

MINUTE OF THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 15 APRIL 2015 AT 9.30 AM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, MOTHERWELL

AGENDA ITEM No.....5.....

PRESENT

Councillor James Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
John Campbell	North Lanarkshire Council
Stephen John Fraser	North Lanarkshire Council
Linda Johnston	North Lanarkshire Council
Shirley Linton	North Lanarkshire Council
Duncan MacKay	North Lanarkshire Council
Janice Hewitt	North Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Integration Board
Paul Devlin	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Brian Hughes	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Joe Hamilton	Scottish Children's Reporters Administration
Bill Higgins	Department of Work and Pensions
Lesley Jackson	Scottish Enterprise
Allan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise
Stephen Kerr	NHS Lanarkshire
Neena Mahal	NHS Lanarkshire
Kenny MacDonald	Police Scotland
Robert McMillan	New College Lanarkshire
Paul Rooney	Scottish Police Authority
Allan Comrie	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
June Vallance	Voluntary Sector

APOLOGIES

Councillor James McCabe	North Lanarkshire Council
Gavin Whitefield	North Lanarkshire Council
Callum Campbell	NHS Lanarkshire
Ross McGuffie	NHS Lanarkshire
Martin McGuire	New College Lanarkshire
Jim Kerr	HMP Shotts
Francis Fallan	Voluntary Sector
Bruce Kiloh	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
Jennifer Lees	North Lanarkshire Council
Pauline Nicholas	North Lanarkshire Council
Kenny Moffat	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
Henrietta Wright	Department for Work and Pensions

WELCOME AND CHAIR'S REMARKS

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

The Chair advised of the attendance of (1) Nick Wright, Planning Aid for Scotland (PAS) for the item on Motherwell Town Centre Charrette Plus; (2) Duncan MacKay, Executive Director of Housing and Social Work Services for item 3 on the agenda, and (3) Barbara Philliben and Helen Sneddon, Learning and Leisure Services for item 4 on the agenda.

The Chair also welcomed Iain McCusker, Area Manager, the local Senior Officer for Lanarkshire Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (new appointment), Bill Higgins, Department for Work and Pensions (attending on behalf of Etta Wright) and Robert McMillan, Assistant Principal, New College Lanarkshire (attending on behalf of Martin McGuire).

1. Minute of Previous Meeting – 18 February 2015

The Minute of the meeting of the Partnership Board held on 18 February 2015 was agreed as an accurate record with the exception of the attendance of Lesley Jackson. Allan Comrie was the representative in attendance for Strathclyde Partnership for Transport.

2. **Matters Arising**

Allan Comrie advised that his organisation was Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and not Passenger for Transport.

3. **Motherwell Town Centre Charrette Plus**

Shirley Linton, Head of Planning and Regeneration advised that Planning Aid for Scotland (PAS) was undertaking demonstration projects funded by the Scottish Government to support the delivery of Motherwell Town Centre Action Plan and introduced Nick Wright, Planning Aid for Scotland, to give a presentation on the Charrette Plus approach.

Nick confirmed that the workshop events will be delivered according to Planning Aid Scotland's Charrette Plus approach to design, draw and test solutions and have invited the Partnership Board to become involved in the process by agreeing to a demonstration project for Motherwell Town Centre looking at how to encourage Community Planning Partners to consider how they apply the Town Centre First Principle when delivering Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs).

Nick set out Motherwell Charrette Plus Engagement Programme which included five phases.

Phase 1 – Information and Awareness Raising – April to May 2015

Phase 2 – Agree Future Vision for the Town Centre – Late May Early June 2015

Phase 3 – Proposals for Actions – June 2015

Phase 4 – Updated Town Centre Action Plan – August 2015

Phase 5 – Tool Kit and Guide for Other Community Planning Partnerships – September 2015

Nick advised that the Town Centre First Principle of the Scottish Government's Town Centre Action Plan was the result of the national review by the Town Centres External Advisory Group, chaired by Malcolm Fraser, Architect to oversee a panel of experts to agree an action plan for re-energising Scotland's town centres, addressing issues associated with planning, rents and rates, competition and empty properties.

