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COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC BOARD TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, 6TH JUNE, 2024

Please find attached the papers in respect of Item 8 on the agenda for the above meeting.

8.	Review of Locality Plans (Pages 3 - 20) Presented by Jenni Craig and Clare Malster.	25 mins
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COMMUNITY PLANNING LOCALITY PLANS

Report by Director Resilient Communities

6 June 2024

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 This report proposes steps to be taken in undertaking a review of the existing Community Planning Locality Plans.

1.2 The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 puts a duty on Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to produce locality plans. These plans, each CPP must have at least one, should focus on reducing inequalities in communities of less than 10,000 people.

1.3 Scottish Borders CPP currently has a Locality Plan for each of the five localities (Berwickshire, Cheviot, Eildon, Teviot & Liddesdale and Tweeddale). These were progressed through the Area Partnerships and developed through focused engagement with the Area Partnerships, community groups and the wider community. Final versions, and accompanying action plans, were published in January 2020.

1.4 It is proposed that now is the time to revisit the Locality Plans and put in place a rolling programme for the development of new plans. These plans would be taken forward on a high school cluster basis, rather than using the existing localities, with a focus on smaller, more defined communities.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the Strategic Board agrees:

- a) That new Locality Plans be developed on a rolling programme basis;**
- b) Plans be developed across the high school clusters, and**
- c) The first plans to be developed are for Bannerfield, Burnfoot and Langlee.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, Community Planning Partnerships have a duty to produce locality plans. As with the Borderswide Community Plan, these plans are also aimed at tackling inequality but on a more local level. The Scottish Government's Community Planning Guidance sets out two main reasons for locality planning:
- i. Working within a locality or neighbourhood enables CPPs to tackle inequalities for communities facing disadvantage in particularly well targeted and effective ways.
 - ii. It is often easiest for community bodies to participate in community planning at locality or neighbourhood level, where it can have most relevance to people's lives and circumstances.
- 3.2 The Guidance goes on to state that it is for CPPs to decide which neighbourhoods should be subject to locality planning, but each CPP should undertake some. Where a CPP has several areas in which communities experience significantly poorer outcomes than either the rest of its area, or Scotland as a whole, locality planning must be undertaken for each of these. This duty must also be fulfilled for communities of interest as well as geographical communities where inequality of outcome is experienced.
- 3.3 Each locality plan should demonstrate a "clear, evidence base and robust understanding of needs, circumstances and aspirations of communities in the locality". This should be reflected in a resulting plan(s) that addresses the CPP's and each community's shared priorities for tackling inequality and improving outcomes in that area. It is expected that CPPs will identify small communities with populations of less than 10,000.

4 CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 Scottish Borders CPP currently has a Locality Plan for each of the five localities (Berwickshire, Cheviot, Eildon, Teviot & Liddesdale and Tweeddale). These were progressed through the Area Partnerships and developed through focused engagement with the Area Partnerships, community groups and the wider community. Final versions, and accompanying action plans, were published in January 2020.
- 4.2 Whilst some of the identified priorities did focus on inequality, they were targeted on a locality basis rather than specific communities. Who were experiencing inequality of outcomes.

5 COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS SCOTLAND

- 5.1 Desktop research shows that out of the 31 other CPPs 21 have area based locality plans (it was not possible to readily find information on the remaining 10). Although Dumfries & Galloway CPP has recently agreed new, area based, locality plans, previously they had a topic based Locality

Plan which focused on food sharing. This included four outcomes to address challenges to accessing to food for the most vulnerable communities (geographic and of interest).

6 THE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- 6.1 The Improvement Plan, developed with the Improvement Service, highlighted that a review of the Locality Plans should take place to reduce key priorities to a few that reflect community priorities. As with the Community Plan, it is likely that things have changed since the current Locality Plans were developed.
- 6.2 With the ongoing development of Place Plans, providing evidence of community priorities, now is a good time to review the CPP's Locality Plans.

