



Minutes of the meeting of the OCPP Steering Group
held at 2.00pm on 22 April 2013 at Orkney Housing Association Ltd

Present:	Cllr Steven Heddle John Ross Scott Cllr Jim Foubister Cllr Andrew Drever Alistair Buchan Cathie Cowan Ken Grant Les Donaldson Billy Wilson Sally Inkster Anna Whelan	Convener, Orkney Islands Council (<i>Chair</i>) Chair, NHS Orkney Vice-Convener, Orkney Islands Council OIC Police and Fire Sub-Committee Orkney Islands Council NHS Orkney Highlands & Islands Enterprise Police Service of Scotland Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (<i>to 2.55pm</i>) Partnership Liaison Group Orkney Islands Council (<i>Secretary</i>)
Observing:	Dr Michael Foxley	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Board

The Chair welcomed Dr Michael Foxley and LSO Billy Wilson to the Steering Group.

1. Apologies for absence

Gail Anderson	Voluntary Action Orkney
David Hartley	OIC Communications (<i>for item 8</i>)

2. Draft minutes of meeting held 4 February 2013

2.1 Agreement of the minutes was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Les Donaldson.

3. Matters arising

3.1 Early Years Collaborative (item 2.4)

Noted in progress and a report would be presented to the next meeting.

3.2 Fair Trade (item 3.5)

A report was requested for the next meeting.

Action: AFW

3.3 Integrated service provision – Economic development (item 5.2)

It was agreed to present a written report to the next meeting.

Action: KG

3.4 Statement of Ambition (item 5.3)

Cathie Cowan tabled a paper which had been produced by a sub-group comprising NHSO, VAO, OHAL and HIE. It was agreed to discuss further at the facilitated session already planned.

Action: AFW

- 3.5 Women's Aid Orkney (items 7 and 11.1)
Sally Inkster reported that Women's Aid Orkney had formed a new Board which was scrutinising its financial position. A meeting was scheduled for later on 22 April to agree a budget for the year. No press release had been issued after the previous meeting but the support of the Steering Group had been noted and appreciated.
- 3.6 Constitutional reform (item 8.2)
- 3.6.1 Alistair Buchan reported that the issue continued to gain momentum nationally. Progress had been reported to the Council and it had been agreed to host a conference in Orkney in mid-September on behalf of the three islands councils. This would be discussed on 26 April following the COSLA meeting. The three councils had engaged with the Council for Peripheral Maritime Regions, a European group, and were planning to put up a paper for the next meeting of the CPMR in June which would be looking at the constitutional status of islands.
- 3.6.2 John Ross Scott suggested that it would be better for the Partnership to be involved together and it was agreed to share the Council's research with any partners interested, if they contacted Alistair or Sue Blackburn.
- 3.6.3 It was noted that a delegation from the Faroese government was visiting the Council on 7/8 May and agreed to extend an invitation to Steering Group members. **Action: AB**
- 3.7 Promotion of OCPP (item 9.1)
It was reported that David Hartley had been called away unavoidably at short notice and this item would be deferred to the June meeting. **Action: AFW**
- 3.8 Engagement of young people in community planning (item 10.1)
Noted that Gail Anderson and Anna Whelan were meeting later in the week to discuss. John Ross Scott reported that the schools had been supportive of their representatives on the Healthy Communities Group. It was suggested that the Partnership should seek to involve the newly elected MSYPs.
- 4. Police and Fire Reform – verbal updates**
- 4.1 Andrew Drever confirmed that both former bodies had now been dissolved and the national Police and FRS services established. Pat Watters and Alistair Hay had both visited Orkney and Stephen House was due to visit shortly. Julian Innes and Billy Wilson had been appointed Local Senior Officers for Police and Fire, and day-to-day management would continue to be provided by Les Donaldson and David Clark. Policing plans and interim fire plans were well advanced.
- 4.2 Billy Wilson reported that the new Scottish Fire and Rescue Service was putting the jigsaw together (having got the pieces and the picture on the box) and was aiming for a soft landing so that the public would not notice any difference in service. The SFRS aimed to be an effective community planning

partner and hoped to have additional resources to lend to better outcomes for the community as a whole. They planned to build on work to date across numerous strands of activity and push traditional boundaries to pay a broader role. Having run a pilot in the Western Isles they were now working on a local fire and rescue plan for Orkney.

- 4.3 In discussion the Steering Group welcomed its new members and was pleased to see a focus on pushing boundaries. It was queried whether the Coastguard would be brought into the SFRS and confirmed that the Board had no intention to subvert existing arrangements but would want to ensure the overall picture was effective and efficient.
- 4.4 Michael Foxley reported that the SFRS Board had good working relations and all meetings were held jointly between the Board and senior management. The four Board members in the North Hub group had oversight of 10 council areas, and would be in regular contact, although the others had been unable to attend the present meeting due to prior commitments. The SFRS was close to meeting its budget although it was subject to VAT of £6m and had no reserves to fall back on. It had been expected to self-insure but had opted to buy external insurance for three years. The Board was ambitious in terms of both its traditional role and opportunities to work in partnership, and was keen to establish a firefighting capacity at sea, which did not exist at present.

