teacher(s) allocated as appropriate. Evidence of improved resource management which takes account of national and local priorities.	All classes within target of class size. Staffing exercise ongoing for 2005/06 – requests for additional assistance to reduce class sizes currently being considered.
C2	Monitor the implementation of the programme to improve staffing ratios in early stage classes in Marr.	National Priorities Fund	E&R, Education, Head of Service (Community Inclusion); Area Snr	Ongoing	Staffing ratios of 15 pupils to one adult in P.1-3 classes.	Resource allocations in accordance with national policy and linked to local improvement objectives.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
			Education Recreation Officer; Area Education Officer (K McGoldrick)			
C3	<p>Monitor local needs for pre-school education for 3 and 4 year olds. Continue to develop:</p> <p>a) the programme of local authority provision. To consider, as appropriate, further development of alternative, sustainable models of pre-school provision in rural areas.</p> <p>b) partnership arrangements.</p>	Within allocated budget. Demand led	E&R, Education, Education Officer – Pre-School Development; Area Senior Education Recreation Officer; Area Education Recreation Officer; Head of Service (Community Inclusion)	Ongoing	<p>Expansion and enhancement of local authority provision, particularly in rural areas.</p> <p>New partnership arrangements with voluntary and independent sectors.</p>	<p>(a) 0.5 full time Nursery Nurse supported by 0.1 Nursery Teacher in one small unit. This model although not formally evaluated has proved successful and allowed the delivery of pre-school provision in small communities.</p> <p>(b) Partnership arrangements in Marr comprise 13 Playgroups, both Local Authority and Independent, and 6</p>

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	c) To assess demand for provision of places across multi-locational nursery areas.	Within budget allocation	Senior Education & Recreation Officer (Marr) (MAMT Rep: A Barnett)	2005	Quality assurance procedures for "partner" providers initiated. Status of "mothballed" nurseries reviewed in light of applications.	private nurseries. (c) Quality Assurance Team in place to work with partner providers.
C4a	Prioritise and address school accommodation issues within Marr	Within Budget allocations	E&R, Education, Director of Education and Recreation; Senior Education and Recreation Officer (Marr); Education Officer, Admin and Finance. (K McGoldrick)	On-going	Requirements for relocatable accommodation prioritised and provided. Capital minor works reviewed and prioritised to take account of progress thus far, and possible new projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy & Resources Committee 24/02/05 agreed acceptance of tender for replacement of temporary classroom at Strachan School. Work started on site 28/03/05 – expected completion May/June 2005. Land purchase negotiations nearing completion. • Capital Minor Works budget 2004/05: Initial works progressing at Lumphanan School (office/store

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
C4b	Initiate a series of meetings with consultations group re PPP2 development at Hill of Banchory	Public Private Partnership Core Team	Acting Senior Education & Recreation Officer (A Barnett)	2003-2005	Agreed proposals for Banchory network advanced. Public Consultation carried out	extension): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A headteacher has been appointed and will assume post in May 2005. Marr Area Committee formalised the name as Hill of Banchory School. Class arrangements are being designed to take effect from August 2005. Consultation with staff at Banchory Primary School re: re-deployment is ongoing.
C4c	Ensure action is taken to achieve a smooth transition for pupils and staff from Banchory Primary School to the Primary School at Hill of Banchory	Education Officer		2005-2006		The PPP2 Consultative Group is due to reconvene in May 2005, with a site visit planned.
C4d	Develop proposals for provision in Alford			2005	Accommodation needs in the Marr Area considered and prioritised alongside those in other Aberdeenshire areas.	New projects presently being identified and costed for funding on a priority basis from Schools Fund money 2005/06 and 2006/07.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
			(MAMT Rep: A Barnett)			PPP2 – Formal Consultation exercise now complete. Project now in Planning process.
C5	Develop Community Learning Plan in the Marr area within the context of Aberdeenshire Council Community Learning Strategy	Within existing resources	E & R, Lifelong Learning & Recreation Community Learning Senior Community Workers (Anne Simpson) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	March 2006	Realistic plans which reflect the interests and needs of residents in the Marr Area produced.	Work to develop the Marr Community Learning Plan has begun.
C6a	Improve the education of children and young people looked after by the Local Authority in Marr	Within existing resources	H & SW Social Work/E&R (Vaughan Jennings)/ Look After Children Strategy Group	Ongoing	Monitoring Report to assess the effectiveness of the 9 recommendations of the Scottish Executive Report Learning With Care	Ongoing review through Looked After Children Strategy Group.
C6b	Education provision for looked after authority children to be reviewed.	Through Changing Children Services Fund.	(MAMT Rep: A Barnett)		All LAC receive appropriate education provision	

