

Caithness Community Partnership

Board Update – 19 December 2018

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

Community Planning Partnership met in Thurso on 21st November. Attendance from key partners and members of the public, with updates from NHS Highland on the Caithness Redesign Consultation and from Highland Council on the newly-adopted Caithness & Sutherland Development Plan. The meeting was preceded by a workshop on health inequalities for CPP members.

Highlife Highland successfully organised a “question time” event for young people on 16th November, focussing on the consultation into proposed redesign of health and social care in Caithness. This added a valuable young people’s voice into the consultation process.

2. Issues

Main issue has been resource to deliver activities/ outputs. Caithness Voluntary Group (CVG) has attracted funding from the Aspiring Communities Fund to employ three roles (covering Wick/ Thurso/ Rural Caithness respectively) addressing inequalities. This was welcomed by members as a significant opportunity to boost locality-based working. This work will commence in January 2019.

Availability and misuse of drugs was raised as an urgent issue, and Highland Council Ward Manager for Caithness agreed to bring a group together to discuss responses.

Caithness Citizens’ Advice Bureau and Wick High School are developing projects to tackle poverty, particularly amongst young people, and it was agreed to work together to ensure an effective use of available support funds.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

4. Future Actions

The three postholders managed by CVG will engage with partners and communities, feeding back to the next meeting. The Children’s plan will be refreshed, focussing initially on the four Localities (Wick, Thurso, Castletown, Lybster/ Dunbeath/ Berriedale). This will be led by Highland Council with partner and stakeholder involvement.

Sutherland Community Partnership

Board Update – 19 December 2018

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

- Locality Plans – 3 out of 5 main plans ready for 14th December
- Action Plans to be published shortly afterwards
- Adjustments made to Kinlochbervie Locality Plan based on community feedback. Still awaiting final sign-off by KLB Locality Group. Ready for publication late January / early February 2019
- Draft document for Creich Locality Plan finalised. Creich Locality Group still to provide feedback. Next Locality Group meeting to take place late January 2019
- Finalised community engagement in CC areas of Ardgay & District; Assynt; and Melness-Tongue-Skerray
- Currently carrying out community engagement in CC areas of Durness; Edderton; and Scourie
- Fuel Poverty and Employment Sub Groups
- Safer Sutherland Weekly Conference
- Employability Award
- Locality Leads meetings
- CLD Inspection at Inverness
- SCP Newsletter – Issue 5 published
- Sutherland Care Forum participation
- VG-ES AGM
- Full meeting in Lochinver
- 2 more sessions of Midas training funded via SCP. Over 30 volunteer minibus drivers trained
- Partnership Presentation day planned for 30 Jan 2019
- Continued Locality Group meetings for the 5 main localities
- Community Plans being developed for the remaining Community Council areas in Sutherland
- Assistance given to ERCP with advice on engagement procedures
- Community Partnerships Development Day at Strathpeffer
- Sutherland Youth Forum Winter Conference at Lairg
- Discussions with Dep Head at Golspie High School re distance learning opportunities

2. Issues

- Venues for meetings including costs of hiring village halls/community rooms
- Staffing and the ability for all partners to be able to commit to events while doing day job
- Time constraints for partners on top of their day jobs
- Geographical area remains a challenge with huge distances to cover
- Involving “hard-to-reach” people

- Managing expectations from community following engagement

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

- Midas minibus training for more than 30 volunteer drivers
- Employability Award – Employment training course ongoing at 4 High Schools
- Opportunities for practitioners to gather data for community planning from “hard to reach” as part of day job (midwives, nurses, social workers, SFRS, police)?
- Weekly Safer Sutherland multi agency conference
- Currently there is no interface between the Community Partnerships and Area Committees. This is a lost opportunity. What plans are there to cross reference issues and priorities given the ability of the CPs to work collaboratively with partners (and public) and engage effectively with the public?
- Are there plans to bring forward for discussion at CPP/HC/NHSH the recent Audit Scotland Report into Health and Social Care Integration?