(Billy Wilson left the meeting at this point)

- 4.5 Les Donaldson reported that at 31 March 2013 Orkney had a 71.3% detection rate and 98% public satisfaction rate with the local police service. There was a huge appetite to ensure adequate staffing under the new regime. The new scrutiny arrangements were working well. Les advised that the new Chief Constable of Police Scotland, Stephen House, would be visiting Orkney on 6 June and it was agreed to arrange a meeting with community planning partners. **Action: LD**
- 4.6 The meeting discussed the current situation in Orkney with regard to alcohol and drug misuse. Alcohol was a huge problem, with 67% of custodies alcohol-related, and the current approach of counselling was not proving effective. Alcohol Focus Scotland had calculated the cost to Orkney at £1.3m minimum. The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership had achieved a focus on outcomes and secured additional resource due to Orkney's poor record. Les Donaldson noted that the police were trying to keep up momentum following the successful Battered event and had met with partner agencies re. street order etc. Alistair Buchan noted that it seemed inevitable that hard drugs would soon become a problem in Orkney, given that Shetland had 600 registered users and up to three times as many unofficial users. Les reported that seizures were the main measure of usage and Orkney's rates were very low, but they relied on local intelligence which was scarce. It might be time to reconsider putting local resource into a drugs dog.

- 4.7 It was suggested that the issue of alcohol and drugs could form part of the facilitated discussion already planned, one outcome of which might be a new focus on three or four key issues for partnership action. **Action: AFW**

5. Orkney Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-16

- 5.1 The draft SOA was discussed and it was noted that the older population was rising rapidly. The drift in population away from the isles might moderate the proposed rise in passenger traffic on internal ferries. It was noted that the Scottish Government was introducing a strategy for housing older people, which could be included in section 15 at the next iteration.
- 5.2 It was reported that the Scottish Government was arranging for panels of assessors to evaluate all the draft SOAs against the criteria in the guidance and provide feedback, which was expected in late May. The Government acknowledged that this would be too late to influence the current SOA cycle, but it was hoped that it would be helpful in preparing for the next iteration in 2014.
- 5.3 It was noted that Les Donaldson and Anna Whelan had met recently to discuss alignment of the SOA indicators with the local indicators to be included in the Local Policing Plan for Orkney, currently in preparation. A number of indicators were under consideration for addition to section 9, subject to agreement with the Chair of the Community Safety Partnership.
- 5.3 It was noted that an official consultation draft would be released the following week and agreed that any amendments to be included in the consultation draft should be sent to the Secretary by 26 April. Subsequent amendments could be included in the final draft. **Action: All**

6. Improving community planning in Scotland – Audit Scotland report

- 6.1 Anna Whelan reported that the audit report had been presented to a recent meeting of the Community Planning Network, where Audit Scotland had acknowledged that it was based on only three pilot audits of community planning partnerships, plus findings from previous work. The report found that community planning was not being taken seriously by councils, nor adequately supported by central government. CPPs were unclear of their purpose and there was an accountability vacuum. SOAs had been ineffective and CPPs had little influence over partners' mainstream resources. The conversation about prevention was still in the early stages. Audit Scotland had commissioned an evaluation of the pilot audits and planned to report further in due course identifying progress and barriers.
- 6.2 It was felt that OCPP functioned better than the report suggested, and some issues such as pooling resources were easier in a smaller partnership. The forthcoming Bill was expected to require CPPs to become incorporated bodies and to adopt integrated budgets on the lead agency model. It was noted that the Scottish Government equated CPPs with councils, when enforcing change, but Orkney Islands Council saw its role as facilitative rather than

pushy: evolution rather than revolution. It was agreed to make use of those elements of the report which could be helpful, and use it for reference in the planned workshop.

7. Promotion of OCPP

7.1 This item was held over to a future meeting.

8. Any other business

8.1 John Ross Scott raised the possibility of the Chair of Orkney Health and Care joining the Steering Group. It was suggested that the Partnership should wait to see what was in the new legislation regarding the composition of CPP boards. Cathie Cowan offered to provide a briefing note on membership of CPP boards based on the work of the national implementation group.

Action: CC

9. Press release

9.1 It was suggested that a representative of the OIC Communications team be invited to attend future meetings to advise on press releases.

9.2 From the present meeting, it was agreed to issue a press release on the launch of the new police and fire services for Scotland and note the attendance in Orkney of Michael Foxley and Billy Wilson.

Action: AFW

10. Date of next meeting

10.1 The next meeting was confirmed to be on 26 June 2013 at 11.00.

AFW
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