

North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership

CPP Board

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 18 March 2010

Present

North Ayrshire Council

Councillor Margaret McDougall (**Chair**)

Elma Murray, Chief Executive

Sandra Paterson, Head of Service (Children & Families) (Social Services)

NHS Ayrshire and Arran

David Price, Non Executive Director

Amanda Coulthard, Assistant Director of Planning

Jobcentre Plus

Robert McKay, District Manager for Ayrshire, Dumfries, Galloway and Inverclyde

Scottish Enterprise

Jim Reid, Director of Regional Support

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Neil Wylie, Director of Finance

Strathclyde Fire & Rescue

Area Commander Paul Tanzilli

Strathclyde Police

Superintendent Jim Coubrough

Scottish Government

Graeme Dickson, Director of Primary and Community Care

Also in Attendance

Justina Murray, Community Planning Team Leader (Chief Executive's Service), North Ayrshire Council

Sandra Bale, Policy & Performance Officer (Chief Executive's Service), North Ayrshire Council

Olga Clayton, Chair of North Ayrshire Housing Partnership

Margaret Ferrier, Team Leader Development Plans, North Ayrshire Council

Steven McLaughlin, Manager, Volunteer Centre North Ayrshire

Ken Buchanan, Chair, Volunteer Centre North Ayrshire

Apologies for Absence

Wai-yin Hatton, Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire and Arran

Chief Superintendent Bill Fitzpatrick, Strathclyde Police

Brian Cameron, Area Manager for Ayrshire, Skills Development Scotland

Councillor David O'Neill, North Ayrshire Council

Bernadette Docherty, Corporate Director (Social Services), North Ayrshire Council

Carol Kirk, Corporate Director (Educational Services), North Ayrshire Council

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 December 2009 were approved.

2. Matters Arising from Minutes

(a) Visit to West Lothian Community Health and Care Partnership

The Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council advised that she had been requested to update the Executive of the Council on her visit to West Lothian Community Health and Care Partnership and that the Council has asked her to continue to explore the integration of health and social care. She will be continuing to pursue this matter, which will include meeting with the Chief Executive of East Renfrewshire Council, where the model is working well.

Noted.

(b) Development of North Ayrshire Council's Strategic Corporate Management Team

The Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council advised that the Council's Corporate Management Team, chaired by herself, currently meets on a two-weekly basis. The Corporate Management Team has recently been expanded to include a Strategic Meeting, on a six-weekly basis, i.e. every third meeting, at which Superintendent Jim Coubrough, who has recently been designated as Director of Community Safety for North Ayrshire, Dr Carol Davidson, Director of Public Health and Chief Medical Officer, NHS Ayrshire & Arran and Patrick Wiggins, Chief Executive, Irvine Bay URC will be participating. This new expanded Corporate Management Team had only just been established and therefore one meeting had been held to date. There are a number of common issues on the agenda of the next meeting. Superintendent Coubrough commented that he supports this initiative as a good platform to share information and deliver services.

Noted.

(c) Response to Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2009

The Board at their last meeting had agreed to support North Ayrshire Council to lobby the Scottish and UK Governments to respond to North Ayrshire's decline and to co-sign the letter to both Governments when the business case had been prepared.

Submitted a copy of the letter dated 8 March 2010, which had been sent to John Swinney, Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Sustainable Growth at the Scottish Parliament. Graeme Dickson, Scottish Government, advised that he will ensure the Head of Enterprise at the Scottish Government receives a copy of the letter.

The Community Planning Team Leader confirmed that a business case is continuing to be developed. A small group had been established to help develop the case. In the light of the Scottish Government considering the next funding round, it is an opportune time to make a case for inward investment to North Ayrshire. Graeme Dickson, Scottish Government suggested that as well as commenting on the deprivation of North Ayrshire, the business case should also state the opportunities there are in this area and that there should be better engagement with the SDI.

