

Partnership Committee

Date:	12 December 2013
Title:	COMMUNITY FORUM STEERING GROUP
Purpose of the Report:	To agree sources of funding to hold a Community Forum event in March 2014
Contact Officer:	Jo Martindale, Partnership Officer

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To agree and support the concept of the next Community Forum Event.
- 1.2 To agree funding for the event. Recommending use of the £200 remaining in 502/4524 Big Plan Community Forum funds and a further £1,000 from Big Plan Projects.

2. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Following the Community Forum held at the Leighton Buzzard Theatre on 9 February 2013 based on 'You and your town centre' the steering group would like to hold a second event in March 2014.

The plans for the forum would be as follows:

Venue: Availability dates are being sourced by Leighton Middle School, Theatre and possible other Town Centre locations. The venue will allow for breakout rooms for discussions and provide a larger space for attendees.

Date: potentially 1, 8 or 15 March **Time:** 10am-12pm

Invitation to MP; subject to Andrews Availability, elected Councillors and experts from each topic of discussion.

TOPIC: Leighton Linslade Healthy, Wealthy & Wise
Come & have your say

The topic will relate to health issues and visitors from Healthwatch and the Locality Group as well as other groups will be invited to attend to provide support and more information. The Wealthy aspect will focus on debt, child poverty, homelessness and other local related issues. Finally Wise will be the educational element to the event and Educational heads, Childrens Services and youth groups will also be invited. A separate breakout room will be available unfacilitated for people to write down their issues and concerns

either anonymously or will have the opportunity to leave their details for the group to respond to.

Proposed agenda:

9.45am-10am Refreshments

10am – MP welcome

10.10am – Elected councillors – feedback from last forum, positive developments and future plans.

10.25am Introduce break out rooms and instructions

10.30am – 4 x 15 minutes in each break out room

11.30 – feedback from the Facilitator of each room

12.00 finish

3. CONCLUSIONS

On endorsement of the topic and approval of the funds for the next Community Forum Event,

The steering group will meet again on 16 January at 18:30 to work on the content and publicity for the event. The publicity will include a list of the achievements delivered in response to the issues raised by the Forum since the February event

The 130 attendees from 9 February event will be contacted and invited to attend along with local groups relating to each topic.

The venue will be booked before the New Year ready to start the promotional work to drive the event forward.

Report Author:

Jo Martindale, Partnership Officer