

MINUTE OF THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2014, CIVIC CENTRE, MOTHERWELL

AGENDA ITEM No. 5.

PRESENT

Councillor James McCabe (Chair)	North Lanarkshire Council
Councillor Harmon	North Lanarkshire Council
Councillor Welsh	North Lanarkshire Council
Gavin Whitefield	North Lanarkshire Council
Duncan MacKay	North Lanarkshire Council
Shirley Linton	North Lanarkshire Council
Pauline Nicholas	North Lanarkshire Council
Linda Johnstone	North Lanarkshire Council
Stephen Fraser	North Lanarkshire Council
Jonathan Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
John Campbell	North Lanarkshire Council
Mark Hamill	North Lanarkshire Council
Lorraine Fisher	North Lanarkshire Council
Blane Dodds	North Lanarkshire Leisure
Alison Loveday	Scottish Enterprise
Alan Comrie	SPT
John Miller	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Brian Hughes	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Bill Higgins	Department of Work and Pensions
Richard Thomas	Police Scotland
Mark McAteer	Improvement Service
Francis Fallon	Voluntary Sector
June Vallance	VANL
Patricia Gillespie	Care Inspectorate
Helen Jackson	Care Inspectorate
Gabe Docherty	NHS Lanarkshire
Neena Mahal	NHS Lanarkshire
Craig Spence	Skills Development Scotland
Susan McRae	Skills Development Scotland
Martin McGuire	New College Lanarkshire

APOLOGIES

Councillor Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
Joe Hamilton	SCRA
Janice Hewitt	Chief Officer for Social Care and Integration
Allan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise
Ross McGuffie	NHS Lanarkshire
Nelson Telfer	Police Scotland
Catriona Morton	Department of Work and Pensions

WELCOME

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

1. Minute of Previous Meeting – 13 August 2014

The Minute of the meeting of the Board held on 13 August 2014 was agreed as an accurate record.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. **Sports, Activity and Health – North Lanarkshire Leisure Contribution**

Blane Dodds, Chief Executive, North Lanarkshire Leisure provided a presentation on sport, physical activity and health in North Lanarkshire and the crucial role of North Lanarkshire Leisure.

Thereon Blane Dodds provided further information in respect of:-

- the background to North Lanarkshire Leisure and its governance arrangements;
- the demographics and health care statistics for the North Lanarkshire area;
- the types and number of programmes run by North Lanarkshire Leisure on a weekly basis, and
- the role of North Lanarkshire Leisure in the physical and mental wellbeing of North Lanarkshire residents.

Thereon Blane Dodds responded to questions from members of the Partnership Board.

Action: to note the presentation.

4. **Children's Services Partnership – Update September 2014**

Duncan MacKay provided an overview of the work being progressed by North Lanarkshire Children's Services Partnership (1) providing an update on the Care Inspectorate joint inspection of children's services which commenced on 6 October 2014; (2) detailing the preparation for the joint inspection and the message conveyed to staff in relation to participation in the inspection; (3) setting out details of the main provisions contained within the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill which received Royal Assent on 24 March 2014; (4) advising that the Scottish Government was currently developing detailed guidance to support the GIRFEC provision in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, and (5) enclosing in Appendix 1 to the report an update on the progress of the local outcomes and agreed milestones.

Thereon Duncan MacKay was heard in further explanation of the report.

Action: to note the report and request that a further six monthly update be submitted to a future meeting of the Board.

5. **North Lanarkshire Transport Outcomes Report 2014/2015**

There was submitted a report from Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) enclosing the Transport Outcomes Report: North Lanarkshire (2014/2015) (TOR) (1) outlining the background to the report; (2) setting out details of the main content of the report including the commitment and contribution of SPT as a community planning partner by detailing the links between the joint work streams and North Lanarkshire local outcomes from the Single Outcome Agreement, and (2) summarising (a) the activities and investments for SPT in 2013/14; (b) the progress in respect of the North Lanarkshire joint work streams for 2014/15 including the key issues and a look at the year ahead, and (c) the role of transport in achieving positive outcomes at a local level and supporting the relationship between joint work streams agreed between SPT and North Lanarkshire and local outcomes set out in the Single Outcome Agreement.

Following discussion on the crucial role that transport links play in terms of health, education and physical activity, Alan Comrie commended the report to the Board.

