

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP BOARD
MINUTE OF THE MEETING**

Wednesday, 16th June 2010

Present:	Jim McCabe, Leader	NLC
	Jim Smith, Depute Leader	NLC
	Gavin Whitefield	NLC
	Maureen McConachie	NLC
	Ken Corsar	NHS Lanarkshire
	Colin Sloey	NHS Lanarkshire
	Robert Scott	Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
	Alick Irvine	Strathclyde Police
	Hugh Logan	Motherwell College
	Stephen McConnachie	Jobcentre Plus
	Joe Gribbon	SPT
	June Vallance	Voluntary Sector
	Brian McLeish	Scottish Enterprise
	Attending:	Sandie Mackay
Sharon Smith (Minute)		NLC Regeneration Services
Yvonne McBride		NLC Regeneration Services
Gerry MacMillan		NLC/Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
Mark Milligan		NLC/Strathclyde Police
Jonathan Pryce		Scottish Government
Stephen Kerr		NHS Lanarkshire
Apologies:	Jackie Irvine	NLC Housing & Social Work Services
	Graham Cairns	Strathclyde Police
	Bruce Kiloh	SPT
	Tim Davison	NHS Lanarkshire
	Allan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise
	Francis Fallan	Voluntary Sector

Welcome

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, particularly to Jackie Irvine, Housing & Social Work Services in attendance to speak to Agenda item 4 and Yvonne McBride, Regeneration Services, in attendance to speak to Agenda items 9 and 10.

Item 1 Apologies

Apologies were noted from Tim Davison, NHS, Francis Fallon, Voluntary Sector, Bruce Kiloh, SPT; Graham Cairns, Strathclyde Police; and Allan McQuade, Scottish Enterprise.

Item 2 Note of the previous meeting (21 April 2010)

Agreed.

Item 3 Matters Arising

Big Lottery, Our Place – Sandie Mackay is currently arranging a meeting with the Big Lottery Board to further discuss the Newmains project. It is anticipated the meeting will take place in the next few weeks.

Item 4 Establishment of North Lanarkshire Chief Officers Group – Public Protection and Integrated Children’s Services

Jackie Irvine spoke to the report on the establishment of a North Lanarkshire Chief Officers Group Public Protection and Integrated Children’s Services.

The Children’s (Scotland) Act 1995 required a multi-agency approach to Integrated Children’s Services planning.

Remits of the Local Authority, NHS Boards and the Police Division were extended in the guidance to Child Protection Committees in 2005. This called for greater strategic leadership in the protection of children.

In terms of Public Protection, the roles of Chief Officers have extended in recent years to include:

- Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)
- Adult Protection and Domestic Abuse, which is a cross-cutting issue

There are clear links between all of these agendas.

Jackie advised that the proposals bring agendas together under one Public Protection Chief Officers Group.

Jackie stated that Integrated Children’s Services Planning and the recently revised structures are integral to delivering service priorities and developments across these themes.

These proposals bring a consistent approach to reporting and governance arrangements. It will also assist in consolidating the roles and remits of the two recently appointed independent chairs for child and adult protection and should avoid duplication in effort and achieve an efficient and effective use of resources and approach.

The Board noted the establishment of a North Lanarkshire Chief Officers Group Public Protection and Integrated Children’s Services, and, noted the content of the report

Item 5 Single Outcome Agreement Performance Reporting 2009-2010

The Board received an update on the Community Plan performance reports for the period April 2009 – March 2010.

Annual action plans have been produced for each of the themes in the Community Plan. These plans form the basis of the annual performance report produced by each of the themed working groups to outline progress towards the outcomes in the Community Plan and as part of the monitoring of the Single Outcome Agreement.

The thematic performance reports give an indication of progress achieved and will form the basis of the Single Outcome Agreement Annual Report 2009-2010. The next SOA (2011-2014) is currently being prepared for submission to the Scottish Government later this year.

The Board meeting scheduled for 1 December 2010 will focus on the Partnership's performance for the first six months of 2010. The Chair of each of the thematic working groups will present their group's overall performance, its arrangements for reviewing current progress and the requirement of implementing any remedial action.

Sandie Mackay provided an update on the current position with each Theme and confirmed all indicators were on target.

Post meeting note – updated report issued (by email) to Partners on 16 June 2010.

The meeting was also advised of the date of the annual Performance Report launch – 8 October, Broadwood Stadium – invitations to which will be issued in due course.