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
C7	Develop and run the Modernising Govt. Fund pilot project in Marr to develop and facilitate access to information resources, predominantly the internet, for older people.	Modernising Govt Fund.	H & SW, Social Work (Seonaid Wiseman) (MAMT Rep: D Anderson)	2005	Community based information projects for older people developed. Production of specification to allow continuation of project achievements beyond the life of the project.	Funding bid currently under review by Communities Scotland to continue project for further 3 years. Project now focusing on residents of Sheltered Housing Schemes and provision of internet facilities while maintaining individual volunteer tuition.
C8	Further develop Quality Assurance visits to schools in Marr by Officers from the Education & Recreation Services	Within existing resources	E&R, Education, Snr Education & Recreation Officer Education Officer (A Barnett/K McGoldrick) (MAMT Rep: A Barnett)	Ongoing	School self-evaluation processes validated. Strengths/development needs identified.	All quality assurance visits to be completed by 31 May 2005..
C9a	Establish Language Development Outreach provision in the Alford and Huntly areas.	Within existing resources	E&R, Education, Head of Service (Community Inclusion); Area Snr	2005	Peripatetic service to children with a language impairment established in the Alford and Huntly areas.	Teacher identified as Education & Recreation's input to project. Discussions underway re input from NHS Grampian.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
C9b	Continue to develop appropriate provision for the support of pupils with social and emotional behaviour difficulties		Education & Recreation Officer Area Education Officer (K McGoldrick) Educational Psychologists, Health Services Personnel. (MAMT Rep: A Barnett)		Appropriately trained staff in place.	Review of training needs required.
C10	Introduce school management support for the Marr area to include Self Evaluation Development Planning Standards and Quality Reports Leadership	Within existing resources	E&R, Education Head of Services (Quality Development) Area Snr Education & Recreation Officer Area Education Officer (K McGoldrick) (MAMT Rep: A Barnett)	2005	Quality Assurance Framework based on support and challenge embedded.	Induction meetings held with recently appointed HTs. Quality Assurance monitoring visits underway – all schools.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
C11	Develop mechanisms for families with children 0-3 to become involved with their community	Surestart Funding, 2 Full Time equivalent Surestart Community Education Worker posts Area developments budgets.	E & R, Community Education Surestart Development Officer, Area Community Learning (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	2003-2006	Increase in participation of community activities, programmes and events by 0-3 year olds and their parents.	Work includes one to one with parents and a successful young mothers group.
C12	Develop youth forums throughout the Marr area.	Dialogue Youth Worker 18 hrs per week.	E & R, Lifelong Learning & Recreation Area Community Learning (Sheila Wood)	March 2005	Youth work forums are constituted.	Banchory sourcing funding for Youth Café in Lesser Hall, Banchory Town Hall. Funding to be secured for 3 years. Aboyne – part time worker identified to work alongside Dialogue Youth Worker. In process of consulting young people and meetings planned with young people who have expressed an interest already plus those who come forward through consultation/Young Live 05. Huntly Youth Forum – part-time worker identified to work alongside Dialogue Youth