Action: that the Transport Outcomes Report: North Lanarkshire 2014/2015 be agreed and that the issues raised be considered further by the SPT Board.

6. **Joint Resourcing - Update Report**

There was submitted a report providing an update on the North Lanarkshire Partnership response to the agreement on joint Working on Community Planning Resourcing Statement (1) advising that the

agreement was seen as a key supporting document in the delivery of the Single Outcome Agreement and recognised that the delivery of the Single Outcome Agreement required the mobilisation of public sector assets, activities and resources together with those of the third and private sectors and local communities; (2) advising that it was recognised that Craigneuk provided an opportunity to develop an area based solution and it was important that any model developed for North Lanarkshire was flexible and adaptive; (3) intimating that the Improvement Service provided more detail on a suggested North Lanarkshire joint resourcing process and outlined the work underway on examining the employment patterns of public sector organisations in North Lanarkshire together with the impact on deprived communities, and (4) intimating that, in order to support the work and to facilitate discussion at a strategic level, it was agreed that a project initiation document would be developed by the Improvement Service detailing:-

- the development of a broad approach which could be applied across North Lanarkshire with Craigneuk being used as a pilot;
- the shift from examination of budgets to consideration of how resources were being used;
- how the approach would include consideration of not just levels of service delivery but the quality of service delivery, and
- the formal process for North Lanarkshire Partnership Board endorsement including delivery of a workshop session for Board members in late November 2014.

Mark McAteer, Improvement Service intimated that the Improvement Service would have access to employment patterns across the Council including location of staff and pay scales however this information would be much more powerful and have a bigger impact if all partner agencies were involved in the process. He added that following compilation of the final report an action plan would be developed and submitted to the Board for consideration.

Action: to note the position.

7. **Early Years Strategy**

There was submitted a report from the Early Years Collaborative Manager, Learning and Leisure Services seeking approval to further develop the ambition of the Single Outcome Agreement for children from birth to eight years old in North Lanarkshire by the development of an Early Years Strategy would aim to eradicate negative educational outcomes caused by disadvantage and inequality, provide support to allow all children to reach their potential; reduce health and social inequalities by focussing on four key drivers:-

- building the capacity of parents;
- workforce development;
- flexible service delivery, and
- leadership through a guiding coalition – a team of people to drive the change and sustain support.

Thereon Lorraine Fisher was heard in further explanation of the report.

Action: that the development and implementation of an Early Years Strategy be approved.

8. **Third Sector Update**

There was submitted a report from Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (VANL) on behalf of North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership Group providing an update on the work of the voluntary sector in North Lanarkshire, in particular:-

- the Third Sector Interface Community Planning Improvement Programme activity;
- Local Area Team Action Plan consultation events for the voluntary sector;

- Voluntary Sector Locality Network events during August and September 2014, and
- the third sector representation on Local Area Partnerships.

Thereon June Vallance was heard in further explanation of the report.

Action: to note the position

9. Local Community Planning Update

There was submitted a report providing an update on the key local community planning developments since the last meeting of the Board including the initiative in Craigneuk, Wishaw, third sector connections to local community planning and the development of partnership agreement and induction process for all levels of the NLP Structures.

Setting out in Section 3 of the report an update on the progress of the six Local Area Teams.

Airdrie

- Hallcraig Street Car Park - £30,000 had been invested within the facility to install new steel doors, the closure of two main stairwells and increased access provision for Scottish Fire and Rescue Services.
- Whinhall Area – a second phase of allotments had been opened and funding from the Local Development Programme and external funding sources saw over £100,000 secured to deliver a new play facility.

Bellshill

- Youth Diversionary Activity – a project had been developed, funded from the Local Development Programme to address the issues of wilful fire raising in the area.
- Community Safety – the Sharepoint System had been widely used and the Community Safety Sub-Group was identifying priority areas for positive intervention.

Coatbridge

- Working with Young People in Trouble – a seminar took place with a number of partners and provided an opportunity for the interested professionals working with vulnerable people to discuss the current policy agenda and share best practice.
- Local Development Programme – the provision of new equipment at Bargeddie play park, traffic calming at Hagmill Road and fencing improvements at Witchwood Ponds.

Motherwell

- Motherwell Town Centre Framework and Action Plan – a framework and action plan for Motherwell town centre had been developed with the Local Area Partnership to help guide, manage and deliver change in Motherwell town centre.
- Local Development Programme – Craigneuk participatory budget play area project being developed in partnership with community groups, a contribution of £15,000 to support the development of a dementia friendly garden and upgrading of existing lighting provision in Forgewood play area.

