



Steering Group Orkney Community Planning Partnership

Minutes of the meeting of the OCPP Steering Group
held at 11.00am on 26 June 2013 in the Council Chamber

Present:	Cllr Steven Heddle John Ross Scott Cllr Jim Foubister Cllr Andrew Drever Ian Ross Alistair Buchan Gail Anderson Ken Grant Les Donaldson Robert Scott Billy Wilson Sally Inkster Gillian Morrison Anna Whelan	Convener, Orkney Islands Council (<i>Chair</i>) Chair, NHS Orkney Vice-Convener, Orkney Islands Council OIC Police and Fire Sub-Committee Scottish Police Authority Orkney Islands Council Voluntary Action Orkney Highlands & Islands Enterprise Police Service of Scotland Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Partnership Liaison Group Orkney Islands Council Orkney Islands Council (<i>Secretary</i>)
Observing:	Robin Iffla	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Board
By invitation:	Marie O'Sullivan Ian Davidson Richard Rollison David Milne	Orkney Health and Care Scottish Government Scottish Government Scottish Government

The Chair welcomed Robin Iffla, Ian Ross and Robert Scott to the Steering Group.

1. Apologies for absence

Cathie Cowan	NHS Orkney
David Hartley	OIC Communications (<i>for item 8</i>)

2. Draft minutes of meeting held 22 April 2013

2.1 Billy Wilson advised some corrections required to para 4.2.

2.2 SFRS advised that their Board members did not wish to be listed as members of the Steering Group as they felt their role was to scrutinise the efficacy of SFRS officer participation in the group and there was a potential conflict of interest. **Action: AFW**

2.3 Subject to these amendments the minutes were agreed.

3. Matters arising

- 3.1 Fair Trade (item 3.2)
This will be reported to the next meeting.
- 3.2 Integrated service provision – Economic Development (item 3.3)
A report was tabled for consideration under AOB.
- 3.3 Faroese Government visit to Orkney (item 3.6.3)
John Ross Scott reported that he had attended this session which he had found to be an eye-opener and very relevant to the current debate on constitutional reform.
- 3.4 Promotion of OCPP (item 3.7)
It was agreed to try to run this item again at the September meeting.
Action: AFW
- 3.5 Police and Fire Reform (item 4.5)
It was reported that Chief Constable Stephen House had visited Orkney on 6 June and had met with representatives of the OCPP and OIC.

4. Early Years Collaborative

- 4.1 Marie O'Sullivan introduced the draft report which was to be submitted to the Scottish Government. The following points were noted:
- Work had started on Orkney's new Integrated Children's Services Plan;
 - Confirmation of ongoing funding for Childsmile was awaited;
 - OHAC had been working to identify gaps in services, especially on the isles and remoter parts of Mainland;
 - Councillor Janice Annal was OIC Champion for the EYC;
 - Teams from OHAC had attended national events for EYC participants;
 - The draft report included an analysis of expenditure.
 - Child obesity in Orkney was the highest in Scotland, and the plan included development of a child obesity strategy.
 - There had as yet been no confirmation of Counterweight funding.
- 4.2 It was noted that the funding announced nationally for the EYC was not new money but was coming from contingencies. It had not been spent in Orkney last year as there was a lack of clarity over its whereabouts. The way had now been cleared to appoint to a joint post to support the EYC. The point was made that Orkney had a smaller allocation of funds for EYC than the other islands authorities, even though the Council regularly emphasised the need for de minimis funding for new initiatives. It was agreed this comment should be included in the response.
Action: MO'S

5. Services for children and young people in Orkney: Report of a pilot joint inspection, 20 May 2013

- 5.1 Marie O'Sullivan reported that the joint inspection was part of a pilot programme and Orkney was one of the first to be inspected. OHAC would normally be asked to complete an action plan within six weeks, but had challenged one of their scores. The inspectors had asked for more

information and would be coming back in mid-August, so the six weeks would start from then.

