

Orkney Community Planning Partnership

PARTNERSHIP LIAISON GROUP

DRAFT Minutes of the thirteenth meeting held at 2.15pm on 10 December 2009
in the Lochans, Pickaquooy Centre

Present:

Elaine Grieve (<i>Chair</i>)	Orkney Data Sharing Partnership
Christina Bichan	Alcohol and Drugs Partnership
Peter Diamond	School Education
Karen Johnstone	Employability Strategic Group
Michelle Manzie	Orkney Health & Care
Gillian Morrison	Community Safety Partnership
Gill Smee	Strategic Children and Young Persons' Development Group
Karen Williams	Orkney Learning and Guidance Forum
Anna Whelan (<i>Secretary</i>)	OCPG Steering Group Secretary

By invitation:

Susan Shearer (<i>for item 3</i>)	Development Planning and Regeneration, OIC
Jim Love (<i>for item 2</i>)	Corporate Services Officer

1. Apologies for absence

Karen Crichton	Orkney Health & Care
Frazer Campbell	Orkney Equalities Forum
Ruth Kirkpatrick	Economic Development
Joyce Slater	Orkney Learning and Guidance Forum
Gail Anderson	Third Sector Forum
Gavin Barr	Planning Stakeholders group
Clare Gee	Orkney Arts Forum
Sally Inkster	Housing Development Forum
Hannah Laird	Community Planning Officer
Chessa Llewellyn-White	Community Economic Development Orkney Group
Maureen Spence	OIC Community Council Liaison

2. Group interview for high level review of Orkney Islands Council's customer services and online services

- 2.1 Jim Love led a group interview to gather views from PLG members on the Council's customer services and online services, to inform a high level review which is currently in train. The interview was part of an extensive

consultation exercise with OIC services and partner agencies. The subject triggered a productive discussion covering expectations of the service, which aspects were working well, what needed to be improved and additional services which might be provided. It was noted that all feedback would be treated confidentially and would be incorporated into the review.

3. Presentation on the Main Issues Report for the Local Development Plan

3.1 Susan Shearer gave a presentation on the main issues arising from the consultation undertaken to date on the new Local Development Plan. She tabled copies of the Local Development Plan Newsletter circulated to all households in Orkney. The main issues which had been identified were:

1. Defining sustainable communities—A sustainable settlement strategy for Orkney
2. Planning for housing and business in the countryside (Mainland and isles)
3. Business and economic development
4. Development quality within settlements
5. Developer contributions

3.2 A number of aspects of the main issues were discussed, including the best location to provide a site for gypsy traveller families, and how to ensure that they were able to access other services.

3.3 It was noted that the next stage of the consultation would be to produce a draft plan by August-October 2010.

4. Minute of the last meeting – 16 October 2009

4.1 The minutes were accepted subject to the following corrections:
4.1.1 The date at the top of the minutes should read 16 October 2009
4.1.2 Peter Diamond, Karen Johnstone and Gill Smee had all given apologies for the meeting.

5. Matters arising

5.1 It was noted that all actions in the minutes had been addressed.

5.2 The Financial Inclusion Development Day (item 2.2) has been provisionally scheduled for 13 January 2010.

6. Draft minutes of Steering Group meeting held 16 November 2009

6.1 The draft minutes were noted.

7. Draft agenda for Steering Group meeting on 15 December 2009

7.1 The draft agenda was noted.

- 7.2 The nature of item 9 on the agenda (Third Sector Task Force) was queried and it was noted that this referred to a recently published "Joint Statement on the Relationship at Local Level between Government and the Third Sector", as agreed by the Scottish Government, SOLACE, COSLA and SCVO. The statement set out a mutual vision of respect and partnership, with guidelines on matters such as funding, commissioning and evaluation.