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
						Worker. Meeting arranged between them to replicate process delivered in Aboyne. Alford Youth Forum – in put through Alford Wheelers at present. – Youth shelter at Skate Park.
C13	Develop and implement programmes in Marr, in line with Aberdeenshire Action Plan for Literacy and Numeracy	Partnership resources Scottish Executive funding	E & R, Lifelong Learning & Recreation Area Literacy Workers (Anne Simpson) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising • Training of 'spotters', 'referrers' and 'supporters' • Increase trained practitioners • Audit of community literacy/numeracy needs • Outreach guidance activities • Targeting resources and provision towards identified needs, eg family learning in Alford. 	A group of adult learning partners working in Huntly have met to discuss a strategy.
C14	Promote social inclusion in Marr by developing a more	Staff time Existing budgets	E & R Lifelong Learning	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes to promote inclusion in sport, arts and 	Internet Cafe in Banchory libraries and Youth music project in Huntly and

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	integrated approach to providing services for children and young people to reduce inequalities		(Rod Stone) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)		community learning strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions taken through Youth Strategy Programmes promoted by Network Development Groups 	Banchory led by Arts Education Officer (Creative Work). Alternative curriculum projects in Alford and Aboyne. Young Peoples Conference at Thainstone.
C15	Develop staff skills, to support customers in Marr in the use of ICT and learning, including ECDL training.	NOF and ALIS (service wide cost: NOF £119k plus ALIS £260k).	E & R Libraries (R De Silva) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	December 2005	Staff trained to ECDL standard	Majority of staff have completed ECDL training. Staff received training in ICT Tutoring. New staff to received ECDL training
C16	Improve customer access to loan status information by installing an automated telephone customer service (Talk Tech) in Marr's libraries.	Modernising local govt fund £.35k (accessed through Corporate IT)	E & R Libraries (R De Silva) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	June 2004	1. installation of Talk Tech. 2. customer information. 3. number of users.	No update received from Service
C17	Develop after school support, for Primary 7 pupils, in Ballater, Banchory and Huntly libraries to achieve Early Intervention, Youth and Community Learning Strategies.	Excellence fund (total project cost £10k)	E & R Libraries (R De Silva) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	2005	1. developing resources 2. training staff 3. working with partners 4. recruiting pupils	No update received from Service.
C18	Run support writers' workshops for Intermediate 2 and	Excellence fund (total project cost £10k)	E & R Libraries (R De Silva)	2005	1. hold writers sessions for pupils 2. carry out evaluation	No update received from Service.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	Higher English pupils for Marr Academies (Aboyne, Alford, Banchory and Huntly) in partnership with Arts Team.		(MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)			
C19	Improve customer access through a review of branch open hours as part of a Best Value Review	ALIS budget	E & R Libraries (G Moore) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	2005	1. BV carried out. 2. Improvement priorities identified. 3. Improvements actioned.	No update received from Service.
C20	Bring forward proposals to resolve access difficulties at the Brander Library & Museum.	Budget required	Lifelong Learning & Recreation/ Property (G Moore) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	2006	Library moved downstairs and museum moved upstairs and lift installed.	No budget currently available to swap the library with the museum. Stair lift being provided in 2005 to improve access.
C21	Review the provision of Community Learning opportunities for older people in Marr and develop proposals for action.		Education & Recreation (Community Learning) (Sheila Wood)	2004	Needs assessment completed	Adult learning provision in Marr has been audited and a report has been produced to inform further development. Action complete.
C22	Set up crèches in Upper Deeside to support adult learning groups, particularly in smaller communities.	Within existing resources Surestart finance	Education & Recreation (Community Learning) (Avril Clark, Sheila Wood) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	Dependent on Need	Measurable increase in number of adults in small communities participating in learning.	An audit of crèche provision in Aberdeenshire will take place in Summer 2005.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
C23	Create with the local area health manager, a youth health panel in Upper Deeside, so that young people have a say about health facilities in their area.	Within existing resources Grant	Education & Recreation Community Learning (Evelyne Baikie, Sheila Wood) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	Ongoing	Youth Health Panel established	Youth health booklet has been produced.
C24	Identify adult learning needs in Upper Deeside through discussion with community councils and other community organisations.	Within existing resources	Education & Recreation Community Learning (Evelyne Baikie, Sheila Wood) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	Ongoing	Learning needs identified Updated range of learning activities implemented	Adult learning team CLD staff involved in adult learning are working together to identify learning needs and developing provision. This includes partnership projects that were set up following the research in Upper Deeside and includes: Conserving Deeside and Walking to Health.
C25	Promote and develop family learning opportunities in the Upper Donside area to support existing family projects in Lumsden and Alford	Within existing resources	Education & Recreation Community Learning (Nicola Kenyon, Sheila Wood) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	December 2004	Lumsden group becomes independent Alford group established	Reviewed Success maker software is being used within the alternative curriculum project. Action complete.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
C26	Detached Youth Work Project – to broaden the youth work within Alford and Banchory, meeting young people in own environment and addressing relevant issues.	Within existing resources	Education & Recreation Community Learning (Tracey Latham, Sheila Wood) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	2006	Youth advice room established Involvement of young people achieved	Detached Youth Work developing in Huntly and Aboyne. Basic training to be delivered in Huntly (28 May 2005) with more “advanced” training to be delivered Marr wide next term. Banchory Detached Youth Work ongoing – Youth Drivers project Alford Detached Youth Work ongoing with positive relationships developing with the young people.
C27	Youth Advice Project: To be promoted through visiting PSE classes, running an Open Day in Banchory and organising workshops to encourage more young people to use the facility and to develop user participation in the management of it.	Within existing resources	Education & Recreation Community Learning (Linda Gray, Sheila Wood) (MAMT Rep: R DeSilva)	Ongoing	Management structure in place Increase in no of young people using the project	Young people unwilling to be involved in management of The Box but consultation continues informally in order to ensure we are addressing their needs. Know About Workshops in their second year and have proven successful. Action complete.
C28	Improve communication/ Consultation with School	Within existing resources	Director, Area SERO, Area EO, Lead Officer	Ongoing	(a) Programme of Meetings (b) Publications of Newsletter	Newsletter issued 30.3.2005

