

STRATEGIC ECONOMIC FORUM

Meeting dates this year:

6 March 2012

26 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

6 July 2012

Chair: To be elected at next meeting

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. The Forum has launched a new Orkney Economic Strategy 2012-16, and is leading its implementation. Other topics discussed regularly include Orkney labour market statistics (a standing item on the agenda), the 2011 national audit of CPPs' economic development activity, grid strengthening, digital connectivity, low carbon transport, support for renewable energy generation and the economic content of the new Community Plan/SOA. The Forum has supported the OIC pilot of electric vehicles and the installation of charging posts around Orkney.

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. The Task Force previously covered agriculture, marine renewables facilitation (EMEC) and inshore fishing. The Forum has covered ICIT/marine renewables research (Jonathan Side), jewellery (Martin Fleet), entrepreneurship (Neil Stevenson) archaeology (Julie Gibson and Nick Card) and the business side of the arts in Orkney (Neil Firth and Tanya McGill). Future plans include Orkney's craft industries, the construction sector, and food/drink producers.

EMPLOYABILITY STRATEGIC GROUP

Meeting dates in 2012:

24 May 2012

21 March 2012

24 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

23 August 2012

Chair: Karen Johnstone, Job Centre Plus

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 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 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:

24 May 2012

6 March 2012

Future meeting dates:

15 June 2012

Chair: Karen Greaves, Council

Minutes: Not currently published on the website

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Research and Training (National Outcome 3)

Recent achievements and challenges

A recent review of the remit and membership of the SLG highlighted that the membership and the remit/role of the Strategic Learning Forum and the Community Learning and Development Partnership was broadly similar. Consultation with both groups resulted in a merger and the group has now been renamed as The Strategic Community Learning Group (SCLG).

The SCLG has recently considered the distribution of funding for projects for 'English for Speakers of Other Languages' (ESOL) to ensure a coordinated allocation across Orkney. The SCLG recently welcomed representatives from Education Scotland to look at Self Evaluation and implementation of the new CLD Strategic Guidance. An event to further evaluation how 'we' as a partnership are doing in the Kirkwall Grammar School Learning Community is being held on the 19 September and the SCLG will also look to see what gaps currently exist and if further integration of services can be achieved.

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

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.

CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP

Meeting dates in 2012:

15 March 2012

Future meeting dates:

Not yet set

Chair: Andrew Drever, Elected Member

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:

19 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

17 July 2012

18 October 2012

15 January 2013

Chair: Louise Wilson, NHS (Interim Chair)

Minutes: Not currently published on the website

Relevant section within Orkney Community Plan: Healthy (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. As the group was not formed when the former SOA was developed, it was particularly important to have multiagency input in the new one.

The former Chair, Christina Bichan is on a secondment and therefore the group will appoint a new Chair at a future meeting.

ORKNEY EQUALITY FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

18 May 2012

16 February 2012

Future meeting dates:

21 September 2012

14 December 2012

Chair: Frazer Campbell, Advocacy Orkney

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

The Forum helped Orkney celebrate Black History Month for the first time in October 2011, following an award of funding from Orkney Islands Council's Culture Fund:

- Storyteller Mara Menzies visited schools and delighted the children by telling African stories ranging from traditional folklore to stories based on actual historical characters. Sessions were held at St Andrews, Glaitness, Firth, Papdale and Sanday schools. Pupils from North Walls joined the session at Papdale.
- Research was carried out on black and other minority ethnic (BME) people who live or had lived in Orkney. The stories were displayed in an exhibition in the Orkney Library and Archive as a celebration of the contribution made by BME people to Orkney's unique heritage. A permanent information board showing highlights from the exhibition is now on display in Orkney Library and Archive.

The Forum submitted a response to the Council's consultation on the Orkney Ferries Tariff Review and was involved in preparation of the OCPP's response to the Public Sector Equality Duty consultation.

The Forum agreed that they would aim to publish quarterly articles in the local press on a rota basis. All articles are published under the Forum banner so consensus from all members is required as to the content. The Chair wrote the first article on the Human Rights Act. Two more articles are in draft.

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 which is currently live.

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Meeting dates in 2012:

7 June 2012

1 March 2012

Future meeting dates:

21 September 2012

Chair: Jon Humphries, Council

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

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:

19 April 2012

12 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

24 August 2012

15 November 2012

Chair: Don Currie, Baptist Kirk

Minutes: Not currently published on website

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

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

Recent achievements and challenges

- 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:

No meetings have taken place this year

Future meeting dates:

No meetings are planned for this year.

Chair: To be elected at next meeting

Minutes: Not currently published on website

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

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

Recent achievements and challenges

The Forum has not met since the Council restructuring.

TRANSPORT FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

No meetings have taken place this year

Future meeting dates:

Early July

Chair: This Forum has historically been chaired by Councillor Jim Foubister in his former capacity as Chair of Transport & Infrastructure

Minutes: Not currently published on website

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

Recent achievements and challenges

The Transport Forum met for the first time in 2011 and is 'finding its feet' as a strategic group comprised of a mixture of Council transport staff, HITRANS and transport providers. With transport being an area of crucial importance in Orkney, the Forum aims to develop a partnership strategy to map out the transport needs of the community with a plan to meeting those needs. Priorities discussed so far include replacement of the internal ferry fleet, public sector patient/social care transport and the possibility of fixed links incorporating energy generators.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORKNEY GROUP

Meeting dates in 2012:

17 April 2012

Future meeting dates:

September

Chair: Chessa Llewellyn White, Highlands and Islands Enterprise

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 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 group are currently trying to put together a funding package for the Get IT Together programme.

THIRD SECTOR FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

23 May 2012

28 March 2012

15 February 2012

26 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

28 November 2012

26 September 2012

25 July 2012

Chair: VAO Board members rotate

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:

11 May 2012

Future meeting dates:

No meeting date set

Chair: Chris Matthews, SEPA

Minutes:

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

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

Recent achievements and challenges

The group reformed last year and are at the early stages of revising the

environmental strategy and targets with a view to better aligning them to the SOA. The group has started to look at climate change and carbon emission issues within the county.

ARTS FORUM

Meeting dates in 2012:

7 June 2012

8 March 2012

19 January 2012

Future meeting dates:

6 September 2012

6 December 2012

Chair: Leslie Burgher, Chartered Architect

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 is due to go before committee on 13 June for approval. 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.

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

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.