



Orkney Partnership Board

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 September 2022 via Teams

1. Attendance and apologies

Facilitating partners

Orkney Islands Council
NHS Orkney

Police Scotland
Highlands & Islands Enterprise

Cllr Heather Woodbridge
Meghan McEwan (Vice Chair
who chaired the meeting)
Alasdair Macleod
Graeme Harrison

Participating partners

Historic Environment Scotland
HITRANS
Integration Joint Board
Visit Scotland
Nature Scot

Dorothy Hoskins
Cllr David Dawson
Issy Grieve
Cheryl Chapman
Graham Neville

Co-opted partners

Voluntary Action Orkney
Orkney Housing Association Ltd.
Community Justice Partnership

Gail Anderson
Craig Spence
Stephen Brown

By invitation

Scottish Government

Joe Brown

In attendance

Orkney Islands Council
Orkney Islands Council
NHS Orkney

Cllr Gillian Skuse
Alex Rodwell
Michael Dickson (from 2.43pm)

Orkney Islands Council
The Orkney Partnership

Anna Whelan (Secretary)
George Vickers

Apologies

Orkney Islands Council
Orkney Islands Council
Orkney Islands Council
Skills Development Scotland
Orkney College UHI
NHS Orkney

Cllr James Stockan
John Mundell
Karen Greaves
Anthony Standing
Claire Kemp
Michael Dickson (for lateness)

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 June 2022

- 2.1. It was agreed to defer this item to the December meeting because the correct draft had only been circulated earlier that day.

3. Matters arising

- 3.1 There were no matters arising that were not addressed by other items on the agenda.

4. Report from the Chair of the Executive Group

- 4.1. Gail Anderson presented the written report. The Executive Group decided to convene a meeting of the CP Working Group primarily to look at several issues including those that arose from the self-assessment carried out with the Improvement Service and the Risk Assessment. A report will be brought to the Board. The Business Manager will take forward consultations with the ferry-linked isles on the concept of community hubs. The report was noted with thanks for the work that had been done by the Executive Group.

5. Delivery group updates

5.1 Sustainable Recovery Delivery Group

- 5.1.1 Graham Neville, spoke to the written report. He will need to step down from the role of Chair of the SRDG for six to nine months, so the Partnership will need to appoint someone else to fulfil the role until 1 April 2023 when the new Delivery groups are established.

- 5.1.2 The Delivery Plan was brought to the meeting for approval. Since the LOIP had been finalised, the circumstances had changed, and the DG proposed a change to the Original Outcome A, from:

A demonstrable upturn in Orkney's economy, supported through co-ordination and implementation of the ASPIRE Orkney action plan.

To:

The planning and delivery of an integrated route map for Orkney's sustainable economic development and transition to NetZero

This was agreed.

- 5.1.3 Cheryl Chapman raised A,4, on Housing and stated that the Board had agreed that it had to go beyond identifying the need. Graham agreed to amend.

- 5.1.4 Anna Whelan spoke to a paper which set out a proposal from HIE and OIC's Economic Development on the future of the ERSG. The recommendation in the paper was to merge the ERSG with the SRDG and that the current ERSG representatives to the SRDG were to remain on the DG. The issue of the Programme Manager employed by Aspire Orkney Ltd on behalf of the ERSG to be resolved by the company and the Council who provide the funding. The recommendations were agreed:

- The ERSG be merged into the Sustainable Recovery Delivery Group.

- A Business Forum be convened along the lines proposed by OIC Economic Development and HIE in order to channel the views of Orkney's business community into the Partnership.
- The Business Forum be represented on the Sustainable Recovery Delivery Group and/or any successor delivery group for this purpose.
- The task of making arrangements for the setting up, management and resourcing of the Business Forum be delegated to the Executive Group.
- In the interim, the business representatives who were formerly members of the ERSG and who also attended the SRDG be invited to remain on the SRDG.

The Aspire Orkney Vision will be taken forward by the SRDG. **Anna Whelan** to bring a 'wind-up' paper capturing the lessons from the ERSG to the Board. It was also agreed that a key task of the SRDG was to engage with the new Regional Economic Forum.

5.1.5 The Group was thanked for the report and their work.

5.2 Community Wellbeing Delivery Group

5.2.1 Gail Anderson spoke to the written report. The first meeting of the provisionally named Cost of Living Task Force was held on 9th September 2022 and the draft Terms of Reference, once finalised, will be circulated to Board members and attendees. Work has begun to align themes and actions from the Child Poverty Strategy and the Food Dignity Recommendations Report and Gail gave a short presentation to show how this was being done. One of those themes 'Build a pathway of preventative, compassionate and cash first services' has been taken forward in order to prepare a bid to Scottish Government for Orkney to become a 'cash first' pilot area. An initial application for funding has been made to the Council's LACER Fund.

5.2.2 The Group was thanked for the report and their work.

5.3 Connectivity Delivery Group

5.3.1 Graeme Harrison presented the written Group's Delivery Plan which was now finalised. The key developments since the Delivery Plan had been drawn up was the additional money made available which would mean an additional 1000 households would get superfast broadband. Graham noted that it was a great result for the Partners (including OIC and HIE) and politicians who had been lobbying the governments. 900 homes would still not be covered but there are strategies that can be developed.

5.3.2 The Group was thanked for the report and their work.

6. Local Child Poverty Action Report 2021/22

6.1 Anna Whelan spoke to the report. Now the Child Poverty Strategy had been agreed and the work to produce the annual reports was mainstreamed, she stated that the work of the Child Poverty Task force, which is a short life working group, had been completed. The Board agreed:

- 6.1.1 To approve the draft Local Child Poverty Action Report 2021-22 for submission to the Scottish Government.
- 6.1.2 To recommend to the Orkney Partnership Board that the Child Poverty Task Force be wound up.

7. Any Other Business

- 7.1 There were no matters of any other business.

8. Date of next meeting

16 December 2022.

The meeting closed at 15:03.

AFW/GV/150722