

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

**Monday, 6 June 2011**

Present:	Jim McCabe (Chair)	North Lanarkshire Council
	Gavin Whitefield	North Lanarkshire Council
	Maureen McConachie	North Lanarkshire Council
	Graham Cairns	Strathclyde Police
	Hugh Logan	Motherwell College
	Craig Cook	Strathclyde Fire & Rescue
	Francis Fallan	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
	Stephen McConnachie	Jobcentre Plus
	David Collie	Jobcentre Plus
	Bruce Kiloh	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
	Stephen Kerr	NHS Lanarkshire
	Mike O'Donnell	Scottish Government
	Allan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise
	Sharon Smith (Minute)	North Lanarkshire Council
	Pauline Nicholas	North Lanarkshire Council
	Eric Hislop	North Lanarkshire Council
	Councillor James Martin	North Lanarkshire Council
	Mark Milligan	North Lanarkshire Council/Strathclyde Police
	Paul Jukes	North Lanarkshire council
	Jonathan Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
	Stephen Fraser	North Lanarkshire Council
Apologies:	Jim Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
	Colin Sloey	NHS Lanarkshire
	Tim Davison	NHS Lanarkshire
	Andrew Scott	Scottish Government
	June Vallance	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire

**1. Welcome**

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting particularly to Paul Jukes, Environmental Services, David Collie, Jobcentre Plus, Eric Hislop, Environmental Services, Stephen Kerr, NHS, Mike O'Donnell, Scottish Government, Councillor James Martin, Jonathan Smith, Regeneration Services and; Stephen Fraser, Information and Research

**2. Apologies – noted above**

**3. Minute of the previous meeting (23 March 2011) – agreed as an accurate record**

**4. Matters arising**

- *Consultation on the future of Policing in Scotland*
- *Consultation on the future of the Fire & Rescue Service in Scotland*

Verbal update on both provided by Pauline Nicholas, Regeneration Services. The North Lanarkshire Partnership comments have been received and forwarded to the Scottish Government. A copy of the response can be obtained from Pauline. Partners were thanked for their input into the response.

## **5. 2011 International Children's Games - Presentation**

Paul Jukes, Executive Director of Environmental Services, provided a detailed update on preparations for the 2011 International Children's Games. The meeting heard that 79 cities across 34 countries would be involved in the event with competitors and coaches arriving on 3 August and departing 8 August. Various events across North and South Lanarkshire will host the events including Strathclyde Park (sailing), Ravenscraig Sports Facility (Badminton, Judo) and John Wright Sports Centre (track and field events). The Lanarkshire Team involves 80 athletes and 12 coaches.

The meeting also heard of the complex logistical arrangements which are in place to ensure the success of the Games.

The Chair thanked Paul for this informative update.

## **6. ADP (Alcohol and Drug Partnership) Strategy and Delivery Plan**

Stephen Kerr, NHS Lanarkshire, provided an update to the Board on the areas in which the ADP funding was used in 2010-2011 and how the Scottish Government's strategic priorities will be delivered during 2011-2014.

NHS Lanarkshire's allocation for 2011/2012 (to tackle drug abuse) - £2,319,866; alcohol abuse allocation £4,032,242 which includes an allocation of £50,672 from the Scottish Prison Services to NHS who will assume responsibility for prisoner healthcare from October 2011. The funding allocation was approved by the ADP Implementation and Finance Group and Service Level Agreements with all providers have been negotiated on this basis.

Stephen highlighted the very positive performance in terms of Alcohol Brief Interventions and access and also summarised the NHS HEAT Targets for 2013 i.e. 90% of clients will wait no longer than 3 weeks from referral to receiving alcohol and/or drug treatment.

*The Board noted the content of the report*

## **7. Community Engagement Action Plan 2011-2014**

The Board was updated on progress with the Community Engagement Action Plan 2011-2014

The NLP Community Engagement Sub Group progressed their set of local indicators and associated key actions included in the 2011-2014 Community Engagement Action Plan (attached as Appendix 1 to the Board report). The indicators will be reported via Perform NL and in line with the NLP performance reporting process.

*The Board noted the content of the report and approved the Community Engagement Action Plan (2011-2014)*

## **8. Local Community Planning – Wishaw and District Local Area Partnership**

Councillor James Martin, as Convener of the Wishaw Local Area Partnership (LAP) updated the Board on recent items considered by the LAP.

