

STRATEGIC ECONOMIC FORUM

Meeting dates this year:

11 October 2012 (procurement seminar)
6 July 2012
6 March 2012
26 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

January 2013

Chair: Councillor Stockan
Elected Member: James Stockan
Secretary: Stuart Allison/Anna Whelan
PLG representative: Stuart Allison

Minutes:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/COMMUNITYPLANNING/index.asp?pageid=2850>

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Orkney's Economy (National Outcome 1)

Recent achievements and challenges

The Strategic Economic Forum was formed in March 2011 from the former Task Force, and has met regularly since then. Its purpose is to support Orkney's businesses and promote new enterprise.

A recurring topic is public sector procurement, and on 11 October 2012 the Strategic Economic Forum hosted an open seminar, The Procurement Maze, with visiting speakers representing the Scottish Government, Construction Skills Scotland and the Social Value Lab. Topics covered included procurement reform, the Public Contracts Scotland portal, the Client-Based Approach toolkit and Social Return on Investment. The seminar was well attended by representatives from the private, public and third sectors, and generated a good deal of lively debate. This will be followed up by the SEF at its next meeting in the early new year.

At every meeting, the Forum invites a visiting speaker to discuss the business environment and prospects for their sector in Orkney. This permits the Forum to engage in depth with representatives of a wide range of business sectors without over-committing any one individual. Sectors covered to date include agriculture, marine renewables facilitation (EMEC), inshore fishing, ICIT/marine renewables research, jewellery manufacture, entrepreneurship, archaeology, the business side of the arts in Orkney, and Orkney's craft industries. Future plans include the construction sector and food/drink producers.

EMPLOYABILITY STRATEGIC GROUP

Meeting dates this year:

29 November 2012
11 October 2012
23 August 2012
24 May 2012
21 March 2012
24 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

Not yet set

Chair: Karen Johnstone, Job Centre Plus
Elected Member: Harvey Johnston
Secretary: Hannah Thomson
PLG representative: Karen Johnstone

Minutes:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/COMMUNITYPLANNING/index.asp?pageid=2313>

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Employment (National Outcome 2)

Recent achievements and challenges

- A subgroup has been created specifically for youth employment due to the rising number of young unemployed people in Orkney. The group will create a work plan focussed on looked after children and other young people. The work plan would then be taken back to the full ESG. The group is chaired by Karen Greaves and will look to establish the current picture for young people and identify gaps amongst service providers.
- A report '*A Corporate, Community Planning Approach to Employability*' developed by this group highlighted several issues within the employability services provided within Orkney – there was a cluttered and potentially duplicated approach to provision, and a culture change required in relation to work placements. In addition to this, it was well established that the current day centre provision for adults with learning and physical disabilities required modernisation. As a result of this, a short life working group was established and developed an Employability Hub proposal whereby a multiagency co-located employment service would operate under an Orkney Health and Care model with staff remaining employed by their respective organisation.
- An Employability Pipeline was developed by the group as a tool for practitioners to use in determining various organisations providing services at particular stages for example training or work placement.
- "Operation Employability" is the working title given to a successful Partnership bid made by the Group. The Employment Worker post is employed by Employability Orkney and is based in the Job Centre Plus. The post was originally funded by DWP money and an extra years funding has been met by several partners and LEADER funding. The worker

Thematic group update for Steering Group 7 December 2012

progresses the work of “Operation Employability” which as of March had met the following targets:

- Engaged with all partners
- Worked with 40 customers
- Engaged with 45 employers
- Secured 29 employment opportunities (18 work experience, 11 paid employment)
- Healthy Working Lives – 27 employers provided with basic leaflet / 6 copies of Health Profits Booklet taken up / 1 Occupational Health visit arranged
- Sector Based Work Academies (SBWA) offer training, work experience and a guaranteed interview for those people who need extra support in accessing employment, but are close to securing a job. The store ‘Dealz’ due to open an outlet in Kirkwall during August expressed interest in running with a SBWA and through this to guarantee interviews. This is being considered further by JCP, Orkney College and Skills Development Scotland.
- The School Leaver Destination Return is due to be published shortly and is expected to show that although there is a slight decline in positive destinations, that the picture remained good. FE dropout figure causing concern.
- Welfare Reform/Universal Credit information has been shared through the group and what likely impact the changes will have on clients in Orkney.

