



Orkney Partnership Board

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 December 2022 via Teams

1. Attendance and apologies

Facilitating partners

Orkney Islands Council
NHS Orkney
Highlands & Islands Enterprise
Scottish Fire and Rescue

Cllr James Stockan (Chair)
Meghan McEwen (Vice Chair)
Graeme Harrison
John McKenna

Participating partners

Orkney College UHI
Skills Development Scotland
HITRANS
Integration Joint Board
Historic Environment Scotland
NatureScot

Claire Kemp
Anthony Standing
Cllr David Dawson
Issy Grieve
Dorothy Hoskins
Dave MacKay

Co-opted partners

Orkney Housing Association Ltd.

Craig Spence

By invitation

Sustainable Recovery Delivery Group
Orkney Money Matters
Scottish Government

Luke Fraser
Harry Johnson
Joe Brown

In attendance

Orkney Islands Council
Orkney Islands Council
Orkney Islands Council
The Orkney Partnership

Cllr Heather Woodbridge
John W Mundell
Anna Whelan (Secretary)
George Vickers

Apologies

NHS Orkney
Voluntary Action Orkney
Community Justice Partnership
NatureScot
Visit Scotland
Orkney Islands Council

Michael Dickson
Morven Brook
Stephen Brown
David Mackay
Cheryl Chapman
Karen Greaves

2. Minutes of previous meetings

2.1. Draft minutes of the meeting of the Board 29 June 2022

Minutes were approved

2.2 Draft minutes of the meeting of the Board 27 September 2022

Minutes were approved

2.3 Matters arising

Now the proposal for the Orkney Business Forum was going forward, the wind-up report for the Economic Recovery Steering Group will be drawn up by Anna Whelan.

John Mundell reported on progress regarding the First Responders on the Ferry-linked Isles. The Short Life Working Group had brought the relevant agencies together to work through a solution. The provision of the service and the terms and conditions were very uneven: some Responders paid, some volunteers, and in some places there was no service. The service is fully funded in Shetland, and the Group would like to see the same for Orkney. Short-term funding had been identified from IJB underspend, but the Scottish Ambulance Service did not want to go ahead with using the funding to improve the service in the short term as it would raise expectations on what could be afforded going forward. John is to write to the Minister and work is ongoing. The Group will look at how to communicate this to the communities on the isles.

3. The Orkney Money Matters Project (part of the work of the Cost of Living Task Force)

3.1. Harry Johnson gave a presentation on a new partnership project between Voluntary Action Orkney, Citizens Advice Orkney, Orkney Blide Trust, THAW, Orkney Foodbank, OIC, NHS Orkney, Scottish Welfare Fund Team, Orkney Housing and The Trussell Trust.

3.2. Project developed through advice-and-cash-first working group to support people in crisis.

3.3. Aims of the project

- Designing an advice-and-cash-first referral pathway for individuals experiencing financial insecurity
- Strengthen cross-organisational working with frameworks and resources, including the development of a multi-organisational data sharing agreement
- Developing new roles to provide organisations with the capacity to engage in this work
- Building stronger relationships and processes between OIC's Scottish Welfare Fund team and frontline organisations

- Developing key messaging and consistently promoting the work, so individuals in the community are clear about the support that is available to them

3.4. New roles will be created to support the project and follow the referral pathway developed by the project.

4. Report from the Executive Group (EG) Chair

4.1. Proposal for an Orkney Business Forum – Has been tested with various businesses over varying sectors and has been broadly welcomed. Large and small working groups will be formed and give everyone involved the chance to have their voices heard and work together.

5. Improvement Service Review

5.1. The Improvement Service was invited to help to TOP carry out a self-assessment to look at how to improve the Community Planning Partnership.

5.2. Two draft Improvement plans will go forward, one on Early Interventions and another on ensuring all participants in the Partnership are aware of its purpose and their role within it.