4. Future Actions

- Continue to secure more funding for Midas volunteer minibus driver training
- Secure funding for Partnership general costs
- Continue to develop relationships with the communities to take forward the locality plans
- Ensure all locality plans are well publicised once they have been completed
- Creich Locality Group to review Locality Plan
- Finalise Creich and Kinlochbervie locality plans
- Continue to tackle fuel poverty issues with the fuel poverty sub group
- Continue to tackle employment issues with the Employment Sub Group

Easter Ross Community Partnership

Board Update – 19 December 2018

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

Activity during the last quarter has involved a good representation at the CP development day in Strathpeffer. This was a good opportunity to catch up and interact and share ideas with the other Partnerships.

We have been involved in finalising the Seaboard Plan and are looking to get this printed and have condensed version delivered to all homes in the area (500 approx.)

We are continuing to plan our engagement with our focus now switching to Alness. Initial consultation has taken place and we are looking to further utilise the Place Standard tool. Initial consultation with Alness academy has highlighted concerns around Sexting, Mental Health issues Road Safety and drug use! We have decide to plan a Market Day for the Academy and try and address some of these concerns.

A public meeting was held on the 21st November in Milton and this was well attended. Agenda items at this meeting included input from Diane Whitmore from Grow2gether and Louise Benson from NHS Highland who talked about Public Health Screening. The meeting then moved into a very insightful and interesting debate on local issues specifically relating to the use of prescribed drugs. This has been noted and is something we will look to incorporate into our Market Day.

2. Issues

Current issue facing the partnership are similar to those of our sister Partnerships in that this is an addition to our day jobs. Capacity is an issue however having been involved in the interview process for the full time resources it is hoped that the appointment of these individuals will alleviate some of the pressures.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

One area which proved very beneficial was the attendance at the public meeting of a young man from the local area. This gents had some personal experience of losing a friend to an overdose and had good knowledge, suggestions and insights into local problems. This focused our approach and has provided direction for the partnership. We must ensure we act on these areas to not only address local issue but to build confidence in the partnership.

The benefits of engaging with locals cannot be understated.

4. Future Actions

Issue Seaboard Plan and continue to monitor and support as required.

Run Market Day in Alness Academy

Continue engagement within Alness.

Introduce / support full time resource.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Dibble". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Ricky Dibble, Group Manager SFRS. 13/12/18

Mid Ross Community Partnership

Board Update – 19 December 2018

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

Mid Ross was chosen as the local area for the place based aspect of the CLD Inspection. A tremendous amount of work went into preparing for and participating in this process but it should stand us in good stead going forward. Fiona Richardson of Highlife Highland and Di Agnew of the Highland Council went above and beyond to ensure a smooth running week of focus groups and meetings. Thanks are also due to all of the CLD community in Mid Ross and community representatives who contributed their time and effort. Now the hard work begins to take the benefits of this 'free consultancy' and improve our performance before the follow up visit towards the end of 2019.

Our first round of community engagement activities in Dingwall has had mixed success so far. The all Mid Ross on-line survey has produced a lot of rich material but was completed by a small number of people from Dingwall. We are awaiting a full report of the results from NHS Highland's Public Health department who supported the survey. A small number of groups have hosted our 'community conversations', including the Syrian refugee community and the deaf community so this method certainly seems to have been successful in reaching out to our target groups. We will be reviewing lessons learned early in the New Year.

Our meeting in public on the Black Isle received a lot of positive feedback from those present. The partnership with Highland Senior Citizens Network and Black Isle Cares worked well and produced a wealth of interesting information about older people's needs. Some interesting ideas emerged from the meeting – including whether services such as post offices could be co-located in schools – and we will be exploring which can be progressed in the New Year.

Attendance at the Development Day was excellent and once again it proved a useful 'time out' for partners to identify priorities for the year ahead.

2. Issues

It will be a challenge for the partnership to resource both actions arising from the CLD Inspection and work on our Locality, Children's and Adult Plans in the year ahead.

CLD Inspection indicates we need to improve our communication activities and refresh community representation on the partnership

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

- Community Engagement activities with Highland Senior Citizens Network
- Community Conversation Toolkit for Dingwall Locality Plan

4. Future Actions

- Action Plan arising from CLD Inspection
- Progressing Dingwall Locality Plan
- Refreshing Conon Locality Plan

Skye Lochalsh and Wester Ross Community Planning Partnership

Update to Highland Community Planning Partnership Board: 19th December 2018

1. Quarterly update on activities

Last meeting held was 13th September and the next one scheduled is Thursday 20th December. With regards to the Adult Health and Social Care Plan the Ritchie Report Steering Group, and workstreams, continue. A progress report has been published and Sir Lewis Ritchie held an update session in Portree early December. A Planning application has been submitted for the new hospital in Broadford.

