

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

MINUTE OF THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Wednesday, 12 February 2014

Present:	Gavin Whitefield (Chair)	North Lanarkshire Council
	Pauline Nicholas	North Lanarkshire Council
	Jonathan Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
	Shirley Linton	North Lanarkshire Council
	Linda Johnston	North Lanarkshire Council
	Stephen Fraser	North Lanarkshire Council
	Stephen Kerr	NHS Lanarkshire
	Kay Henry	DWP
	Val McGrory	Jobcentre Plus
	Francis Fallan	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
	June Vallance	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
	Brian Hughes	Scottish Fire & Rescue
	Paul Devlin	Scottish Fire & Rescue
	Nelson Telfer	Police Scotland
	Stevie Conn	Police Scotland
	Martin McGuire	New College Lanarkshire
	Hazel Mathison	Skills Development Scotland
	Hugh McAloon	Scottish Government
	Lillian Cringles	North Lanarkshire Council
	Allan Comrie	SPT
	Allan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise
	Jean Kenmuir (minute)	North Lanarkshire Council
Apologies:	Cllr Jim McCabe	North Lanarkshire Council
	Cllr Jim Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
	Bruce Kiloh	SPT
	Neena Mahal	NHS Lanarkshire
	Ian Ross	NHS Lanarkshire
	Andrew Scott	Scottish Government
	John Miller	Scottish Fire & Rescue

1. Welcome

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting by the Chief Executive who was chairing the meeting in the absence of the Leader and Depute Leader.

The Chair welcomed Stevie Conn, Police Scotland, to the meeting who has taken over Laura MacKay's post as the Local Authority Liaison Officer.

2. Apologies – noted above

3. Minute of previous meeting (4 December)

The minute of the last meeting was approved.

4. Matters arising

Agreement on joint working on community planning and resourcing

It was noted that at the end of January a discussion took place around financial planning for 2014/15 and beyond with finance reps from NLC, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue and New College Lanarkshire. The Chair advised that a short life partnership wide group has been established to consider this matter and report back.

Action: Note

NL Industries

Information on NL Industries was circulated after the previous meeting and it was noted that further discussion will take place once NL Industries further develops.

Action: Note

5. Integration of Health and Social Care - Establishment of a shadow board

The purpose of this report was to update the Board on the establishment of a Shadow Board in response to the requirements of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Bill relating to the integration of Health and Social Care and to note the senior management structure outlined at Appendix 1, as the basis for further detailed work.

It highlighted the need for a mutual partnership aspiration to be implemented which puts outcomes first, a need for effective governance, including financial and legal arrangements and it was suggested that an approach similar to South Lanarkshire be considered. It was also noted that the report will be presented to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee in March 2014 for approval.

A discussion took place around the need for Third Sector involvement and it was clarified that further in-depth guidance would follow.

Action: The Board noted the content of the report and approved the shadow arrangements

6. Commonwealth Games Employment Opportunities - Presentation

Kay Henry, Head of Recruitment at DWP provided an informative presentation in relation to their involvement in the Commonwealth Games 2014. The presentation provided detail of the business and employment opportunities, the maximisation of employment skills, wider partnership initiatives, DWP Legacy and the possible challenges. A series of questions and discussion points took place and Kay was thanked for her input.

Action: Note

7. Redesigning the Community Justice System

The Board heard of the launch in 2012 of a consultation paper "*Redesigning the Community Justice System*" by the Scottish Government and Lillian Cringles provided an update on the response. The main features of the new model were discussed and Lillian advised that the Scottish Government will consult further on the detail of this model in early 2014 with primary guidance required to implement the new structure for Community Justice set out in the Government response.

It was also noted that preparatory work has been undertaken to ensure that the management and delivery of offender services in the community is appropriately reflected in the North Lanarkshire Partnership's Single Outcome Agreement/Community Plan. This work also includes ensuring appropriate alignment of criminal justice action plans with the Community Safety Partnership action plan.

Action: The Board noted the content of the report and the chair asked that all Partners provided input and support where required.

8. Performance reports from Partnership Working Groups (6 monthly update)

Linda Johnston updated the group on the performance reports for the five themed Partnership Working Groups from 1 April 2013 until 30 September 2013 and provided a broad overview of the progress made. The report also discussed key achievements and showed where actions were not on track and provided commentary on the reasons for this.

