

MINUTE OF THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2015 AT 9.30 AM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, MOTHERWELL

PRESENT

AGENDA ITEM No. 4

Councillor James McCabe (Chair)	North Lanarkshire Council
Councillor Frank McKay	North Lanarkshire Council
Gavin Whitefield	North Lanarkshire Council
Stephen Fraser	North Lanarkshire Council
Mark Hamill	North Lanarkshire Council
Lucinda Hughes	North Lanarkshire Council
Linda Johnstone	North Lanarkshire Council
Shirley Linton	North Lanarkshire Council
Pauline Nicholas	North Lanarkshire Council
Willie Ross	North Lanarkshire Council
Jonathan Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
Bill Higgins	Department of Work and Pensions
Martin McGuire	New College Lanarkshire
Calum Campbell	NHS Lanarkshire
Dr. Harpreet Kohli	NHS Lanarkshire
Stephen Kerr	NHS Lanarkshire
Neena Mahal	NHS Lanarkshire
Kenny McDonald	Police Scotland
Joe Hamilton	Scottish Children's Reporters Administration
Paul Devlin	Scottish Fire and Rescue
John Beresford	Scottish Police Authority
Paul Rooney	Scottish Police Authority
Danny Logue	Skills Development Scotland
Lesley Jackson	Strathclyde Passenger for Transport
Jim Kerr	Scottish Prison Service
Frank Fallon	Voluntary Sector
Kenny Moffat	Voluntary Sector
Craig Russell	Voluntary Sector
June Vallance	Voluntary Sector

APOLOGIES

Alan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise
John Campbell	North Lanarkshire Council
Ruth Scott	Scottish Government

WELCOME AND CHAIR'S REMARKS

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

The Chair advised that Nelson Telfer, Police Scotland and John Miller, Scottish Fire and Rescue had both obtained promoted posts from within their organisation. He acknowledged the contribution both had made to the Partnership Board and wished them well in the future.

1. Minute of Previous Meeting – 10 December 2014

The Minute of the meeting of the Board held on 10 December 2014 was agreed as an accurate record.

2. Matters Arising

The Chief Executive advised that in respect of paragraph 6 (3) of the previous Minute, an analysis of the profile of those Jobseeker Allowance claimants in Craigneuk would be provided to a future meeting of the Board and in respect of paragraph 7, a report on the progress with the Regional Skills Development Programme would be submitted to a future meeting of the Board.

3. **Scottish Police Authority Board**

Paul Rooney, Scottish Police Authority provided a presentation on the governance arrangements and the work undertaken by the Scottish Police Authority Board and provided further information in respect of:-

- the 12 publicly appointed Members and the structure of the Board;
- the five key principles of Strathclyde Police Authority;
- the work and responsibilities of the Board, and
- the progress made to date and the challenges ahead.

Thereon, Paul Rooney responded to questions from members of the Partnership Board.

Action: to note the presentation.

4. **Public Health 2013/2014 The Annual Report of the Director of Public Health**

Harpreet Kohli provided a presentation on the Public Health 2013/2014 Annual Report and provided further information in respect of:-

- the objectives of the Annual Report;
- the progress made in the previous 12 months;
- the health of the people of Lanarkshire including older people, and
- health protection, health improvement, oral health and health services.
- Higher mortality rates within North Lanarkshire

Thereon, Dr. Kohli responded to questions from Members of the Partnership Board.

Action: to note the presentation.

5. **Third Sector Update**

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

Thereon, Craig Russell provided a presentation in respect of the framework for Third Sector Community Planning in North Lanarkshire 2015-2018 and provided further information in respect of:-

- the context of the framework;
- the impact in communities in respect of community safety, health and wellbeing, lifelong learning and regeneration;
- the self-assessment process;
- the priority improvement areas;
- a number of areas for improvement;
- the recommendations and proposals contained within the framework, and
- the next steps and implementation of the framework.

Thereon, Craig Russell responded to questions from members of the Partnership Board.

Action: to note the presentation.