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	Board/PTAs/PAs by (a) holding meetings with the Director in Term 3 of each session and, Issuing an Area Newsletter in Terms 1,2 and 4		(support to School Boards/PTA's & PA's) (MAMT Rep: A Barnett)			
C29	Implement Service's Staff Development Review Scheme (SDRS) as part of Quality Assurance framework.	Within existing resources	Area SERO, Area EO, Lead Officer (SDRS) (MAMT Rep: A Barnett)	Ongoing	One third of teaching staff to have undergone review using new PDRS documentation by 1.7.05	All interim reviews held for headteachers in year 2/3 of cycle. By June 2005 1/3 of Marr Headteachers will have been reviewed by SERO (Acting) using PDRS documentation and software.
C30	Language of Rivers and Leaves Project: Improve access to arts activities and raise awareness of local culture and environment via this schools and community programme	Arts Development funds plus Scottish Arts Council lottery grant (applied for)	Education & Recreation Arts Development (Mindy Grewar)	December 2004	Project established	Language of Rivers and Leaves school/community project completed (Sept-Oct 2004) Action Completed
C31	Work with Cairngorms National Park to ensure Marr organisations attract fair share of Leader funds for	Within existing resources Arts Development	Education & Recreation Arts Development (Mindy	Ongoing	Projects established	Established partnership with CNP Cultural Policy Officer. Marr uptake of Leader/CNP funds continuing to grow. Arts

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
	cultural activity.		Grewar)			Development working with Ballater Royal Deeside & other Deeside groups to develop River Festival for 05 and beyond.

Broad Objective: A Sustainable Environment

Work to ensure that all our actions are as sustainable as possible to meet the needs of the current generation of Marr's people without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
D1a	Assist with the development and implementation of local biodiversity action plans (Cairngorms, Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP), North East Scotland LBAP)	Part funding by Scottish National Heritage and a range of other partners. Support from existing Staff Resources Staff Resources	P & ES, Planning (L Mathieson/E Williams)	Ongoing	1. Implement habitat and species action plans affecting Deeside throughout 2005. 2. Aberdeenshire Council delivery plan to be established by Dec 2005.	1. Implementation of Habitat and Species Action Plans ongoing. Currently developing an Aberdeenshire Council delivery plan to aid LBAP monitoring 2. NE LBAP Wood pasture, parkland and boundary tree Habitat action plan completed winter 2004. 3. Focus of NE LBAP will move to implementation during 2005 as final action plans are completed.
D1b	Assist in the development & implementation of River Dee Catchment Management Plan (and European Interreg Projects (3 Dee Vision).	Partnership funding from local parties and European North Sea Interreg Programme.	L Mathieson	April 2003-2006	1. Establish a Dee Catchment Plan for consultation by Dec 2006 2. Appoint a DCMP Project Co-ordinator by June 2005.	1. Dee Catchment Management Plan progressing with SEPA/Aberdeenshire lead. 2. Implementation of 3 Dee Vision projects in Elrick, Davan and

