LETTER TO COMMUNITY COUNCILS BUT ALSO SENT TO COMMUNITY TRUSTS AND MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OF THE BLACK ISLE PARTNERSHIP

RELEVANT TO TBI

Dear Members,

Firstly, apologies to those of you for whom this may be duplicate information.

As most of you are aware, the Black Isle Partnership was awarded funding from the Place Based Investment fund to facilitate the production of a Black Isle wide Local Place Plan.  The aim of the Plan is to build on the community cohesion that evolved throughout the pandemic and provide a Black Isle wide vision for the future.

It will build on existing surveys and will consult communities on their priorities for the next ten years.  There will be a specific focus on the issues around strengthening community resilience through addressing economic impacts on the community, an issue that has become more pressing with the current rise in the cost of living.  Health and wellbeing and the climate crisis are the two other key focuses for this Plan.

The PBI Fund is intended to enable a flexible local response to address one or more of the four harms of Covid.  These have been identified as:

•       Direct health harms

•       Health impacts not directly related to Covid

•       Societal impacts

•       Economic impacts

However, we would also expect the Plan to look to the long-term and to be robust for the next ten years.

Part of the funding has enabled the creation of my role as a part-time Project Manager.  I am contracted by BIP.  I am not employed by them.

I'm pleased to announce that Nick Wright has been appointed as the consultant who will carry out the community engagement process and the production of a place plan. We now begin a period of Stakeholder engagement, and I will be approaching some of you separately as strategic stakeholders.

The public engagement will take place between February and April, and I hope you will all take the opportunity to engage with this process.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like more information.

Kind regards

Becky.

Becky Richmond, Chair, Black Isle Partnership

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