Members of the Partnership attended the CPP Development Day in November – exchanging information with other partnerships, and learning of good practice, was extremely worthwhile.

Research and partnership work continues on Locality Plans for Kyle and Portree & Trotternish, and early engagement in Gairloch continues. Liaison continues with representative Community Trusts/representative organisations in Locality Plan areas (including the Gairloch area).

Work is on-going to define how best the job activities of the new HTSI post can support the development of Locality Plans and the work of the CPP generally.

2. Issues

Skye and Lochalsh Voluntary Action have stepped back from leading on the area wide Community Learning and Development Plan. Initial discussions have taken place to establish next steps.

The Chair, when discussing Community Planning with Partners and communities continually emphasises the requirement to focus and prioritise the work of the CPP.

The new HTSI resource will support the work of our Partnership, it will be challenging to make significant difference and new impact without resource to deliver actual projects.

3. Opportunities/Good practice

It appears there may be opportunities for Community involvement as the re-design of health services continues.

The Health, Housing, and Social Care Forum is well established and the CPP seeks to support and work in partnership, attempting to add to good practice not duplicate.

4. Future actions

Establish new CLD lead on behalf on the SLWR Partnership, and liaise with CLD Development Group.

Liaison with HTSI employed Community Partnership Engagement Officer. Prioritise key actions. Differentiate HTSI CPE Officer from activities of local voluntary representative body SLCVO, who now also cover Wester Ross.

Update draft Locality Plans, and then consult on draft Locality Plans, then complete self-assessment forms.

Nairn & Nairnshire Community Partnership

Board Update – 19 December 2018

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

- The Partnership continues to work well for the benefit of the communities, the enthusiasm remains within the group to ensure the best outcomes are achieved for Nairn and Nairnshire.
- Recent meeting held in November at Auldearn Church Hall, well attended, including members of the public. Informative meeting with progress reports/updates provided for each of the Plans and associated works.
- Appointment of the community engagement worker which this Partnership will share with Badenoch and Strathspey. A meeting is to be arranged with partners and Engagement Worker to maximise opportunities for the Partnership.
- Self Evaluation highlighted at November meeting and this is to be undertaken early 2019 although there has already been an internal progress meeting in respect of the associated Plans. The RAG system was utilised to gauge progress.

2. Issues

- Chair of Partnership is concerned that there is a delay in progress of the Spaces and Places subgroup. This is being addressed directly with the chair for the Subgroup with a view to ensuring that this group starts to perform and meet the identified community issues agreed following the consultation period.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

- Dates for 2019 meetings now agreed and published on website

4. Future Actions

- Self Evaluation to be undertaken early 2019
- Maximise opportunities presented with the appointment of the Community Engagement Officer.

Badenoch & Strathspey Community Partnership

Board Update – 19th December 2018

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

The B&S CP meeting on the 3rd of December was unfortunately cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, this has been rescheduled for early January 2019. However the Partnership members have been very active since the previous meeting.

The B&S CP has had a number of new members added recently due to organisational restructuring so the Chair has committed to meeting each one to brief them on the CP's activities and their potential role.

Partnership members attended the CPP development day in Strathpeffer which was an excellent opportunity to share ideas and discuss the future of the Community Partnerships across Highland. This interactive event allowed B&S CP members to discuss opportunities and challenges in their areas whilst looking forward to the next year's actions.

The Chair of the Partnership represented the B&S CP at a recent Area Committee meeting held by the Highland Council at Grantown on Spey Library. There he gave an overview to the Councillors, members of the public and press on the Partnership and its recent activities. This was well received by all present.

The major Dementia event held in Inverness in November was very successful with the chair representing Highland community partnerships with the Chair of Inverness Partnership, Councillor Graham Ross, at both the civic reception and at events held during the week. This engagement event aligns with a lot of work being done by Community Partnerships and was a valuable networking opportunity.