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY LEARNING GROUP

Meeting dates in 2012:

9 October 2012
15 June 2012
24 May 2012
6 March 2012

Future meeting dates:

Early in the New Year

Chair: Karen Greaves, Council
Elected Member: Bill Stout
Secretary:
PLG representative: Karen Greaves

Minutes: Not currently published on the website
Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Research and Training (National Outcome 3)

Recent achievements and challenges

The Strategic Community Learning Group's Evaluation Event was held on the 19th September 2012 and was well attended by a broad representation from partners. Participants were asked to report on what was working well and gaps in the current provision. From this each group identified priorities. Priorities around the themes of communication, building capacity, volunteering, partnership and preventative services were suggested.

These priorities will now be considered and a draft workplan for the SCLG will be considered at the next meeting due to take place in the new year.

The SCLG has recently monitored progress on the projects for 'English for Speakers of Other Languages' (ESOL).

The SCLG will now consider the outcome of the evaluation event and the implementation of the new CLD Strategic Guidance and develop a workplan for the group.

SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Meeting dates in 2012:

13 April 2012
16 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

Not yet set

Chair: Marie O'Sullivan, Council
Elected Members: Janice Annal and John Richards

Secretary: Claire Laughton
PLG representative: Marie O'Sullivan

Minutes: Not currently published on the website
Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Education and Improving Life Chances (National Outcomes 4 and 8)

Recent achievements and challenges

The group are planning to look at ways to take forward the next Integrated Children's Services Plan. They are proposing to hold a session at the end of August/Sept to do this.

There was an Integrated Children's Service Plan meeting in September to review the priorities from the previous integrated plan and develop some a high level outcome focused one for this year based around three particular age groups: 0-8, 9-15, 16-25. We have recently carried out an exercise as part of youth week asking the children and young people how they want to be communicated with. This work has not yet been collated but will be used to test out the outcomes measures which were produced from the September workshop.

CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP

Meeting dates in 2012:

6 December 2012
11 October 2012
15 March 2012

Future meeting dates:

13 June 2013
7 March 2013

Chair: Janice Annal
Elected Members: Janice Annal and John Richards
Secretary: Claire Laughton
PLG representative: Marie O'Sullivan

Minutes: Not currently published on the website
Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Early Years (National Outcome 5)

Recent achievements and challenges

Early Years Change Fund Program Event – with the feedback gathered from the event held in March, practitioners will be asking families with children between the ages 0-5, a short questionnaire. This will be to recognise if the feedback gathered in March is what families are actually wanting. After the data is collected a short planning group/event will meet in September to explore the priorities.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES GROUP

Meeting dates in 2012:

18 October 2012
17 July 2012
19 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

15 January 2013

Chair: John Ross Scott, NHS Orkney
Elected Member: Russ Madge
Secretary: Derek Curtis
PLG representative: Suzanne Baird

Minutes: Not currently published on the website

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Health (National Outcome 6)

Recent achievements and challenges

The Healthy Communities Group is comprised of a range of agencies involved with creating healthier communities including NHS Orkney, Scottish Health Council, Orkney Islands Council and voluntary groups such as Age Concern. Since the group was reformed in 2010 they have developed a [Joint Health Improvement Strategy 'Working Together for Better Health'](#) 2011-14, which feeds into the Orkney Community Plan and sets out the strategic framework for improving health in Orkney. The group has also received topical presentations on obesity and smoking and has been involved with developing the relevant aspects of the new Single Outcome Agreement.

At its October 12 meeting, the group adopted Terms of reference and an amended list of members as many people on the list have moved on. It was also decided to create a work plan with specific actions from the priorities identified in the Joint Health Improvement Strategy. This will be developed in future meetings and will be submitted to the Steering Group for information

ORKNEY EQUALITY FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

21 September 2012
18 May 2012
16 February 2012

Future meeting dates:

14 December 2012
1 March 2013
24 May 2013
13 September 2013
13 December 2013

Chair: Frazer Campbell, Blide Trust
Elected Member: Gwenda Shearer
Secretary: Marie Love
PLG representative: Frazer Campbell

Minutes:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/COMMUNITYPLANNING/index.asp?pageid=1740&msg=Content%20Updated>

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Equalities (National Outcome 7)

Recent achievements and challenges

In spring 2012 the Forum discussed the findings from the Scottish Social Attitudes Survey 2010 which looked at attitudes towards discrimination and positive action. While the results made clear that most people in Scotland don't hold discriminatory views, it showed that there are still some groups who experience intolerance. The Forum decided to find out whether this was reflective of views in Orkney and organised their own version of the survey during the summer. The results, which will be made publicly available, were in general very similar to the results of the Scottish Social Attitudes Survey, with the answers to some questions being more positive.