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

Action: to note the presentation.

4. **Children's Services Partnership Update – March 2015**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Housing and Social Work Services/Chief Social Work Officer (1) providing an overview of the work being progressed by North Lanarkshire Children's Services Partnership (CSP); (2) detailing the background relative thereto; (3) outlining, in Appendix 1 of the report, local outcomes and milestones as contained within the Single Outcome Agreement; (4) indicating (a) that the joint inspection of Children's Services took place during October and November 2014 with initial verbal feedback to the Chief Officers being positive, and (b) that following the draft report being issued, there will be three weeks to review the report with the final report being published thereafter with the Partnership Board to produce an improvement plan within six weeks, and (5) advising of the introduction of the Children and Young Persons Act, the implications thereof and the implementation arrangements.

Action:

(1) that the contents of the report be noted, and

(2) that further reports be submitted to the Partnership Board on a six monthly basis.

5. **North Lanarkshire Violence Against Women Working Group**

There was submitted a report by Barbara Philliben, Learning and Leisure Services (1) advising the Partnership Board on the work undertaken by North Lanarkshire Violence Against Women Working Group and, in particular, present the North Lanarkshire Violence Against Women Strategy 2014-2018; (2) detailing the background relative thereto; (3) indicating (a) that available data for North Lanarkshire demonstrates a significant level of violence against women in 2013/14 with Police Scotland recording 4,007 incidents of domestic abuse in North Lanarkshire, with a resulting 2002 referrals being made to North Lanarkshire Social Work Services; (b) that Women's Aid and EVA Services recorded 786 domestic abuse referrals in 2014/15 and in the same year, Housing Services received 194 referrals due to domestic abuse, and in 94 of these cases people presented as homeless, and (c) that a total of 114 rape and sexual assault referrals were also recorded by Women's Aid, EVA Services and Lanarkshire Rape Crisis Centre in 2014/15, and (4) setting out the North Lanarkshire Violence Against Women Strategy for the period from 2014-2018, as contained within the Appendix to the report, which replaces the North Lanarkshire Domestic Abuse Action Plan.

Action: to note the presentation.

6. **Craigneuk, Wishaw - Update**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) updating the Partnership Board on progress with the Craigneuk Project since the last report in December 2014; (2) indicating that the report reflects (a) key developments around the delivery of the Craigneuk Money Week Initiative; (b) the Family Fun Day at the conclusion of Money Week, and (c) the survey work carried out to begin to gather community views on future infrastructure developments in the area, and providing details thereon, and (3) outlining developments of the new play area and the Action for Craigneuk community meeting.

Action: to note the presentation.

7. **One Vision Analysis and Alignment with the Future Savings Strategy 2016/17-2018/19**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, North Lanarkshire Council (1) providing the Partnership Board with (a) an analysis of the feedback and responses received during the Council's One Vision consultation and engagement exercise undertaken at the beginning of November 2014, and (b) information on how the feedback received aligns with the emerging timetable and framework for consideration of the Council's future savings strategy; (2) detailing the background relative thereto, and (3) outlining, in the Appendices to the report, full analysis of responses to the questionnaire which focuses on key legislative changes, initiatives and opportunities, the programme of current activities in place and the potential future activities designed to tackle these challenges and take advantage of any further opportunities.

Action: to note the presentation.

8. **Third Sector Update**

There was submitted a report from Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (VANL) on behalf of North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership (1) providing an update on the work of the Voluntary Sector in North Lanarkshire; (2) advising that following a nomination and selection process, Third Sector representatives had been appointed to the Local Area Partnerships from the period from April 2015 to March 2017; (3) indicating that VANL had delivered its latest round of voluntary sector locality network events during February to March 2015 on behalf of North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership Group, and (4) outlining a series of thematic updates from the Third Sector in North Lanarkshire.

Action: to note the presentation.