A further report will be submitted to the June meeting of the Board.

Noted.

3. Development of the Third Sector Interface: Progress

Steven McLaughlin, Manager, Volunteer Centre North Ayrshire (VCNA), presented proposals from VCNA to lead the development of a North Ayrshire Interface. He was supported in his presentation by Ken Buchanan, Chair of VCna Board.

The Scottish Government Third Sector Division has been seeking to develop a new interface between CPPs and the Strategic Third Sector in each local authority area. The proposals will impact on Scottish Government funding in that there will be the creation of a single funding pot for each area. Within North Ayrshire, therefore, the three organisations involved would be VCNA, CVSna and Arran CVS. Whilst VCNA's main role is to support and recruit volunteers, they are seeking to adopt a more business-based approach and expand their services. They are receiving an increasing number of enquiries from the Third Sector for general support on running Committees, capacity building, etc. They are in discussions with NAFCA regarding community centres, they have also expanded into training and into youth services. They currently have a proposal to purchase the former Britannia Bar, Princes Street, Ardrossan to convert it into a "dry" bar for young people.

VCNA are seeking to make a step change to become "The Ayrshire Community Trust" and have requested assistance from Development Trust Scotland on this.

Their proposals have not yet been submitted to the VCNA Board but their Board are aware of them and it is envisaged that they will be supported.

The CPP Board members asked a number of questions regarding the proposals and received clarification on a number of points as follows:-

- There will be an opportunity for partners to engage with young people in relation to the Britannia Bar proposal;
- VCNA have sub-offices in Largs, Irvine and Kilbirnie and work closely with Arran CVS;
- The rationale behind the proposed "Ayrshire" name is in relation to tendering for contracts as they are seeking to expand their business beyond North Ayrshire;
- In relation to Community Ownership, their Board is elected by the membership and they will ask their members to approve their proposal;
- They envisage there will be a need for them to support social enterprises, e.g. recycling organisations, energy organisations, etc;
- They will be able to assist community organisations in building capacity to run their community facilities.

The Chair confirmed that she had written to VCNA, CVSna and Arran CVS following the last Board Meeting. Arran CVS had indicated that they are willing to support the

mainland organisation, provided they retain their own identity for Arran and can be responsive to the specific needs of Arran. CVSna had indicated that they were unable to take any decision due to the absence of their Chair and therefore the matter will be reconsidered at their April Board Meeting.

North Ayrshire had received some adverse publicity in a national newspaper recently as being one of the Councils who did not have a voluntary sector representative on their Board. The Chair advised that as VCNA had responded positively and as the Board were keen to progress the matter, VCNA had been invited to make their presentation to this meeting.

The Chair thanked Steven McLaughlin and Ken Buchanan for their presentation. At this stage both representatives of VCNA left the meeting.

After discussion, the Board agreed (a) to continue to work with VCNA and to request them to submit a formal proposal outlining the aims and objectives of the proposed new organisation; (b) that the Council arranges to meet jointly with VCNA and CVSna; and (c) that Graeme Dickson would seek clarification from the Scottish Government Third Sector Division on the future funding arrangements for the individual Third Sector representative organisations.

4. Single Outcome Agreement (SOA)

(a) Approval of SOA Action Plan 2010/11

Submitted report by the Community Planning Team Leader on the SOA Action Plan 2010/11.

Improvements from the 2009/10 Plan and from the first draft the 2010/11 Plan include streamlining from the previous Action Plan, with a significant reduction in the number of actions, a positive direction of travel, a better reflection of the important contribution of all partners and removal of “business as usual” actions to focus only on changes and improvements.

Further developments will be taken forward in the longer term, to include prioritising within the existing 35 North Ayrshire outcomes, refining and reducing the current set of around 130 SOA indicators, establishing an area on the CPP web pages where partners’ supporting plans and strategies can be listed with hyperlinks and further improving the consistency within the Action Plan to ensure that it only reflects key changes and improvements and can be effectively monitored and scrutinised.