B&S CP members have also recently been involved in the recruitment and selection of the new dedicated resource to support CPs across Highland, facilitated by the HTSI. We are very optimistic about how this new role will drive forward engagement and actions across B&S.

2. Issues

Current challenge is as per other Partnerships and is capacity to move forward as much as we would like. The new dedicated resource for the Partnership would help greatly with engagement and project activities which could then inform future actions. It would also assist in ensuring the Partnership are fully embedded in the good work being done in the area by multiple organisations. There has been a bit of a turnover of partnership members recently so there is a need to clarify roles and responsibilities in the New Year to ensure all partnership members are aware of their roles in the Partnership activities.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

As previously stated in updates the strong team that has been formed by B&S CP members continues to be a key strength and has helped achieve small, quick wins across B&S. The team ethic has created a positive and inclusive atmosphere at all the CP meetings to date and has allowed meaningful discussions to take place. The fact that more members of the public and Community Council members are attending is seen as a positive in that we are being recognised as a partnership that may be able to assist in reducing inequalities in B&S.

4. Future Actions

The CP meets again in early January where the new dedicated person will hopefully be able to attend and inform us of their proposed roles. At the next meeting an update is expected by all the sub-groups on what activities have been undertaken over the previous quarter. In addition on the agenda will be a discussion on self-evaluation and from that a group set up to look in to doing that early in 2019.

The chair and others will continue to represent the Partnership locally where opportunities arise and will seek quick wins where they can be achieved.

Inverness Community Partnership - December 2018

I would like to record my thanks to Mhairi Wylie and her staff at HTSI for all their work in ensuring that all the extensive administrative requirements for the appointments of the Community Engagement Officers were carried out very quickly and highly efficiently. The ICP members really welcome this appointment which we believe will be of significant value to the Partnership and help provide a new impetus going forward.

Partnership Meetings

Since the last Board meeting the Inverness Partnership has held a core group meeting and also two full partnership meetings in public. Attendance by member organisations at one of the public meetings and at the core group was disappointing. I think this illustrates once again the issue of competing priorities for partner members. The work of the Partnership has not been embedded as part of peoples remit and it remains as an additional duty for many.

As a consequence, to ensure the meetings in public in particular are productive, we are examining ways to ensure reporting of the work of the sub groups is carried out consistently with written updates prepared before the meetings and/or depute spokespersons being appointed.

Merkinch Locality Plan

The Locality Plan subgroup had carried out a self-evaluation with the help of Nigel Brett (HLH) and Cathy Steer (NHS) who led the process. There were 16 actions aligned to the plan. 25% of actions have been completed, although 50% have slipped beyond the required timescale set. The evaluation report will be shared across the partnership once ratified as it has important content that will be valuable for the development of the other 4 locality plans.

Childrens Plan Significant consultation has taken place regarding the Childrens plan. Work is continuing to further refine the priorities and action areas of this plan which we hope to put on the webpage in the New Year.

Adults plan The adult draft improvement plan is made up of 5 themes, for each theme outcomes have been developed. The aim over the next couple of months is to develop priorities for action against the outcomes and set a clearer focus as it is much better to have outcomes that can be delivered rather than those which are more aspirational.

Hilton Locality Plan. The development of this plan is being led by Gordon Morrison, SFRS. It is intended to carry out the community consultation exercise through combining asking residents about home fire safety and also the place standard. Ellie Dyce, a fourth year student at Charleston Academy, is also conducting a Facebook survey to try and capture as many responses as possible.

It's good to know – Voluntary sector children's, families and young people services Showcase.

At the last Partnership meeting held in Merkinch Community Centre, Jaci Douglas, CALA and Alan Fowler from Signpost organised a very successful Showcase event. 12 different organisations gave short presentations on their work with children, families and young people. This was followed by a marketplace with the groups having promotional materials on display.

Groups involved were - CALA, Rokzkool4u, Signpost, The Shirly Project, High Life Highland, Bairns and Branches Forest Schools, Day1 Mentoring, CHIP+, Home Start East Highland, Growing2gether, Reach4Reality Hilton and Highland Children's Forum.

Graham Ross

Chairman, Inverness Community Partnership.