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
			(MAMT Rep: A James)		3. Implementation of 3D Vision Project Plan	Tarland sub catchments on track for completion Spring 2006. Establish Action Programme by Dec 2006.
D2	Contribute to (1) the implementation of the Deeside Forest Initiatives and (2) implementation of the Indicative Forest strategy for Aberdeenshire.	From Revenue Plan and existing Staff Resources.	P & ES, Planning (Emma Williams) (MAMT Rep: A James)	1. Ongoing Work. 2. Ongoing	1. N/A 2. Submission to Committee	1. Additional projects being developed by the Deeside Forest Steering Group with Aberdeenshire, Scottish Natural Heritage, Forestry Commission Scotland and Cairngorms National Park as lead. 2. IFS consultation process complete. Agreed by ISC March 05. Final document now to be printed.
D3	Provide advice and assistance to developers and property owners in relation to Listed Buildings and other Council Services and Conservation Area within Marr.	Staff in post.	P & ES, Planning, Built and Cultural Heritage (C Tierney/ S Norman) (MAMT Rep: A James)	Ongoing	No of enquiries responded to within 14 days.	No further information from Service

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D4	Provide information and advice on and ensure new archaeological sites in Marr are recorded and protected.	Staff in Post.	P & ES, Archaeology (I Shepherd) (MAMT Rep: A James)	Ongoing	All databases kept up to date and enquiries responded to within 14 days.	The process of adding new sites in Marr to the Aberdeenshire Sites and Monuments Record and responding to queries continues, with a peak over the last few months owing to the high
D5	Conservation Area Designations as in Local Plan – Programme to be agreed and implemented.	Existing staff.	P & ES, Planning , Built and Cultural Heritage (B Watt) (MAMT Rep: A James)	Ongoing after local plan inquiry.	Designation of Conservation Areas in accordance with agreed programme.	No changes in the programme for the proposed review and formal designation of new conservation areas within Marr Area.
D6	Develop the access strategy in non-Cairngorms National Park Authority of Marr including appropriate consultations.	From capital plus leverage funding from SNH	P & ES, Planning, Natural Heritage (L Mathieson) (MAMT Rep: A James)	Ongoing. Report annually to committee in April/May	% of funding available spent in financial year.	The CNPA are now the Access Authority for the Cairngorms area. The Aberdeenshire Access Strategy development will now focus on the area outwith the Park.
D7	Assist with access developments in Upper Deeside Access Trust area, detailed in Eastern Cairngorms Access Project Business Plan.	Funding assistance from capital budget till end of 2005/06 Supported by a further 12 partners including HLF and European Objective 2	P & ES, Planning, Natural Heritage (L Mathieson) (MAMT Rep: A James)	Deliver Eastern Cairngorms Access Project 2003-2006.	Monitoring of access works funded.	Access projects on target as per Eastern Cairngorms Access Project business plan. Further paths now being developed at Ballater and Dinnet.

