

**REPORT TO:** Community Planning Implementation Group  
**MEETING DATE:** 13 November 2006  
**BY:** Chief Executive, East Lothian Council  
**SUBJECT:** East Lothian Social Economy Partnership

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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To update the Community Planning Implementation Group on the activities of the East Lothian Social Economy Partnership.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Community Planning Implementation Group (CPIG) notes the content of this report.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 In June 2005 it was agreed that the East Lothian Social Economy Partnership (ELSEP) would report to the then Enterprise and Skills Forum as a sub-group of that body. It was agreed that ELSEP would report back on its progress. Due to the restructuring of the Community Planning structure and the creation of the CPIG, such reporting would in future be made through CPIG.
- 3.2 This report is an update on the progress made over the past year.
- 3.3 A successful bid for European EQUAL money enabled ELSEP to carry out a mapping exercise of current activity in East Lothian. This resulted in the published report 'Mapping Social Enterprise Activity in East Lothian' by Haldane Associates in October 2005. The findings were disseminated at a conference held in November 2005 attended by social enterprises, networks and local authority delegates.
- 3.4 In February 2006 ELSEP produced the 'Strategic Context and Action Plan for the social economy in East Lothian (2006 to 2011)' setting out how support would be developed over a five year period.

- 3.5 The core membership of East Lothian Council, Communities Scotland, Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian, and ELVON has been expanded to take in East Lothian Business Association (ELBA), East Lothian Childcare Partnership, East Lothian Social Enterprise Forum and Community Health Cooperative.
- 3.6 An East Lothian Social Enterprise Network has also been established to provide a forum for social enterprises and to feed into the Partnership.
- 3.7 A second conference entitled 'Supporting Social Enterprise in East Lothian' was held in June 2006, again funded through EQUAL.
- 3.8 The Partnership is currently developing its strategies and looking at future support needs through further mapping work.

#### **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 That ELSEP continues to deliver the policy and strategic support as set out in the local strategy.

#### **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Financial – None.
- 5.2 Personnel - None.
- 5.3 Other – None.

#### **6 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 6.1 East Lothian Social Economy Strategy - Enterprise and Skills Forum paper 29 June 2005
- 6.2 Mapping the social economy in East Lothian (October 2005) – Haldane Associates
- 6.3 Strategic Context and Action Plan for the social economy in East Lothian (February 2006) - ELSEP

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