The Community Planning Team Leader expressed her thanks to all those who had contributed to the production of the Action Plan and, in particular, to Morna Rae, the Community Planning Officer who had co-ordinated all the work.

The Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council advised that a number of the Council’s capital projects had been included in the Action Plan. Whilst in the main, at this time, these were Council capital projects, the Ayrshire Community Hospital development had also been included, as it was considered that these projects would produce tangible outcomes for the SOA.

She also indicated that whilst there was some discussion at the CPP Management Group around removing some of the more detailed targets, e.g. around educational

attainment, she would wish to see these reinserted, as she considered it important to have more specific targets.

The Board agreed to approve the SOA Action Plan for 2010/11, for implementation from 1 April 2010, subject to notification of any further desired changes to the Community Planning Team Leader.

(b) SOA Prioritisation Process: Discussion Paper

Submitted discussion paper on an SOA Prioritisation Process.

Although the Scottish Government has clarified that no formal resubmission of the SOA is required for 2010/11, and that the focus should now be on delivery, it is considered that the SOA could be made more “deliverable” if it had clearer priorities. Graeme Dickson, Scottish Government, has suggested that the Board may wish to consider prioritising its SOA around the Scottish Government’s four national policy priorities which are:-

- Early Years;
- Inequalities in Health;
- Tackling Poverty and Deprivation;
- Economic Recovery.

A process is also underway to review the set of around 130 indicators contained within the SOA, with a view to reducing the number and improving them.

The Board discussed the issues surrounding the prioritising of the outcomes and agreed (a) as a first step, that a mapping exercise be undertaken of partners’ individual priorities; and (b) to approve the use of a revised set of SOA indicators for the 2010 SOA Annual Report.

The Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council emphasised, that the way in which the mapping exercise is undertaken is key to the process to ensure that we know what the key priorities are, how they are being delivered and what difference they are making. David Price, NHS Ayrshire & Arran suggested the Integrated Resource Project being undertaken by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) may be a useful model.

After further discussion, the Board agreed that the CPP Management Group should (a) undertake the mapping exercise of partners priorities; (b) use the IRF model or any other model considered appropriate to move forward this exercise; and (c) submit a progress report to the next Board meeting.

(c) SOA Action Plan 2009/10

Submitted the SOA Action Plan, Quarter 3 monitoring report.

The report indicated that 90% of the actions have been coded green, i.e. on target, ahead of target or complete.

Explanations were provided in the report on those actions coded amber (slightly adrift of target) and red (significantly adrift of target).

Noted.

5. North Ayrshire Housing Partnership

Submitted report by Olga Clayton, Chair of North Ayrshire Housing Partnership.

The report provided an update on the work of the Housing Partnership including:-

- The Housing Capital Programme;
- The reduction in the level of homelessness;
- The Council New Build Project at Castlepark, Irvine (Phase 1) and Winton Avenue, Kilwinning (Phase 2);
- The Vineburgh Regeneration Project;
- The Strategic Housing Investment Programme 2010-15, which will require to be revised due to a reduction in the budget allocated by the Scottish Government.

Noted.

6. Community Health Partnership

Submitted report by Councillor David O'Neill, Chair of the Community Health Partnership. The draft minutes of the meeting of the CHP held on 4 February 2010 were also tabled.

The report provided an update on the work of the CHP including:-

- the Equally Well Test site in Kilbirnie;
- the two Officer Locality Groups;
- the CHP Inequalities in Health Group;
- the new Alcohol & Drugs Partnership;
- the Mental Health Partnership.

David Price advised that a visit will take place by the CHP to the Equally Well Test site on 29 March 2010.

The Minutes of the CHP also covered items including the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, the Integrated Resource Framework and Ayrshire Central Hospital developments update.

Noted.