6. Redesigning Community Justice

There was submitted a report from the Head of Social Work Services providing information in relation to the publication of the Scottish Government's response to the consultation on the future model for Community Justice in Scotland and the role for Community Planning Partnerships in driving the implementation of this model (1) outlining the background to the consultation and the Scottish Government work with key partners to develop a model based on the dissolution of Community Justice Authorities; (2) advising that the new model would be driven at a local level by Community Planning Partnerships and a new national body called Community Justice Scotland would be established which would have a non hierarchical relationship with Community Planning Partnerships and their partners, and (3) intimating that Community Justice Scotland would be established during the latter part of 2016/17, with the Community Justice Authorities formally being disbanded on 31 March 2017 and the full model coming into effect on 1 April 2017.

Thereon, Linda Johnstone intimated that a Task Force was being set up to look at the issues involved in the establishment of the Community Planning Partnership and a further report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Board.

Action: to note the position.

7. NLP Partnership Agreement, Induction and Community Engagement Statement

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration providing an update on the development of NLP Partnership Agreement and Induction Process (1) outlining the background to the Partnership Agreement and Induction Process; (2) detailing the progress to date, the next steps and the process that would be undertaken; (3) providing details of feedback from discussions with key partners, and (4) enclosing, in the Appendices to the report, the draft Partnership Agreement, the NLP Induction process and content, the draft embedding community planning documents and the draft NLP Community Engagement Statement.

Thereon, Jonathan Smith intimated that initial feedback had been very positive and requested that all partners sign up to the agreement.

Action:

- (1) that the contents of the NLP Partnership Agreement, Induction and Community Engagement Statement be approved, and
- (2) that NLP Board continue to support the development and effective delivery of a comprehensive NLP Partnership Agreement and induction process.

8. Welfare Reform

Willie Ross, 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:-

Under Occupancy Rule/Universal Credit

Universal Credit would be rolled out in North Lanarkshire on 9 March 2015.

A programme of visits to tenants affected by the bedroom tax commenced on 7 February 2013 with 4,921 visits being completed to date; 223 cases had reported that they had no bank account; 591 tenants had stated they would pay by Direct Debit/Standing Order; 546 tenants were currently on the waiting list for smaller accommodation; 2,146 tenants advised they (or their partner) had a disability; 741 cases stated that they required an extra bedroom because of a disability, and 1,057 people had been referred to employability services.

Thereafter, Willie Ross provided an update in respect of the Scottish Welfare Fund, Digital Inclusion and Food Poverty.

Action: to note the position.

9. **Motherwell Town Centre Charretteplus Demonstration Project**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration providing an update on the Motherwell Town Centre Charretteplus Demonstration Project, the aim of which was to support the actions contained within the Town Centre Action Plan, in particular to encourage Community Planning Partners to consider how they could bring the Town Centre first principal to the fore when delivering the Single Outcome Agreement, and setting out details of the monitoring and evaluation process.

Thereon, Pauline Nicholas requested that all partners raise awareness within their organisation of the Charretteplus Demonstration Project within Motherwell Town Centre, and advised that two half day workshops would be arranged and appropriate representation was sought from partners.

Action: that an update on the Charretteplus Demonstration Project be submitted to a future meeting of the Board.

10. **Strategic Joint Resourcing**

There was submitted a report by the Chair of the Joint Resourcing Group providing an update on the progress made in the development of a North Lanarkshire Partnership approach to Strategic Joint Resourcing and ultimately to the agreement on joint working on Community Planning and Resourcing Statement (1) outlining the background to and the membership of the Joint Resourcing Group; (2) advising that, in order to help define North Lanarkshire Partnership's approach to joint resourcing, a workshop for NLP Board Members and the Joint Resourcing Group had been held on 18 December 2014; (3) highlighting the key issues raised at the workshop; (4) setting out details of the continuing action taken to develop dialogue with the local community within Craigneuk, and (5) detailing the next steps required to facilitate the continued development of North Lanarkshire Partnership's strategic approach to key joint resourcing which included NLP Board workshops, the Joint Resourcing Group, developing the Partnership Group and Elected Member workshop(s).

Thereon, Linda Johnstone and Jonathan Smith were heard in further explanation of the report and sought the Board's mandate for the proposed course of action.

Action:

- (1) that the key issues raised at the workshop on 18 December 2014 be noted;
- (2) that the next steps set out in the report including the identified improvement service support be agreed;
- (3) that the format for the Elected Member workshop(s) as set out in Section 5 of the report be approved, and
- (4) that the proposal to begin local discussions on Service Re-design Joint Resourcing in Craigneuk, as detailed in Section 4 of the report, linking the strategic approach to the local approach be supported.