The LAP meetings are held four times per year and topics which are regularly discussed include – community safety, roads and transportation, NHS issues, progress of the Local Development Programme, the joint Community Safety report which includes information from Strathclyde Police, Strathclyde Fire & Rescue, Housing Services and Regeneration Services. Councillor Martin thanked Partners for their input to the community safety reports. A main topic over recent months has been the planned improvement works to Wishaw town centre.

The Wishaw, Murdostoun and Fortissat Community provides regular reports to the LAP on activities which are organised in the local area. Support to the Community Forum is provided by the Community Engagement Officer to enable the Forums to contribute to the work of the LAP. Councillor Martin summarised events which the Community forum had arranged over the last 6 months.

*The Board noted the content of the report and approved the Community Engagement Action Plan.*

## **9. Local Community Planning Structures – update on consultation and next steps**

Verbal update by Pauline Nicholas. NLC will submit a report to the next Policy & Resources Committee (16 June) recommending that the current structure of 6 Local Area Partnerships should remain. Recent consultations with partners and Community Forums have taken place on the intended reduction of 6 LAPs to 3. The current three Local Regeneration Managers' remit will be extended to include each being responsible for two areas (i.e. Coatbridge/Motherwell; Airdrie/North and Wishaw/Bellshill).

## **10. The Work Programme Announcement**

The report provides the Board with an update on the DWP procurement of the Work Programme's provision in North Lanarkshire.

The Work Programme is scheduled to operate across the UK for a period of 5-7 years with large multi-million pound contracts being set up covering regions across the UK. In Scotland, two large prime contracts have been appointed to manage the contract and they will be responsible for developing and delivering the Work Programme locally. Working Links and North Lanarkshire Council, on behalf of Routes to Work, have now signed a formal legal contract and it is expected that services will be operational by Summer 2011.

*The Board noted the content of the report.*

## **11. Citizens' Panel Survey - Transportation**

Stephen Fraser, Information and Research Team, advised the Board that this is the fifth consultation carried out as part of the Partnership's 3 year programme of citizens' engagement.

The current consultation covered the key themes of transportation and the impact of the economic downturn (Appendix 1 of the report).

A total of 1,752 panel members completed the survey giving an overall response rate of 72%. Stephen summarised areas including – parking charges/private transport/impact of the economic downturn and, transport choices.

The full report and survey are available on the Council's website at [www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk)

The Chair thanked Stephen for this update.

*The Board noted the content of the Citizens' Panel Consultation.*

## **12. Economic Activity update**

*Job Seeker Allowance (JSA) levels* – The last two months have seen consecutive reductions in the number of claimants receiving JSA. The overall JSA rate has reduced by 3.5% (427 claimants).

*Youth unemployment levels (18-24 years)* – these have increased over the last month and remain close to the highest level since the start of the recession. In North Lanarkshire, 11.4% of the 18-24 age group claim JAS, compared with Scotland's rate of 8.1%.

*Young Persons Guarantee and Future Jobs Fund* – the Coalition Government will not replace either of these initiatives when they end in 2011 although new schemes have been introduced including – Extension of the New Enterprise Allowance scheme; Expansion of the Work Experience scheme; 50,000 extra apprenticeship places by 2013/14; and, the introduction of a new initiative called Community Job Funds which aims to provide 2,000 job opportunities in the third sector.

*The Board noted the content of the report.*

## **13. Third Sector update**

The Chair requested that this item is carried forward to allow Councillor David Fagan to have a discussion with Frank Fallan/June Vallance relating to the Community Transport Sub Group.

## **14. Financial Outlook update**

Gavin Whitefield provided a verbal update

- 2011/2012 savings now agreed while service levels being sustained
- All Working Groups are delivering on actions
- A key area is the spending review by the Scottish Government and a report is expected in September 2011

## **15. Ravenscraig update**

Gavin Whitefield provided a verbal update

- Provisional agreement on TIF (Tax Incremental Funding). Will be considered at the Policy & Resources Committee on 16 June and a formal response forwarded to the Scottish Government thereafter
- On site housing continuing
- Sports Facility – now a major asset for the area
- BRE facility now progressing

## **16. Introduction Meeting with North Lanarkshire Constituency and Regional List MSPs**

Following the recent Scottish Parliament elections, an initial meeting has been arranged to allow Partners to meet newly elected and re-elected MSPs. The meeting has been scheduled for 20 June (2pm, Civic Suite, Civic Centre).

The Agenda will include an introduction from the Council Leader, a 5-10 minute overview from each of the Community Planning Partners and a discussion around key strategic issues which the NLP would wish to highlight to the MSPs. Also included in the Agenda will be an update on economic activity.