Nelson Telfer, Police Scotland, discussed issues around reporting on one indicator within the SOA in relation to Community Safety and reasons for this to be considered for deletion.

Action1: The Board noted the contents of all 5 reports and the chair requested that future reports should be more partnership focused i.e. Council's fleet, should reflect information in relation to the same issue for partners.

Action2: Pauline Nicholas to ensure that the indicator relating to disqualified driving offences be discussed at the Community Safety Partnership and taken from the action plan

9. Third Sector update

June Valance outlined the main points within the report as follows:

- Introduction to Change Plan and Third Sector Involvement
- Community Capacity Building and Carers Support

In addition, an update on the outcome of the North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Conference was heard in that a Voluntary Sector Partnership Group has commenced to prepare for the 2014 conference which will coincide with National Volunteers Week on 1-7 June 2014.

Action: The Board noted the content of the report and the evaluation report of the North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Conference 2013

10. Craigneuk update

Jonathan Smith outlined the progress since the last Board meeting. It was noted that a well attended meeting with the community groups had taken place in January 2014. Key discussions were around:

- Health
- Employability
- Community Safety
- Environment
- Infrastructure
- Services for children and young people
- Community Engagement/Communication

Partners were asked to examine all of their activities in the Area with a view to identifying areas where services could be improved or changed to ensure better outcomes for residents.

Action: The Board agreed the report and the recommendation that all Partners consider how they can support service improvement.

11. Local Community Planning

Pauline Nicholas provided an overview on the key local Community Planning developments since the last Board meeting including:

The significant amount of work which was undertaken by the partners to ensure residents were kept safe over the Festive period and, overall, there were 9,603 calls to Police Scotland during the festive period compared to 10,494 at the same time last year which represents an 8% decrease in calls.

Various community engagement events took place including the well attended, "Well Said" Event in October 2013 which was supported by the Community Regeneration and Partnership Team, NHS Lanarkshire and Community Learning and Development staff.

The Board was also advised of the external funding which was received to maximise environmental projects through the Local Development Programme and also the recent agreement by the Council to earmark an additional £1.8 million to deliver additional projects. Pauline reaffirmed that this was for use by the Local Area Teams and Partnerships and partners were encouraged to make suggestions for improvements within the localities.

Action: The Board noted the contents of the report and was advised to encourage local managers to contribute to the Local Development Programme.

12. Economic update

An update on Jobseekers Allowance figures was provided by Stephen Fraser who indicated a reduction of 3,000 claimants from February to December 2013. However, the JSA claimant rate expressed as a proportion of the working age population is 4.1% in North Lanarkshire, compared to the Scottish figure of 3.1%.

The report provided information in relation to residence and work based earnings (charts 1, 2 and 3) and also on Growth Company and Social Enterprise activity. Copies of the Social Enterprise Framework document were distributed to the Board and thereafter a discussion took place around what the current impact was and opinions were sought in relation to each partner's line of work and if there was any improvement relative to recovery.

Action: The Board noted the content of the report

13. Financial Outlook

The chair advised the Board that the Council would meet on Thursday 13th February 2014 to approve next year's budget. The main considerations were linked to the Council Tax Freeze and Teaching Staff numbers. The three year savings plan was previously agreed and Gavin advised that the committee would consider 'one off growth' items, Housing Revenue Account proposals and growth savings options.

Action: GW to circulate an update report, when available.

14. National Community Planning Group

A letter from Pat Watters (CBE), Chair of the National Community Planning Group was circulated to the Board detailing the progress on community planning over the last year and an update on the recent meeting of the National Community Planning Group.

Action: The Board noted the content of the letter.

15. Welfare Reform update

The Chair explained that John Campbell was unable to attend the meeting to give an update on the report. Thereafter, a discussion took place regarding the need for information on enquiries to be provided from all other local groups across North Lanarkshire and not solely First Stop Shops.

Action: The report was self-explanatory and the Board noted the content. Pauline will discuss the request for additional statistics relating to Welfare Reform enquiries with John Campbell

16. Joint working on community planning and resourcing - update

Gavin provided Board members with an update on the North Lanarkshire Partnership response to the Agreement on Joint Working on Community Planning and Resourcing Statement and summarised the approach agreed, as follows:

- Strategic - Short Term: Reference to be made to joint resources in all budget statements and strategic documents by partners
- Strategic - Longer Term: Short term resourcing group established
- Themed Partnership: Utilise existing groups rather than create new structures and ensure that the Partnership Working Groups record more prominently, the joint work undertaken relative to joint resources
- Locality level (Local Area Teams and Local Area Partnerships): Revisit the Matching Services to People work and develop work around 'total place'.

Action: The Board noted the discussions and approved the four tiered approach.

17. Budget Statement

Noted, as at 3rd January 2014 (Period 10) - unallocated resources of £16,105.

**Date of next meeting –
Wednesday, 9 April (9.30am) Civic Centre, Motherwell.**

MINUTE OF THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Wednesday, 9 April 2014

Present:	Gavin Whitefield	North Lanarkshire Council
	James McCabe	North Lanarkshire Council
	James Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
	Pauline Nicholas	North Lanarkshire Council
	Jonathan Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
	Shirley Linton	North Lanarkshire Council
	Susan Cloke	North Lanarkshire Council
	Graham Reid	North Lanarkshire Council
	John Campbell	North Lanarkshire Council
	Stephen Kerr	NHS Lanarkshire
	Colin Sloey	NHS Lanarkshire
	Andrew Scott	Scottish Government
	Val McGrory	Jobcentre Plus
	Francis Fallan	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
	June Vallance	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
	Brian Hughes	Scottish Fire & Rescue
	John Miller	Scottish Fire & Rescue
	Nelson Telfer	Police Scotland
	Richard Thomas	Police Scotland
	Hazel Mathieson	Skills Development Scotland
	Allan Comrie	SPT
	Allan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise
Apologies:	Stevie Conn	Police Scotland
	Ian Ross	NHS Lanarkshire
	Neena Mahal	NHS Lanarkshire
	Martin McGuire	New College Lanarkshire

1. Welcome

The Chair, Jim Smith, welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Minute of previous meeting (12 February)

It was noted that apologies were made at last meeting from Colin Sloey and John Campbell and that Alan Comrie and Alan McQuade, were present.

3. Matters arising

It was noted that the Council's decision on one off resources and budget allocation was circulated to all after the last meeting.

4. Police Scotland presentation

Nelson Telfer, Chief Superintendent, provided a presentation and the key points were highlighted:

- Police Scotland has changed from eight legacy forces to 14 divisions which cover the 32 Scottish Local Authorities and has 353 multi member wards.
- The structure is more streamlined
- The National purpose, focus and golden thread of priorities
- 38,360 crimes were committed last year

- 325 community police with 250 response staff which are supported by back room staff
- Priorities for division were discussed and it was noted that housebreaking will be a priority for this year due to the increase in crimes
- Partnership support was greatly appreciated

There then followed some questions and answers

Action: Noted

5. Welfare Reform Update

An update on the recent work of the team was provided by John Campbell. There was good attendance at the recent Welfare Reform Conference which covered the six topical issues.

Additional information was provided in relation to the referrals via the money advice and other agencies and it was noted that there was a large increase of benefit enquiries through Citizens' Advice.

Health Information packs have been provided to GPs to allow them to understand the impact of the Welfare Reform and how to support patients and, in addition, Welfare Rights clinics are being planned for the 6 major GP practices within North Lanarkshire.

John will forward link to the partners of the Scottish Government Pilot areas outcome report and the Local Authority Led Pilots update, for information.

Val McGrory suggested that the next meeting is presented with a report on jobs update linked to Welfare Reform

Action: Noted and John Campbell to forward links to the two reports. The Agenda for the next meeting to include Jobs update by Val

6. Children's Services Partnership update

Gavin Whitefield provided an update on the above and spoke of a new inspection for Children's Services which will take place in October 2014 for North Lanarkshire and highlighted the significant change for the partnership due to the retirement of experienced staff. However, it should be viewed as an opportunity for new staff.

The key recommendations from the Children and Young Person (Scotland) Bill was summarised within the Appendix of the report with main changes around free school meals for primary 1-3 children from January 2015 and a provision of 600 hours per year nursery provision for 3 to 4 year olds from August of this year.

Action: Noted and the Board will receive 6 monthly updates

7. British Transplant Games

A report was presented by Gavin Whitefield who advised that when discussions started, 2016 was to be confirmed as the date for North Lanarkshire. However, Liverpool has been approved for 2016 and it was proposed that the Board agree to the submission of a bid for 2017 which requires to be submitted by June/July of this year.

