



## **Highland Community Justice Partnership**

Minutes of Meeting held 20 March 2019

Present: James Maybee Highland Council (Chair), Debbie Sutherland Y People, Malcolm MacBean VSS, Patrick Griffin SPS, Morna Allison DWP

In Attendance: Mhairi Wylie HTSI, Margaret McShane HTSI, Jane Tattum Signpost

1. Apologies:

Philip MacRae Police Scotland, Stephen Coyle SPS, Alan McGillivray DWP, Derek Wilson SFRS, Roddy Bailey SDS, Sally Amor NHSH, Cllr Margaret Paterson, Debbie Stewart HADP, Lauren Craig SCRA

James chaired the meeting in Philip and Derek's absence.

2. Declaration of interest:  
None.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:  
Notes of the previous Community Justice Partnership Meeting in December were circulated for noting.

Agreed as correct.

Action - Margaret to draft a letter for Philip to send to Elaine Mead regarding Joanna's replacement – DONE but unsure if there has been a formal response

Action – Margaret to draft a letter for the Chair to send to the new CE NHS regarding above.

Action - Philip to circulate this decision (to use the funds for CJ during the financial year they come in) to others from the Partnership who were not present at the meeting today – Margaret to check with Philip if this has been done.

Action – Philip to notify substantial members of the Partnership who are not present today in relation to this (excess funds to be used for Link Worker Project) – Margaret to check with Philip if this has been done.

Action – Philip to write to the SG in relation to concerns over the inequality in provision of service Scotland wide from Venture Trust – Margaret drafted a letter for Philip to Cabinet Secretary for Justice and assumes it has been sent – Margaret thinks that Philip had mentioned that he had got a reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice – to check and reply to be circulated to the Partnership.

Action – Philip to meet with Debbie and Margaret to discuss ADP Strategy – due to happen in January 2019

Action – to be progressed as this has not happened yet due to Debbie's availability

Malcolm updated that the Homicide Service to be provided by VSS is now called People Bereaved by crime.

James asked for information about the Second Chancers Exhibition being brought to Inverness. Margaret updated that enquiries are still ongoing with UHI in relation perhaps hosting it there. Mhairi also suggested Eden Court and Inverness Art Gallery as suitable venues.

Action – Margaret to check with Eden Court/Inverness Art Gallery

#### Item 9. Signpost/Recovery Café

This item was taken next to allow Jane to provide an update then leave the meeting.

There has been an increase in the footfall for the Recovery Café since opening which is primarily a safe space for people with vulnerabilities to help them get nourishment and support. The space can be used as a meeting place and has already been used by some groups. The café is aspiring to become a gateway for businesses specifically in finding routes for employment. The café provides an evening meal once a week and is hoping that businesses will sponsor or that a guest chef can be provided.

Homeless people are apprehensive about using the café for a variety of reasons, including losing their 'space'. Food has been handed out to those on the streets who don't want to come into the café.

The café has the use of an allotment and Alan Fowler at Signpost can be contacted in relation to this. The Café Coordinator is Sue Hill, she can be contacted – [cafecoordinator@signpost-inc.org.uk](mailto:cafecoordinator@signpost-inc.org.uk)

# cafe with conscience

# food for thought

Malcolm queried whether the Recovery Café are working with Ness Bank Church who also provide for the homeless. Jane advised it would be best to contact Alan or Sue in this regard.

Morna spoke about the employability event being held in the prison in May and asked if Signpost could advise at the event of what support the café provides.

Margaret updated that the Recovery Café fits the Safe Space Action within the CJ Plan and wondered if there are other opportunities for the Partnership to support the Café. Jane updated that she will speak to Alan in relation to this.

Action – Everyone in the Partnership to consider what links they could make and how to support the Recovery café.

4. Change of Chair/Proposal of Vice Chair:

James updated that he will take up the position of Vice Chair of the Partnership in April when Derek Wilson takes over as Chair. It was noted that Philip will retire from the police service in May but there has been no announcement as to who will attend the partnership from the police in his place.

5. Paper to COG regarding Chair:

Mhairi spoke to the paper circulated outlining that the CPP have responsibility to deliver the CJ Plan. As the CPP deliver the HOIP, Chairs have been appointed to the delivery sub groups. The paper will go to the CPP Board tomorrow with the recommendation that they use this year to review the relationship between the CPP and Community Justice.

