



Highland
Community
Planning
Partnership

Com-pàirteachas
Dealbhadh
Coimhearsnachd

na Gàidhealtachd

Minutes of Meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Board held in Committee Rooms 1 and 2, Highland Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, and via Microsoft Teams, on Friday 21 February 2025 at 10.00 am.

Present:

The Highland Council:

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

Highlands and Islands Enterprise:

Eann Sinclair, Area Manager – Caithness and Sutherland (also representing Caithness Community Partnership) (remote)

NHS Highland:

Sarah Compton-Bishop, Chair, NHS Highland Board
Tim Allison, Director of Public Health

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service:

Miles Stubbs, Group Commander (substitute)

Community Partnership representative:

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

High Life Highland:

Steve Walsh, Chief Executive

Highland Third Sector Interface:

Mhairi Wylie, Chief Officer (remote)

NatureScot:

Graham Neville, Head of Operations - North

Skills Development Scotland:

Roddy Bailey, Area Manager (remote)

University of the Highlands and Islands:

Vicki Nairn, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, UHI

In attendance:

Kate Lackie, Assistant Chief Executive – People, The Highland Council (remote)
Malcolm MacLeod, Assistant Chief Executive – Place, The Highland Council
Fiona Duncan, Chief Officer - Health and Social Care, 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
James Maybee, Chair, Community Justice Partnership (remote)
Carron McDiarmid, Chair, Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (remote)
Gail Prince, Partnership Development Manager
Rhiannon Boydell, Head of Service, Community Directorate, NHS Highland
Superintendent Jen Valentine, Police Scotland
Melanie Murray, Principal Committee Officer, The Highland Council

Ms Sarah Compton-Bishop in the Chair

Business

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Raymond Bremner, Stuart Black, Fiona Davies and Michael Humphreys.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Minutes of Meetings

The Board:

- i. **APPROVED** the Minutes of the Community Planning Partnership Board – 4 December 2024;
- ii. **NOTED** the Minutes of the Community Justice Partnership – 17 September 2024; and
- iii. **NOTED** the Minutes of the Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership Strategy Group – 19 November 2024.

4. Action Tracker

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

In relation to Cost of Living Workshop Feedback and the proposal to invite a representative of Social Security Scotland to a future meeting of the Board, it was explained that a follow-up meeting had taken place and, given Social Security Scotland were actively involved in the Poverty Reduction Delivery Group, officers were content that the action could be removed from the Action Tracker. The remaining actions had either been completed or were the subject of later items on the agenda.

The Board:

- i. **NOTED** the Action Tracker and the update provided; and
- ii. **AGREED** that the action to invite a representative of Social Security Scotland to a future meeting of the Board be removed from the Action Tracker.

5. Presentation: Highland Property Partnership

The Assistant Chief Executive – Place, The Highland Council, gave a presentation which provided an overview of the Connecting People and Spaces theme within the Highland

Outcome Improvement Plan (HOIP) Delivery Plan; the Highland Property Partnership, which comprised the five statutory partners and other key public sector agencies with the aim of working together to deliver strategic property asset management across Highland; the Council's Highland Investment Plan and the associated masterplanning approach and priority activity; and partnership asks including partner commitment to and engagement with the Highland Property Partnership, alignment between the property approach and service delivery requirements, and willingness for radical change.

During discussion, the following main points were raised:

- in relation to the approach to sharing property and assets, it was queried whether intelligence should be considered a partnership asset and whether a co-located intelligence hub with partners from across the CPP might better support the HOIP. Particular reference was made to public protection and the potential, through relevant partners working more closely together, to see linkages and escalate risks more quickly. Given people could access their organisation's network to work from home it was presumed they could work from any office together, and even if that was done on a part-time basis it would lead to benefits. Further discussion ensued, during which it was explained that conversations around data-sharing were underway between the Council and NHS Highland, details of which were provided. It was commented that whilst an integrated/co-located team could potentially be implemented, the full benefits would not be realised until issues in terms of partners' data-sharing protocols were addressed. It was added that data foundations were key, and the Council and NHS Highland were undertaking joint work in that regard. Other Board Members spoke to opportunities for data-sharing around education and skills, and to utilise UHI's network of learning centres;
- UHI Headquarters had moved to UHI House and was now co-located with NHS Highland, Inverness and Cromarty Firth Green Freeport and other organisations, which had led to a more enabling and vibrant culture and allowed access to buildings and facilities that would otherwise be unaffordable. It was added that the now empty building at Ness Walk might offer opportunities in terms of the Highland Property Partnership;
- linked to earlier comments, co-location was not only about making better use of space but about integrating service delivery, and it was important, when coming together in partnership spaces, to be mindful of the service delivery requirements and opportunities for change;
- the importance of focusing on outcomes was emphasised;
- there was approximately £70m of unclaimed benefits in Highland, including £6.9m unclaimed pension credits, and if the recovery of some of that income for people could be targeted it would be an outcome in itself as well as having other parallel benefits;
- information was sought, and provided, as to how well the co-location/sharing approach worked at Scottish Government level, during which it was explained that good progress had been made, and the Scottish Government appeared to be looking across the whole public service estate from a place-based perspective rather than looking at individual organisations. This was something the Scottish Government Place Director was sighted on, which was welcomed;
- it was necessary to embody best practice and take a mission-based approach;
- the Council had committed, in the Highland Investment Plan and the Highland Housing Challenge, to find solutions, both independently and in partnership with the private sector, to financing some of the large capital builds needed that could be genuinely transformational;
- on the point being raised, it was confirmed that the scope of the co-location approach extended to third sector and private sector organisations;

- there had been instances where co-location had not gone smoothly, particularly during school hours, and it was queried whether the learning from such instances had been taken into consideration and how it informed what proposals were potentially going to go forward;
- it was queried whether impact assessment was built into the process to ensure it was understood whether there were different impacts on different groups within communities; and
- what worked in Inverness would not work in other areas of Highland, and the Head of Operations – North reaffirmed NatureScot’s support for a place-based approach;

The Board otherwise **NOTED** the presentation.

6. Presentation: Visitor Levy Consultation

The Assistant Chief Executive – Place, The Highland Council, gave a presentation on the Visitor Levy consultation that was currently underway, during which information was provided on the visitor economy; the legislative background; the timeline for the consultation; the proposed Visitor Levy Scheme; links to the Sustainable Tourism Strategy; and how partners could help by raising awareness of the consultation and encouraging participation.

During discussion, the following main points were raised:

- feedback from the third sector was that people could see the value in a levy being applied if they could understand what it was going to be invested in. There was a degree of cynicism that it was going to be used to plug public sector funding gaps. However, a firm assurance was provided that that was not the case;
- there were a number of national third sector organisations that employed staff who were required to travel around Scotland. If there were no exemptions for people who had to come to Highland to stay for work it was yet another additional cost, and it was suggested this could be looked at. It was added that the third sector was not receiving any assistance in relation to national increases. In response, it was explained that, in terms of the legislation, a transient visitor levy included those who arrived in the area for work, and the point raised could be fed into the consultation. The Chair of the Council’s Communities and Place Committee, Councillor Graham MacKenzie, added that he was certain Elected Members and officers would be looking carefully at possible exemptions when the consultation period was over, and he emphasised the importance of encouraging as many people as possible to respond to the consultation;
- a key part of supporting, sustaining and developing tourism was helping communities determine their tourism offering and promoting things such as ecotourism, and there might be opportunities for the third sector in terms of sources of investment;
- concern was expressed regarding the disproportionate impact on those who lived in remote and rural areas of Highland who needed to travel to Inverness to go to court or hospital. People in the justice system tended to be the most disadvantaged and vulnerable in society, and there was an issue in terms of keeping people safe, particularly if they had mental health issues;
- there would be groups of individuals who would not respond to the consultation, and the importance of remembering the unheard voices was emphasised;
- the Inverness Castle Experience was cited as an example of the Council’s commitment to reinvest in tourism;
- the term “visitor levy” was not entirely accurate as some people were not visitors but were simply moving around Highland;

- not all the income from a visitor levy would come from tourists, and it would be helpful to have clarity, not only on what it would be spent on but on which sources it had come from;
- the proposed levy was not just about tourism but about helping communities cope with the impact of tourism; and
- all the facilities that were available to tourists were also used by communities and, if the levy went ahead, it was necessary to consider how to maximise opportunities for local communities to use such facilities to be more active and improve mental health and wellbeing.

The Board otherwise **NOTED** the presentation.

7. HOIP Core Priority Update: Community Wealth Building

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/1/25 by the Assistant Chief Executive – Place, The Highland Council.

A detailed discussion took place, during which the following main points were raised:

- on the point being raised, it was confirmed there would be no threat to existing community-specific benefit schemes;
- it was queried what opportunities were envisioned for improved engagement with communities by energy suppliers, as communities were not satisfied with some of the engagement already taking place. In that regard, it was confirmed the Council was appointing three additional staff to engage with communities and support them to engage with developers;
- whilst in agreement with leveraging additional investment, concern was expressed regarding the additional funding remaining in the control of public agencies and sitting at regional level which, it was suggested, contradicted the concept of community wealth building. It was added that, even with community representatives on board, there was not a “Highland community” that could be adequately represented at that level;
- from a third sector perspective, it was disappointing that this was the first opportunity to feed into the Social Value Charter for Renewables Investment since it had last been discussed at the CPP Board;
- information was sought, and provided, on whether any work was being undertaken in terms of an impact assessment looking at what might happen if current investment shifted. Particular reference was made to the health and social care community hubs in Sutherland, a number of which were in receipt of windfarm monies, and it was questioned if it was understood what would happen if that funding was to change;
- whilst support was expressed for the concept of a shared project bank, examples were provided of issues that had arisen where similar initiatives had been implemented, and it was suggested there was work to be done around the practicalities;
- it was necessary to take on board the feedback on how Highland was performing in relation to human rights, and disappointment was expressed that there was not a response to the report by the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) on the agenda. The Chair confirmed this was on the proposed list of items for the June meeting. It was added that whilst the SHRC report identified a number of issues, it did not include what actions were already being undertaken to address some of the issues. The critical thing for the CPP was to identify where the gaps were and that would be the basis of the report to the June Board, with input from various partnership groups and individual organisations;
- a lot of reassurance was needed to alleviate the concerns of the third sector regarding the proposed Strategic Community Benefit Fund;

- if there was not lasting legacy from the huge amount of investment coming into Highland as a result of onshore energy developments, SSE's spend on grid capacity, and the Inverness and Cromarty Firth Green Freeport, the CPP had not done its job, and the Charter was a means of managing that;
- it was only fair that monies that came from energy developments in Highland were spent in Highland. However, other Board Members added that it was a matter of how the monies were spent and the governance and decision-making process. The decision-making process sitting with an independent source whereby proposals could be appraised on an equal footing would be exciting and would fit better with the concept of community wealth building;
- whilst protecting the current level of investment in communities was welcomed, it was questioned how effectively communities themselves were using the funding and whether there was scope to explore what the Charter could leverage in in terms of a more effective and equal process;
- in terms of the pipeline of development proposals, it was a source of frustration that what community benefit would be achieved was not a material planning consideration and technically competent projects were being approved where the developer was not engaging with the Social Value Charter. It was suggested this point be raised in the response to the Scottish Government consultation, and that it was necessary to use whatever leverage was available to ensure that projects were being put forward with a good impact in terms of community benefit;
- it was important to be able to move quickly in the renewables space, and ensure that investment models were structured in at an early stage;
- the Charter was about leverage and using the collective power of the public sector to negotiate with developers, and fairness needed to be the driving principle;
- the Council's Chief Officer – Housing and Communities undertook to share the Council's draft response to the Scottish Government consultation on community benefit to aid responses and contributions to the CPP response. It was also confirmed that HIE's draft response would be circulated following approval by the HIE Board; and
- in terms of where and how to continue the conversation on some of the points raised, particularly the views of the third sector regarding the governance of the additional funding, it was suggested that the Highlands and Islands Community Wealth Building Group would be the appropriate forum, and the Chief Officer – Housing and Communities undertook to liaise with the Chief Officer, HTSI, in that regard.

The Board:-

- i. **AGREED** the next steps around the implementation of the Social Value Charter for Renewables Investment;
- ii. **NOTED** the broader update on the Community Wealth Building HOIP priority;
- iii. **AGREED** that a CPP response to the Scottish Government's community benefit consultation be collated and circulated for comment with the final response being agreed in consultation with the Chair; and
- iv. **AGREED** that the Council and HIE's draft responses would be circulated to partners to aid responses and contributions.

8. Developing the Care for People Response

At its meeting on 4 December 2024, the Board had agreed that the Care for People proposals be reviewed to ensure they reflected recent structural changes within the Council and there was clarity in terms of roles and responsibilities, and that they be brought back to the next meeting of the Board for approval.

In that regard, there had been circulated Report No CPPB/2/25 by Superintendent Jen Valentine, Police Scotland.

During discussion, it was highlighted that there might be further changes going forward as a result of the cessation of the Lead Agency model. In response to a question, it was confirmed that progress in terms of implementation of the proposals could be reported to a future meeting of the Board.

The Board **APPROVED** the proposals as outlined in section 3.1 of the report.

9. Creating Hope in Highland Together - Interim Update

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/3/25 by Superintendent Jen Valentine, Police Scotland.

During discussion, the following main points were raised:

- Board Members commended all those involved for the significant amount of work taking place as detailed in the report and Action Plan. Particular thanks were expressed to Superintendent Valentine for her leadership;
- information was sought, and provided, as to confidence that all partners were fully on board and embedding the objectives in the Action Plan into their daily practice;
- in response to a question, it was confirmed that a representative of the Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership sat on the Suicide Prevention Steering Group. It was suggested there were opportunities to explore further in terms of links between some deaths by suicide and alcohol and drugs;
- it was highlighted that an event was scheduled to take place in Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on 9 May 2025 looking at the lessons learned from different types of death, including death by suicide, with the aim of preventing future deaths;
- whilst it was recognised that work was at an early stage, it was important that the potential for a Community Wellbeing Centre for people in crisis was fed into the Highland Property Partnership discussions;
- the importance of ensuring the Community Justice Partnership was aware of the suicide prevention work taking place was emphasised;
- the overlap between suicide prevention, crisis intervention and support and some of the communication work taking place had been recognised and these matters were brought together at the Mental Health and Wellbeing Delivery Group. It had also been recognised that it was necessary to share some of the learning and the progress that had been made, and it was intended to hold an event in that regard later in the year; and
- suicide prevention was an area of work where there was excellent partnership engagement. In that regard, reference was made to the work taking place looking at utilising capacity across partners to deliver a prospectus of mental health and wellbeing training, including suicide prevention training.

The Board **NOTED** the progress of the Action Plan.

10. Contest Board Annual Report

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/4/25 by Superintendent Jen Valentine, Police Scotland.

The Board **NOTED** the contents of the report and Highland activity in relation to CONTEST.

At this stage, the Chair highlighted that it was Superintendent Valentine's final meeting of the Board as she was moving on to a new role within Police Scotland. On behalf of the Board, she expressed thanks to Superintendent Valentine for her contribution to the CPP and congratulated her on her new role.

11. Partnership Development Team Quarterly Update

There had been circulated Report No CPPB/5/25 by the Partnership Development Manager and CPP Senior Officers.

In addition to the report, reference was made to previous discussions regarding the status of the Partnership Development Team, and it was confirmed that the two Partnership Officer posts had been extended for a further two years.

Having welcomed the continuation of the Partnership Officer posts and commended the significant amount of work taking place, the Board **NOTED** the updated Year 2 Milestones in Appendix 1 of the report.

12. Review of Strategic Risk Register

The Strategic Risk Register had been circulated for consideration and review, having been further amended based on the discussions at the Board on 4 December 2024.

During discussion, the following main points were raised:

- given the earlier discussions around data-sharing, it was suggested that the risk appetite in respect of risk 04/20 (Joint Situational Awareness – Information Sharing) be reviewed and that consideration be given to a Risk Management Plan to improve data-sharing across partner organisations. It was added that the deluge of information-sharing guidance had had a negative impact in terms of organisations working in silos, and a collective gathering with a view to streamlining data-sharing processes would be welcomed; and
- on the point being raised, it was confirmed, as agreed at the previous meeting, that work was underway in terms of reviewing the partnership's risks and setting the risk appetite. It was explained that the Council had developed a new risk analysis framework which it was intended to use to review the Risk Register and align it with the HOIP.

The Board:

- i. **APPROVED** the revised Strategic Risk Register; and
- ii. **AGREED** that risk 04/20 (Joint Situational Awareness – Data Sharing) be reviewed, taking into account the points raised during discussion on data-sharing.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The Board **NOTED** that the next meeting was scheduled to take place on Friday 6 June 2025 at 2.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 12.00 noon.



Community Justice Partnership Meeting

Thursday 12 December 2024, 10:00-12:00

Police HQ Inverness, Old Perth Road, Inverness IV2 3SY

Minute of Meeting

1. Attendance

Present

Roddy Bailey (SDS), Charlene Bell (DWP), Caroline Black (DWP), Maria Cano (Justice SW), Ritchie Macrae (Police Scotland), Louise Martin-Theyers (UHI), Frances Matthewson (HADP), James Maybee (CJP - Chair), Jenny Valentine (Police Scotland), Scott Watson (SPS).

In attendance

Gabrielle Buist (CJP), Kevin Flett (CJP - Minutes), Alan Grant (Custody Link Project), Mhairi Wylie (HTSI).

Apologies for absence

Fiona Farquhar (SCRA), Teresa Green (HADASS), Chris Holloway (Apex Scotland), Rachel Hughes (Victim Support Scotland), Dawn Kotschujew (RASASH), Karen McEwan (Families Outside), Margaret McIntyre (THC SW), Kate MacLean (THC Elected Member), Lindsay Snodgrass (UHI), Carol Spratt (NHS), Miles Stubbs (SFRS), Ruth Thomson (SCTS).

		Actions
2.	Declarations of Interest - None	
3.	Minutes of 17 September 2024: The minutes were approved. Follow up actions Completed: 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 Ongoing: 9, 10 To be retained: 3. Consideration of further steps following Nugent Report [JSW and others are exploring the establishing of a Women's project]). To be progressed:	 3. Follow up Nugent Report JM/KF/GB

	<p>4. JSW & HTSI Finance MoU to be developed</p> <p>6. Discussion between Alcohol and Drug services and CLink</p> <p>Ongoing:</p> <p>9. New CJP structures to be developed</p> <p>10. Development of Delivery Plans</p> <p>Carried Forward:</p> <p>14. HADASS update to be included on agenda</p>	<p>4. JSW/HTSI MoU MC/MW</p> <p>6. HADASS/ CLink discussion AG/TG</p> <p>9. CJP structures All</p> <p>10. Delivery Plans KF</p> <p>14. HADASS update on agenda KF</p>
4.	<p>CJP Terms of Reference</p> <p>The review of the ToR was omitted from the June meeting. It was agreed that the current Terms remain valid, but will be subject to a full review pending changes to the structure of the CJP. The following suggestions will be discussed as part of this review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Third Sector representation - Formal appointment of vice chair (possibly on a rotational basis) 	<p>15. Terms of Reference review All</p>
5.	<p>CJP Manager Update</p> <p>a. The planned development session had taken place on 29 November, and had helped to progress thinking around new structures and new delivery plans.</p> <p>b. Community Justice Scotland had held a Policy and Practice Forum, around the National Indicators, which had given a clearer understanding of our reporting duties.</p> <p>c. Our CJP Annual Report had been prepared for publication. There had been a degree of frustration amongst CJP coordinators about the poor coordination of information.</p> <p>d. CJS held a session on the Voluntary Throughcare Commissioning process. Roll out is still planned for April 2025. The provider has been selected, but not made public to allow for consultation with staff. It was agreed at the development session, that engaging with the new provider will be a priority.</p> <p>e. Kevin has been based with the JSW teams in Inverness 2-3 days each month to strengthen links and improve understanding. This has been helpful. There has also been invitations for Gabrielle and Kevin to attend JSW team meetings. Maria suggested that Kevin attend JSW managers meetings on occasion.</p>	<p>16. CJP manager to attend JSW manager meeting MC/KF</p>
6.	<p>Custody Link Worker Project Update</p> <p>Alan spoke to the report that he had submitted:</p> <p>a. Referrals into the project and from the project remained high – far exceeding what had initially been envisaged when the project commenced. The ‘onward referral’ figures don’t include self-referrals that individuals make on their own initiative.</p>	

	<p>b. Amongst the main needs identified are: Mental Health; Drugs and Alcohol; Housing and Finance.</p> <p>c. There had been some analysis of the duration of cases. 75% are completed and closed within 6 months. Cases extending beyond this time are due mainly to lapse, remand or court delays.</p> <p>d. The project has always had a commitment to innovation. Current developments include: better use of Diversions and links to Restorative Justice initiatives.</p> <p>e. Jen highlighted that the project had been nominated for a Police Scotland "Partner of the Year" award, a testament to the success and value of the work that has been done.</p> <p>f. Mhairi spoke to the financial situation, namely that funds are in place to cover operations until August 2025, meaning that referrals would have to cease around March/April. There was acknowledgement of the support from JSW this year. It was agreed that funding needs to be identified to sustain the immediate future, but that a funding model needed to be developed which would mainstream the project and offer a degree of longer-term stability. It was agreed that this would be best approached within a CPP context.</p>	<p>17. Explore CLink funding options (immediate and longer term) MW/AG/JM/KF</p>
7.	<p>Finance Update</p> <p>Mhairi circulated the year to date balance sheet for the CJP. It is currently showing an underspend of £76k. However, included in the balance is the cost of the Senior Development Officer post, which carries over into the following year. It is projected that by year end, there will be an underspend of £20-30k, which can be carried forward.</p> <p>There will be an opportunity to discuss any proposals for use of the underspend at the March meeting</p>	<p>18. Consider use of underspend MW/JM/All</p>
8.	<p>CJS Public facing Annual Report</p> <p>A draft copy of the report had been circulated, and a number of partners had already commented on it. Kevin outlined its main features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This fulfils the CJP 'Section 23' requirement to produce an annual report on performance. - As this is the first report in this form there is a fuller introduction, which in future reports will be shorter. - CJS had supplied the 'Highland Indicator Report' summarising performance against the national indicators. - The content draws from the previous annual return submitted to CJS in September, and refers to the commentary supplied by CJS on the performance indicators. - The form of the report links directly with our proposed new reporting structures and plans, which will make reporting more straightforward in future years, and allow us time to prepare a more 'user-friendly' format. <p>The delay in issuing performance information by CJS made deadlines very tight. There had been some confusion and anxiety across a number of CJP's as to the format and content of the report, however guidance from CJS was that ownership of the report lay with the CJP, and there was no requirement about format, style or content other than the requirement that it should report on performance.</p>	

	<p>CJS advice was also that whilst publication by 31 December was ideal, if there is a slight delay into the New Year, this would not pose a problem. We will inform our CJS link of the situation.</p> <p>There were a number of positive comments about the report, and it was approved for publication.</p> <p>James had raised the timing of the report with the CPP Board. In view of the tight timescales, they are happy for the report to be circulated to Board members following approval by the CJP, with approval for publication then resting with the Board chair.</p>	<p>19. Report to go to CPP Board, for comment and sign off by Chair KF/JM</p>
9.	<p>CJP Restructuring</p> <p>The development session went ahead on 29 November as planned. Numbers were small, but discussion and input from participants was very positive.</p> <p>It was agreed that we go ahead with the Strategic Group, supported by a Diversions & Interventions Delivery Group and a Transitions & Communities Delivery Group.</p> <p>Discussion at the development session concluded that the suggested focus for the groups was correct. One change proposed was around where Victims organisations should sit within our structures. Initially it had been suggested within the Transitions and Communities group, but this would now shift to the Strategic Group. Victims of Crime is one of the strategic priorities of Police Scotland in this coming year, and it was agreed that the CJP should link with Police Scotland developments to ensure better synergy.</p> <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provisional groups would be called together for an initial meeting around February to refine delivery plans, draft Terms of Reference and confirm representation; - Groups would report back to the CJP in March (which would be the final CJP meeting in the current structure); - Following approval in March, the CJP would submit proposals for change in structures to the CPP Board; - The Delivery Groups would meet in May 2025; - The CJP Strategic Group would meet in June 2025. 	<p>20. Provisional group meetings February JM/KF/GB</p>
10.	<p>Partner Updates</p> <p>SPS – The opening of the new prison is still on schedule for late summer 2026.</p> <p>Currently the prison population is 25-30% remand prisoners. The Prisoners (Early Release) (Scotland) Bill has been passed and is awaiting assent. The reduction from 50% to 40% of sentence served will have an impact on liberation planning.</p> <p>Work is ongoing in developing improved links with UHI and other partners.</p> <p>SPS had moved to a standard 35 hours pw contract which has meant a period of adjustment</p> <p>CLink – see above</p> <p>SDS – There are ongoing changes in the skills sector. SDS still administers apprenticeships, funded by the Scottish Funding Council, but skills planning will move to the Scottish Govt from April 2026</p>	

	<p>UHI – Louise had had a useful meeting with James. There is potential for inputting to the Transitions Group, as well as supporting some potential Diversionary activities. Changes in Higher Education Sector funding makes it more challenging to work with traditional hard to reach groups.</p> <p>DWP – There are good links currently with the prison, with new initiatives also being explored including working with prisoners developing skills (e.g. fork lift operation) pre-release. Work is being done to survey prisoners on the type of work they may wish to return to, and also on attending Jobs Fairs, with a focus on employment of ex-offenders.</p> <p>HADP – The ADP are undertaking a Health Needs Assessment, which will conclude in February. A survey had been sent out to partners, who were asked to circulate further if possible and encourage responses. An Emergency Response Exercise had taken place to identify how to improve responses to overdose situations.</p> <p>Police Scotland – Work is ongoing to better understand remand rates, as well as the impact on Victims of release from custody, all linked with public perceptions of risk. There are continuing conversations with the Fiscals and the Court service.</p> <p>There has been clarification of the criteria for Diversion from Prosecution, along with improved understanding of the impacts of custody on individuals' housing/employment etc.</p> <p>The refurbishment of Burnett Rd is well under way, with completion planned for April/May.</p> <p>Senior Development Officer – Development of CPOs was ongoing, with the focus shifting to opportunities in more remote areas. There had been a recent visit to Caithness, and another planned for Skye. The need for better external communication has become clear, and there was a very positive article on local CPO activity in the Ross-shire Journal. It was planned to replicate this in other areas. Gabrielle is also supporting work to develop a women's project and also to explore opportunities for Restorative Justice.</p> <p>Third Sector – Mhairi commented on the work of Café 1668, highlighting some of the challenges faced. There is some concern that there may be some county line activity around the premises. More widely, the third sector is in a very fragile state at present, with a great deal of uncertainty around the funding and political landscapes.</p> <p>Justice SW – New guidance had been issued on Diversions, which had been long awaited and was very welcome.</p> <p>The potential early liberation anticipated from February onwards will have a significant impact on numbers. Challenges are ongoing around liberations from court, especially linked with access to recovery and harm reduction services. JSW are still waiting on the funding letter. It is normally out by now, but this delays forward planning.</p> <p>JSW are committed to the development of a women's project, but there is the need to ensure it links well within existing structures and has clear measurable outcomes. There may be learning from elsewhere, for example Inverclyde have a women's project which links closely with the Caledonian Project women's workers.</p>	
11.	AOCB	

	It was noted that Jen Valentine would be moving on to a new role, with her current Partnerships role being filled by Judy Hill. Jen was thanked by the chair for everything she has contributed to the Partnership.	
12.	Date of Next scheduled meeting Wednesday 12 March 2025, 10:00 – 12:00 (Police HQ Inverness, Old Perth Rd, Inverness IV2 3SY) Future Meetings (all at Police HQ Inverness, Old Perth Rd, Inverness IV2 3SY unless otherwise intimated) Wednesday 11 June 2025, 10:00 – 12:00 Wednesday 10 September 2025, 10:00 – 12:00 Wednesday 10 December 2025, 10:00 – 12:00	

Actions

	Description	Responsible	Completion
3.	Consideration of possible further steps following Nugent report	James Maybee/ Kevin Flett/ Gabrielle Buist	04/02/2025
4.	Finance MoU between JSW and HTSI to be developed	Maria Cano/ Mhairi Wylie	
6.	Meeting to discuss referral processes between arrest referral and A&D services	Alan Grant / Teresa Green	
9.	Reflection on new structures. Ideas for possible reps from organisations to be passed to Kevin	All	ongoing
10.	Draft Actions plans for development groups to be formulated	Kevin Flett	ongoing
14.	HADASS agenda item for future meeting	Kevin Flett	
15.	Review CJP Terms of Reference (June 2025)	All	ongoing
16.	CJP manager to attend JSW meetings as required	Maria Cano/ Kevin Flett	ongoing
17.	Explore CLink funding options (immediate and longer term)	Mhairi Wylie/ Alan Grant/ James Maybee/ Kevin Flett	Immediate 11/02/2025
18.	Consider use of underspend at March Meeting	Mhairi Wylie/ James Maybee/ All	
19.	Send Draft Annual Report to CPP Board, for comment and sign off by Chair	Kevin Flett/ James Maybee	12/12/2024
20.	Arrange provisional delivery group meetings February	Kevin Flett/ Gabrielle Buist/ James Maybee	04/03/2025

Agenda Item 3iii.

Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership – Strategy Group Meeting

Tuesday 11th February 2025; 2pm-4:30pm
UHI House, Inverness and via Microsoft Teams

Present:	Carron MacDiarmid – Independent Chair
	Bev Fraser – Strategic Lead, NHS Highland, Drug & Alcohol Recovery Service
	Caroline Robertson – Managing Coordinator, CrossReach
	Cathy Steer – Head of Health Improvement, NHS Highland
	Christine MacKenzie – Housing Options Officer, Highland Council
	Cllr. Kate MacLean – Elected Member, Highland Council
	Donna Munro – Lead Officer, Child Protection Committee, Highland Council
	Dr Andrea Broad – Consultant Gastroenterologist, NHS Highland
	Dr Rob Henderson - Consultant in Public Health Medicine, NHS Highland
	Eve MacLeod – Coordinator, Highland ADP
	Fiona Sadler - Lived Experience Panel Member, Scottish Drugs Forum
	Frances Matthewson – Research & Intelligence Specialist, Highland ADP
	Graham Cameron – Police Scotland
	Hannah Sinclair – Peer Research Development Officer, Scottish Drugs Forum
	James Dunbar – Director, New Start Highland and HADP Vice Chair
	Jennifer Baughan – Programme Manager for the Whole Family Wellbeing Programme, Highland Council
	Kirstin Edmiston – Development Manager, Highland ADP
	Liz Smart – Consultant in Public Health, NHS Highland
	Margaret Ross – Assistant Housing Manager, Highland Council
	Mhairi Wylie - Chief Officer, Highland Third Sector Interface
	Nancy Davies – Lived Experience Panel Member, Scottish Drugs Forum
	Scott Watson – Governor HMP Inverness, Scottish Prison Service
	Teresa Green – Service Manager, NHS Highland, Drug & Alcohol Recovery Service
Apologies:	Catherine Russell – Training and Development Manager, Highland Violence Against Women Partnership
	Dr Alex Keith – Consultant Psychiatrist, NHS Highland
	Fiona Simpson – Acting Team Manager, Justice Service
	Iain Templeton – Highland Third Sector Interface
	Ian Kyle – Head of Integrated Children's Services – Highland Council
	Judy Hill – Police Scotland
	Kevin Flett – Manager, Community Justice Partnership
	Tracey Porter – Management Accountant, NHS Highland
Notes:	Steph Tyrer

1. Welcome/Apologies

- Thanks were extended to ES for her contribution to the Partnership over the years. The Chair wished her well in her retirement and welcomed RH to the team in the role of Consultant for the Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.
- EM has been in contact with the Highland Employability Partnership who have offered to share information with us about the group. EM is meeting with the NHS representative who sits on this group and will continue to forge links.