7 PLACE PLANS

- 7.1 Place Plans are community led plans which set out proposals for the development and use of land. They provide an opportunity for communities to have a say on what is happening in their towns and villages, influence decisions and help create a plan for the future. There are in excess of 50 Place Plans in development across the Borders.
- 7.2 It is imperative that Place Plans form part of any review of locality plans. There should be strong links between the Place Plans, Locality Plans and the Community Plan. Whilst place plans don't have the same focus on reducing inequality, as is the case with locality plans and the Community Plan, being community led means that they are a clear reflection of what matters most to people and so central to the ethos of community planning.
- 7.3 Place Planning sits within the Council's Area Partnership structure where work on the development of Place Plans, and progress updates, are reported.

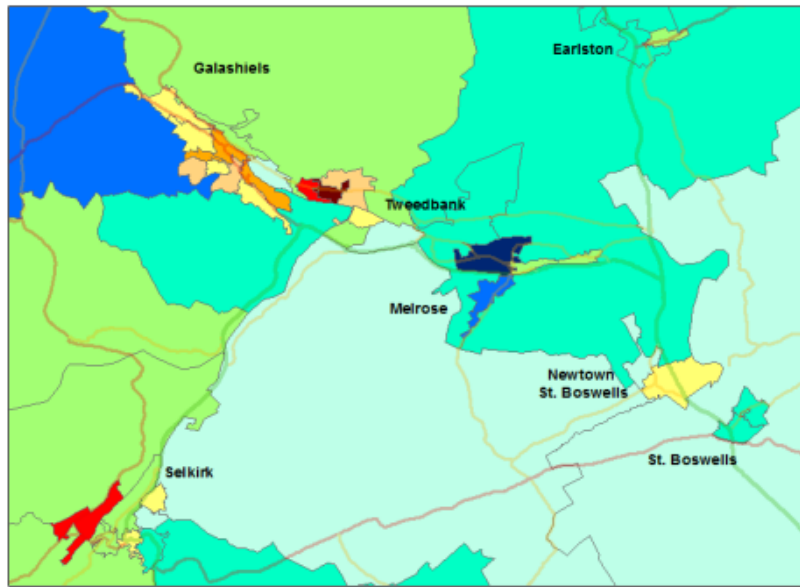
8 AREA PARTNERSHIPS

- 8.1 Area Partnerships are one way in which local communities can have a voice in Council decision making processes.
- 8.2 Area Partnerships are required to lead on the preparation and publicity of a locality plan for their area whilst taking account of the Community Plan. Currently, each Area Partnership is required to approve the Locality Plan (s) for their area prior to recommending approval by the Strategic Board.
- 8.3 Scottish Borders Council is currently reviewing Area Partnership arrangements with a view to potentially aligning them better with the Community Planning Partnership. Although this work is in progress, discussions indicate that there is a desire to have greater involvement of partners to better support discussion on the wide range of issues that affect communities.

- 8.4 Whilst still committees of Council there is the option for Area Partnerships, like the CPP, to become unincorporated bodies. This would give them flexibility to develop arrangements to suit local needs.
- 8.5 Aligning the Area Partnerships with the CPP would help to demonstrate the link between the Area Partnerships and the CPP and in turn the link between Place Plans, Locality Plans and the Community Plan.

9 REVIEW OF LOCALITY PLANS

- 9.1 Inequality exists across the Borders and is exacerbated by factors linked to living in a rural area, e.g. access to transport, fuel costs and access to large supermarkets (where costs are generally lower than those in convenience stores and small supermarkets). Indeed, 21% of the Borders population live in the 40% most deprived areas in Scotland.
- 9.2 In reviewing locality plans cognisance must be paid to:
- a focus on inequality, and
 - covering communities of less than 10,000,
- in doing so the CPP needs to reconsider the basis on which the previous plans were developed, alongside capacity to develop meaningful plans and accompanying actions.
- 9.3 Whilst, not the only measure of deprivation and inequality, the Scottish Indices of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) are an indicator of where there is most need in the Borders, and where Locality Plans should be focused.
- 9.4 In undertaking a review of locality plans, data such as that below will be required to clearly demonstrate the reasoning for developing locality plans in the identified areas.



