

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

Wednesday, 11th August 2010

Present:	Jim Smith, Depute Leader	NLC
	Gavin Whitefield	NLC
	Maureen McConachie	NLC
	Colin Sloey	NHS Lanarkshire
	Hugh Logan	Motherwell College
	Stephen McConnachie	Jobcentre Plus
	Francis Fallan	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
	Kenny Moffat	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
	Sarah Murray	SPT
	Brian McLeish	Scottish Enterprise
Attending:	Sandie Mackay	NLC Regeneration Services
	Sharon Smith (Minute)	NLC Regeneration Services
	Stephen Kerr	NHS Lanarkshire
	Gerry MacMillan	NLC/Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
	Mark Milligan	NLC/Strathclyde Police
	Jonathan Pryce	Scottish Government
Apologies:	Ian Davidson	Scottish Government
	Jim McCabe	NLC
	Graham Cairns	Strathclyde Police
	Bruce Kiloh	SPT
	June Vallance	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
	Robert Scott	Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
	Tim Davison	NHS Lanarkshire
	Ken Corsar	NHS Lanarkshire
Allan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise	

Welcome

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, particularly to Kenny Moffat, Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire, in attendance on behalf of June Vallance; and Ian Davidson, Scottish Government (Head of Public Service Delivery), Scottish Government.

Item 1 Apologies

Apologies were noted from Jim McCabe, Chair NLP Board, Robert Scott, Strathclyde Fire & Rescue, Graham Cairns, Strathclyde Police, Bruce Kiloh, SPT, Ken Corsar, NHS Lanarkshire, Tim Davison, NHS Lanarkshire, June Vallance, Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire, and Allan McQuade, Scottish Enterprise.

Item 2 Note of the previous meeting (16 June 2010)

Agreed.

Matters arising

- *LAP Conveners – attendance at future NLP Board meetings.* The six Local Area Partnership Conveners have been invited to attend future Board meetings, the intention of which is to discuss improving communication between the NLP Board and the LAPs. Councillor Richard Lyle, Convener of Bellshill Local Area Partnership will be in attendance at the next Board meeting on 6 October. It is intended that the Conveners will provide a report on local issues across their area.
- *Big Lottery, Our Place* - efforts continue in organising this meeting.
- *Ministerial visit (Mike Russell MSP)* – Sandie thanked partners for their attendance at the ministerial visit (7 July) and indicated that feedback received since then had been positive.

Item 3 Financial Outlook 2011-2014

The Board was reminded that reports had been considered and discussed at previous meetings relating to the reduction in public sector budgets over the next 3 years. Partners are currently in the process of identifying savings within their organisation in preparation for forthcoming UK Government budget announcements.

Strathclyde Police – the report highlights that current projections indicate a deficit of £16 million (2010/2011) and £30 million will require to be met (2011/212) by reducing expenditure and/or increasing income. North Lanarkshire Division has been requested to make savings on its Revenue Budget by 2%. These above figures are currently the subject of a spending review, the outcome of which will be known in the Autumn. North Lanarkshire Division will continue attempts to identify further savings in its Revenue Budget over the next four year period.

Strathclyde Fire and Rescue – The Board of Strathclyde Fire and Rescue (SFR) has approved a restructure reducing six SFR Directorates to four, effective from 1 November 2010. This restructure, in effect, places the organisation in a stronger position to meet forthcoming financial constraints. SFR's Director of Finance and Corporate Management Team are continuing to realise efficiency savings in preparation for when the necessary savings and timescales are announced.

NHS Lanarkshire - NHS Lanarkshire currently await the announcement of public sector allocation - £17.1 million in savings is required this year. Two events are currently planned during August, one of which (24th) involves the attendance of the Chief Executives of NHS and North Lanarkshire Council. The meeting will focus on optimising resources and will also consider they way forward as a Partnership for both NHS and North Lanarkshire Council.

North Lanarkshire Council – North Lanarkshire Council's Policy & Resources Committee at its meeting on 9 September 2010, will consider a report outlining a minimum £70 million savings options required during 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14. There are three elements to these options –

- maximise efficiencies
- re-prioritise services
- maximise income

The meeting also heard of a consultation engagement programme which is currently being developed by North Lanarkshire Council which will allow residents have their say on the budget proposals.

The consultation will commence in September 2010 and will end on 22 October. The findings of this will be reported to the Policy & Resources Committee at the end of November and the Board will be updated thereafter.

The NLP Officers Group will compile a Partnership response to the Independent Budget Review which will be *considered at the next Board meeting in October*.

The Board noted the content of the report and agreed that the "Financial Outlook" report will again be considered at its meeting in December 2010 when the impact of savings will be known. The Board also agreed that the NLP Officers Group would prepare a Partnership response.