9. Economic Update

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Information and Research Team of the Chief Executive's Office, North Lanarkshire Council, providing the latest available economic labour market performance information at both local and national levels, as hereinafter noted.

Claimant Count – the JSA claimant count stood at 7,201 in North Lanarkshire in February 2015, representing a drop of -24.5% over the last 12 months, although the figure had increased by 2.1% in the last month.

Claimant Count Age and Duration – the position with regard to the JSA claimants in the “18 to 24 years” age group had improved over the year with a drop of 28%. Again, however, the position had worsened over the last month, up 7.6% to a current figure of 1,830. This can probably be largely attributed to temporary seasonal employment coming to an end. The position for “long term” (over 12 months) JSA claimants meanwhile had improved by almost 38% over the last year and by 1.1% over the last month to a current figure of 1,825.

JSA Rates – (1) Ward Level – at ward level JSA unemployment rates vary from a low of 1.1% in Cumbernauld North to a high of 5.5% in Motherwell South East and Ravenscraig, including Craigneuk. Details are provided in Appendix 1 to the report, and (2) Craigneuk – although Craigneuk, has the highest JSA claimant's rate of any of North Lanarkshire local neighbourhood areas at 6.2% (175 claimants), the level of improvement in the area over the last 12 months is better than that of North Lanarkshire as a whole. The area saw a drop of 27% in the claimant numbers from the February 2014 rate of 8.5% (240 claimants). Similarly the improvement in the claimant rate among the “18-24 years” age gap was better over the 12 month period than the North Lanarkshire average dropping by over $\frac{2}{3}$ to just 25 claimants.

Inflation – in the wider economic context, the 12 months headline rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) fell to 0% in February 2015. This is the lowest rate of inflation the UK has experienced since records began. The main contributors to the slow down in the rate came from price movements for a range of recreational goods, foods, furniture and furnishings.

Economic Outlook – the office of the Chief Economics adviser in his State of the Economy report for December 2014 highlighted that output in Scotland during 2014 had reached its highest level since 2007. Rising employment, improved business and consumer confidence, rising house prices and some early indications of real wages starting to rise all contributed positively to this. There are still some concerns however about the full utilisation of labour market capacity, particularly around working hours, full-time employment and sustained employment for young people.

Thereon, Janice Hewitt advised that she would welcome a paragraph to be incorporated into the report regarding sickness statistics particularly in relation to persons over 25 years of age.

Action: to note the presentation.

10. Financial Outlook

Jonathan Smith, North Lanarkshire Council advised that as a consequence of the Council's agreement to maintain teaching numbers as confirmed with the Scottish Government as part of the financial settlement for 2015/16, the following alternative savings totalling £4.1m were approved at the Policy and Resources Committee meeting of 19 March.

- In line with inflation updates on the price of oil, the Council will review downwards its financial planning assumptions to 1% reducing contract inflationary cost pressures by £0.9m.
- Learning and Leisure Services will liaise with Head Teachers to ensure greater efficiency in school timetabling, with schools taking on a greater role in managing vacancies and absences internally. These actions will help reduce the overall costs of supply teaching within the Service, saving £1.2m.
- The Council previously approved the reduction of 24 FTE promoted postholders from secondary schools in January. Following the commitment to maintain teacher numbers, Learning and Leisure Services will retain the equivalent teaching FTEs, however, the promoted element of the salary costs will save £0.6m.

- The remaining gap of £1.4m will be funded from the General Services Reserve in 2015/16. £1.4m of additional savings will then be required as part of the Council's future Saving Plan and the reserve will also require to be restored from one off measures.

Action: to note the position.

11. **Welfare Reform Update**

There was submitted a report by the Services Manager, Financial Inclusion, North Lanarkshire Council (1) providing an update on action taken to mitigate the impact of welfare reform within North Lanarkshire; (2) detailing the areas of activity to include Universal Credit, the Delivery Partnership Agreement, Under Occupancy Rules, Discretionary Housing Payments – benefit cap – Scottish Welfare Fund and Digital Inclusion Health and Food Poverty.