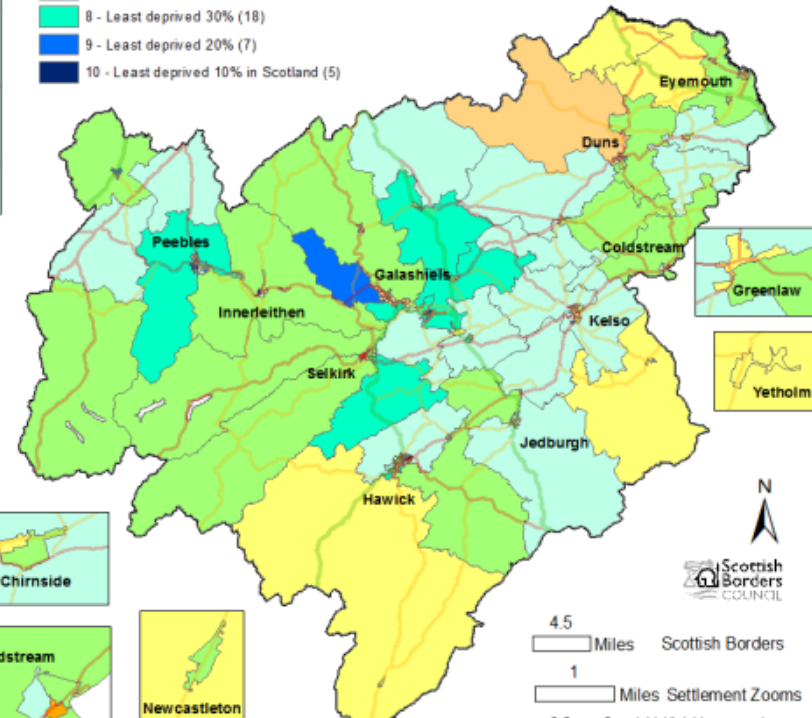
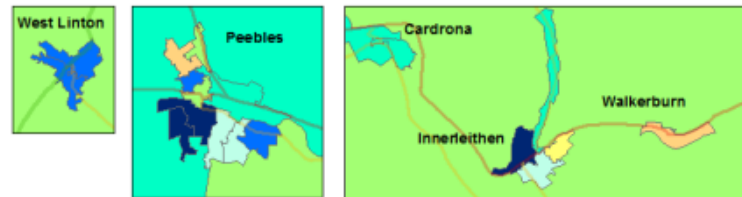
SIMD2020 for Scottish Borders Data Zones

Roads

- Trunk Road
- A Road
- B Road

SIMD2020 Decile

- 1 - Amongst the most deprived 10% in Scotland (3)
- 2 - Most deprived 20% (6)
- 3 - Most deprived 30% (6)
- 4 - Most deprived 40% (17)
- 5 - Middle decile (23)
- 6 - Middle decile (30)
- 7 - Least deprived 40% (28)
- 8 - Least deprived 30% (18)
- 9 - Least deprived 20% (7)
- 10 - Least deprived 10% in Scotland (5)



The number in the () is the number of the 143 datazones (2011 based) in the group.

- 9.5 Focusing on areas in the most 20% deprived of all Scotland, there would be a focus on areas in the following towns:
- Galashiels (Langlee)
 - Hawick (Burnfoot)
 - Selkirk (Bannerfield)
- 9.6 It is proposed that these three plans are developed initially but that they form part of a rolling programme focused on high school clusters. A rolling programme will reduce the pressure on resources and support the development of plans across the Borders.
- 9.7 Developing plans on a more local level than before requires careful consideration in order that measures are targeted in identified areas without creating stigma.

10 EXISTING WORK

- 10.1 Engagement with communities is essential in developing locality plans, however there are pieces of work, already in place across the Partnership, that could help shape the Plans in the initial stages, including:
- Cluster Plans (Education, Scottish Borders Council)
 - Community Learning & Development Plans (CLD, Scottish Borders Council)
 - Place Plans (Communities)
 - Community Action Plans (Health Visitors, NHS Borders)
 - Local Policing Plan
 - Local Fire & Rescue Plan
- 10.2 It is proposed to use these, and other pieces of work, to create the bones of plans which can be fleshed out through engagement with the relevant communities.

