

North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership

Compact Reference Group

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 17 November 2009

Attendance

John McKnight, Principal Officer, Community Learning and Development, North Ayrshire Council (**CHAIR**)

Craig Crosthwaite, Development Worker, CVSna

Gordon Jones, Local Authority Liaison Officer, Strathclyde Police

Ann Robertson, Community Representative, Neighbourhood Compact

Stephen McLaughlin, Manager, The Volunteer Centre North Ayrshire

Clive Shephard, Representative, North Ayrshire Federation of Community Associations (NAFCA)

Amanda Coulthard, Assistant Director of Planning, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (For Carole Blair)

In attendance

Justina Murray, Community Planning Co-ordinator, North Ayrshire Council

Dianna Whyte, External Funding Officer, North Ayrshire Council

Shirley Caine, Community Planning Assistant, North Ayrshire Council

Michele Sutherland, Partnership Facilitator, North Ayrshire Council/NHS Ayrshire and Arran (For Item 3)

Apologies

Carole Blair, Partnership and Stakeholder Manager, Scottish Enterprise

Jim Nichols, Manager, Arran CVS

Billy Davidson, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Sarah Gilmour, SPT

1. Welcome

John welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made

2. Minutes of meeting held on 29 September 2009

Jim Nichols had asked for the minute to be changed to reflect that CLD staff will contact the Compact not the other way around.

ACTION: SHIRLEY

2.1 Matters arising

a. Matters arising from minutes

- Justina advised that she is still waiting on contact regarding from West Dunbartonshire regarding the email she sent. A reminder has been sent.
- Support to Compact Reference Group - John advised that Jim McHarg will now provide this support. Shirley to add Jim to the membership and mailing list.
- Clive brought the draft paper from NAFCA, which will be submitted to NAC Chief Executive on Thursday and asked for any comments from John and Justina.

ACTION: SHIRLEY

- Justina and Shirley to meet to take forward website **ACTION: JUSTINA/SHIRLEY**
- John advised that he has asked for the list from Property Services, but will chase this up. **ACTION: JOHN**
- Progress Communication Actions. **ACTION: JIM MCHARG**
- Stephen advised that he would circulate some of the NHS Consultation document, as the whole report was around 100 pages. **ACTION: STEPHEN**
- Stephen wished to note thanks to the First Minister Alex Salmond for attending the Volunteer Centre MV Awards Ceremony. John also thanked the first minister and the Volunteer Centre for a very good event.
- John advised that he has met with Ruth Shephard, Alcohol and Drug Partnership but she has still to confirm if she will attend the next meeting.

b. Other matters arising – letter from Fullarton Community Health House re Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

John advised that a letter had been received from Fullarton Community Health House addressed to John as Chair of the Compact, to advise that they had not been involved in the development of the new Alcohol and Drug Partnership.

John advised that he had spoken to Ruth Shephard, Commissioner, Alcohol and Drug Partnership and Ruth had advised that there was recognition of the work that Fullarton Community Health House does, along with other partners in that sector, and for some reason they had been missed out of the consultation. This was an oversight, Ruth apologised for this.

Stephen noted that when the Compact Reference Group was originally started there were some concerns about the level of representation of statutory partners on the group. Stephen stressed that it was very important that there is a point of contact for engaging with the community and voluntary sector and hoped that with the interface and the development of this group, this will not happen again.

John agreed that the development of a strong interface in North Ayrshire is the way forward, to ensure that the community and voluntary sector have a clear role and a clear link to CPP structures. It was agreed that interface is a challenge for all stakeholders.

ACTION: JOHN

3. South Ayrshire 'Working Together' Website

Michelle Sutherland noted that she had attended the Compact Reference Group meeting on the 18th August to highlight the South Ayrshire 'Working Together Website'.

The website would be used to strengthen engagement with local communities in North Ayrshire meeting the Statutory Guidance for Community Health Partnerships (CHPs), suggested using existing networks of voluntary organisations and community groups and strengthening the partnership links between the Compact Groups and Community Planning Partners.

As advised at the last meeting the funding for the website had come to an end and in order for the website it was proposed to expand coverage across Ayrshire and seek funding from each of the Ayrshire CPPs. Public Partnership Forum

Michelle had agreed to come back to this meeting to provide further details on the cost involved, how the website would be phased in, its support, management and sustainability. Michelle advised that she had met with the 3 Ayrshire Public Partnership Forum Co-ordinators and representative from South Ayrshire IT department to discuss this.

The total cost for 18-months, including support, is £6000 which is split between the three Ayrshire CPPs. It has been agreed that the development will have a single start date across Ayrshire. This means that all of the current voluntary groups in North Ayrshire can promote the 'live' date at the same time.

