## **Celebrating Connections!**

On 22 June 2017, a range of community and voluntary representatives came together with Community Planning Partners at the fantastic Kay Park Church in Kilmarnock for the annual community planning conference.



Delegates had the opportunity to network and to have their say on future Community Planning priorities. Partners supported the event with a range of information stands and displays, and colleagues from Vibrant Communities offered advice to delegates on how to access external funding opportunities and on the impact of the Community Empowerment Act, including the new Participation Requests process.

The Keynote speech by Fiona Lees, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council, highlighted some of the successes which have been through achieved partnership working across East Ayrshire and this was followed by a series of workshops, showcasing These included Employability partnership initiatives. (Project Search). Community Justice Ayrshire, Connectors. Community Community Safety, Community Led Action **Plans** and Community Empowerment, and Alcohol and Drugs (Stick Your Labels).





Delegates then had the opportunity, during the 'Ask the Panel' session to put their questions directly to members of the Community Planning Executive Officers' Group and the Chair of the CPP Board and there was a lively discussion!

The event closed with Centrestage's 'Unlikely Lads' who gave everyone a rousing send off and provided a great end to the evening.

Thanks to everyone who came along and helped make it such a success!

