

## Orkney Community Planning Partnership



### PARTNERSHIP LIAISON GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held at 2.15 am on 22 September 2011 in the Voluntary Action Orkney Board Room

#### **Present:**

Elaine Grieve ( <i>Chair</i> )	Data Sharing Partnership
Anna Whelan	OCPD Steering Group Secretary
Gill Smee	Services for Children and Young People Group
Karen Johnstone	Employability Strategic Group
Frazer Campbell	Orkney Equality Forum
John Richards	Housing Development Forum
Joyce Slater	Orkney Learning and Guidance Forum
Stuart Allison	Strategic Economic Forum
Maureen Spence	Community Council Liaison
Clare Gee	Heritage, Archaeology and Visitor Attraction Forum
Pam Besant	Arts Forum
Cathy Lyner	Educational Psychologist ( <i>by invitation</i> )
Hannah Thomson ( <i>Secretary</i> )	Community Planning Officer

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Gavin Barr	Planning Stakeholders Group
Michelle Manzie	Orkney Health and Care
Jon Humphries	Community Safety Partnership
Sally Inkster	Housing Development Forum
Chessa Llewellyn White	Community Economic Development Orkney Group
Gail Anderson	Third Sector Forum
Jon Humphreys	Community Safety Partnership
Christina Bichan	Healthy Communities Group

#### **2. Minute of the last meeting – 10 June 2011**

2.1 The minute was accepted as an accurate note of the meeting.

#### **3. Matters arising**

3.1 Clare Gee reported that the Culture Fund had been oversubscribed by almost double. They were able to fund 18 projects from the £26k pot including the Black History Month which the Equalities Forum had applied for.

#### **4. Draft minutes of the Steering Group meeting held on 5 September 2011**

4.1 The Steering Group had heard from the Chair and Vice Chair of Orkney Health & Care, Russ Madge and Mhairi Trickett for the six monthly progress report on the CHP.

4.2 Liam McArthur and Janet Whitely (our Scottish Government contact) attended the meeting to join the discussion on the Single Public Authority. Janet presented her paper which summarised the output of initial discussions among Scottish Government officers. This paper had been distributed to the PLG for information.

There was active enthusiasm in Government for the initiative, and the Christie report had recommended a pilot. It was agreed to support the proposed initial action of a meeting in Edinburgh to be organised by the Government for discussion with the leaders and chief executives of the relevant councils and health boards. It was also agreed that an Islands groups was needed at CoHI level (Convention of the Highlands and Islands) which should include HIE and the third sector in addition to councils and health boards.

4.3 Since this Steering Group took place, it had been announced that through Scottish Police constabularies will be moving towards a single force, and likewise for the Fire and Rescue service. It was felt that this model would work well with the Single Public Authority concept.

4.4 The SOA Annual Report 2010-11 was approved subject to endorsement by Council Policy and Resources Committee.

## **5. Proposed agenda items for the next Steering Group meeting on 7 November 2011**

5.1 The next meeting of the Steering Group would be likely to consider feedback from the Single Public Authority meeting to be held in Edinburgh. There would also be a response to the consultation on the Children's Rights Bill.

5.2 It was agreed that John Richards would attend the meeting to provide an update on the work of the Housing Forum, in particular relation to the draft Housing Strategy out for consultation.

**Action: JR**

5.3 It was also agreed that the School Leavers Destination Return would be presented to the 14 December Steering Group meeting and to the next meeting of the Employability Strategic Group.

5.4 Clare Gee reported that the François Matarasso Study Draft which considers what we need to do to maintain cultural heritage would be available towards the end of October. It was agreed that it would be submitted to either the November or December Steering Group meeting.

5.5 A paper is to be submitted to the next meeting of the Council's Policy and Resources Committee on heritage policy and how it would be better represented in Community Planning. This will be presented to the December meeting of the PLG.