The Forum submitted responses to the following consultations:

- MSP Joe FitzPatrick's Proposed Responsible Parking (Scotland) Bill Consultation
- MSP Mark Griffin's British Sign Language (BSL) (Scotland) Consultation

The Forum contributed to preparation of the Orkney Community Planning Partnership Equality and Diversity Strategy which was subsequently approved by the Steering Group and partner agencies.

In September 2012 the Forum approved its first Annual Report detailing its activities for the year ending 31 May 2012 and this has now been published on the Orkney Communities website.

In September 2012 Orkney Equality Forum merged with the NHS Equality and Diversity Group; this will avoid duplication of subject matter and it is also helpful to streamline the number of meetings people have to attend. The minutes from the Forum are sent to NHS Orkney for inclusion on the Involving People Committee agenda.

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Meeting dates in 2012:

6 December 2012

7 June 2012

1 March 2012

Future meeting dates:

Not yet set

Chair: Jon Humphreys, Council
Elected Member: Andrew Drever
Secretary: Gillian Learmonth/Joyce Gray
PLG representative: Jon Humphreys

Minutes:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/COMMUNITYPLANNING/index.asp?pageid=923>

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Community Safety (National Outcome 9)

Recent achievements and challenges

At its December meeting, the Community Safety Partnership agreed to an annual action plan which would focus on several key tasks and activities which the Partnership could focus upon.

Since last year the Community Safety Partnership has:

- reached agreement between a wide range of agencies on the use of some funding to sustain CCTV
- supported Safe Islander events
- provided communication and updates on Police and Fire Service restructuring, the Northern Community Justice Authority, and the Road Safety Forum
- provided a number of publicity items including advice on a safer approach to Blackenings

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS PARTNERSHIP

Meeting dates in 2012:

15 November 2012
24 August 2012
19 April 2012
12 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

17th January 2013
25th April 2013
29th August 2013
14th November 2013

Chair: Don Currie, Baptist Kirk
Elected Member: John Richards
Secretary: Katie Spence
PLG representative: Jon Humphreys (representing Community Safety)

Minutes: <http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/OADP/>

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Community Safety (National

Outcome 9)

Recent achievements and challenges

- Commissioning of a one year pilot for Needle Exchange. The Orkney Sexual Health Service has undertaken a one year pilot to provide a needle exchange service for Orkney.
- Blootered. In partnership with Northern Constabulary, the ADP put together an event called 'Blootered' which consisted of an awareness raising session for the public, predominantly for parents around the issue of alcohol. The event had information, drama and a personal story from a parent. Feedback from the event has been very positive.
- National Naloxone Programme. This has seen the roll out of a national programme endorsed by the Scottish Government where key individuals from Acute & Receiving, Scottish Ambulance Service and Community Mental Health Team have been trained to prescribe Naloxone packs which can be administered by anyone to save the life of someone who has overdosed on an opiate drug.
- Outreach Work. The OADP have continued to be present at operational events highlighting messages about prevention and education. Over 2011, OADP was present at a variety of events including the local agricultural shows, Choices for Life, Safer Islander, KGS Transition event and the Diabetes Support Group.
- Commissioning for Substance Misuse Services 2012-2014. This has been the main piece of work for the ADP over 2011 where a local commissioning strategy was put together and after a local needs assessment a number of service specifications were put together and then put out to tender.
- Going forwards the OADP are working towards a three year action plan.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

8 November

Future meeting dates:

Not yet set

Chair: Janice Annal

Elected Member: Janice Annal

Secretary: Elaine Low

PLG representatives: Sally Inkster and Frances Troup

Minutes: Not currently published on website

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Orkney's Infrastructure (National Outcome 10)

Recent achievements and challenges

There was a gap in meetings of the Forum after the Council restructuring. The Forum met in November although no information has been provided on the outcome of this meeting.

TRANSPORT FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

31 October

Future meeting dates:

Not yet set

Chair: Graham Sinclair

Elected Members: Graham Sinclair and James Stockan

Secretary: Phyllis Towrie/Laura Cromarty

PLG representative: Brian Archibald

Minutes: Not currently published on website

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Orkney's Infrastructure (National Outcome 10)

Recent achievements and challenges

After a gap of around a year in meetings, the Transport Forum met in October and gave a commitment to meeting at least three times per year in future. Nationally and locally, there are important pieces of work taking place which the Forum is to be kept informed of: the Scottish Government Review of Ferry Services and the Orkney Ferries Tariff Review. The Forum has also agreed to work together to develop a Transport Strategy including themes such as freight, integration and infrastructure.