11 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 11.1 Developing revised locality plans needs to be undertaken in partnership with communities. This can be done, as previously, with Area Partnerships, community groups and the wider public utilising the Community Conversations later in the year. In place now, which wasn't previously, are the Town Teams who are actively developing Place Plans for their towns and villages. They will be essential in progressing this work.

12 IMPLICATIONS

12.1 Financial

Staff resources will be required to develop the plans. Whilst this will include staff from Scottish Borders Council it is hoped that staff from other partner organisations will also be able to support this work.

12.2 Risk and Mitigations

Locality Plans are a legislative requirement placed on Community Planning Partnerships under Part 2 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Not having locality plans in place, which meet the requirements of the Act, would put Scottish Borders CPP in breach of the duty.

12.3 Integrated Impact Assessment

An Integrated Impact Assessment has been undertaken and while it is expected that any impacts arising from the Locality Plans will be positive it is not possible to identify in which ways.

IAs will be carried out on the Locality Plans, and accompanying action plans, once they have been developed.

12.4 Sustainable Development Goals

Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will influence the UN Sustainable Development Goals will not be known until the Plans and accompanying actions have been developed it is anticipated that there will be positive impacts on the following:

- End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
- Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all potential
- Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Reduce inequalities within and among countries
- Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe resilient and sustainable

12.5 Climate Change

The precise potential impacts on Climate Change will become apparent as the Plans, and accompanying actions are developed, however it is expected that there will be positive impacts on the following:

- Infrastructure & Land Use through enhanced local amenities/services and provision of local opportunities for food growing, recreation, education/skills development, health and wellbeing benefits.
- Adaptation through developing enhanced resilience of the community

12.6 Rural Proofing

n/a

12.7 Data Protection Impact Statement

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

Approved by

Name: Jenni Craig

Title: Director Resilient Communities

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Clare Malster	Participation Officer, 01835 826626

Background Papers: None

Previous Minute Reference: None

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Clare Malster can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at Clare Malster, Council HQ Newtown St Boswell TD6 0SA,
cmalster@scotborders.gov.uk, 01835 826626

Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

Stage 1 Scoping and Assessing for Relevance

Section 1 Details of the Proposal

A. Title of Proposal:	Review of Locality Plans
B. What is it?	A new Policy/Strategy/Practice/Project <input type="checkbox"/> A revised Policy/Strategy/Practice X
C. Description of the proposal: (Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the proposal being developed or reviewed (what are the aims, objectives and intended outcomes, including the context within which it will operate))	The report proposes that the Locality Plans, that Community Planning Partnerships are required to develop under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, are reviewed and redeveloped with a clear focus on reducing inequalities.
D. Service Area: Department:	Communities & Partnerships Resilient Communities
E. Lead Officer: (Name and job title)	Clare Malster Participation Officer
F. Other Officers/Partners involved: (List names, job titles and organisations)	
G. Date(s) IIA completed:	16/05/24

Section 2 Will there be any impacts as a result of the relationship between this proposal and other policies?

Yes *(please delete as applicable)*

If yes, - please state here:

The Locality Plans that are developed will feed into the review of the Locality Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP), aka the Community Plan.

Section 3 Legislative Requirements

3.1 Relevance to the Equality Duty:

Do you believe your proposal has any relevance under the Equality Act 2010?

(If you believe that your proposal may have some relevance – however small please indicate yes. If there is no effect, please enter “No” and go to Section 3.2.)

Equality Duty

Reasoning:

A. Elimination of discrimination (both direct & indirect), victimisation and harassment. *(Will the proposal discriminate? Or help eliminate discrimination?)*

The purpose of the Locality Plans is to reduce inequality which may, in turn, reduce discrimination.

B. Promotion of equality of opportunity?
(Will your proposal help or hinder the Council with this)

The purpose of the Locality Plans is to reduce inequality.

C. Foster good relations?
(Will your proposal help to foster or encourage good relations between those who have different equality characteristics?)

It is anticipated that actions delivered under the Locality Plans will have a positive impact on the identified communities supporting good relationships between the community and community planning partners.

**3.2 Which groups of people do you think will be or potentially could be, impacted by the implementation of this proposal?
(You should consider employees, clients, customers / service users, and any other relevant groups)**

Please tick below as appropriate, outlining any potential impacts on the undernoted equality groups this proposal may have and how you know this.