Thereon, John Campbell responded to members of the Partnership Board's question.

Action: to note the position.

12. **Budget Statement**

It was noted that at the end of Period 13 on 31 March 2015 there was an unallocated resource of £15,857.

Action: to note the position.

13. **Any Other Competent Business – Health and Social Care Integration**

Janice Hewitt enquired as to the merit of Stephen Kerr and herself providing the Partnership Board with a presentation on Partnership Working in relation to Health and Social Care Integration.

Action: it be agreed that Janice and Stephen provide a report on Partnership Working in relation to Health and Social Care Integration.

14. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Partnership Board will be held on Wednesday, 17 June 2015 at 9.30 am, Civic Suite, Civic Centre, Motherwell.

Action: to note the date of the next meeting.

MINUTE OF THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2015 AT 9.30 AM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, MOTHERWELL

PRESENT

Councillor James Smith (Chair)	North Lanarkshire Council
John Campbell	North Lanarkshire Council
Stephen John Fraser	North Lanarkshire Council
Linda Johnston	North Lanarkshire Council
Jennifer Lees	North Lanarkshire Council
Lizanne McMurrich	North Lanarkshire Council
Pauline Nicholas	North Lanarkshire Council
Jonathan Smith	North Lanarkshire Council
Gavin Whitefield	North Lanarkshire Council
Janice Hewitt	North Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Integration Board
Helen Tomison	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)
Martin McGuire	New College Lanarkshire
Calum Campbell	NHS Lanarkshire
Neena Mahal	NHS Lanarkshire
Kenny MacDonald	Police Scotland
Joe Hamilton	Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
Allan McQuade	Scottish Enterprise
Andrew Scott	Scottish Government
John Beresford	Scottish Police Authority
Danny Logue	Skills Development Scotland
Brian Hughes	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Ian McCusker	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Bruce Kiloh	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
Craig Russell	Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire
Francis Fallan	Voluntary Sector

APOLOGIES

Councillor James McCabe	North Lanarkshire Council
Shirley Linton	North Lanarkshire Council
Jim Kerr	HMP Shotts
Paul Devlin	Scottish Fire and Rescue
Lesley Jackson	Scottish Enterprise
Allan Comrie	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
June Vallance	Voluntary Sector

WELCOME AND CHAIR'S REMARKS

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

1. **Minute of Previous Meeting – 15 April 2015**

The Minute of the meeting of the Partnership Board held on 15 April 2015 was agreed as an accurate record.

2. **Matters Arising**

No matters arising.

3. **Health and Social Care Integration Public Bodies Act**

Janice Hewitt, Chief Accountable Officer, North Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership Shadow Integration Board, provided the Partnership Board with a detailed presentation on the Health and Social Care Integration Public Bodies Act which included:-

A Vision – address inequalities in outcomes and variation in Service provision over Health, Social Work and Social Care Services.

National Outcomes

Challenges and Opportunities

Enacting the Act:-

- established discreet legal entity to “direct” resource allocations against plan – ministerial sign off of legally binding Integration Scheme (IS)
- Appointed Chief Accountable Officer (CAO)
- Agreed new governance arrangements
- Developing a Strategic Commissioning Plan
- Establishing budgets to the Joint Integration Board (JIB) from Council and NHS (April 2015)
- Developing leaders through a series of development programmes
- Developing Locality Teams managed by Integrated Locality Managers (ILM)
- Exploring new service delivery models
- Keeping services going, managing, understanding/interpretations and risks.

Implications for Community Planning and the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) –

- Formal Reporting
- Wider Stakeholder engagement e.g. Police – Audit Adult protection
- Oversight
- Work in collaboration around the ambitions agreed by the Joint Integration Board (JIB).

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

Action: to note the presentation.