5.3. The wider group had eight areas identified for improvement identified in Appendix One of the report.

5.4. George went through the recommendations and feedback received was the idea of having a buddy system for new members. Also, a clear, written process suggested regarding how issues relating to resourcing the different actions agreed by the Partnership should be resolved.

5.5. Recommendations agreed by the group.

Action: George Vickers

6. Proposed amendments to the terms of Reference to include commitments to promote equality, promoting improvements to island residents and to protect the environment

6.1. A Review of TOP's Equality and Diversity Strategy report with recommendations was circulated around the group. The Board agreed the amendments to the terms of Reference as set out in Appendix One of the report which means that the TOP Equality and Diversity Strategy from 2012 is now redundant.

7. Orkney Community Plan/Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2023/30

7.1. LOIP has been drafted in outline and still has some bits to be added.

7.2. The group agreed to having stretch targets in place and taking an ambitious approach.

7.3. The majority of Community Wellbeing Group members will be involved in one or more of the new Delivery Groups and Community Wellbeing is a theme that will be part of the work of all the Delivery Groups. Each Delivery Plan will address one or more areas of Community Wellbeing.

7.4. Aging population is a concern and will be a priority for the Sustainable Development Delivery Group. One of the Indicators for the Delivery Group will address the demographic balance.

7.5. The Local Equality Delivery Group will work with the Development Trusts and others to ensure that its own Delivery Plan integrates and supports the individual island plans.

7.6. Next steps – The draft Plan, once several updates have been made, will be sent out for public consultation and will come back to the March Board for to be finalised.

8. Report from the Chief Officers Group

8.1. John Mundell gave a report on the April 2021 – March 2022 Orkney Public Protection Chief Officers Group.

8.2. Recruitment and retention of staff has been a big issue.

8.3. Care inspectorate don't intend on further follow ups on child protection inspections.

8.4. Currently under adult protection inspection.

9. TOP Annual Report 2021/22

9.1. The annual report was approved for publication.

10. Appointment of Chairs for the CDG and SRDG

10.1. Francesca Couperwhite will be asked to chair the Community Wellbeing Delivery Group.

10.2. Stuart Allison has offered to be the chair for the Sustainable Recovery Delivery Group and the Board have approved this.

11. Delivery Group Reports

11.1. Sustainable Recovery Delivery Group report delivered by Luke Fraser.

- Have been developing the Community Wealth Building and Doughnut Economics model with a workshop being organised in the new year.
- Waiting to get the OIC Climate Change Officer in post.

11.2. Community Wellbeing Delivery Group report delivered by George Vickers

- Looking to wind up some of the activities for the end of the year and which activities need to be carried forward into other delivery streams.

11.3. Connectivity Delivery Group report delivered by Graeme Harrison

- Subsea cable lays to some of the islands was completed in the summer
- R100 Contract extended
- Ferry replacement bid is with SG
- Some progress with the potential for 2 new aircraft however, funding may be an issue
- Bus service improvements appear to have been successful

12. Community Planning Inquiry

12.1. [Inquiry](#) by The Scottish Parliament into the workings of Community Planning with a deadline of 30 December 2022.

12.2. The ten questions have been circulated around the group. Feedback to George Vickers by start of next week.

13. Any other business

13.1. Anna Whelan stated that normally in December a report is submitted to the Board seeking approval of the funding package to support Community Planning in the following year, however Anna felt that as it only affects the 5 facilitating partners it would be more appropriate to call a special resourcing meeting of the EG in the new year. The group agreed with this.

13.2. Dorothy Hoskins explained that Historic Environment Scotland is consulting on a new strategy which is an update to the Our Place and Time Strategy that was published in 2014. Dorothy will share the [link](#) in the Teams and would appreciate it if anyone would like to contribute to that.

13.3. John Mundell informed the group that the next Best Value Audit will be this year and that will include the community planning partnership.

14. Date of next meeting

14.1. 14 March 2023

The meeting closed at 12.14.