James mentioned that the Public Protection COG which covers MAPPA/Child Protection/Adult Protection and VAW also has a link to community justice and that he has a seat at that table.

Action – James to raise the CJP at the PP COG to ensure they are fully sighted on what is happening with the Community Justice Partnership.

AGREED – proposals contained in the paper that Derek takes over as Chair for 2019/20 and the CPP review the process for appointment of the Chair of the CJP.

6. Community Justice Update:

Margaret spoke to the update that had been circulated. She highlighted that the Small Change for Justice Roundup and Pitch Your Problem events will take place on Friday this week. The first edition of the CJ Newsletter has gone out.

Action – Everyone to contribute as able to the CJ Newsletter

The employer event is developing well.

From the Community Justice Coordinators Meeting, CJS have developed and Action Plan with 7 work strands. They have also established a statutory partnership group for agencies involved in community justice. The Presumption of Short-Term Sentencing may be delayed due to Brexit.

James intimated it would be good to know the purpose of the statutory partners meeting. Margaret will provide information as and when it becomes available.

James also mentioned about the Violence Reduction Unit Conference which had taken place in Inverness and if there was anything we could learn from that. Margaret updated there were a few items mentioned which we could learn from including the Navigator & Bystander projects. It's not clear whether Highland has the same need for these projects as the central belt. They also have a 'Truck Stop' which they would like to set up in Highland and are keen to work with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector.

Action – Margaret & James to discuss getting a VRU input at some stage

7. Review of CJ Plan 2018-21/Partnership Development Day:

Margaret updated the meeting that she and Phillip had gone through the plan recently and identified the following items need to be looked at –

'Establish a programme of training and awareness raising for agency and sector staff within Highland'

Discussion took place around this and what it actually means.

Action – James & Margaret to take off table to discuss what people are being asked and establish an opportunity to discuss what we need. This may include a short-term working group to take this forward.

‘Explore and clarify the pathway for employment in public agencies on the CJP for people with an offending history’

This is not due until September but should be looked at as it has not been started.

Action – For first part, Margaret to issue a grid for Partnership to complete. The following Action will flow from that

There was a question asked about whether to include volunteering in this and it was suggested this is an example of an area of activity that could be raised through the CJP.

8. Finances:

James provided a verbal update in relation to the finances. Nothing much has changed in this regard and the funding for next year has already been confirmed from the Scottish Government.

9. Signpost/Recovery Cafe:

Update provided earlier in the meeting.

10. Good News Stories:

Pauline Simpson from Action for Children had provided the good news story for the meeting which had been circulated with the papers. The story involved how Robertson Construction have been working with clients from Action for Children with positive outcomes.

Morna asked if this example could be used with those aged 30+. It was mentioned that Robertson have been working with Apex and that they will be approached to go into the prison.

Action – Margaret to send Morna contact details for Jade at Robertson Construction.

11. AOCB:

Margaret spoke about a conference that had been held in Dumfries & Galloway which was a partnership between VAW and the CJP – ‘From Hurt to Hope’. The outline of the conference was mentioned, and the partnership were asked if this (or something similar) is something they would consider supporting within Highland. Margaret had recently spoken to DCI Vince

McLaughlin from Public Protection Unit, Police Scotland as the conference had also included inputs regarding children. The partnership generally agreed this would be a good idea.

Malcolm mentioned that a focus on victims would be very welcome.

Action – Margaret to contact Vince McLaughlin to confirm agreement from the CJP for a conference and look at how this can be taken forward.

James mentioned that he and Margaret had been working with The Highland Council and there will be questions included in the next Citizen's Panel Survey to help support an understanding of community justice.

Mhairi mentioned that we should perhaps consider the new Justice Centre for a CJP Meeting.

Malcolm spoke about the Extraordinary Meeting of the CJP which had focussed on ACEs. He mentioned that he had fed back about the information and VSS have now implemented Trauma Informed Training for staff.

James mentioned that as this would have been Philip's last meeting as Chair it was only right that we record our thanks to him in his absence for acting as Chair and all his efforts for the past 2 years.

12. Date of Next Meeting:

**Partnership Development Day, Thursday 23 May 2019, Smithton Church, Inverness - details to follow**

**Wednesday 12 June 2019, 1030 – 1230, Police HQ, Inverness**

Thursday 19 September 2019, Venue TBC

Thursday 19 December 2019, 1030 – 1230, Police HQ, Inverness