	Impact			Please explain the potential impacts and how you know this
	No Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
Age Older or younger people or a specific age grouping				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive
Disability A physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities. This may be visible or invisible, progressive or recurring.				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive
Gender Reassignment anybody who is proposing to undergo, is undergoing, or has undergone a process (or part of a process) for the purpose of reassigning the person's sex by changing physiological or other attributes of sex.				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive
Marriage or Civil Partnership people who are married or in a civil partnership				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive

<p>Pregnancy and Maternity (refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth),</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive</p>
<p>Race: including colour, nationality, ethnic origins, including minorities (e.g. gypsy travellers, refugees, migrants and asylum seekers)</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive</p>
<p>Religion or Belief: different religious or philosophical beliefs, customs (including atheists and those with no aligned belief) e.g. Christianity, Islam, Hindu, pacifism, vegetarianism, gender critical.</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive</p>
<p>Sex women and men (girls and boys)</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive</p>
<p>Sexual Orientation, e.g. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Heterosexual</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on specific equality communities will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive</p>
<p>3.3 Fairer Scotland Duty</p> <p>This duty places a legal responsibility on Scottish Borders Council (SBC) to actively consider (give due regard) to how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socioeconomic disadvantage when making <u>strategic</u> decisions.</p> <p>The duty is set at a strategic level - these are the key, high level decisions that SBC will take. This would normally include strategy documents, decisions about setting priorities, allocating resources and commissioning services.</p>				

<p>Is the proposal strategic? Yes <i>(please delete as applicable)</i> If No go to Section 4</p>				
<p>If yes, please indicate any potential impact on the undernoted groups this proposal may have and how you know this:</p>				
	Impact			State here how you know this
	No Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
<p>Low and/or No Wealth – enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future.</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive</p>
<p>Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive</p>
<p>Area Deprivation – where you live (e.g. rural areas), where you work (e.g. accessibility of transport), see rural proofing guidance</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive</p>
<p>Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parents' education, employment and income</p>				<p>Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and</p>

				actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive
Care experienced people				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive
Carers paid and unpaid including family members				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive
Homelessness				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive
Addictions and substance use				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive
Those involved within the criminal justice system				Whilst the exact ways in which the Locality Plans will impact on communities set out under the Fairer Scotland Duty will not be known until the Plans are completed, and actions identified, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive

3.4 Armed Forces Covenant Duty (*Education and Housing/ Homelessness proposals only*)

This duty places a legal responsibility on Scottish Borders Council (SBC) to actively consider (give due regard) to the three matters listed below in Education and Housing/ Homelessness matters.
This relates to current and former armed forces personnel (regular or reserve) and their families.

Is the Armed Forces Covenant Duty applicable?

No

If “Yes”, please complete below

Covenant Duty	How this has been considered and any specific provision made:
<p>The unique obligations of, and sacrifices made by, the armed forces;</p> <p>The <u>MOD Statutory Guidance</u> gives the following examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danger • Geographical Mobility • Separation from Family • Service Law • Unfamiliarity with Civilian Life • Hours of Work • Stress 	
<p>The principle that it is desirable to remove disadvantages arising for Service people from membership, or former membership, of the armed forces;</p>	

<p>The principle that special provision for Service people may be justified by the effects on such people of membership, or former membership, of the armed forces.</p>	
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Section 4 Full Integrated Impact Assessment Required

Select No if you have answered “No” to all of Sections 3.1 – 3.3.

Yes / No (please delete as applicable)

If yes, please proceed to Stage 2 and complete a full Integrated Impact Assessment

If a full impact assessment is not required briefly explain why there are no effects and provide justification for the decision.

<p>A full impact assessment will be required on each Locality Plan once i, and the accompanying action plans have been developed.</p>

<p>Signed by Lead Officer:</p>	<p>Clare Malster</p>
<p>Designation:</p>	<p>Participation Officer</p>
<p>Date:</p>	<p>16/05/24</p>

Counter Signature Director:	
Date:	

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