Action	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EM to meet with the NHS representative who sits on the Employability Partnership group and continue to forge links. 	EM	Next Strategy Group
2. Declarations of Interest		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For transparency the Chair raised her connection with items where Public Health Scotland (PHS) is noted in relation to her position as a non-executive director with PHS – no conflict arises with these items. No other declarations of interest were raised. 		
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Actions		
3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2024		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes from the meeting held on 19th November 2024 were agreed. The ideas that came out of the deep dive into prevention are to be included in the new strategy which is to be presented to the Community Planning Partnership Board on the 6th of June. The draft strategy will be discussed at the next Strategy Group meeting on the 13th of May. EM proposes that a supplementary meeting is held before the next Strategy Group meeting to look at the Health Needs Assessment which will provide the evidence for the new strategy. A date will be circulated for a meeting in March. 		
Action	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a supplementary Strategy Group meeting in March to look at the Health Needs Assessment. 	Support Team	March 2025
3.2 Action Tracker for the Strategy Group		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The action tracker was updated as agreed. 		
3.3 Positive developments to highlight since 19th November 2024		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Scottish Government commissions the Scottish Drugs Forum to run an engagement group of people with living experience and they meet weekly in Inverness. Feedback from the group is shared with a newly developed management group, chaired by Eve MacLeod, and an action tracker has been developed to monitor that work. A '<i>You Said, We Did</i>' document has been drawn up and will be shared with the Strategy Group and Engagement Group once complete. A residential rehab workshop took place in November 2024. An action plan has been developed and will be shared with Health Improvement Scotland by the end of February. The HADP are commissioning a tender for a Highland Digital Alcohol and Drugs Support Service - this is now open for applications. The HADP website has been updated and launched. The fourth 'Together We Can' event will take place on 13th February. Around 170 people have attended the first three events. Scottish Recovery Consortium will share a report on the events and a summary of the feedback will be included in the Health Needs Assessment. The Mid and East Ross DARS team have been undertaking BBV testing and have managed to test over 70% of their caseload. Five individuals started the support self-management sessions within the prison. Two people were liberated within the timeframe of the sessions and two people completed them. Participants reported that they found the sessions beneficial. 		

Action	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish Recovery Consortium will share a report on the 'Together we Can' events and a summary will be included in the Health Needs Assessment. 	SRC/EM	Next Strategy Group
4. Finance		
4.1 Update from finance		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A meeting took place with the Head of Finance for NHS Highland who was very supportive in our approach to contract monitoring. It was confirmed that the total HADP allocation for 2024/25 is £2,294,469, which includes the allocation for MAT Standards. Even with the new investment agreed at the start of the year, following further work in the finance team, it was reported that an underspend for 2024/25 is still projected of £279,806.. Suggestions for how the underspend can be utilised included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To support Inverness BID to deliver the Inverness Warmth and Wellness Project in partnership with CAB and Café 1668 for rest of financial year. This would support people at risk of alcohol and drug related harm to address other issues such as food insecurity and fuel poverty and would be managed by Highland Third Sector Interface through the Local Improvement Fund. ➤ For Scottish Drugs Forum to support outcomes related to recovery capital and lived experience. ➤ To support the Child Protection Committee with the exploitation work they are undertaking in partnership with Police Scotland and third sector organisations. NB. This funding would go to Action for Children and Barnardo's not the CPC. It was agreed that any further suggestions should be received by 20th February after which an email will be sent to the Strategy Group outlining the revised proposals. FG highlighted that it will still take a few weeks to get orders through the system. We should highlight the contributions that are being made to support the initiatives and ensure the Director of Finance is informed of all new orders to avoid delays. MW's update on the Local Improvement Fund that Highland Third Sector Interface are managing for the HADP was welcomed and it was noted that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A couple of funding bids needed more refinement – this has now been done. ➤ The next update will include Thurso Community Café and Highland Wellness Collective. ➤ The total distribution was £88,104 which left a small underspend - this can be carried forward. ➤ Decisions are being made on how to showcase all of the work that has been done over the funding period to illustrate the impact the funding has had. 		
Action	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggestions for how this year's underspend can be utilised should be sent to the HADP Support Team by 20th February. 	All	20 th February 2025
4.2 Commissioning & Contracts		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks were extended to our contracts colleagues who are supporting us in ensuring all of our contracts are correct and up to date. 		
5. Performance Reporting and Scrutiny		
5.1 Outcomes/Performance Dashboard		

- There have been 27 suspected drug-related deaths reported for 2024 which is an increase of one from the confirmed deaths for 2023.
- There were a higher number of deaths for December which is in keeping with the seasonal average and patterns seen across other areas of Scotland.
- No deaths were reported for the month of January.
- The position for 2024 will be published in June and confirmed in August.
- Waiting times for drug and alcohol services has fallen significantly below the 90% national standard with 56.5% of completed waits being achieved within 3 weeks or less for the quarter ending September 2024.
 - It is recognised that significant recruitment and staffing challenges have contributed to this drop in performance.
 - Plans are in place to address the issues around MAT 1 and prescribers.
 - There isn't enough staffing capacity to meet the increasing demand and a new service for Highland might need to be considered such as utilising third sector organisations to deliver the everyday referrals to allow DARS to deal with the higher-level tasks. This model is part of the proposal of the new Digital Support Service which is out to tender.
 - There has been a proposal as part of the risk work to create an innovation subgroup from the Strategy Group. Any new service design could be built through this subgroup.
 - It was suggested that existing links between services could be used to identify pockets of capacity. This could allow people to be referred on at an earlier stage and also reduce the pressure on DARS.
- The Caithness Family Support Group have reported that people are struggling to get the psychiatric help they need, particularly those with a dual diagnosis. There is not a designated place in New Craigs for detox and people are put into wards with patients with other mental health conditions. The Chair will pick this up with ND offline.
- The ABI target is a national target allocated to us and has been the same for a long time. The Scottish Government response to the Public Health Scotland ABI review is pending.
- We are still struggling with a lack of partnership data and would be grateful for any data that could be included on the dashboard. Some housing information would be useful. Police Scotland are finalising data around crime and offences that have drugs or alcohol as a contributing factor. The Child Protection Committee are gathering information on the number of people requiring welfare support at the Belladrum festival. It is hoped to have both of these pieces of information for the next meeting.
- FM would welcome some feedback on the new format of the report.