The Board noted the content of the report

Item 6 Ravenscraig update

The meeting was updated on the delivery of the Phase One development at Ravenscraig:

- The first phase of development works began in 2006 and all components are either complete or underway
- Motherwell College campus opened in September 2009
- The Regional Sports Facility is almost complete with an expected opening date in October 2010
- Target date for the opening of the Innovation Park is March 2011
- Work on 60 housing units has begun with an expected completion date in January 2011

In relation to Phase Two, a number of actions are currently underway which, primarily, include –

- Preparation of Area Planning Briefs (i.e. the preparatory work required to be undertaken for Ravenscraig and the wider Motherwell and Wishaw areas). The work will be jointly funded by North Lanarkshire Council, Scottish Enterprise and Wilson Bowden.
- Preparation of an Outline Business Case for consideration of Ravenscraig as a pilot Tax Incremental Financing project
- Consideration by NLC of the potential to replace Scottish Enterprise within the Ravenscraig joint venture company (NLC are currently in the process of considering the possibility of replacing Scottish Enterprise within the Ravenscraig joint venture. No decision has yet been reached.)

The Board noted the progress in relation to delivery of Phase One at Ravenscraig; noted the progress in the delivery of Phase Two Area Briefs and TIF business case; and agreed to receive future progress reports

Action: Regeneration Services

Item 7 Third Sector update

Supporting Voluntary Action Pathfinder - June Vallance updated the meeting in relation to the success of the Voluntary Sector Partnership Group in securing funds to develop formal processes to support links between the sector and partners. The Pathfinder project ceased formally in May 2010 and since then, consultants (MGM Associates) have been carrying out an external evaluation of the Pathfinder activity and to offer recommendations around potentially "mainstreaming of network activity". A further update on this will be provided to the Board as the work progresses.

Demonstration Project – Local Community Led Planning – Greenhead, Wishaw – June also provided an update on this project, which is funded by Supporting Voluntary Action (SVA), the purpose of the project being "to demonstrate the transferability of a proven model which empowers communities to engage with community planning". It is intended that this will provide a route map for other areas across Scotland to follow to introduce the approach into their own area. The report summarises the 4 distinct phases based on community priorities.

The Board noted the content of the report and agreed to accept future update reports from the Third Sector

Item 8 Local Community Planning

The meeting was updated on key developments in relation to community planning work undertaken by the Local Area Teams over the last two months. This main focus of this work includes –

- three local priorities per area have now been agreed and will be developed further by the Marching Services to People Sub Group/Local Area Teams
- Continued development of the model for Community Safety Sub Groups and agree ways to improve the Community Safety reports received from Housing & Social Work Services, Strathclyde Police and Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
- Meetings with the newly established NHS Health Improvement Teams to agree representation at Local Area Teams and Local Area Partnerships
- Progressing the Community Wellbeing Champions Initiative
- Testing on-line consultations with individuals via Community Forums

In addition to the above, and over the last two months, a training session has been held for elected members relating to Local Area Partnerships. The purpose of this was to raise awareness of community planning, help understand the challenges facing the Local Area Partnerships and, discuss possible improvements.

Following a recent meeting with the six Local Area Partnership Convenors, it has been proposed that one convener, on a rotational basis, should attend future NLP Board meetings. The purpose of this would be to become familiar with the strategic issues, discuss Local Area Partnership business and gain an understanding of the Board's role.

The Board noted the content of the report and agreed attendance from one Local Area Partnership Convener at future NLP Board meetings.

Action: Regeneration Services

Item 9 Community Engagement Action Plan 2010-2011

The Board was updated on the development of the Community Engagement Action Plan currently being taken forward by the Community Engagement Sub Group, which comprises representation from NHS Lanarkshire, VANL – Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire, Housing & Social Work Services, NLC Planning, Strathclyde Police and Strathclyde Fire & Rescue. The Group has a key role in ensuring that the Community Engagement Strategy (approved by the NLP Board in November 2009), is implemented across the Community Planning Partnership through the preparation of the Community Engagement Strategy Action Plan of which the Group has responsibility to monitor and evaluate delivery.

The activities contained in the Action Plan (Appendix 1 of the Board report) will continue to contribute to, and ensure effective community engagement continues across North Lanarkshire.

The Board noted the content of the report

Action: Regeneration Services/NLP Officers Group

Item 10 Community Engagement Mapping

Phase One - The report highlights findings from Phase One of the community engagement mapping exercise and also recommends progressing improvement actions for community engagement across the Partnership.

The meeting heard that the ten National Standards for Engagement (NSfE) are the measurable performance statements for good community engagement and enable engagement activity to be measured. Appendices 1 and 2 of the report highlight the activities reported and the planned activities for 2010-2011 from across the Partners.

Phase Two – In order to progress this phase of the mapping exercise, the Community Engagement Sub Group will gather additional information from their service. The conclusions from this will be “tested” with development staff and key stakeholders. Phase Two will review the impact of identified processes and methods under the SOA key themes of service improvement.

The Board noted the content of the report and approved progressing Phase Two of the mapping exercise and, approved the Community Engagement Sub Group taking forward improvement actions.

Action: Regeneration Services/Community Engagement Sub Group

Item 11 North Lanarkshire Economic Activity update (May 2010)

Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) - The report focused on Job Seekers Allowance which showed there had been a marked reduction in the number of people claiming JSA during that last two months, particularly in the 18-24 age group.