5.6 The draft Economic Strategy will be presented to the December Steering Group.

## **6. The Orkney Plan**

6.1 The Orkney plan was to be in a draft for six weeks consultation at the end of September. The Plan was also subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

6.2 It was noted that in some outcomes there were still too many indicators, and that six per outcome would be best.

6.3 It was agreed that clarification would be sought regarding minimum timescales for consultation and that it would be clarified with PLG.

**Action: HT**

6.4 Anna was happy for the document to be circulated internally within partner organisations prior to public consultation.

## **7. Process of approving plans or strategies within the Partnership**

7.1 A discussion was held regarding misunderstanding from thematic groups as to the way in which a Community Planning document should be approved. Although in the majority of cases, the appropriate route had been taken with final sign off by the Steering Group, there were examples of strategies badged as Community Planning which had not been approved by the Partnership.

7.2 It was agreed that a protocol would be drawn up and taken back to the PLG for consideration.

**Action: AW/HT**

## **8. The future of the PLG**

8.1 The group discussed the future of the PLG based upon the feedback from Audit Scotland that there were too many groups within the Orkney Community Planning Partnership.

8.2 The group felt positively about the PLG, that it was a valuable network in which Chairs of thematic groups could “test the water” with plans or proposals before going to the Steering Group. They also commented on the usefulness of being kept informed of progress of other thematic groups and found that often there was relevance for their patch.

8.3 It was agreed that the group would remain as it had been, with some minor changes to be made to the terms of reference.

**Action: HT**

## **9. Updates from thematic groups**

9.1 John Richards provided an update on the Housing Forum. Key points of this update included:

- It was Chaired by Gareth Waterson from the Council’s Housing and Finance Section. Other key partners who attend the meetings are Orkney Islands Property Development Ltd, Orkney Housing Association Ltd and other organisations as required e.g. Scottish Water and NHS.
- The group has removed barriers to development of housing and has been a useful forum for all involved.
- A Housing Strategy was out for public consultation from September – October. Young people will also be consulted for the first time. There will be three consultation events in Kirkwall, St. Margarets Hope and Stromness. There will also be visits to the isles and youth sessions.
- Accommodation in Orkney is often not suitable to be lived in and there are around 700 households on the waiting list, with an increasing number of vulnerable applicants. Orkney also has the second worst level of fuel poverty in Scotland.
- It is expected that around 50% of houses in Orkney today will be here in 2050, and therefore improvements are needed on these homes now as early intervention.

- It was suggested that consultation for this could be tied in with the Youth Debate in the Chamber shortly as well as Youth Parliament. There was also the Voxur unit which had been successful with young people during the Tough Times consultation. Hannah to send John the OCPP logos for the front of the Strategy.

**Action: HT**

## **10. Any other business**

10.1 Cathy Lyner (Educational Psychologist) presented the group with Transitional Guidelines put together by the Council, NHS and Skills Development Scotland. Derek Aiken (Service Manager, All Age Disabilities) worked closely with Cathy in developing the guidelines. The guidelines were put together due to a perceived black hole faced by school leavers who were not able to sustain a positive destination such as employment or further education, and wanted a process of support.

10.2 The guidelines promote empowering young people and their families, and there is emphasis on Person Centered Planning. The guidelines include a format for collecting the young persons needs as an appendix. Cathy to e-mail this out to PLG via Hannah.

**Action: HT**

10.3 The School Leavers Destination Return for October 2011 showed that 94% moved into positive destinations where as in March 2011 it took a drop to 91.3%. It was anticipated that there would be likely to be another drop next time it was reported. Orkney remained ahead of the national target of 85% and was one of the few authority areas to have 100% follow up rates. This year was a larger cohort of leavers – 280 compared to 230 last year.

10.4 It was acknowledged that the Community Safety Partnership had been reconvened with Jon Humphries as the Chair.

**Date of next meeting** – to be set before the next meeting of the Steering Group on 14 December.