Action	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been a proposal as part of the risk work to create an innovation subgroup from the Strategy Group. Any new service design could be built through this subgroup. 	Support Team	Next Strategy Group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Caithness Family Support Group have reported that people are struggling to get the psychiatric help they need, particularly those with a dual diagnosis. The Chair will pick this up with ND offline. 	Chair	Next Strategy Group
	All	Next Strategy Group

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are still struggling with a lack of partnership data and would be grateful for any data that could be included on the dashboard. 		
5.2 Drug Death Reviews		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DARS have appointed a second consultant psychiatrist who should be starting in early April. Osprey House is well staffed and the Mid East Ross team, which had longstanding vacancies, is steadily filling these. DARS consultant provision is inconsistent due to the locum (who is supposed to provide 16 hours a week to DARS) being re-deployed on an urgent basis, due to significant service pressures elsewhere in NHS Highland mental health services. DARS is currently struggling to retain usable detox beds, again due to significant broader pressure on the wider NHS Highland mental health service. The detox waiting list has 40 patients on it. The partnership should identify any opportunities to collaborate with each other, or consider alternative pathways, to improve this situation. The HADP support team have received some requests for out of area residential rehab. There is not a formalised process currently in place but this will need to be reviewed in order to manage future expectations. 		
5.3 Risk Assessment and Mitigation		
<p><u>The risk register was reviewed to check we feel this is an honest reflection of where we are and that we are happy with the scoring and the mitigations.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Risk 1: In-year financial challenges</u> - This was de-escalated from the last meeting as we now have a plan in place for committing all of the expenditure this year and have a good working relationship with finance colleagues. <u>Risk 2: Med-to longer term financial planning environment</u> – It is anticipated that this risk will reduce over time once investment plans for next year are in place. <u>Risk 3: Strategic alignment and direction</u> – This risk should reduce as the health needs assessment and strategy are agreed this year. the strategy is right for next year. All noted the action to increase engagement with people with lived and living experience. The residential rehab action plan is in development, EM will pass to Health Improvement Scotland for review. <u>Risk 4: Effective partnership working, including for support to recover</u> – This is the biggest risk at the moment however mitigation plans are in place to reduce this risk. <u>Risk 5: Underlying causes of dependence</u> – Agreed the risk description and scoring is acceptable. <u>Risk 6: Harm prevention and early intervention</u> – A number of speakers from prevention posts presented at the last Strategy Group meeting for the in-depth review of Outcome 1 and it is felt that a prevention sub-group would align that work better - EM will lead on this. The intention is to embed and grow the Planet Youth approach. <u>Risk 7: Resourcing, delivery and workforce planning</u> – Given the impact that workforce issues have had on the DARS team it was agreed to increase the scoring from 9 to 15. There is a proposal to establish a service innovation group. <u>Risk 8: Data provision and analysis</u> – Work is still required to ensure partnership data is received therefore it was agreed to move the risk rating up from 9 to 15. <u>Risk 9: Identifying and taking action in regard to emerging trends</u> – Agreed the risk description and scoring. <u>Risk 10: Governance</u> – It was noted that most of the controls in place are new. It is important to ensure all agreed action is undertaken to ensure this risk is moved to green. 		

- **Risk 11: Information, data governance and cyber security** – There is some planned development on the information sharing agreement across HADP – EM will pursue this.

Action	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is some planned development on the information sharing agreement across HADP in response to Risk 11: Information, data governance and cyber security. EM will pursue this. 	EM	Next Strategy Group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A prevention sub-group is to be set up to align with Risk 6: Harm prevention and early intervention. 	EM	Next Strategy Group

5.4 Reviewing Progress with Partnership Funded Services

From the overview report provided, the group noted:

- Overall performance looks like it is slipping when Quarter 3 is compared to Quarter 2.
- Thanks were extended to those projects that have been marked green.
- It is recognised that a lot of the people who complete the progress reports don't come to this meeting therefore it was agreed that the full set of collated progress reports can be shared within teams.
- Third sector providers are completing the progress reports appropriately and in a helpful way showing the impact being made. Statutory providers should ensure the progress being made with the investment is reflected in their reports.
- EM highlighted the specialist midwives as an example of good practice with a lot of good work happening within that team. The Women in Pregnancy and Substance Use guidance has been published on the Health Improvement Scotland website as an example of good practice for MAT Standard 4 – 'All people are offered evidence-based harm reduction at the point of mat delivery'.

Updates on those marked red:

- CAMHS post, NHS Highland – This post is currently being recruited to and should be de-escalated once this is complete.
- DARS CBT post, HMP Inverness – Various workshops have taken place which have highlighted some issues around the governance and support required to deliver CBT within the prison. The question was raised that if this isn't working then maybe the money should be disinvested and used for a different type of service. Kirsty MacDonald is the manager of this post and will be asked to provide an update by the end of March on whether this position can get back on track or if it requires to be disinvested.

Updates on those marked amber:

- Associate Lead Nurse with Highland Council – This is a new post and is in the early stages however plans have been put in place which should change the status for the next quarter.
- Health Improvement Team, NHS Highland – Alcohol Brief Intervention's (ABI's) are sitting below trajectory and Planet Youth are finding it difficult to get engagement from areas within the education service.
- Experiential Work, Scottish Drugs Forum– Some good progress has been made but there were some delays noted. This should move to green for the next quarter.
- Harm Prevention Officer, Police Scotland – This post is achieving what it is trying to do with the resource that is available. The Harm Prevention Officer is being proactive and delivering more assertive outreach rather than being an admin role.