8. Fairer Scotland Fund

- 8.1 Gillian Morrison introduced the report and minute of the Special Meeting of the Council's Policy and Resources Committee which had considered the future distribution of the Fairer Scotland Fund (FSF) at its meeting the previous week. The meeting had recommended that an initial sum of £320k, plus £25k towards infrastructure support, should be allocated to the Community Planning Partnership for distribution in advance of the Council's budget setting in February 2010. The Committee had also requested a report clarifying the procedure to be followed in disbursing the funds, which would be in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations and the statutory requirements of Following the Public Pound. The recommendation had subsequently been ratified by the full Council at the General Meeting of 8 December 2009. Consideration of individual bids from existing grant holders would be considered by the Steering Group at its meeting on 15 December 2009. The decision would enable the Council to advertise a permanent post of Community Planning Officer once it had been agreed by the Personnel Sub-Committee. The remaining £155k of Fairer Scotland Fund would be considered by the Council in February.
- 8.2 It was reported that Tanya McGill, who had been co-opted onto the Partnership Liaison Group sub-group which had been advising the Steering Group on the FSF, would attend the Steering Group meeting on 15 December to explain the procedure followed by the sub-group.
- 8.3 Gill Smee, a member of the sub-group, explained that the sub-group had adopted basic principles and had assumed budgets would be as for 2009-10, less any start-up costs. It was reported that VAO had subsequently queried the deduction of start-up costs from the Connect project, and suggested that all projects should have an opportunity to revisit their budgets for 2010-11. This would need to be reconciled with the urgent need for some projects to have their funding confirmed in order to secure match funding from elsewhere. One solution suggested was a phased process, with an initial tranche confirmed and a subsequent opportunity to revisit budgets for 2010-11. It was agreed to refer all the issues raised to the Steering Group on 15 December. **Action: EG/GM/AFW**

9. OCPP Review

- 9.1 It was reported that the review of community planning in Orkney, which had been conducted by the Corporate and Community Strategy section of the Council, was now complete and was to be reported to the Steering Group on 15 December. The report made a number of recommendations, some of which had already been actioned, while other recommendations

would require input from PLG and others. It was agreed that the review report would be circulated to OCPP members as soon as possible after it had been approved by the Steering Group. **Action: AFW**

10. Updates from thematic groups

10.1 Employability Strategic Group

10.1.1 Karen Johnstone reported that the group was progressing a number of work streams in support of National Outcomes 2 and 8. These included following up the recommendations of the 2008 report on Adult Employability in Orkney by Sheila Durie. Another strand was developing training in person-centered planning. Karen reported that the Employability Network for Scotland had started to make its events available to participants by video conference, and Orkney was taking advantage of this to mutual benefit.

10.2 Task Force

10.2.1 Anna Whelan reported that the Task Force had met for the second time on 2 November 2009. Business had included a presentation by George Baikie of the Scottish Agricultural College's consultancy arm on how Single Farm Payments had impacted on Orkney. It was noted that agriculture in Orkney was currently doing very well and the market was strong. The SFP distribution mechanism was due to change in 2013, which would probably reduce SFP payments. The Task Force was planning to invite an industry representative to all of its future meetings, and was looking to the oil industry for February 2010.

10.2.2 It was noted that the Task Force had also spent some time considering the incidence of personal debt in Orkney, informed by the national Citizens' Advice Service report "Drowning in Debt" and some local figures reported by VAO. These issues were to be explored further in the planned Development Day in January. The Task Force had agreed to seek ways to support the Orkney Citizens' Advice Bureau, which was severely stretched.

11. Any other business

11.1 Setting dates for thematic group meetings

Anna Whelan reported that the increasing numbers of OIC elected members participating in community planning meant that the Council needed to take into account the dates of thematic group meetings when finding dates for Council business. All thematic group representatives were asked to advise the Community Planning Officer, Hannah Laird, of their future meeting dates as soon as they were fixed, so that they could be included in the Council diary. **Action: All PLG members**

11.2 Michelle Manzie reported that Primary Care's recruitment drive for five Nurse Practitioners to be based in the isles had generated a good deal of interest, and she was now setting up the contractual arrangements.

interviews were planned for 11 January, to include a Loganair tour of the isles. It was agreed that Michelle would give an update on Primary Care at the PLG meeting of 5 March 2010. **Action: MM/HL**

- 11.3 Christina Bichan reported that Orkney Alcohol and Drug Partnership had been warned that its grant for 2010-11 was likely to fall by 26%, with a further 25% in 2011-12. The ADP Strategic Group would be meeting in January once allocations had been confirmed. All services would be under review and evidence of outcomes would be key to future decision making.

12. Date of next meeting

The next PLG meeting will be on 5 March 2010 at 9.15. Venue will be advised. Christina Bichan gave her apologies in advance for the meeting.

Anna Whelan
22 December 2009