Item 4 North Lanarkshire Economic Activity update

The meeting heard that unemployment levels across North Lanarkshire continue to fall, with North Lanarkshire seeing a reduction of 8.4% since February 2010. The figures for claimants unemployed for more than six months has also reduced, whilst vacancies within jobcentres saw an increase for the fourth consecutive month. The meeting heard of the "supply and demand" of vacancies within North Lanarkshire (detailed in Appendix 1 of the report) which shows the building/construction industries, in particular, badly affected.

Young people - the Future Jobs Fund has, to date, supported 490 young people (18-24 years) into employment, with just under 200 young people being supported through the Xtra hands project.

Hugh Logan raised the issue of the College's ability to use their SUM allocation to the NLP CPP bid due to a change of position by civil servants. It was agreed a follow up discussion with the Government should occur to resolve this.

The Board noted the content of report

Item 5 DWP Work Programme - Implications for North Lanarkshire

The purpose of the report was to advise of the commencement of the Work Programme Framework procurement exercise; the timescale; and approach to dealing with this. The Coalition Agreement published in May 2010 sets out a number of welfare to work reforms which include a welfare to work programme and a number of measures to assist people to find employment.

The UK framework will be in place for 4 years and will be divided into 11 "lots" with Scotland being one of the lots. Each lot will have 3-8 organisations/contractors appointed to it, however, there is no guarantee of work for organisations as contract values are in the range of £10 - £50 million.

North Lanarkshire Council (Regeneration Services) intends to enter into discussions with potential contractors with a view to entering into a sub contracting agreement.

The Board will be updated further on this at its meeting in December.

The Board noted the content of the report

Item 6 Local Community Planning update

The meeting was updated on developments within Regeneration Services in relation to the Community Planning work undertaken by the Local Regeneration Managers and the Community Engagement Officers during the last two months.

Current developments include –

- The Asset Transfer pilot in Bargeddie and Holytown has been progressing with the Steering Group arranging an Officers' session to scope out two elements around asset transfer, i.e. developing a strategy and piloting asset transfer in two areas
- Developing indicators to measure the effectiveness of community engagement and the development of on-line consultation with young people which links to the Community Engagement Action Plan
- One Local Area Partnership (LAP) received a presentation from key partners on the positive outcomes from the work of the Community Safety Sub Group. The presentation included details of locations which had been improved through efforts of joint working which, in turn, has reduced crime and anti-social behaviour. The presentation will be extended to the remaining five LAPs
- A number of improvement actions have been identified across the Community Forums and a facilitated workshop will take place in August to review the effectiveness of existing structures and opportunities for the Community Forums
- The Local Area Teams continue to support their role in the progress of the North Lanarkshire Sport and Physical Activity Framework, the purpose of which is to develop a longer term approach to the delivery of sport and physical activity across North Lanarkshire

The Board noted the content of the report

Item 7 Third Sector update

Supporting Voluntary Action Pathfinder Project – In May 2010, an evaluation of the Supporting Voluntary Action Pathfinder was carried out by MCM Associates which included information gathering, analysis of project documentation and consultation. The project was originally developed as part of the commitment to improve and encourage joint working between the CVS (Council for Voluntary Services) and the Volunteer Centre.

Funding for the project covered the period June 2008 – May 2010 and during that time, the project proved successful and fully met the aims/targets which were originally set out. The Board report included a detailed evaluation of the Voluntary Action Pathfinder project.

North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Conference 2010 – The Voluntary Sector's fourth annual conference took place in March 2010, attended by 130 delegates across 60 organisations. A number of key speakers also attended to discuss national and local perspectives as well as local initiatives. The conference, once again, proved successful and a full evaluation is contained in the Board report.

The Board noted the content of the report and agreed to accept future updates from the third sector representatives

Item 8 Ravenscraig update

- Motherwell College is now entering its second year of operation
- Sports Facility - scheduled to open in October 2010
- Housing – the Council is still having discussions with BRE about funding their project, however, it is anticipated they will be on site in October.
- Dialogue between Motherwell College and SPT is required to resolve some transport issues, however, Partnership discussions will be held to ensure transport arrangements are discussed for the whole site.
- There is a requirement for engagement with SEPA to ensure the site complies with all legislation

Item 9 Budget Statement

Noted as at Period 4 (23 July 2010).

The current unallocated resources total £23,126. Following a recent discussion with the NLP Officers Group, they suggested that this sum could be used to fund partnership events over the coming year. The NLP Officers Group will provide details of these events and an update will be brought to the next Board meeting.

Item 10 AOCB

- 2011 NLP Board meetings – issued with reports. Partners were requested to note these.
- Community Safety event – this event which had been due to take place on 1 October at Broadwood Stadium has been cancelled. The information which would have been gathered at the event will now be obtained by other methods. An update on this will be brought to a future NLP Board meeting.
- Performance Launch – this will go ahead as previously notified (8 October 2.30pm, Broadwood Stadium).

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING –
Wednesday, 6 October 2010 – 9.30am, Civic Centre, Motherwell**