- DARS – There was a request for additional admin hours – this will be picked up as part of DARS core funding.
- DTTO2 – The report included a lot of information on DTTO but the funding is for DTTO2 therefore it would have been helpful to see more information on that.
- Clinical Psychologist post – Additional admin hours have been requested.
- Whole Family Wellbeing Programme, Highland Council – There has been a gap in service because of recruitment but this has now been resolved.

It was agreed that all update reports need to be completed for scrutiny at the group meeting and that disinvestment will be considered where results are not being achieved over time.

Action	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recognised that a lot of the people who complete the progress reports don't come to this meeting therefore it was agreed that the full set of collated progress reports can be shared within teams. 	All	Ongoing

5.5 In Depth Review of the ADP's Approach to Prevention: Outcome 2 Risk is reduced for people who take harmful drugs

- Representatives from projects supported by HADP were invited to talk about the services they deliver that contribute to HADP's activity around Outcome 2 in the National Mission's framework which is that:

- ***Risk is reduced for people who take harmful drugs***

The two things are expected to be evidenced are that:

1. Overdoses are prevented from becoming fatal.
2. All people are offered evidence-based harm reduction and advice.

EM gave an overview of what harm reduction is. It refers to policies, programmes and practices that aim to minimise the negative health, social and legal impacts associated with drug use, drug policies and drug laws. Harm reduction is grounded in justice and human rights. It focuses on positive change and on working with people without judgement, coercion, discrimination or requiring that people stop using drugs as a precondition of support.

The presentations delivered are detailed below, the slide set will be circulated with the minutes.

1. Katy MacLeod – Scottish Drugs Forum, Experiential Work
2. Shona Urquhart – NHS, InverNESs Engagement Service, Assertive Outreach
3. Lesley Campbell – NHS Highland, Assertive Outreach
4. Bev Fraser – DARS, Recovery Support Workers
5. Aneurin Ellis – Kyle & Lochalsh Community Trust

The key points highlighted in the discussion were:

- There are disparities in the support that is available across Highland and equity of service will be considered under the new strategy. Gaps in provision in Skye and Lochaber were noted.
- It is recognised that there are gaps in support at weekends and out of hours and it is acknowledged that a seven-day service provision is required.
- Some local pharmacies can provide injecting equipment out of hours.
- The Mental Health Liaison Team at Raigmore Hospital is naloxone trained and can administer this.
- SAS also provide naloxone and can leave take home kits with individuals.
- Some areas, such as Lochaber, do not have any out of hours services.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Whole Family Wellbeing Programme have Locality Coordinators situated across Highland who offer a breadth of support to families within the different communities. It was agreed to look at all partner resources to enable better reach and equity in assertive outreach services. The proposed innovation sub group would be the place to consider how to develop this option. 		
5.6 Community Planning Partnership Board		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair's report was circulated with the papers and noted. 		
5.7 Public Protection Chief Officers Group		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair's report was circulated with the papers and noted. 		
5.8 Integrated Children's Service Planning Board/Leaders' Forum		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EM reported that the Integrated Children's Service Board held a trauma workshop last month which was one of a number of planned themed meetings. 		
5.9 Scottish Government Reporting/Updates		
<p>The report from the Chair with the findings from the Audit Scotland national report into alcohol and drug services was circulated with the papers. It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> most of the recommendations are for Scottish Government. Scottish Government are yet to respond however they are setting up a delivery board to improve leadership, scrutiny and assurance over the national mission. The ADP will have to engage with the new board at some point. There is a useful infographic in the appendix of the report about the barriers to support and treatment which will be helpful to use as a checklist when planning the new strategy. People with lived experience speaking in schools was highlighted as good practice within the report however it was noted that the evidence does not support this and it does not take into account the trauma for the person sharing their story. Conversation Cafes have taken place through some of the medical schools. This is an opportunity for medical students to come together with people with lived and living experience to understand their perspective and tackle stigma. This could be something to consider for Highland. 		
6. Partnership Improvement and Learning		
6.1 Housing First recommendations and next steps		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recommendation around TEC-enabled properties is being taken forward by Albyn Housing with money available to increase the technology in properties for those that have requested it. ES recommends that Housing First is taken forward as a holistic model and is embedded throughout a number of services. HADP is funding a nursing post for Housing First. 		
Action Points	Lead/Responsible	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure Housing First is taken forward as a holistic model as part of the new strategy. 	EM	Next Strategy Group
6.2 ADP Chairs Leaders Forum		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There had not been a meeting since the strategy group met in November, so nothing to feedback at this time. The next meeting is at the beginning of March and the Chair will provide an update at the next meeting. 		
6.3 Summary feedback from the National Public Protection Leadership Group		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback via the newsletter was included in the papers circulated and was noted. 		
7. Strategy and Partnership Development		
7.1 Development Plan		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair thanked everyone for their contributions to the development plan. It was noted that actions are nearly all completed. It should be closed at the next meeting. 		

We plan to undertake the SG's self-assessment framework soon, facilitated by the Local Authority Improvement Service and this will create our new partnership improvement plan.	
7.2 Health Needs Assessment update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EM suggested having an interim meeting of the Strategy Group to showcase the Health Needs Assessment – a date in March will be circulated. This will be an opportunity to hear about the analysis that's been going on to identify the needs and ensure peoples contributions are included and reflected within the new strategy. 	
7.3 Self-assessment with support from Improvement Service	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Local Authority Improvement Service are facilitating the self-assessment for the HADP for free with two options available: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> All members of the Strategy Group do an online survey, the Improvement Service write up the feedback, and the Strategy Group meet to discuss the findings and agree improvements. The Strategy Group meet to work through the questions together, in person, and provide some supporting evidence. The HADP support team are considering the options and an update will be provided at the next meeting. 	
8. New and Emerging Risks and Opportunities	
8.1 New risks and opportunities to be identified	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new risks or opportunities were raised. 	
9. National Reports and Consultation	
9.1 ADP's Survey Feedback	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All ADP's are required to submit an annual survey report to Scottish Government. The timescale for the next survey return is expected to be in June 2025. The Charter of Rights was launched in December to improve the experience of anyone needing support. The Right to Addiction Recovery Bill is at Stage 1 in the process of going through parliament. ES coordinated a response on behalf of HADP. The timings for Stage 2 have not yet been announced. The link to the Public Health Scotland ABI Review was included on the agenda. 	
10. Date and time of next meeting:	Tuesday 13th May 2025; 2pm-4:30pm