

Caithness Community Partnership

Board Update – 18 December 2019

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

Community Planning Partnership met in Wick on 10th October, and focused again on mental health issues amongst young people in the area. This included a presentation from Sally Amor, NHS Highland, on Adverse Childhood experiences, and from Louise Kinnear and Jo Lenihan on Promoting Positive Relationships/ Armed Forces Covenant.

All four Locality Plan groupings continue to make progress, with engagement from Leads from HIE, Highland Council, SFRS and Police Scotland respectively. Draft Locality Plans continue to be developed in each of the areas, building on the data gathered during the engagements of the officers employed through Caithness Voluntary Group and Pulteneytown Peoples Project through the Aspiring Communities Fund. Focus is now turning to those issues that are considered Caithness-wide, and those which are specific to a locality. Initial reports on engagement in each of the Localities were posted to the Caithness CPP webpage (<http://www.highlandcpp.org.uk/locality-plans-caithness.html>), and the draft plans will also appear here.

The development of the Children's Plan is also now making progress, led by Highland Council.

2. Issues

The lack of engagement between CPP thematic groups and area Partnerships has been discussed, and we have begun aggregating "area-wide" issues/ actions to better inform our engagements with these Highland-wide groups. Members have also expressed concern at lack of updated information on the NHS Highland-led Health & Social Care Redesign programme. NHS Highland has recommenced working group on this programme, and members have welcomed the appointment of Christian Nicolson as District Manager for Caithness.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

Members are looking forward to establishing better working links with the key Delivery Groups, in order to better ensure that area-based actions can be captured and measured in the HOIP. The establishment of a group consisting of CPP area Chairs and Delivery group Chairs would improve this.

4. Future Actions

The Partnership meets again on 11th December in Thurso's Community Café, and future topics for focus will include employment (labour market/ Talent attraction); climate change and Caithness Health Redesign.

Sutherland Community Partnership

Board Update – 18 December 2019

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

Since the last period of review the Sutherland Community Partnership (SCP) locality groups have met regularly. Locality leads have continued to adopt a single-agenda item approach to meetings where one particular aspect of the locality action plan is address at any one time. This has continues to allow protracted and thorough exploration into the identified locality issue with focused actions agreed and progressed between meetings.

Since the period of last review the Golspie locality has met once. This meeting addressed the locality action plan in its entirety. The plan was reviewed thoroughly by the group and significantly updated to reflect the current overall progress made by SCP. Notably, it was evident that some actions were very similar to, if not completely duplicated in other locality plans or sub-group plans, with progress having been made or actions completed. From this review the Golspie locality benefitted as several of its actions had been completed - albeit by another locality with the same generic action.

The plan is now very much a live document where it can focussed on current, real-time priorities of the locality with considerable scope for expansion into new areas. The focus for 2020 will be determined by the group at the next locality meeting.

Following a transport focus in two previous Helmsdale locality meetings, the group has become interested in exploring the environmental impacts and opportunities surrounding the question of transport and development of Helmsdale as a tourism destination.

The Helmsdale locality group recognises that consideration for climate change introduces further challenges in developing sustainable solutions to local priorities within a remote location. Consideration is being given to how the theme of “carbon neutrality” can be developed to enable new opportunities between community groups and the wider community participation within Helmsdale, whilst attracting young people into local decision making.

2. Issues

The availability of partners given the demands placed on them within the respective organisations continues to be challenging when planning SCP meetings.

As previously identified within this report, the locality action plans share similar or identical actions. This has led to the duplication of work by locality members, with progress on such actions not being widely shared.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

On 27/09/2019 SCP hosted a full partnership meeting from The Kyle Centre, Tongue. The meeting was streamed live “coast to coast” to Helmsdale Community Centre in partnership with Connecting Communities. The meeting allowed elected members, core-partners and the public to attend the

meeting in person or remotely. This made the meeting more accessible to the wider Sutherland community and helped to reduce the SCP carbon footprint with less people traveling longer distances to Tongue. By working in partnership with Connecting Communities who have a network of multi-media screens, there is potential to use video conferencing at future SCP full meetings, thus reducing geographical and transport barriers for those wishing to attend.

As of 01/12/2019 Sutherland Care Forum (SCF) will begin to research and assess need for an East Sutherland volunteer transport scheme having received funding from the Anne Duchess of Westminster charity. The study will look into potential solutions to fuel poverty and transport issues. It is hoped that once completed this information and findings can be shared Sutherland wide with other interesting parties. Preparatory work has begun with SCF issuing questionnaires which are currently available online and hard copy.

The Employability Award, led by the Sutherland Community Partnership, offers an introduction to the world of work for young people, leading to a certificate at the end of the course. The course involves building 'Employability Skills', helping young people to practise skills such as contacting employers, filling in application forms, and writing a CV. It also covers what being an employee means — how to behave at work and how young people should expect to be treated by their employer — as well as how build effective working relationships.

A recent success is Reece MacLeod from Dornoch. Reece has a passion for horses and dreamed of becoming a jockey. Having completed the award, Reece then secured a place at the British Racing School in Newmarket. Reece has since graduated from Newmarket and secured a placement with a trainer in Yorkshire.

4. Future Actions

A review is currently underway whereby duplicated cross-locality actions will be reviewed and potentially re-allocated to the appropriate sub-groups (transport, fuel poverty, food poverty, employability). This will enable the partners with specialist knowledge and the correct expertise to work on the correct actions. The aim will be to avoid duplication of work and share best practice, challenges and outcomes in a coordinated way across the partnership.