7. Local Development Plan: Main Issues Report

Margaret Ferrier, Team Leader, Development Plans, North Ayrshire Council provided an update on issues of interest to partners arising from the current consultation on the Local Development Plan.

The consultation ends on 19 March 2010. The documents are available online. The five specific issues for North Ayrshire are:-

- New uses for old sites;
- The future of town centres;

- Rural, coastal and island development;
- Housing requirements and locations;
- Provision of infrastructure.

The Main Issues Report was publicised by a variety of means and 5 Local Planning Forums were also held, which were very successful in generating debate and raising awareness of the issues.

The views being expressed included the following:-

- Support for the “vision” of a stable population, making the most of economic development opportunities such as Hunterston and the Ardeer Energetics Cluster and tourism development opportunities, with regeneration focused on town centres and our environment as a resource for recreation and biodiversity;
- Support for “brownfield” development over “greenfield”;
- A realistic view of marked conditions and constraints on development and concern about whether infrastructure provision will be adequate to support long term growth.

The response to the consultation has been very good to date. All responses will be assessed and reports will be prepared for the Council’s Local Development Plan Committee. Discussions will also be held with partners.

The proposed Plan should be produced by November 2010. It will then go out to consultation. If there are unresolved objections, the Plan may require to be submitted to the Reporter.

Noted.

8. Economic Downturn

Submitted updates from Jobcentre Plus and North Ayrshire Council on their responses to the economic downturn.

Robert McKay, Jobcentre Plus advised that the latest unemployment statistics just announced for North Ayrshire indicated an unemployment rate of 8.9% and 5,800 Jobseeker Allowance claimants.

He also advised that Jobcentre Plus are working closely with the Council on the Future Jobs Fund which aims to support the creation of jobs for long term unemployed young people and others who face significant disadvantages in the labour market. The bid by North Ayrshire Council is expected to create up to 60 jobs, 44 of which have been advertised. Local authorities and other bodies have acted in collaboration with Jobcentre Plus. He thanked the Council for their support. He indicated, however, that Scotland wide, there is slight disappointment with the contribution from the NHS.

The Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council expressed her disappointment with the slow rate of progress and also the contribution from NHS Ayrshire & Arran. Amanda Coulthard, NHS Ayrshire & Arran advised that an internal group is examining this issue currently.

The Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council highlighted that the largest share of former Fairer North Ayrshire funding has been allocated to the Working and Training Programme. Although the Council has had to make efficiency savings, the Council is still spending £345m in key service areas and amongst additional expenditure has allocated £100,000 for “healthy start clubs” for those in need and additional funding to accelerate completion of the Bailey Bridge, Irvine in recognition of the economic impact of this.

The Board (a) noted the reports; and (b) agreed to request the Council’s Economic Development Manager to submit a report on progress of the Future Jobs Fund to their next meeting.

9. Development of CPP Board

The Chair briefed the Board on ongoing discussions with Graeme Dickson, Scottish Government and the Community Planning Team Leader; proposed visits to Falkirk and Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnerships; and plans to meet with Board members on a one to one basis to obtain feedback on how they consider the Board is operating. It is also intended to arrange visits to projects for Board members.

The Board agreed (a) to note the proposals; and (b) to advise the Chair of any projects they wished to visit.

10. Urgent Items

(a) Community Planning Team Leader

The Chair advised that Justina Murray, Community Planning Team Leader has recently been appointed to the post of Chief Officer, South West Scotland Community Justice Authority and would be leaving shortly to take up this post. She congratulated Justina on her new appointment and thanked her for all her hard work as Community Planning Team Leader.

11. Future Agenda Items

The following agenda items were proposed:-

- Health Improvement Programme (ATOM) – NHS Ayrshire & Arran
- Transport Outcomes Report – SPT
- NA Strategic Assessment Document – Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
- Cumbrae Masterplan – North Ayrshire Council.

12. Dates of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 24 June at 10.30 a.m.