



Highland
Community
Planning
Partnership

Com-pàirteachas
Dealbhadh
Coimhearsnachd

na Gàidhealtachd

Minutes of Meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Board held in #hellodigital, An Lòchran, Inverness Campus, Inverness, and via Microsoft Teams, on Wednesday 5 June 2024 at 10.00 am.

Present:

The Highland Council:

Councillor Graham MacKenzie, Chair of the Communities and Place Committee
Derek Brown, Chief Executive

Highlands and Islands Enterprise:

Stuart Black, Chief Executive
Eann Sinclair, Area Manager – Caithness and Sutherland (also representing Caithness Community Partnership)

NHS Highland:

Ann Clark, Vice Chair, NHS Highland Board (remote)
Fiona Davies, Chief Executive
Tim Allison, Director of Public Health

Police Scotland:

Chief Inspector Jamie Wilson (substitute) (remote)

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service:

Michael Humphreys, Area Commander

Community Partnership representative:

Eann Sinclair, Chair of Caithness Community Partnership (also representing HIE)

High Life Highland:

Douglas Wilby, Director of Corporate Performance (substitute)

Highland Third Sector Interface:

Mhairi Wylie, Chief Officer

NatureScot:

Karen Mitchell, Operations Manager – Central Highland (substitute) (remote)

Skills Development Scotland:

Roddy Bailey, Area Manager – Highland (substitute) (remote)

In attendance:

Kate Lackie, Assistant Chief Executive – People, The Highland Council (remote)
Ian Kyle, Chair, Community Learning, Development and Engagement Delivery Group
Cathy Steer, Chair, Mental Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group

Alison Clark, Chair, Poverty Reduction Delivery Group
Carron McDiarmid, Chair, Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (HADP) (remote)
Gail Prince, Partnership Development Manager
Melanie Murray, Principal Committee Officer, The Highland Council

Also in attendance:

Sarah Compton-Bishop, Chair, NHS Highland Board
Colette Macklin, Head of Lifelong Learning and Gaelic, The Highland Council
Eve MacLeod, HADP Coordinator
Helena MacLeod, Community Learning and Development Support Officer

Mr S Black in the Chair

Business

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Raymond Bremner, Chief Superintendent Rob Shepherd, Steve Walsh, Graham Neville, Stephen Sheridan and Chris O'Neill.

2. Minutes of Meetings

The Board:

- i. **APPROVED** the Minutes of the Community Planning Partnership Board – 1 March 2024;
- ii. **NOTED** the Minutes of the Community Justice Partnership – 7 December 2023; and
- iii. **NOTED** the Minutes of the Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Strategy Group – 20 February 2024.

The Board **AGREED** to consider item 16 at this stage.

**16. Confidential Item:
Social Value Charter for Renewable Investment**

There had been circulated, to community planning partners only, Report No CPPB/16/24 by the Assistant Chief Executive – Place, The Highland Council.

The Board **AGREED** the recommendation in the report, subject to the points raised during discussion.

3. Action Tracker

The Board was asked to review progress of its agreed actions as set out in the Action Tracker which had been circulated.

The Board **NOTED** the Action Tracker.

4. Resetting the Highland Outcome Improvement Plan (HOIP)

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/8/24 by CPP Senior Officers.

During discussion, the following main points were raised:

- thanks were expressed to all those involved for their efforts in resetting the HOIP;
- in relation to Appendix 2 of the report and the proposed action around partnership funding streams, it was suggested a piece of work was needed to identify which funds were in scope and how much room there was for local alignment, and it was queried whether this was something the Partnership Development Team could take forward. It was added that it was less about what the funds would be spent on through partnership alignment but how they were invested to maximise impact. There was also a potential issue in terms of timing, given the Board only met four times a year, depending on whether decisions on investment would be based on outcomes or if it was intended to look at individual projects. In response, reassurance was provided that it was not intended that the Board would make funding decisions on individual projects, and officers would look at amending the wording to make the position clear;
- with regard to the proposed action around data and intelligence, it was not just about improvement methodologies but about sharing intelligence and needs assessments to understand where partners needed to work together better and how that then led to jointly commissioning services;
- in response to a request for nature and biodiversity to be more prominent, it was explained that the HOIP had already been strengthened, based on discussions at the workshop with Board Members, through the addition of references to “natural capital”. However, it was confirmed it could be strengthened further by adding “biodiversity” after “natural capital”;
- it was welcomed that officers were responding to the feedback received in the engagement sessions that had taken place, and it would be good to highlight that to communities;
- information was sought, and provided, on the current thinking in terms of the implications for existing activity and how it was envisioned that the priorities for joint action around early intervention and preventative approaches would be agreed, recognising the capacity issues that existed in partner organisations and the Partnership Development Team. Attention was drawn to the next steps set out in the report which it was confirmed would come back to the Board for approval, and this reassurance was welcomed.

