



Locally...



What does Marr's future look like?

Following extensive consultation, the new Marr Local Community Plan for 2010-2014 has been completed. It sets out some of the things that Community Planning has achieved in Marr over the last two years through effective partnership working and bottom-up planning. The Plan then outlines a comprehensive set of developments and aspirations for Marr over the next four years. The Marr Local Community Plan can be found on the Marr pages of the Our Aberdeenshire website at www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk/marr

Community Action Plans - it's catching on!

In February 2010, a number of different communities shared their experiences of Community Action Planning at the Marr Community Ward Forums. The Plans and the wide range of community based projects showcased in the presentations emphasised just how much can be achieved through this process. Community Action Plans have been produced in Alford, Huntly, Tarland, Ballater and Banchory and copies of some of these can be found on the Marr pages of the Our Aberdeenshire website. A number of other communities have started the process, including Kincardine O'Neil, Glenbuchat, Aboyne and Torphins.

Composting in Tarland

A great example of a community led environmental initiative is the recently established Tarland Community Composting scheme, which is a non-profit making, volunteer-led service run by the Tarland Development Group. For an annual fee of £10, garden waste will be collected fortnightly from people's homes during the 2010 gardening season. The first collection was held on Saturday 24th April and Kate Redpath, the Community Composting co-ordinator, said "the Development Group are delighted with the initial uptake for the scheme, and with the number of people volunteering to help".

The steering group has managed to get the project up and running in less than a year by working closely with many sections of the community. The local landowner, the MacRobert Trust has provided a site where the waste will be composted locally and is hiring out the equipment needed to run the scheme. The children from Tarland School have helped to promote the scheme by creating a display which formed the



centrepiece of the launch event and will be monitoring the compost as part of their outdoor learning experience. Input from Aberdeen Forward, a charity which supports environmental projects and the Marr Area

Partnership, which supports community development, was crucial in providing expertise and funding advice.

Tarland Community Action Plan identified the need for a community composting scheme and the Marr Local Community Planning Group were able to provide a quick win grant of £2000 to help set it up. The group also secured £1000 from the Initiative Grant Scheme (IGS), funded by the Marr Area Committee and administered by the Marr Area Partnership.

Finally, the whole scheme depends on the group of enthusiastic volunteers who are collecting the garden waste and providing a service to their community. More information on Tarland Community Composting can be found on the Tarland and Cromar Community web site (www.tarland.org).

contact us

MARR Community Planning Officer:
Hazel McLaren: Hazel.McLaren@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



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community planning working together for
the best quality of life for everyone in aberdeenshire

Aberdeenshire Youth Council

The Aberdeenshire Youth Council represents young people from all over the Shire on issues important to young people. The membership is made up of the 6 additional Youth Councillors - usually one for each council area - who are elected. The election process is carried out through Aberdeenshire Youth Forum who currently have over 150 members. The job of these 12 young people is to make sure that politicians and decision makers in Aberdeenshire know how young people feel and know what issues need to be addressed.

To do this, they meet every two months to discuss what problems young people in their area are facing and how they could be tackled and solved. They then present this information to the council and community partners in order to see if there can be changes or solutions to make improvements.

If you are a young person who lives, works, or goes to school or college in Aberdeenshire, AYC is here to represent you. If there is something you think should be changed in the Shire, get in touch with one of your local Youth Councillors and be sure we will work hard to get the solution you want.

Contact Details

dialogueyouth@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Tel. 01467 624345



The current Youth Councillors are:

Chair - Alex Gaskin,
MSYP for Banff & Buchan
Vice Chair - Emma Maclean,
Kincardine and Mearns
Secretary - Yolanda Wilson, Marr
Treasurer - Grace Croft, Buchan
Mike Forman, MSYP for Banff & Buchan
Coral-Ann Birnie, MSYP for Gordon
Rebecca Cox, MSYP for Gordon
Andrew Deans, MSYP for West
Aberdeenshire & Kincardine
Conor McNeill, MSYP for West
Aberdeenshire & Kincardine
Emma Maders, Kincardine & Mearns
Catriona Robertson, Garioch
Conor McKay, Garioch

contact us

Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB16 5GB tel: 01224 664308
email: communityplanning@ouraberdeenshire.org.uk
visit our website at www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk

