



Minutes of the meeting of the OCPP Steering Group  
held at 11.30am on 5 September 2011 in the Council Chamber

---

|               |  |   |
|---------------|--|---|
| Present:      | Stephen Hagan<br>John Ross Scott<br>James Stockan<br>Andrew Drever<br><br>Albert Tait<br>Rhoda Walker<br>Ken Grant<br>Gail Anderson<br>David Gill<br>Les Donaldson<br>Elaine Grieve<br>Hannah Thomson<br>Anna Whelan | Convener, Orkney Islands Council ( <i>Chair</i> )<br>Chair, NHS Orkney<br>Vice-Convener, Orkney Islands Council<br>Northern Joint Police Board and<br>Highlands & Islands Fire Board<br>Orkney Islands Council<br>NHS Orkney<br>Highlands & Islands Enterprise<br>Voluntary Action Orkney<br>Highlands & Islands Fire and Rescue Service<br>Northern Constabulary<br>Partnership Liaison Group<br>Community Planning Officer<br>Orkney Islands Council ( <i>Secretary</i> ) |
| By invitation | Russ Madge<br>Mairhi Trickett<br>Liam McArthur MSP<br>Janet Whitley  | Chair, Orkney Health & Care ( <i>item 1</i> )<br>Vice-Chair, Orkney Health & Care ( <i>item 1</i> )<br>Scottish Parliament<br>Scottish Government   |
| Apologies:    | Cathie Cowan   | Chief Executive, NHS Orkney   |

---

**1. Orkney Health and Care – report from the Chair**

- 1.1 The Chair and Vice-Chair of OHAC presented a verbal report on progress to date, highlighting the following points:
- OHAC broke even in 2010-11. This would be more challenging to achieve in 2011-12, but was hopefully still achievable.
  - The new supported housing at St Margaret's Hope (Braeburn) would be opening in November.
  - The new care facility planned for Kirkwall had been put on hold while the new hospital plans caught up as there was scope for a joint "campus of care".
  - A site had been identified for a new children's home to replace Camoran.
  - OHAC's "Lifestyle Base" project in partnership with the Pickaquoy Centre Trust, to provide leisure and support facilities for people with learning disabilities, had reached the design brief stage.
  - Orkney had received £320k from the Government's Change Fund to reshape care for older people and shifting the balance towards community-based care. Projects included creating 20 new generic Care

## **DRAFT**

Apprenticeship opportunities. £112k of the total would be managed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector, the highest percentage in Scotland.

- OHAC was moving towards a single management structure which would reduce duplication of assessments and unnecessary intrusion into service users' lives. The isles had been pro-active in managing the local integration of primary and social care services. Measures to reduce dependency were encouraging enablement and flexible respite was helping carers cope at home for longer.
- Rather than creating a third entity, as some had feared, OHAC had generated genuine teamwork, with a high degree of public engagement which had informed its new development plan, recently approved by the OHAC Board.

- 1.2 In discussion, concerns were raised that delays by the Scottish Government in authorising expenditure on the new Balfour hospital were delaying the Kirkwall care facility, since a decision had been made by OIC and NHSO to develop the two together and create a "campus of care". OIC had been ready to go to tender since December 2010 and could not hold off much longer. A decision was needed urgently because with local government elections in May 2012, OIC's political timescale was running out. Liam McArthur offered to raise the matter at Holyrood to speed up a decision. **Action: LMCA**

## **2. Draft minutes of meeting held 13 June 2011**

- 2.1 The minutes were agreed.

## **3. Matters arising**

### **3.1 Hyperbaric chamber (item 2.2)**

It was noted that use of the hyperbaric chamber continued to rise and Janet Whitley agreed to ask Alex Reid whether he had made any progress on links with the marine renewables industry. **Action: JW**

### **3.2 Recruitment of retained firefighters (item 2.5)**

David Gill reported that fire officers had been in touch with Chessa Llewellyn-White (HIE) and Christina Bichan (NHSO), who had agreed to promote recruitment locally through their networks.