The Board:

- AGREED** the revised Highland Outcome Improvement Plan for 2024-2027, set out at Appendix 1 of the report, subject to the points raised during discussion;
- NOTED** the work undertaken since March to develop the HOIP Delivery Plan;
- NOTED** the feedback from the engagement undertaken since March to develop the HOIP Delivery Plan;
- AGREED** the proposed actions for the HOIP Delivery Plan, set out at Appendix 2 of the report; and
- NOTED** that work would be undertaken to develop milestones and measures of success to underpin the actions and this would be supported by a performance dashboard for the partnership that would aim to measure the long term impact of the HOIP. This would come to the Board for consideration in September.

5. **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Strategic Service Review Programme (Your Say)**

The Local Senior Officer, SFRS, gave a presentation on the strategic service review being undertaken by the SFRS. Detailed information was provided on the current position in terms of resourcing and service delivery, the reasons change was needed and potential changes that could be made. It was explained that there were three stages to the review, the first being a pre-consultation online survey, “Shaping Our Future Service: Your Say”, which was

currently underway with a closing date of 30 June 2024. Thereafter, an options appraisal would be carried out followed by a public consultation at the end of the year. Partners were encouraged to complete the online survey, and encourage members of the community to do so, and feedback any Highland-specific comments to the Local Senior Officer.

During discussion, the following main points were raised:

- there was no clear demarcation between the SFRS and other services, and it was suggested there was a need for a person or place-based approach to consultations on public service delivery/change, rather than focussing on individual organisations. Discussion ensued in that regard, during which it was suggested that the Partnership Development Manager raise the matter at the forthcoming Community Planning Network meeting to see whether other CPPs were having similar conversations. In addition, it was suggested that the Board write to the Scottish Government Place Director to query how this matter was being taken forward at Scottish Government level;
- there were obvious opportunities for shared learning and joint working – for example, the SFRS watch system and the contamination risk to firefighters were of particular interest to NHS Highland and it was suggested further discussions take place in that regard;
- utilising different staffing models and co-location of services to create what communities needed made a lot of sense, particularly in sparsely populated areas;
- firefighters came into contact with people in distress and crisis, and it was necessary to explore the role the SFRS could have in some of the preventative work being undertaken; and
- it was confirmed that a link to the online survey would be circulated to partners.

The Board:

- i. **NOTED** the presentation;
- ii. **AGREED** that staff be encouraged to complete the national survey on the future of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and that any Highland-specific comments be fed back to the Local Senior Officer;
- iii. **AGREED** that the points raised regarding the need for a place and person-based approach to public service change rather than focussing on individual organisations be raised at the Community Planning Network; and
- iv. **AGREED**, further to iii. above, to write to the Scottish Government Place Director to query how this was being considered holistically at Scottish Government level.

6. Planet Youth Case Study

Eve MacLeod, former Planet Youth Lead, gave a presentation during which detailed information was provided on the Planet Youth prevention model, which had originated in Iceland, and the impact of the Planet Youth pilot in Highland in terms of reducing teenage smoking and alcohol and drug use.

During discussion, the following main points were raised:

- attention was drawn to the alignment between the Planet Youth approach and the Community Learning and Development paper at item 8 on the agenda. Staff involved in both programme areas were making good connections to build on the learning from the Icelandic model but also using evidence gathered in a different way, such as the consultation with children and young people in South Kessock and Merkinch in relation to the Whole Family Wellbeing Programme, as reported to the March Board;

- the Scottish Government was keen to see whether the Planet Youth approach was transferrable to Scotland. However, the context was different in Scotland in that health inequalities were greater and alcohol was more readily available;
- to have a “hero slide” for Highland as shown during the presentation would require the approach to be rolled out and partners to be fully engaged;
- the evidence-based nature of the model was commended; and
- in response to questions, it was confirmed that the five secondary schools participating in the pilot were Wick, Thurso, Golspie, Dornoch and Tain, and the figures in the presentation were from those schools. It was suggested that a control group was needed for comparison.

The Board otherwise **NOTED** the presentation.

7. NHS Highland Director of Public Health Annual Report 2023: Medication and Public Health - Do the Right Thing

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/9/24 by the Director of Public Health, NHS Highland, who gave a presentation in amplification of the report. It was highlighted that it was intended that the next Director of Public Health Annual Report would have a particular focus on inequalities.

The Board **NOTED** the 2023 Director of Public Health Annual Report and accompanying presentation.

8. Community Learning and Development Year 2 Report – October 2022 to September 2023

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/10/24 by the Assistant Chief Executive – People, The Highland Council.