The Forum is comprised of a mixture of public and private sector organisations with a stake in transport in Orkney and connecting links outwith Orkney.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORKNEY GROUP

Meeting dates in 2012:

17 April 2012

Future meeting dates:

Not yet set

Chair: Chessa Llewellyn White, Highlands and Islands Enterprise

Elected Member: Stephen Hagan

Secretary: Valerie Sinclair

PLG representative: Chessa Llewellyn White

Minutes:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/COMMUNITYPLANNING/index.asp?pageid=2711>

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Strengthening Communities (National Outcome 11)

Recent achievements and challenges

The CEDOG has recently been successful in securing funding for a post through the Citizens Online project to work with communities to tackle the issues of digital exclusion, to make sure that Internet is available to everyone. The post will be advertised this month and the project should start in 2013. The funders are BT, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Orkney Housing Association Ltd. (through the Scottish Government's People and Communities Fund).

The CEDOG is a relatively informal liaison group which provides an opportunity for members to update each other on the activities of their organisations with a view to avoiding duplication and identifying opportunities for joint working.

Individuals have a better understanding of the work of others as a result of these meetings and share information on funding opportunities.

The CEDOG also has a sub-group which focuses on the support needs of social enterprises.

THIRD SECTOR FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

28 November 2012
26 September 2012
25 July 2012
23 May 2012
28 March 2012
15 February 2012
26 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

Not yet set

Chair: VAO Board members rotate
Elected Member: Jack Moodie
Secretary: Cath Russell
PLG representative: Gail Anderson

Minutes:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/COMMUNITYPLANNING/index.asp?pageid=2492>

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Strengthening Communities (National Outcome 11)

Recent achievements and challenges

The Forum exists to strengthen the collective voice of the sector in local and national decision making and to improve communication within the sector and with public sector partners.

- shares information and good practice
- identifies issues of importance to the sector and to the community

- acts as a filter for information to and from the sector
- contributes to local and national consultations
- appoints representatives to partnership bodies, including Community Planning thematic groups
- lobbies, both locally and nationally, on issues affecting the sector.

ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP

Meeting dates in 2012:

28 September 2012

11 May 2012

Future meeting dates:

Chair: Chris Matthews, SEPA

Elected Member: Stephen Clackson

Secretary: Eileen Summers

PLG representative: Chris Matthews

Minutes:

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/COMMUNITYPLANNING/index.asp?pageid=920>

Relevant sections within Orkney Community Plan: Our Environment and Combating Climate Change (National Outcomes 12 and 14)

Recent achievements and challenges

A workshop session was held in September where some themes for a new Environment Strategy were identified. Following on from this, development work of the Strategy is being taken forward by the Secretary of the group.

ARTS FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

10 December 2012

13 September 2012

7 June 2012

8 March 2012

19 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

Chair: Leslie Burgher, Chartered Architect

Elected Member: Owen Tierney

OIC coordinator: Pam Beasant

PLG representatives: Clare Gee and Pam Beasant

Minutes: <http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/ORKNEYARTSFORUM/>

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Our Culture (National Outcome 13)

Recent achievements and challenges

Some important initiatives have emerged from Arts Forum meetings over the last year or two. Probably the most immediate is the input into the new arts development plan, *Orkney's Creative Landscape: an Arts Development Plan for Orkney 2012-2015*, which was approved by full council in July 2012. Other than that, the development of the Orkney Moving Image Society, and the steering group for the new professional Theatre-in-Education company have both come from Forum initiatives, and are both progressing well. The Forum is also the main driver of the Orkney-wide application to Creative Scotland for the Creative Place Award 2013. If successful, this will generate £150,000 to benefit Orkney's creative programme.

HERITAGE, VISITOR AND ATTRACTION FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

No meeting dates this year

Future meeting dates:

No meeting dates set

Chair: Clare Gee, Council

Secretary:

PLG representative: Clare Gee

Minutes: Not available on website

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Our Culture (National Outcome 13)

Recent achievements and challenges

The group are presently reviewing the best way of representing Heritage, Archaeology and visitor attractions within the community planning framework, in the light of the recent review of, and change to, the management of the World Heritage Site, and recent work looking at establishing the key priorities for heritage over the medium and longer term.