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D8	Work with new Cairngorms National Park Authority to maintain influence on National Park issues.	Existing Staff	P & ES, Planning Head of Policy and Environment (Gordon Mackie/Andrew Carruthers) (MAMT Rep: A James)	Ongoing	Responses made	Work ongoing covering a range of issues. Meeting held of CNPA and Committee Chairs 29.4.05.
D9	Review/prepare management strategies for weekend visitor "hotspots" at Potarch, Feughside and Cambus O'May.	Staff resources from services required. Plus liaison with landowners.	P & ES, Planning, Natural Heritage (L Mathieson and Marr Area Rangers) (MAMT Rep: A James)	2005	Develop actions to address issues and integrated into Dee Catchment Management Plan (DCMP).	Proposed actions now being integrated into River Dee Catchment Management Plan.
D10	Implement planned improvements to provide integrated waste management services in the Marr Area.	Strategic Waste Fund Award provided by the Scottish Executive.	P & ES Environmental Health (A Black J Clark, (MAMT Rep: A Black)	2006	Improvements implemented.	Household Waste and Recycling Centres;- Potential Ballater site identified; site search for Aboyne continues; Banchory, Crows Nest – green waste added. Mini Recycling Centres: Forge, Dess sites installed, trial site at Potarch now permanent; site identified at Gartly,

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
						<p>potential site at Montgarrie awaiting community approval and enhanced signage at all sites continues to be rolled out.</p> <p>Collection Services: Preparation for roll out of kerbside recycling services in October 2005 continues.</p> <p>Promotions: Area Waste Officers, Master Composting, Recycling and Promotions Officers attended several events and gave presentations to community groups on waste issues, including the Banchory Academy initiative.</p>
D11a	Investigate flood events in Marr and proposed appropriate engineering works to reduce the likelihood of further flooding.	Flood Prevention Revenue Budget	T& I Roads (M Taberner)	Ongoing	Appropriate works undertaken	Programme of flood prevention works for 2004/2005 compiled. Individual schemes will be reported to Marr Area Committee as required.
D11b	Review flood risk assessments across Marr periodically.					

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D11c	Determine areas with unacceptable likelihood of flooding of non-agricultural land and undertake appropriate works.		MAMT Rep: A MacDonald)			
D12	Continue the recording and protection of existing important sites and archaeological sites.	Subject to budget	P & ES, Archaeology (I Shepherd) (MAMT Rep: A James)	Up to 2005	Sites recorded and protective measures in place.	Work continuing
D13	Prepare a Development Brief for Park and Ride/ Employment/Retail use at East End of Banchory		Planning & Environmental Services (Planning) (C Stewart) (MAMT Rep: A James)	December, 2005	Brief developed.	Draft brief still being prepared.

D14	Undertake a Feasibility Study and Phase 1 implementation of a Deeside Way long distance path between Aberdeen and Ballater		Planning & Environmental Services (Planning) (C Stewart) (MAMT Rep: A James)	December, 2005	Path in place.	Work on ground progressing for Phase II between Drumoak and Banchory. Progressing proposals between Aboyne and Dinnet. Name of path to be determined.
D15	Encourage the installation of energy efficiency measures in private dwellings in Marr in accordance with the Council's HECA Strategy, prompted through Aberdeenshire Energy Efficiency and Advice Project	Capital Plan: Home Energy Conservation Act Budget (Aberdeenshire)	P & ES Environmental Health (David Cooper) (MAMT Rep: A Black)	December, 2005	Number of houses/households given advice and works carried out (EAGA and AEEAP will provide information)	North and East Energy Efficiency Discount Scheme (NEEDS) has ceased. Energy efficiency matters are promoted through the Aberdeenshire Energy Efficiency Advice Project. Energy efficiency and fuel poverty will also be addressed through the Local Housing Strategy.
D16	Encourage and support Marr communities in exploring the options for renewable energy generation, and promote the development of wood fuel to the benefit of Aberdeenshire's forestry sector.	Within existing resources	P&ES Environmental Health (Planning) T&I Economic Development (Roddy Mathieson/Robert Armstrong) (MAMT Rep: R Armstrong)	December, 2005	Community feasibility study completed	Council is responding to a consultation on renewable energy planning policy for the Cairngorms National Park Area Braemar District Heating Study funding contribution provided. Study complete.

Broad Objective: Quality Services

Work to maintain and improve the quality of life for everyone in Marr by delivering first class public services.