4. **Welfare Reform Update**

There was submitted a report by the Service Manager, Financial Inclusion, North Lanarkshire Council (1) providing an update on action taken to mitigate the impact of Welfare Reform within North Lanarkshire; (2) detailing areas of activity to include Universal Credit (UC)/Welfare Reforms, Scottish Welfare Funds (SWF), health, food poverty, income generated by Housing and Social Work Services for the completion of 27,052 benefit checks in 2014/15 and income generated for the financial year across the entire Housing and Social Work Service, together with the MacMillan Lanarkshire Advice Service and Sanctuary Housing Association amounting to £29,266,800 being an increase of £647,583 (2.3%) from 2013/14.

Thereon, John Campbell and Lizanne McMurrich responded to questions from members of the Partnership Board.

Action: to note the position.

5. **Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill**

There was submitted a report by the Strategic Advisor, North Lanarkshire Council (1) providing the Partnership Board with an overview of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill currently under consideration by the Scottish Parliament; (2) detailing the background relative thereto; (3) advising (a) that when originally introduced, the Bill had eight distinct parts as summarised, however, during the Stage 2 amendment process, a number of completely new provisions were introduced along with amendments to the existing sections; (b) that a fuller account of provisions, together with a note on how they may impact on partner services and resource requirements was provided at Appendix 1 of the report, and (c) that it be noted that parts 1, 2 and 5 of the Bill generally relate to all community planning partners; (4) outlining a number of new powers that were introduced during the Stage 2 amendment process; (5) indicating (a) that, since there are no reserved matters, it was anticipated that the Bill would be approved later in the summer and that Royal Assent be granted relatively quickly; (b) that North Lanarkshire Council had maintained a general oversight of the Community Empowerment Bill since it was first introduced and had submitted written and verbal responses to the consultation requests; (c) that, as the scale and extent of the new duties being placed on the public sector became increasingly apparent, a corporate Council Working Group had been established to ensure that the Council and partners were fully aware of the new or extended responsibilities and were best placed to respond to these; (d) that a number of the representatives on the Working Group were also directly involved in supporting the NLP and elements of crossover and oversight on how the Bill's provisions will also impact on partner activity have been provided, and (e) that the requirement for appropriate liaison and joint working arrangements to be in place was now escalating, and, as enactment draws closer, it is recommended that in the first instance, this is taken forward through the existing Strategic Joint Resourcing Group with regular update reports to the Board, and (6) summarising (a) that the Community Empowerment Bill was a significant piece of legislation introducing a substantial number of new duties for the public sector and whilst the actual levels of resource demand will be very much influenced by the volume of enquiries from community bodies, Board Members should not under-estimate the additional responsibilities that are being placed on public sector services through the Bill, and (b) the next steps.

Action:

- (1) that the Parliamentary progress of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill and the anticipated enactment timetables be noted;
- (2) that the extent of the Bill's provisions and how these may impact on public sector services and local communities be noted;
- (3) that the corporate Working Group continue to consider the Bill's impact on North Lanarkshire Council services, undertake necessary preparatory work in readiness for enactment, and liaise with the Strategic Joint Resourcing Group to ensure that the Council and partners are well placed and fully briefed on future statutory duties, be noted, and
- (4) that further updates be submitted to future meetings of the Board as the Bill concludes its parliamentary process and the various statutory duties are ultimately enacted.

6. **Partnership Risk Register**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on progress made in relation to updating the North Lanarkshire Partnership Risk Register; (2) detailing the background relative thereto; (3) indicating that the NLP register was updated for 2014/15 and had been agreed at an NLP Board meeting in June 2014, and given that there was minimal change required within the document, key updates and outstanding actions had been included, as contained within the Appendix to the report, and (4) advising that the Partnership Working Group oversees the monitoring of the risk register on a quarterly basis and, following an annual review, the Working Group will provide an update to this Partnership Board.

Action:

- (1) that the updated risk register and associated actions be approved;
- (2) that it be agreed that the Partnership Working Group continue to oversee the risk register and monitor implementation of the actions reporting annually to this Board, and
- (3) that it be noted that partners will highlight any further risks at a future Board meeting.