- 5.2 Marie reported that the Care Inspectorate had issued self-assessment documentation, but only a week before their visit. A key strength was that staff worked well with children, but there were issues around sharing information and public perception. It was unclear why some areas of GIRFEC (Getting it right for every child) were more advanced than others. OHAC was addressing areas scored as "adequate" in the inspection report.
- 5.3 Alistair Buchan commented that the report contained much that was good but there were serious matters to be considered, which did not reflect on Marie's team on the front line. Inspection regimes could be frustrating but it was important to get good results. The Partnership would need to keep an eye on matters and receive regular reports.
- 5.4 The Chair noted that some clear improvements had been identified in the report. A recurrent theme was that the Integrated Children's Services Plan was out of date. In mitigation, the service had undergone a lot of change which was not without risk and it was galling that forthcoming legislation would lead to still more change.
- 5.5 Janice Annal noted that the report had been somewhat scathing regarding areas of joint working and especially joint budgeting. There were some innovative solutions available and Orkney should adopt one before it was imposed.
- 5.6 It was noted that the report did not pick up on the effort put in by the voluntary sector and the role of the third sector as a major stakeholder in strong and effective partnership working was not reflected in the scoring.
- 5.7 A draft improvement report was requested for the next meeting of the Steering group on 4 September. **Action: MO'S**

6. Police and Fire Reform

- 6.1 Les Donaldson reported that the Chief Constable had visited Orkney on 6 June and met with OCPP partners. He had been keen to reinforce the SPA's commitment to local policing and resourcing. Les was now working on Orkney's policing plan and ward plans.
- 6.2 The reporting route for minutes of the Police and Fire Sub-Committee was queried, and it was suggested that they could go to the OCPP's Community Safety Partnership in addition to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee.
- 6.3 Ian Ross noted that he was delighted to join the Steering Group. He would be the primary contact for the SPA but his Board colleague Brian Barber might attend on occasion. Ian noted that the key difference in structure between the new police and fire services was that the police had established two bodies,

with the SPA responsible for scrutiny and governance. The strategic police plan was to be revisited in light of feedback from the brief consultation undertaken. It emphasised local diversity, individual policing needs, and equitable access to services. The public had noticed no change on 1 April 2013, which was as it should be.

- 6.4 Ian noted that the SPA Board met on a regular basis moving around the country and would meet in Orkney soon. There had been challenges, e.g. in interpreting the Act. The SPA had good relations with Police Scotland and early issues over structure had been resolved. The SPA was accountable for the budget and also managed national forensic services.
- 6.5 For the SFRS, Billy Wilson reported that he was taking a performance report to the Police and Fire Sub-Committee. Orkney was generally very safe with low levels of fires. The SFRS was committed to no public facing difference pre- and post-1 April, but there would be improved access to national resources e.g. a serious fire recently where the local service was supported by fire investigation officers from Aberdeen. The SFRS strategic plan would be out for consultation in July, and finalised in September, after which local plans would be developed.
- 6.6 In discussion it was noted that there was scope for joint synergy, which would be easiest to achieve if embedded in strategy. For the SFRS, Local Senior Officers were empowered by the Chief Officer to improve local resources and safety in the best interests of the community. Andrew Drever noted that he was relaxed about progress, as Chair of the Police and Fire Sub-Committee.
- 6.7 It was agreed to note the updates and to request a discussion paper for a future meeting which considered forms of reporting and who needed to see what. **Action: AFW/LD/BW**

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

- 7.1 Introducing the final draft, the Secretary noted that since the last meeting the SOA had been released in draft for public consultation. It had also been edited so that it was accessible to assistive technology (machine readers), and it was intended that there would be just the one accessible version issued, which would be updated annually, both to minimise workload and to avoid having multiple versions in circulation. There had been very few changes requested in the course of the public consultation, probably because partner agencies had already engaged well with the SOA and had been instrumental in compiling it.
- 7.2 On behalf of the Scottish Government's Quality Assurance (QA) team, Ian Davidson noted that the QA process included officers from all public agencies but the others had been able to attend the meeting today. The process was not about scrutiny or audit, but about how well SOAs reflected national drivers such as the Christie commission, Statement of Ambition etc. The recent Audit Scotland report "Improving community planning in Scotland" had found that nowhere was yet meeting aspirations and there was a need to remobilise

support for community planning. Ministers would be asked to sign off SOAs but would also be seeking to add value, and the team would be identifying "asks" they could take back.