## **4. Single Public Authority (Janet Whitley)**

- 4.1 Janet presented her paper which summarised the output of initial discussions among Scottish Government officers. There was active enthusiasm in Government for the initiative, and the Christie report had recommended a pilot.

- 4.2 In discussion the following points were noted:

- An early start on a pilot would be needed to get in ahead of other current reforms such as police and fire.

## **DRAFT**

- A small amount of resource might be available from the Government for project work to support a pilot. Since Orkney did not yet have parity of funding with the other island authorities it would need some help.
- There was a real gap to be filled in terms of sorting out the governance of the Health Board given its ongoing need to be able to bring in specialist services as needed.
- The concept of integrated service provision was perfectly aligned with the Government's purpose but officials in the Health Directorate had not been able to attend the initial meeting and confirm their commitment.
- HIE had no problem with the action points proposed in the paper and were in favour joint working. However, it was acknowledged that alignment was different to integration which would be a step change.

- 4.3 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. **Action: JW**
- 4.4 It was agreed that an Islands group 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. **Action: AVT**
- 4.5 It was agreed to circulate Janet's paper to OIC's elected members and corporate management team, the Health Board, and other OCPP partners, with a covering briefing note. **Action: AFW**

## **5. Police and FRS – update**

- 5.1 The Chair reported that he had attended the summit organised by COSLA the previous week, which had generated a good debate although unfortunately the Government were not there. Once the announcement had been made there would still be a lot to play for. It was anticipated that the Justice Secretary would announce a single Scottish force, with more local accountability, and potentially this could tie up quite well with the integrated services model.
- 5.2 It was noted that the council had received assurances about levels of authority in Orkney but there was no expectation that the current grades of Divisional Commander in Wick and Chief Inspector in Orkney would remain. While there might be more local control, it was anticipated that the new Scottish board might have a few as 12 members.
- 5.3 David Gill reported that the Fire & Rescue service were expecting an announcement on the same timescale as the Police. With regard to grades, he had been unable to fill a vacancy in Orkney for a district officer which he had been hoping to make a development post. He would be unable to run the HiFiREs scheme this year as he had no funding for it.

## **6. SOA 2009-11: Annual report for 2010-11**

## **DRAFT**

- 6.1 Hannah Thomson presented the final year's report on the current SOA which covered the two years up to the end of March 2011. The draft had gone to the boards of both NHSO and VAO, both of whom were happy with it. It was still to go to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee on 20 September.
- 6.2 Janet Whitley reported that Government thinking on SOA reporting was evolving and future emphasis would be on what was useful to CPPs rather than to Government. New guidance on SOAs was currently in preparation.
- 6.3 It was agreed to endorse the report subject to any changes requested by the P&R committee, provided that these were agreed with the Chair (who also chairs P&R). **Action: SH**

### **7. The Orkney Plan: Community Plan/SOA 2011-14**

- 7.1 The first draft of the new Orkney Plan was presented to the Steering Group for comments and amendments prior to its public release as a consultation draft at the end of September. It was noted that OCPP had pressed ahead with a new SOA in the absence of Government guidance in order to avoid planning blight, but this time had arranged the document in a more user-friendly way, with all of the content relevant to each national outcome grouped together. The Plan encompassed both the longer-term view of the previous community plan and the three-year targets characteristic of the SOA.
- 7.2 Steering Group members were asked to send any initial comments and amendments to the Secretary. **Action: All**

### **8. Any other business**

- 8.1 There was no other business.

### **9. Press release (to agree content of post-meeting press release)**

- 9.1 It was agreed that the press release would focus on the Single Public Authority, which would be referred to as "integrated service provision in the islands" for consistency with the Government. The release would also cover OHAC progress, and the new Orkney Plan. **Action: HT**

### **10. Date of next meeting**

- 10.1 The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 7 November 2011 from 9.00-11.00, venue to be advised.

---

Anna Whelan  
23 September 2011