North

- Cumbernauld 10k – the 7th Annual Cumbernauld 10k took place on 21 September 2014.
- Carbrain – discussions ongoing around fly tipping and general littering in common closes in Carbrain.

- Local Development Programme – a new War Memorial unveiled in Gartcosh, improvements to footpaths along Provost McCann Walkway in Kilsyth, new parking facilities in Kelvin Drive, Moodiesburn and funding to assist the community lead peace garden in Cumbernauld.

Wishaw

- Community Safety – the Sharepoint System continues to be used widely by partners permitting colleagues to deal with more issues speedily.
- Community Engagement – a team has been working closely with Shape Up Shotts Group with regard to installing an industrial heritage sculpture for the newly refurbished Stane Gardens.
- Local Development Programme – Belhaven Skate Park, lighting improvements at Tay Lane, Newmains, provision of parking in Bogfoot Road, Salsburgh and temporary CCTV installation at Tiree Crescent, Newmains.

Action: that the position be noted.

10. **Economic Update 16**

There was submitted a report providing the latest available economic and labour market performance information at both local and national levels, as hereinafter noted:-

- Claimant Count – in August 2014, the Jobseekers Allowance count stood at 8,162 which represents a drop of 27% on the corresponding figure for August 2013 and a drop of around 3% on the previous month's figure.
- Inflation – the 12 month headline rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index stood at 1.5% in August 2014.

Full details of the latest economic and labour market performance information at both local and national levels were contained within the report together with an update on Food Poverty and Insecurity, Community Asset Transfer and Wheels to Work.

Thereon Stephen Fraser was heard in further explanation of the report.

Action: that the position be noted.

11. **Financial Outlook**

Gavin Whitefield, Chief Executive, North Lanarkshire Council intimated that the budget setting process was aligned with the Single Outcome Agreement. He added that arrangements were being put in place for the Transformation Week commencing 3 November 2014 and he encouraged maximum participation. He further advised that a report would be brought back to the Board on the main outcomes from the Transformation Week and an initial report would be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee in December 2014.

Action: that the position be noted and a further report on the outcomes from the One Vision (Transformation Week) be provided to the February 2015 NLP Board.

12. **Welfare Reform Update**

John Campbell, Housing and Social Work Services provided an update in respect of the action taken to mitigate the impact of Welfare Reform within North Lanarkshire as hereinafter noted:-

Universal Credit – the DWP had issued a new scan of household affected by the cap which showed that 47 households in North Lanarkshire remained impacted by the cap and following visits from the Financial Inclusion Team this had been reduced to 35.

To date 4,762 visits had been completed, of which 221 cases reported that they had no bank account, 577 tenants stated that they will pay by direct debit/standing order, 538 tenants were currently on a waiting list for smaller accommodation, 2,100 tenants advised that they (or their partner) had a disability, 738 cases state that they require an extra bedroom because of a disability and 1,012 have been referred to employability services.

Housing Services – at period 4 current tenants arrears had risen by £1,737m (97%) over the two year period since 2012/13.

First Stop Shops – customer contact continues to rise in relation to demands associated with welfare reforms.

Scottish Welfare Fund – as at 31 July 2014 £354,000 had been paid out for crisis loans and £736,000 for Community Care Grants.

Digital Inclusion – the Working Group was making progress with the development of the North Lanarkshire Council Digital Inclusion Policy.

Health – to date 58 referrals had been made to the service with the majority of these being self referrals however work was underway to promote the service and encourage referrals from GP practice staff and health professionals.

Food Poverty – the group had met twice and its remit/terms of reference had been agreed and a food crisis pathway was being developed and a template for the way forward on six strategic objectives was currently being considered by the group.

Thereon John Campbell provided further information in respect of the timescale for implementation of universal credit within North Lanarkshire.

Action: to note the position.

13. **Budget Statement**

It was noted that at the end of period 6 on 12 September 2014 there were unallocated resources of £16,056.

14. **AOCB – City Deal**

Gavin Whitefield, Chief Executive provided a brief update on the progress of the implementation of City Deal and intimated that a full report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Partnership Board.

Action: to note the position and Shirley Linton, Head of Planning and Regeneration to provide a report to the next meeting of the Board on 10 December 2014.