7. **Craigneuk, Wishaw - Update**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) updating the Partnership Board on progress with the Craigneuk project since the last report in April 2015; (2) indicating that the report reflects key developments around the outcomes of the community survey on the future of the school and other public facilities in the area and that the surveys were distributed to every house in the area and views were gathered at local events, with a total of 525 surveys being returned; (3) referring to the visit to Craigneuk, during May 2015, of Sir Peter Housden, Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government, and (4) concluding that the play area funded through the Motherwell Local Area Partnership Local Development Programme was now at the design stage and expected to be delivered later in the year, with the group now working with the Play Services Officer who had taken on board the preferences highlighted by local children.

Thereon, Gavin Whitefield, Janice Hewitt and Kenny McDonald reiterated what had been reported and agreed that the Partnership Board was reaching an important and critical stage of the transformation of how services are developed between all partners.

Action: that the report be noted.

8. **Local Community Planning Update**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) advising of key local community planning developments and actions from the six Local Area Teams for the period from October 2014 to March 2015, and (2) providing details thereon.

Action: that the report be noted.

9. **Third Sector Update**

There was submitted a report by Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire, on behalf of North Lanarkshire Voluntary Sector Partnership Group (1) advising of projects and initiatives undertaken by the Third Sector as at June 2015, and (2) providing details of (a) Voluntary Sector Locality Network events; (b) representation on Local Area Partnerships; (c) Third Sector Community Planning Involvement Plan update; (d) NL Voluntary Sector Conference 2015; (e) the framework for Children and Families; (f) Dementia Network launch, and (g) the framework for community capacity building and carer support within the new Health and Social Care Integration model currently being prepared.

Action: that the report be noted.

10. **Motherwell Town Centre Charette Plus Demonstration Project**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) providing an update on the Motherwell Town Centre Charette Plus Demonstration Project; (2) detailing the background relative thereto; (3) advising that the Charette (a) will run from Sunday, 21 June to Thursday, 25 June 2015 in the Glo Centre, 78 Muir Street, Motherwell and comprise representations, workshops and public drop-in design studios, and (b) will give stakeholder groups and others the opportunity to get together to discuss the issues and opportunities in Motherwell town centre, share ideas, agree joint solutions and actions, and strengthen partnership working; (4) outlining the topics that the workshop sessions would encompass; (5) indicating that by the end of the Charette, a package of proposals would be delivered for the future of the town centre, essentially a revised Motherwell Town Centre Action Plan, linking spatial and community planning and to be delivered in partnership, and (6) summarising that the revised Motherwell Town Centre Action Plan will require partners to commit to delivering the outputs identified through the Charette Programme.

Action: that the report be noted.

11. Economic Update

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Information and Research Team of the Chief Executive's Office, North Lanarkshire Council providing the latest available economic labour market performance information at both local and national level, as hereinafter noted:-

The JSA claimant counts - stood at 6,523 in North Lanarkshire in April 2015, representing a drop of almost -26% over the last 12 months and a decrease of 7.5% in the last month.

Claimant Count, Age and Duration – the position with regard to Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants in the "18 to 25 years" age group has improved over the year with a drop of 33% and a fall of 11% over the last month to a new three year low of 1,545 claimants. The position for "long term" JSA claimants (over 12 months) has improved by almost 75% over the last year and by 2.2% over the last month to a current figure of 1,745, which represents a three year low.

Claimant Rates at Local Area Partnership (LAP) Level – at LAP level, JSA unemployment rates vary from a low of 2.1% to a high of 3.7%. Both Wishaw (2.7%) and North (2.1%) sit below the North Lanarkshire average while Coatbridge (3%) is in line with the figure. Motherwell (3.7%), Bellshill (3.6%) and Airdrie (3.3%), on the other hand, all sit above the average figure.