It was recognised that this may be due in part to interventions locally under the Young People's Guarantee, particularly Future Jobs Fund. Whilst the reduction is significant, it was recognised that there is still a high number of claimants across North Lanarkshire.

Future Jobs Fund (FJF) – to date, this has provided jobs for over 400 unemployed young people, however, new funding for FJF has ended but the current FJF in North Lanarkshire will continue until 2011, the last placements will be in September 2011. 700 vacancies require to be filled over the next 10 months.

Flexible New Deal - this has been replaced by the Government's Work Programme, details of which have yet to be announced. The current contract is with the Wise Group.

An update report will be brought to the Board by Maureen McConachie, at the next meeting.

The Board noted the content of the report.

Item 12 Financial Outlook 2011-2014

The report outlined proposed transitional funding arrangements for the Voluntary Sector during 2011-2012.

Confirmation is awaited from the Government on the reduction in public sector budgets over the next 3 years, the impact of which remains unknown. It is likely however, that public sector organisations across North Lanarkshire will not have their budgets confirmed until January 2011. Partners are currently identifying significant savings within their organisation in preparation for the announcements and are requested to make every effort, as early as practicable, in notifying the voluntary sector of any change to their funding in 2011-2012.

Partners were asked where possible, to offer a minimum of 3 months funding in the period April – June 2011 to voluntary sector projects/providers.

The Board noted the content of the report and agreed the proposal for the transitional funding arrangements.

Action: NLP Officers Group

Item 13 Community Safety Partnership restructure

The Board heard the proposal to restructure the current Community Safety Partnership and to prepare for the next Single Outcome Agreement (SOA).

The proposed structure, as detailed in the report, highlights appropriate representation from Partners and the reporting processes required to continue to meet community safety objectives. It is intended that the new structure will allow a reduction in the number of meetings attended by representatives.

In relation to the SOA (2009-2011), the Indicators will be supported by revised action plans which were previously monitored by the Environment Working Group – it is intended that this responsibility will lie with a newly established Monitoring Group, membership of which, will consist of representatives from North Lanarkshire Council, Strathclyde Police and Strathclyde Fire & Rescue. The Monitoring Group will meet on a 2-3 monthly basis.

To assist the Community Safety Partnership make appropriate planning decisions in respect of community safety across North Lanarkshire, it is intended to establish a Strategic Assessment which will provide details of current/emerging trends. It is expected that the information contained in the Strategic Assessment will assist community planning partners to identify common areas of activity where joint working could be undertaken.

The meeting was advised that a community safety event will be held on 1 October 2010 (Broadwood Stadium, Cumbernauld) to which all Partners will be invited.

The Board noted the content of the report

Item 14 Ministerial visit – 7 July 2010

The NLP Board will be invited to this event attended by Mike Russell MSP. Draft Programme items include - the economic recession; SOA performance; Ravenscraig and the new SOA.

After discussion, it was proposed that Motherwell College could host the visit which would include a “walkabout” to the new housing site, the sports facility and a local employability project. It was further suggested that a brief presentation on Phase 2 will take place during the ministerial visit.

Action: Regeneration Services

Item 15 Budget Statement

Noted, as at Period 2 (28th May 2010). Unallocated resources £23,332 – the NLP Officers Group are asked to consider how to make best use of this funding.

Action: NLP Officers Group

Item 16 AOCB

Skills Development Scotland / NLC Service Delivery Agreement - The Board was advised that Skills Development Scotland has organised a workshop in each local authority in Scotland in order to clarify their role in delivering the objectives of the Single Outcome Agreement and to allow partners an opportunity to become involved in the development of Service Delivery Agreements.

The workshop for North Lanarkshire was held in April 2010, attended by representatives from Skills Development Scotland, Motherwell College, Strathclyde Police and the Council’s Regeneration Services and Learning & Leisure Services.

As outlined in the Board report, the result of the workshop has been the development of a Service Delivery Agreement, of which there are 3 parts, i.e.

- Part 1 – standard national issues included as a result of discussions across Scotland
- Part 2 – the results of the workshop and local consultations and specific to North Lanarkshire
- Part 3 – details of Skills Development Scotland business continuity

The Board noted the content of the report

Blind Cord Initiative Strathclyde Fire & Rescue were approached in mid-May by RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) to participate in a community safety project during Child Safety Week. The initiative involves Safer Homes demonstrating how parents can attach a simple device to the cords of household blinds which shortens the cord and thereby, reduces the risk of children becoming entangled in the cord. The Blind Cord Initiative will be launched on 23 June (Wishaw General Hospital) with two MSPs in attendance - Gordon Banks and Fergus Ewing, as well as elected members.

Action: Strathclyde Fire & Rescue

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING –
Wednesday, 11 August 2010 – 9.30am, Civic Centre, Motherwell**