The cross-cutting nature of CLD and its importance to the work of the CPP having been recognised, the Board **NOTED**:

- i. the progress and achievements;
- ii. the priorities and focus for Year 3 of the CLD plan 2021/24; and
- iii. that the annual inspection visit from His Majesty Inspectors of Education for CLD would take place from 3 to 5 June.

9. Active Highland Strategy and Action Plan

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/11/24 by the Head of Health Improvement, NHS Highland.

During discussion, it was commented that, when refreshing outcomes, it was necessary to be clear about what the associated performance indicators were as, at present, there were many partnership outcomes that were potentially unanchored in terms of measuring success or otherwise.

In response, it was explained that part of the review of evidence that had been undertaken had been looking at what indicators should be used to monitor progress, and the proposed indicators would form part of the report when the final strategy and action plan were presented to the Board for sign off.

The Board:

- i. **NOTED** the progress to develop a refreshed Active Highland Strategy and action plan; and
- ii. **AGREED** to endorse the proposed outcomes for the refreshed Active Highland Strategy.

10. Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (HADP) Annual Reporting Template 2023/24

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/12/24 by the HADP Coordinator.

In introducing the report, the Chair of the HADP drew attention to an error in the response to Question 19b of the Annual Reporting Survey, explaining that it should state that “the demand for options detailed above have *not* been formally quantified.”

In response to a request for specialist help in undertaking the HADP’s strategic risk assessment, the Chair confirmed that he would ask James Laraway, HIE, to contact the HADP Coordinator in that regard.

On the point being raised, it was explained that the People First – Language Matters – Partner Pledge was about the use of language and communicating in a way that did not stigmatise those affected by alcohol and drugs misuse. It was suggested that information on the Pledge be circulated to see if it was something other partners felt they could subscribe to.

The Board:

- i. scrutinised and **AGREED** the HADP Annual Reporting Survey submission for 2023/24; and
- ii. **AGREED** that information on the People First – Language Matters – Partner Pledge be circulated to see if other partners felt they could subscribe.

11. Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/13/24 by the Chief Officer, Highland Third Sector Interface.

In response to a question, it was confirmed that it was hoped to take the plan for the distribution of Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Funding to the CPP Mental Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group as, particularly for small grants, direction was needed in terms of what should be prioritised, and this should be agreed in partnership.

It having been queried whether it was also possible to align the Children and Young People’s Mental Health Fund with the priorities of the Children and Young People’s Mental Health Steering Group, which sat within the CPP structure, the Council’s Head of Lifelong Learning and Gaelic undertook to investigate, explaining that the funding sat with the Council’s Education and Learning Service.

During further discussion, the proposed approach set out in the report was welcomed, particularly the encouragement of grass roots investment and the capacity building theme which linked in with wider work taking place, which would be brought to the Board at a later date, on capacity building across communities and the third sector.

The Board **AGREED**:

- i. the approach in principle; and
- ii. that the possibility of aligning the Children and Young People's Mental Health Fund to the priorities of the Children and Young People's Mental Health Steering Group be investigated.

12. Communications Strategy

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/14/24 by the Partnership Development Manager.

During discussion, the following main points were raised:

- it was suggested that a point be included regarding the legislative requirement for the CPP to produce an annual report. Similarly, there was a legislative requirement within the Community Justice (Scotland) Act that the CPP sign off the annual statement, including the public-facing version, to be submitted to Community Justice Scotland;
- the strategy might benefit from equalities screening in terms of using accessible formats for communication. In addition, following up the earlier discussion regarding the People First – Language Matters – Partner Pledge might help to build on the use of non-stigmatising and trauma-informed language going forward;
- in terms of means of communication, there was a lot of emphasis on the CPP website. However, fewer and fewer people were visiting websites, and it was suggested it was necessary to explore alternative channels such as YouTube and TikTok, the latter being highly used by young people in particular; and
- there was a lot of material already available but it was about promoting it more effectively.

The Board **NOTED** the draft Communications Strategy at Appendix 1 of the report and that a final version, taking into account the points raised during discussion, would come forward to the September Board meeting.

13. Partnership Development Team Update

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/15/24 by CPP Senior Officers and the Partnership Development Manager.

The Board **NOTED** the updated Milestones report to May 2024 included in Appendix 1 of the report.

14. Review of Strategic Risk Register

The Strategic Risk Register had been circulated for consideration and review.

The Board **NOTED** the Strategic Risk Register, and that it would be reviewed prior to the September Board to ensure alignment with the revised HOIP.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The Board **NOTED** that the next meeting was scheduled to take place on Friday 20 September 2024 at 11.00 am.

The meeting ended at 12.00 noon.