## **17. Corporate Working Groups Annual Report (April 2010 – March 2011)**

- (a) Regeneration
- (b) Lifelong Learning
- (c) Environment
- (d) Health & Wellbeing

Reports for noting. Key achievements are set out in each report with a commentary/explanation where some are not on target.

Frank Fallan suggested that the title of the reports could be amended from “**Corporate Working Group**” to “**Partnership Working Group**”

## **18. Gateway Protection Programme**

Jonathan Smith, Local Regeneration Manager, provided an update on the progress made with the families who arrived in Motherwell (2007) as part of the Gateway Protection Programme, the UK’s official refugee resettlement programme. The families arrived from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

NLP’s participation in the programme was extremely successful and this was reflected in the evaluation carried out in 2008 by the University of the West of Scotland. In summary –

*Education* – the children have settled well at local schools. There are 16 children at primary school; 6 in High School (Braidhurst); and 9 young people attend Motherwell College.

*Health* – no major health concerns of any of the families

*Employment* – Currently, there are 16 adults in full or part time employment. A high number of the group progressed onto Programmes such as “Xtra hands” and “2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Apprenticeship”.

*Training* – Eleven women participated in the Refugee Employability Programme with nine achieving an SQA Core skills Access 3 in Communications. A visit to Motherwell College Open Day was organised with visiting speakers from Careers Scotland and Community Learning and Development’s Employability Programme

It was suggested that future updates could include details on integration of families.

*The Board noted the content of the report and agreed to accept future update reports*

## **19. Scottish Government Regeneration discussion paper – NLP response**

The Board report includes the draft response on behalf of the NLP to the Scottish Government’s Regeneration discussion paper “*Building a Sustainable Future*”. This discussion paper was published in February 2011 and is intended to be a starting point for a debate/discussion around regeneration in the current climate.

The paper focuses on opportunities and priorities for the future and sets out where the Scottish Government anticipates regeneration challenges and how to address these.

The draft response was approved at the Council’s Regeneration Committee on 18 May. Partners were asked to provide final comments on the draft response to Pauline Nicholas by **Friday, 10 June**. Allan McQuade confirmed that a return had been submitted to the Scottish Government on behalf of Scottish Enterprise. Allan will forward these comments to Maureen McConachie, for information.

*The Board noted the content of the report and approved the draft response to the Scottish Government.*

## **20. Organisational changes**

Since March 2011, there has been a number of personnel changes within North Lanarkshire Council and Partner agencies. The report highlights the changes where staff have resigned/retired and details of his/her replacement including contact details. One amendment to the report is the new appointment of North Lanarkshire Council’s Head of Design & Property Services (Billy Hope).

*The Board noted the content of the report.*

## **21. Budget Statements 2010/2011 and 2011/2012**

- (a) Statement as at Period 13 (31 March 2011) noted
- (b) Statement as at Period 1 (28 April 2011) noted

Current unallocated resources of £20,041

## 22. AOCB

- *“Local Matters” – Overview Commentary on Local Outcomes approach* (for noting)  
Correspondence has been received from the Scottish Government advising on the publication of *“Local Matters” – an overview commentary on local outcomes approach*. This describes “progress which we collectively have made to date in driving this agenda forward as well as challenges for the future”. Full details can be found at [www.Scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/10115335/0](http://www.Scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/10115335/0)

- *SEPA Engagement with Community Planning Partnerships* (for noting) –  
Correspondence has been received from SEPA highlighting its support to working with Community Planning Partnerships to contribute to the development and delivery of local authorities’ Single Outcome Agreement and their environmental outcomes. Details can be found at [www.sepa.org.uk/planning/community\\_planning.aspx](http://www.sepa.org.uk/planning/community_planning.aspx)

- *Strathclyde Police – North Lanarkshire Division Performance Report 2010/2011*  
This document provides a comprehensive overview of N Division’s policing performance across the North Lanarkshire area and provides a comparison with Strathclyde Police in general. It is noted, in particular, that there is a significant reduction in crimes and incidents by up to 20%, while youth disorder has fallen by 39%

- *Improvement Service* – Health checks for Community Planning Partnerships are being set up across Scotland with North Lanarkshire participating as part of Best Value. The Council’s Service Improvement Team will complete the questionnaire(s) on behalf of the Partnership

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 24 August 2011 (9.30am)  
Civic Suite, Civic Centre, Motherwell**