The Group agreed to support the website. Justina confirmed funding is available in the CPPs Community Engagement Budget.

ACTION: JUSTINA/MICHELLE

4. Compact Action Plan 2009/10

Justina advised that that Councillor McNamara would attend the meeting at 11am and the action regarding amending the committee reporting system could be discussed then.

The report was noted.

5. Communications Action Plan 2009/10

The report was noted.

6. Partners' reporting template

The group received the following partners' reporting templates:

- Council for Voluntary Services North Ayrshire
- Volunteer Centre North Ayrshire
- Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
- North Ayrshire Federation of Community Associations
- Strathclyde Police
- Arran CVS

Jim had raised that that the FNA Forward Plan had not been to the Compact Reference Group and asked if this could be deferred to the next meeting.

ACTION: JUSTINA/SHIRLEY

Councillor McNamara joined the meeting at this point

7. Joint Statement on the relationship at local level between the government and third sector (Scottish Government Cosla, SOLACE, SCVO)

It was agreed to carry this over to the next meeting.

ACTION: JUSTINA/SHIRLEY

8. North Ayrshire Council – Communities Portfolio

John welcomed Councillor Peter McNamara to the Group and introductions were made.

John advised that the Group had been in operation for a short period of time and is part of the formal CPP Structure. The role of the group is to look at taking forward the Compact agreement. The group comprises of representatives from the community and voluntary sector as well as public sector agencies. The group has been discussing the role of the Compact and how it feeds into the CPP and the Council and are looking for help to help drive this forward.

Councillor McNamara advised that his area is elderly care, youth justice, CLD and adult learning. He advised that he sees the voluntary sector expanding over the coming years, and that they should look at the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) to see what actions they can feed into. Health, housing and education are big areas of this work and there is a real opportunity for the community and voluntary sector to engage in these areas.

The Council has tasked Councillor McNamara to engage with the community and voluntary sector and develop links with it. Councillor McNamara advised that in the future the council will not be delivering the same services that it is covering just now, and he is determined that the community and voluntary sector will be informed at every stage. The Executive of the Council is looking for a structure with the community and voluntary sector that they can engage with and that can deliver services to the communities.

John thanked Peter for opening up this dialogue and asked members for comments.

There was discussion on breaking down the barriers for officers to involve the community and voluntary sector and the use of volunteers. There was discussion on training opportunities for the community and voluntary sector and Amanda advised that NHS Ayrshire and Arran would be happy to open up extra training spaces to the third sector.

Councillor McNamara advised that care in the community was raised at the elected member session recently and it had been noted that the cost of care in the community is 10% of the cost of care in hospitals.

There was some discussion on the areas that the community and voluntary sector could feed into and Councillor McNamara advised that no areas have definitely been identified yet. He stressed again that the Council want to have one point of contact for the community and voluntary sector. The sector need to be ready and informed so that they can act straight away.

Clive left the meeting at this point.

Stephen made a general observation that the community and voluntary sector normally look to the Council for a lead and that this is time for the community and voluntary sector to get organised and fully engaged.

John thanked Councillor McNamara on behalf of the group for attending the meeting today.

Councillor McNamara advised that he is the voluntary sector voice on the Council's Executive.

Dianna stressed that training for the community and voluntary sector is very important and there is a need to invest in training for the sector.

Councillor McNamara advised that he would be attending the Community Engagement Network meetings in future.

9. Monitoring implementation of the Compact Agreement

It was agreed to carry this over to the next meeting.

ACTION: JUSTINA/SHIRLEY

10. Engaging the community and voluntary sector

John advised that he would ensure Jim McHarg followed this up for the next meeting.

The Group agreed it was still the intention to have a conference before the end of March 2010, to promote the Compact and what it has achieved.

ACTION: JOHN/JIM MCHARG

11. Development of the SOA Action Plan 2010/11

Justina advised that discussions are taking place with the CPP groups to draft actions initially. It was agreed to set up a special meeting to draft actions for Outcomes 11a and 11b.

The report was noted.

ACTION: JUSTINA

12. AOCB

Craig advised that the Big Lottery are looking for 3 pilots for their managing intelligence programme. These pilots would gather information about the voluntary sector. Applications are to be submitted by 4th December, with notifications begin made by 14th December and work starting in the New Year. Further discussion on this would be deferred to the Interface meeting later this week.

Stephen advised that the Volunteer Officer in Irvine office would be closed for 1 month then reopening within the Citizen Advice Bureau. There would be a change in phone and email, which Stephen would forward on. **ACTION: STEPHEN**

13. Draft Dates for 2010 meeting

The proposed dates were agreed. Shirley would book the venue and advise the group. **ACTION: SHIRLEY**