The role of the host Council was highlighted including opening and closing ceremonies, promoting and delivering the event and the potential positive impact to the local economy.

This is a partnership event and it was confirmed that an approach had been made to NHS Lanarkshire who are considering a contribution plus the possibility of a partnership contribution through sponsorship. Colin Sloey confirmed that he has a meeting arranged to discuss this.

Action: The Board noted the report and approved a bid being made for 2017 with partnership support, including Supercounty

8. Third Sector update

June Vallance provided an overview of this report and, in particular, the 6 Locality Network Events which were held over the last month. There was an opportunity for Police Scotland to talk about Domestic Abuse and the feedback from participants was positive.

From a national point of view the Government, is looking at Third Sector and National Third Sector intermediaries in terms of how they are operating and June confirmed that NLP is held in high esteem and is one of the best Community Planning Partnership within Scotland.

Action: Noted

9. Local Community Planning report

This standard report was presented to the Board by Jonathan Smith and the key highlights were as follows:

- Major development in that the Local Development Programme budget received an additional £1.8m bringing the total to £2.8m for this financial year. Projects were being submitted this week to Local Area Partnerships for approval.
- Details of the benefits of projects already delivered were discussed including reduction of anti-social 'hot spots' and people feeling safer within their communities.
- Motherwell Town Centre draft action plan is out for consultation
- Participatory budgeting project developing with Craigneuk area and it was noted that the overall service delivery action plan for this area would be submitted to the next meeting for discussion and approval
- Installation of CCTV cameras within Carbrain, Cumbernauld area
- New wheeled sports facility within Belhaven Park, Wishaw
- Reduction of wheelie bins fires within localities due to robust partnership working/initiatives
- Further developments to the 'Sharepoint' system which has provided scope to share information and intelligence to allow tasking and co-ordinating work for Local Area Teams

Action: Noted

10. Partnership Agreement and Induction process

The Board was advised of the proposal to develop the following three processes to refresh the work of the partnership:

- A comprehensive partnership agreement covering the NLP Board and all associated structures
- An NLP induction pack and process, including a Community Planning e-module
- A short guidance note for partners on embedding a partnership ethos within their organisation to better their staff to fully participate in partnership structures

Pauline Nicholas advised the Board that this work will be in line with other key action areas linked to the Developing the Partnership Working Group Action Plan, review and development of Community Engagement and local community planning and wider strategic priority areas.

Action: The Board approved this report and the recommendations required to progress

11. Community Plan (SOA) 2013-2018

An update was provided by Susan Cloke in relation to the delivery of the Community Plan (Single Outcome Agreement) 2013-2018 including the recent response to the Agreement on the Joint Working on Community Planning and Resourcing Statement.

The Developing the Partnership Working Group has reviewed its action plan to take forward the work on the development areas with key actions underway for 2013/14 and with the target activities for 2014/15 in place.

Susan also advised that the first meeting of the established working group on Joint Resourcing was taking place that afternoon and was the start of an ongoing process which would develop over the coming years and months.

Action: The Board noted the progress and agreed the actions identified to take forward the Agreement on Joint Working on Community Planning and Resourcing

12. Economic update

Update report 13 was explained by Graham Reid with the key issues raised as follows:

- Good, positive trend in reduction of unemployment and Jobseekers claimant counts
- Main issue is still with the long term unemployed
- Inflation is down, which would be positive if sustained
- Youth Investment Programme - 3,569 young people have gained employment between February 2012 and February 2014, with the Council agreeing a further £1.7m to support young people into work.
- Further evidence of a strengthening recovery in the Scottish Economy with positive growth recorded over the last 6 quarters.

Andrew Scott confirmed that the Government will be reviewing the unemployment strategy and also that the Wood Commission was currently looking at greater use of clauses within contracts.

Action: Noted

13. Financial Outlook

The Board was reminded that the Council budget decisions were circulated to them after the last meeting and Gavin confirmed that the one off resources have allocated money to address Welfare Reform and Economic Growth.

In addition, £100,000 was approved to assist Food Cooperatives, freeze the cost of school meals and increase number of breakfast clubs to promote healthy eating.

He also confirmed that work was underway to prepare for 2015/16 and beyond including considering the new challenges around new technology requirements and the management of the downsizing of the Council.

Action: Noted

14. Budget Statement

Noted as at Period 12, unallocated resources of £16,105.

Date of next meeting – 4th June 2014, 9.30am