



that the Bill had been discussed at the NHS Board and he would feed back their views.

**Action: JRS**

3.4 Environment Strategy (item 8.2)

It was queried whether the action plan had been amended to specify named leads for each action and agreed to follow up.

**Action: AFW**

3.5 Communications Strategy (item 10.3)

It was confirmed this was in hand with a view to the March meeting.

3.6 Visitor experiences on the isles (item 11.6)

GA confirmed this matter was in progress.

3.7 Onshore cruise passenger management (item 11.8)

It was confirmed this matter had been covered by an existing meeting.

**4. Our Islands Our Future**

4.1 The Chair tabled three items relating to a recent seminar on OIOF for Elected Members, and presented a summary of the seminar content (appended to this minute). The conference in September 2013 had been worthwhile in that it had validated the direction taken and attracted welcome academic interest. OIOF partners had begun negotiating with the UK government via Alistair Carmichael and officers from the Scotland Office were meeting with OIC that afternoon. A meeting with Johan Lamont of Scottish Labour had also been arranged. A four page insert was to be placed in the Orcadian, and a series of public meetings was planned in Dounby, Holm, Stromness and Kirkwall, with all community councils to be networked in. The meetings would start with a presentation which the Chair had piloted with the Partnership Liaison Group the previous week and would be amending following feedback from the PLG. The campaign's demands included constitutional protection for local government, island-proofing of policy, improved EU representation, and fiscal and regulatory powers to optimise community benefit. OIC was keen to work closely within OCPP regarding the ongoing issue of a Single Public Authority to ensure public sector reform was appropriate to the area. The campaign had brought all three island governments closer than ever before and the immediate target was to achieve a concordat with the UK government in advance of the Scottish independence referendum. The OIOF would be meeting next in Lerwick on 17 Jan 2014 and in Stornoway in March, with Kirkwall the next venue. The Chair noted that the Council would press ahead with the campaign, but the likelihood of success would be greater with OCPP support.

4.2 In discussion, AB noted that the campaign was maintaining a high profile with a feature on Sky TV the previous day. Three responses had been made to the initial call for evidence from the new Commission on Strengthening Local Democracy, from OIC, OIOF and OCPP. Practical results were already starting to be seen in discussions with civil servants. A partnership budget was in place for the next year.

- 4.3 CC requested a presentation to the NHSO Board, especially regarding the Single Public Authority. There was a risk of staff leaving Orkney if the situation was not made clear.
- 4.4 JRS congratulated the Chair and his peers on winning the Local Politician of the Year award. He noted that the Council was rightly driving the campaign but needed to be inclusive. It was important for partners to know all the facts to feel linked in. It was agreed progress could only be by consensus.
- 4.5 It was queried whether the opportunity had been taken to highlight the difference in budget between the three island groups, with both OIC and NHSO receiving less per head than the other two. AB noted that the Council had taken a longstanding position over the lack of equity and its research could probably benefit from updating.
- 4.6 GA noted that there would be an impact on the Third Sector and it could probably contribute through its direct contact with communities. It was agreed that the Chair would make a presentation on OIOF to the Third Sector Forum.

**Action: GA/SH**

## **5. Integrated Children's Services Plan**

- 5.1 On behalf of Marie O'Sullivan, GA presented the final iteration of the Integrated Children's Service Plan for endorsement. In discussion it was noted that the plan period was already nearly over and a progress report was requested, along with a draft of the next year's plan. In addition, given the significance of the plan, the ICSP Group would be expected to report progress and performance to relevant OIC committees and partner bodies.
- 5.2 Given that the plan needed to be adopted before it could be reported on, it was agreed to approve it, subject to the establishment of a robust reporting mechanism.

**Action: MO'S/GA**

## **6. Community Planning Audit**

- 6.1 The CP Audit Team presented an update on their scoping work to date and plans for the Orkney audit programme (appended to this minute). The timetable included three formal reporting stages to the OCPP Steering Group in January, June and August, with publication scheduled for October 2014. The team comprised the three members in attendance plus Lynn Russell (Performance Auditor). The purpose of the current meeting was to test out their initial findings from scrutiny of the Single Outcome Agreement and desk-based research. It was proposed to focus the audit on the Partnership's response to three priority areas: the ageing population, alcohol use and rural sustainability.
- 6.2 In discussion it was queried whether it was necessary to highlight alcohol use and concluded that it was an issue of major concern to many agencies in Orkney. It was also agreed that the ageing population should not be viewed as a problem. There was no weakness in focusing on things that OCPP

could improve. The audit would be a welcome opportunity to showcase positive examples of rural sustainability, while highlighting constraints on development.

- 6.3 It was confirmed that Mark McCabe would attend the next Steering Group meeting on 27 March to present an update on the audit.

## 7. Any other business

### 7.1 New hospital site

JRS reported that an evening meeting open to the public would be held on 4 February to determine the site for the new hospital. NHSO appreciated the help offered by OIC towards infrastructure support.

### 7.2 Police Reform

AB reported that following negotiations the arrangements for the police counter in Stromness were back on track. Re. traffic wardens, Police Scotland had agreed to extend the current service by a month to 3 March to allow OIC to take a report to the Policy & Resources Committee.

### 7.3 Fire Reform

Re. fire control rooms, it was confirmed that the Inverness control room was to be downgraded to an "Asset Resource Centre" and no longer be an emergency response unit. While local police and fire representatives were unable to comment formally, it was agreed that the Chair should write urgently on behalf of the OCPP to the North Hub Board Members of the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, expressing their concern in advance of the SFRS Board meeting due to be held on 30 January and asking that North Hub members should seek to have the decision reversed. **Action: SH/AFW**

### 7.4 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Local Plan 2014-17

It was noted that the draft SFRS local plan was currently out for consultation with responses due by 14 February. **Action: All**

### 7.5 Drug sniffer dog

LD reported that the private company backing the project was still committed and it was hoped in addition to secure funding from the Orkney Alcohol & Drugs Partnership. A positive outcome was anticipated.

## 8. Date of next meeting

- 8.1 The next regular meeting was scheduled for 27 March 2014 at 14.00.

- 8.2 The second Development Workshop was scheduled for 3 Feb 2014 at the St Magnus Centre.

AFW  
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