Economic Inactivity at LAP Level – the share of "economically inactive" age 25 years and over who are "long term sick or disabled" varies across the LAP areas. The Coatbridge LAP had the highest rate of its economically inactive falling into this category, followed by Bellshill, Airdrie and Motherwell where the rates of males and females were all above the Council average. Wishaw, on the other hand, has a lower than average rate of "long term sick or disabled" among its male inactive group, but is marginally higher for females. The North LAP meanwhile is significantly below average.

Inflation – in the wider economic context, the 12 month headline rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) fell to 0.1% in April 2015.

Economic Outlook – the Office of the Chief Economic Adviser in his State of the Economy Report for June 2015 highlighted encouraging trends particularly in domestic and inward investment. In addition, conditions in some of Scotland's key export markets, including the US, continued to strengthen last year. Further growth in employment and output are expected to continue through 2015 although the fall in oil prices will continue to affect the profitability of the offshore sector to some extent.

The report concludes that conditions in Scotland are expected to continue to strengthen as the year progresses with growth in 2015 expected to be in line with expert forecasts of around 2.3%.

Thereon, Gavin Whitefield, Janice Hewitt, Alan McQuade and Helen Thomson spoke in relation to the report and Helen Thomson advised that she was happy to provide a presentation to the next meeting of the Partnership Board on "Employment Support Allowance (ESA)", rebranded "Working Matters", the labour market strand of the Council's City Deal.

Action:

- (1) that the Department for Work and Pensions provide a presentation to the next meeting on "Employment Support Allowance (ESA)" rebranded "Working Matters", the labour market strand of the Council's City Deal, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

12. British Transplant Games

There was submitted a report by the Strategic Adviser, North Lanarkshire Council (1) advising of the progress of the project to host the British Transplant Games in North Lanarkshire in 2017; (2) detailing the background relative thereto; (3) indicating that the project is being managed using Project Management Guidance and, as recommended, had identified management and monetary arrangements, risk management, outcomes and reporting; (4) setting out details of the Directors/Board members and Ambassadors that had been appointed for the duration of the project, and (5) outlining the financial implications of the project.

Thereon, Callum Campbell advised that he would raise the British Transplant Games with the Board of NHS Lanarkshire.

Action: that the report be noted.

13. **Financial Outlook**

Gavin Whitefield advised the Partnership Board that the Council were struggling with reduced resources coupled with the demand for its Services. The provisional savings requirement for 2016/17 and 2017/18 was forecast at £80m. It was hoped that the savings package would be finalised by February 2016.

Thereon, the Partnership then heard (1) Kenny MacDonald outline Police Scotland's forecast; (2) Calum Campbell outline the NHS Lanarkshire position, and (3) Martin McGuire outline a similar position for New College, Lanarkshire.

Action: that the position be noted.

14. **Developing Scotland's Young Workforce**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Planning and Regeneration (1) seeking approval for a recommendation made by the Council's Learning and Leisure Services Committee and Policy and Resources (Regeneration and Infrastructure) Sub-Committee on governance arrangements for the delivery of the recommendations of the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce; (2) advising that the Commission had developed a series of recommendations aimed at changing the way young people are helped into training, further/higher education and employment and this formed part of the Scottish Government's Seven Year Youth Employment Strategy published in December 2014, with local agencies and key partners within this partnership being central to the delivery of the recommendations; (3) referring to (a) the report and governance structure presented to the Council's Learning and Leisure Services Committee and Policy and Resources (Regeneration and Infrastructure) Sub-Committee, as contained within the Appendix to the report, and (b) the main provisions of the approach by North Lanarkshire to develop the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce recommendations and the governance arrangements which will involve the Board and the Community Planning Partnership.

Action: that the proposed governance structure be approved and further updates be progressed and presented to the Board.

15. **Budget Statement**

It was noted that at the end of period 2 on 29 May 2015 there was an unallocated resource of £15,805.

Action: that the position be noted.

16. **Any Other Competent Business**

None.

17. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the North Lanarkshire Partnership Board will be held on Wednesday, 19 August 2015 at 9.30 am in Berryhill Primary School, Hillcrest Avenue, Craigneuk, Wishaw.