Action: to note the position.

11. **Partnership Performance Reports – Six Monthly Update – 1 April-30 September 2014**

Linda Johnstone, North Lanarkshire Council, provided an update on the progress of the themed partnership working groups for the period from 1 April to 30 September 2014 as hereinafter noted:-

(a) **Developing the Partnership Group**

The report provided an update on the work of the Group including the progress of the seven local outcomes linked to the five single outcome agreements.

(b) **Regeneration Partnership Group**

The report provided an update on the overall progress made by the Regeneration Partnership Group in respect of the seven local outcomes and a brief synopsis of the achievements, to date.

(c) **Lifelong Learning Partnership Group**

The report provided an update on the work being undertaken by the Lifelong Learning Partnership Group, the progress on the four local outcomes and specific detail on some of the key achievements, to date.

(d) **Community Safety Partnership Group**

The report provided an update on the work being undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership and set out the progress in respect of the three local outcomes and some key achievements, to date, including improved road safety, improved fire safety, reduced serious and organised crime and reduced crime/effective neighbourhood management.

(e) **Health and Wellbeing Partnership Group**

The report provided an update on the work being undertaken by the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Group, the progress being made on the nine local outcomes in respect of health and wellbeing and a number of key achievements, to date, including the eight Pillars Model of Community Support, North Lanarkshire Council's Psychology Service and Home Support, Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games and the delivery of the Towers Strategy.

Action: to note the progress of the Partnership performance reports for the period from 1 April to 30 September 2014.

12. **Local Community Planning Update – Local Area Team Action Plans**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration providing an update on the key community planning developments identified with the Local Area Team Action Plans for the period from 1 April to 30 September 2014.

Thereon, Jonathan Smith provided an update in respect of the Local Area Team Action Plans for the six Local Area Team and an area wide update including the Festive Safety Campaign and 20s Plenty Initiative.

Action: to note the report.

13. **Economic Update 18**

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

- Claimant Count – in December 2014, the Jobseeker Allowance count stood at 6,713 which represented a reduction of 25.9% on the corresponding figure for December 2013 and a reduction of over 0.3% on the previous month's figures;
- Jobseekers Allowance Claimants – the 18-24 age group continued to improve with a drop of just over a third in the last year and 0.3% in the last month to the current figure of 1,555, and
- the number of long term Jobseeker Allowance claimants continued to improve with a drop of almost 38% over the last year and 3.4% over the last month to the current figure of 1,870;
- Economic Activity – the employment rate for North Lanarkshire stands at 71.2% which was marginally below the Scottish average of 72.5% which translated to a 153,000 people in total in employment, which was approximately 500 above the previous annual population survey for the period from July 2013 to June 2014;

- Inflation – the 12 month headline rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index, stood at 0.5 in December 2014, and
- Economic Outlook – the latest monthly report on the Scottish Economy forecast that growth in Scotland in 2015 of 2.8% would be revised downwards to reflect significant drop in oil prices.

Thereon, Stephen Fraser was heard in further explanation of the report and intimated that the decline in seasonal workers together with the recent contractions and closures at Terex and City Link would push the Job Seeker Allowance figure back up again in early 2015.

Action: to note the position.

14. **Financial Outlook**

Gavin Whitefield, Chief Executive, North Lanarkshire Council advised that although the Council had set its annual budget on 12 February 2015, a late Scottish Government announcement on the control of teacher/pupil ratios meant that the Council would need to identify savings of £4.1m rising to full year costs of £6.1m, and that a further report would be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee on 12 March 2015.

He further advised that the Council would require to make around £80m of savings over the next three years and it was important to continue dialogue with partners to align strategies and prevent 'cost shunting'.

Action: to note the position.

15. **Budget Statement**

It was noted that at the end of period 11 on 30 January 2015 there were unallocated resources of £15,958.

Action: to note the position.

16. **AOCB – Public Health Review: Engagement Paper**

Pauline Nicholas intimated that, following receipt of a consultation paper on the Public Health Review Engagement Paper, she would meet with all key partners to formulate a response and circulate her draft response to all partners for comment prior to submission.

Action: to note the position and that the draft response be circulated to members for comment

17. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 15 April 2015 at 9.30 am within the Civic Suite, Civic Centre, Motherwell.