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
E1	Identify suitable accommodation to locate the Marr Area Development Control Team and Environmental Services staff together with staff from other services requiring office accommodation in Banchory.	Prudential Code	Transportation & Infrastructure (Mike Porter) (MAMT Rep: A MacDonald)	April 2005	Budget located, Feasibility Study carried out.	Budget not available.
E2	Use the opportunity presented by the review of the housing service to provide a stronger and more local housing service with staff based within the Marr Area.	Additional staff resources may be required to be met from Housing Revenue Account Accommodation	H&SW Housing (D Newlands/ A Mutch) (MAMT Rep: D Anderson)	Ongoing	Outcome of Housing Service Review	Team of three officers based in Huntly office delivering local housing service. Current accommodation constraints hindering further development. Bids have been put forward for extra accommodation.
E3	Implement the annual Road Maintenance Works Programme to improve Safety, Economy and	Road Maintenance Fund	Transport & Infrastructure, Roads (Neil Robertson)	2005	Programme implemented	Programme in progress. Currently on target with approximately 90% complete.

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	Transport.		(MAMT Rep: A MacDonald)			
E4	Support Community Councils and other community organisations in Marr to work up proposals for, and develop, or re-develop, community play, sports, recreation and other community facilities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff time, and advice, existing budgets, land and existing facilities 2. Community fund raising for capital and revenue costs of project. Community expertise and enthusiasm 3. Marr Area Partnership Involvement if needed to build community capacity. 	Chief Executive, Area Manager (Les Allan)	Ongoing	<p>Significant progress milestones reached such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Projects identified 2. Community organisation or organisations involvement identified. 3. Community needs and aspirations ascertained. 4. Project plans drafted. 5. Land & property issues identified and resolved. 6. Funding issues identified 7. Business Plans put in place 8. Funding for capital and revenue secured 9. Planning issues identified and resolved 10. Management 	<p>Fresh Futures lottery application for Banchory playpark unsuccessful. Funding sourced, work to commence June 2005. Community/Council resources/monies being pulled together to develop facility.</p> <p>Partnership of statutory organisations/voluntary community bodies discussing developing enhanced community resource at the Scolty Centre.</p> <p>Ballater Burgh Seal has been located. May be housed with Ballater Burgh Table & Chairs currently being refurbished in Victoria and Albert Halls.</p> <p>Ballater (RD) Ltd considering</p>

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					<p>agreements put in place</p> <p>11. Facilities developed or re-developed.</p>	<p>purchase/development of Environmental Centre for various business and community purposes. Council support to progress this subject to feasibility. Planning Gain identified to carry out various community improved works in Ballater.</p> <p>Rhynie Community Facilities Group considering purchase/development of Nicol Lodge as a community business providing starter commercial accommodation and community facilities. Re-development of tennis court, Lumphanan moving forward. Working with Friends of Marketmuir to identify/resource improvements to Marketmuir pavilion.</p> <p>Cross reference A2, A4, A31</p>

ITEM NO	ACTION	RESOURCES	OFFICER	TARGET	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	REVIEW COMMENTS
E5	Support the Banchory Community to progress the Banchory action plan developed as a result of the Banchory Planning For Real process.	Community Action Team representation from relevant services at events and in considering Council involvement with priorities identified.	Chief Executive, Area Manager (Les Allan)	Ongoing	Consultation exercise completed by Community. Plan for Banchory developed with support from Council officers. Council involvement in priority issues defined.	Work ongoing with BDI and constituent groups.
E6	Use the Area Initiative Grant Scheme to assist communities to develop small-scale facilities and initiatives.	£10,000 per annum subject to budget devolved to Marr Area Partnership to manage	Chief Executive, Area Manager (Les Allan); Marr Area Partnership	Ongoing	Annual report to Area Committee to report on grant uptake, decide on grant management arrangements	Marr Area Partnership continues to allocate funds to a variety of community projects that meet the Grant's criteria. Reported to Marr Area Committee 12.4.05
E7	Use Area Top Up Budget to promote better service provision in Marr and encourage community self help particularly in activities which improve the attractiveness of towns.	Budget 2005-2006 - £40,500	Chief Executive, Area Manager (Les Allan)	Ongoing	Projects identified, regular reporting of expenditure and projects supported to members on bulletin	Regular reporting to Area Committee. Latest 12.4.05
E8	Provide Summer Season Village Orderlies to 6 town locations in Marr – Alford, Banchory, Ballater, Huntly, Aboyne, Torphins (and Lumphanan).	Budget identified within P & ES resources.	P & ES Environmental Health (Raymond Reid); Area Manager (L Allan)	Ongoing (Summer Season)	Improvements identified to towns' appearance as a result of village orderlies' efforts.	Very successful operation of Village Orderly Scheme for summer 2004. Provision to continue during 2005 on the same basis. Agreed by Area Committee 12.4.05.