- 7.3 Ian reported that Orkney's SOA was considered by the QA team to be a very good community plan with a strong sense of geography, demography and strategic priorities. A sense of place and community engagement came through strongly. The main issues identified by the QA team – which had already been discussed with Council representatives – were:
- Does the Steering Group have a clear "line of sight" as a Board?
 - What differences do we expect to see and how will we know?
 - How can we identify and manage OCPP resources collectively?
 - What priorities are we really going to focus on and put resources into?
- 7.4 Ian reported that the QA team had not found much evidence in the SOA of engagement with the business community. Steering group members felt that this did not reflect the reality in Orkney, where engagement was very strong and beyond the norm. HIE participated in strong industry associations such as Orkney Quality Food and Drink, the Craft Association, Orkney Renewable Forum etc, all of which were ongoing and part of Orkney's economic strategy. It was agreed to amend the text of the SOA to reflect this. **Action: KG/AFW**
- 7.5 With regard to collective resource management, it was noted that nobody had yet worked out how to achieve this and it was a work in progress nationally. The first step would be to establish a profile of a CPP's spending, but even this was difficult when many public sector delivery agencies did not have local budgets, as demonstrated in Orkney's SOA.
- 7.6 The Chair noted that Orkney's "long view" was not new but the continuation of 30+ years of joint working in pursuit of long term goals. Orkney had contributed a proposal to the Christie Commission for the expansion of local democracy via the Single Public Authority concept, and it was now pursuing the "Our islands, our future" agenda jointly with the other islands partnerships.
- 7.7 In discussion it was observed that community planning worked very well in Orkney, and the original SOA had helped give a new sense of direction. Pooled budgets were not a panacea and could undermine local democracy, but there was a case for pooling resources for preventative work. Orkney had a strong track record for co-financing projects. It was agreed that the issues identified by the QA team would be included on the agenda to be considered by the Steering Group at its forthcoming workshop. **Action: AFW**
- 7.8 John Ross Scott reported that the draft SOA had been considered by the NHSO Board on 25 June and some minor points raised but these had not yet been documented. It was agreed that they should be passed to the Secretary and, if amendments were required to the draft, the amended draft would be circulated to Steering Group members for agreement. Subject to this proviso, the draft SOA was approved. **Action: JRS/AFW**

8. Arrangements for facilitated development workshop for Steering Group

8.1 The Secretary reported that a facilitator had been selected provisionally and would visit Orkney in July for a more detailed discussion of the Steering Group's requirements, following which the arrangement would be firmed up. Members would be contacted regarding a date, likely to be around the first week in October. The workshop would focus on the role of the Steering Group in taking forward the SOA and would include (among other things) consideration of the following:

- Feedback received from the QA team on Orkney's SOA
- The COSLA/Scottish Government "Statement of Ambition" of March 2012
- The Audit Scotland report on "Improving community planning in Scotland"

9. Any other business

9.1 Integrated service provision – Economic Development

Ken Grant tabled an updating report on joint working in economic development. It was observed that to achieve Orkney's stated goals would also require the partnership of the Scottish Government, since progress towards the "long view" was governed by external factors. The report was noted.

9.2 Our islands: Our future

Alistair Buchan reported that the initiative launched by the three islands authorities had been well received by the Islands Commission of CoHI, which had endorsed their campaign for recognition and subsidiarity. Information was available on the Council website. Wider engagement was ongoing and a conference would be held in Orkney around 19/20 September, to which partner agencies would be invited subject to capacity. A paper summarising progress was requested for the next meeting of the Steering Group on 4 September.

Action: AB

9.3 John Ross Scott alerted members to some upcoming dates in NHSO's calendar:

- 16 July – David Garbutt (Chairman of SAS) visiting Orkney
- 24 July – Cabinet Secretary Alex Neil visiting NHS Orkney
- 30 September – NHS Orkney Annual Review

9.4 Gail Anderson noted that Calum Irving, Chief Executive of Voluntary Action Scotland would be visiting Orkney around 4 September and would like to attend the Steering Group meeting. It was agreed to invite Mr Irving to the meeting.

Action: GA/AFW

10. Press release

10.1 Kirsty Groundwater noted that the Press Office had found it hard to interest news editors in the proceedings of the Steering Group. She suggested focusing on two items: the EYC report and the SOA. This was agreed.

Action: AFW/KG

11. Date of next meeting

11.1 The next meeting was scheduled for 4 September 2013 at 3.00pm.

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