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E9	Continue to support the work of the Royal Deeside Partnership and its constituent groups, the Birse Community Trust, the Marr Area Partnership and other community organisations in reviewing and improving "bottom up" community planning.	Marr Area Partnership Within existing staff resources	Chief Executive, Area Manager (L Allan)	Ongoing	Marr Area Partnership runs Community Planning Conference.	Initiatives going on in various communities in Marr in partnership between rural partnerships and local community and supported by the Council. Core Funding approved by Marr Area Committee for 2005/6 on 12.4.05.
E10	Provide footpath links between new housing development in East Ballater and the school, together with information plaques and lighting en route, as required	Planning Gain	T&I Roads (M Skilling, M Grewar) (MAMT Rep: A MacDonald)	2005	Paths, lighting, plaques in place	Various works being carried out or planned within Geddes theme.
E11	Area Manager to attend a meeting of each Community Council in Marr at least once per year	Within existing resources	Chief Executive Area Manager (L Allan)	Ongoing	Dates for attendance's identified.	A number of Community Councils visited by Area Manager however it has not been possible to visit all of them in the past year.

E12	Investigate opportunities for improvements to approaches/entrances to towns and villages as part of the local plan process and/or planning gain process.	To be identified	Chief Executive Area Manager (L Allan)	June 2005	Identify improvement process	Banchory and Alford identified for initial investigation by Roads and Landscape Services.
E13	Consider need to promote Aberdeenshire Communities as safe areas to visit and highlight low crime rate.	To be identified	Chief Executive Area Manager (Les Allan)	June 2005	Promotion Strategy agreed.	Discussed by Marr Area Management Team with Police. Should be considered by Community Safety Partnership.
E14	Undertake a settlement review and implement works for: Aboyne, Banchory, Huntly Traffic Management	Within existing resources Revenue - £22,000	T & I, Roads (Mark Skilling)	December 2004	Procedures complete. Full implementation	Aboyne, Banchory, Huntly traffic management (settlement reviews) report to be to Committee 2005.
E15	Investigate ways to address the issue of public transport accessibility in remote rural areas. Re-look at the "Upper Donside Rural Public Transport Study"	Within existing resources	T&I, Roads (Eric Guthrie) (MAMT Rep A MacDonald)			Introduction of Dial a Bus Service pilot in Alford and Strathdon. Local Transport Strategy Review going ahead, 3 workshops in Marr
E16	Adapt public toilets in Ballater for management by a full time attendant.	Subject to funding approval.	P & ES Environmental Health (A McDougall) (MAMT Rep: A Black)	2005	Toilet renovated. Full time attendant in place.	Renovation completed Dec 2003. On target to achieving full-time attendant during 2005-2006.

E17	Develop an annual programme for the review of speed limits in Marr.	Within existing resources	Transport & Infrastructure, Roads (Mark Skilling)	Ongoing	Annual Programme Produced	2004/05 Programme consists of 20mph at schools and speed limits proposed in Traffic Management Review
E18	Undertake a route action study and develop an annual improvement programme to improve road safety in Marr.	Budget allocation	Transport & Infrastructure, Roads (Mark Skilling)	December 2004	Programme in place.	Route action schemes on A93 currently being identified and designed.
E19	Support the Ballater community to progress actions raised as a result of Planning for Real Process.	Within existing resources	Chief Executive, Area Manager (Les Allan)	2005	Actions assessed and implemented	Examples of areas of progress: Consideration being given to feasibility/cost of creating a community owned resource using the Council's Environmental Resource Centre. New playpark at Monaltrie Park – work completed. Discussions continuing concerning provision of a youth shelter.