The application process for SCP MiDAS (minibus driver awareness scheme) training will be reviewed by SCP core members to ensure a best value return from those volunteering for training. There is a pool of 49 MiDAS trained volunteer drivers within Sutherland, however approximately 30% of those trained regularly volunteer.

A newly formed SCP Transport Group has met on 2 occasions since October. The group is chaired by Cllr Richard Gale. Membership includes all the community transport providers from across the county as well as transport representatives from Highland Council. An early focus for the group will be to conduct a mapping exercise in order to identify the various community transport routes currently operating to determine overlap or possible connections. From there work will begin on a coordinated transport strategy for Sutherland that makes best use of the assets already available

Mid Ross Community Partnership

Board Update – December 2019

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

Our Aspiring Communities worker has taken up new employment and we are working with HTSI to ensure the capacity building activities he had started are completed.

Work since the October meeting has focused on:

- the Education Scotland follow up visit to the inspection of CLDE which took place in November. Thanks are due in particular to Di Agnew and Fiona Richardson as well as all those who attended focus groups. We will be discussing the final report early in 2020.
- Development of an Employability Project based on the Sutherland model. This was the main item discussed at our November meeting when we viewed the video and heard from Yvonne Ross about the commitment required from partners. Our starting point will be discussion with secondary schools in our area about their existing programmes and local needs.
- Presentation from the Highland Green Health Partnership on opportunities for local projects
- Discussion of the draft Adult Health and Social Care Plan, which is to be further developed and considered again early in 2020.
- The Mid Ross community children's plan has recently been reviewed with attention to the ongoing positive developments with the mental health priority which links schools and communities together. Fortrose Academy have been leading the way running community events, mental first aid training for staff and older pupils; and all pupils have links to particular staff for support regarding mental health issues.
- The ongoing review of personal and social education continues with schools having PSE as part of their improvement plans. The academy website now has links to the drugs and alcohol partnership.
- Recent discussions with the military liaison group have highlighted the need to raise awareness of the unique needs of children and young people who are part of the armed forces community. Consideration will be given to creating an action plan around this in the new year.

2. Issues

Capacity to deliver actions within the Locality Plans

How to continue to develop our community engagement if as looks likely the Aspiring Communities project will end in December.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

4. Future Actions

We will need to consider the Education Scotland report and agree a revised improvement plan as we will be visited again in 2020. Whilst there have been many positives from being the main local focus for the inspection it has meant much of our capacity has been focused on follow up action.

We are reviewing the format and purpose of our core meetings and meetings in public to increase our capacity to deliver actions arising from the Locality Plans.

Nairn & Nairnshire Community Partnership

Board Update – 18 December 2019

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

A Community event was held under the banner of the Partnership, at the Nairn Community centre on 17th October 2019 arranged by the Partnership Engagement officer, this was well attended with over 100 folk attending and trying the assorted activities that were there, this included both voluntary organisations, clubs and businesses.

Meeting held at Auldearn Hall on Friday 29th November 2019, well attended with additional membership coming on board.

Update provided by Rhona Mcnicoll, local Engagement Officer who was due to finish in this role in December 2019 following funding not being renewed. Rhona has done a power of work for this Partnership bearing in mind she also did the Badenoch Partnership as well. Her engagement was first class, the ability to get others involved very much appreciated and provides a platform for future business to be undertaken. A full handover document is being prepared by Rhona.

The Childs Plan is to be revisited and to be made more “Child Friendly” in appearance, it is accepted that this is very much a living document focussing on “Children” but it was found that its current format was not being inclusive with the Children. This is very much work in progress and will be uploaded to the Website on completion. The current Plan remains an active document to which ongoing work towards the desired Outcomes continues and this will be included in the new format.

Dates have been identified and agreed for bi-monthly 2020 meetings.

2. Issues

No new challenges or difficulties for the Partnership other than the recognition that “time” to carry out the additional business on top of current day jobs is somewhat difficult.

A new Police Scotland Chair Person will be in place for the next meeting Scheduled for January 2020.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

The Traffic sub group have an action to explore the possibility of gaining a reduced “Zone” type travel cost for users of the Service buses in and around Nairn. There is a similar system in use in nearby Moray.

Stagecoach are the service provider for Partnership area and on initial discussions are receptive to see what can be achieved. Further discussions are to be had to explore this. It maybe that this is an opportunity to be Highland wide as opposed to be localised, bar Lochaber where Stagecoach do not have a presence.

4. Future Actions

As at 3



Badenoch and Strathspey Community Partnership

Board Update – 18 December 2019

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

The B&S CP met on the 22nd of November at CNPA HQ in Grantown on Spey. The meeting was well attended by CP members and was a very positive session. The meeting was the first for the new Chair of the B&S Community Partnership, Derek Wilson from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

The new Chair used this meeting as an opportunity to review what the sub-group activity has been to date and to review the Adult and Child's Plans for the area. This generated some healthy discussion which will develop the next drafts of the respective reports based on new engagement opportunities and evidence gathering.

The outgoing Chair, Fraser Nixon, and met with the new Chair, engagement officer Rhona McNicol and Karen Derrick from VABS to ensure there was clear direction for the future and to use this change in personnel as an opportunity to reinvigorate areas that require more attention.

Prior to handing over the Partnership Fraser attended a Green Health Pilot Project meeting in Aviemore which is one of the three areas across Highland being used to promote activity outdoors for health benefits, the Partnership will continue to support this with the local members assisting where needed.

2. Issues

The main challenge for the Partnership remains capacity of members and resourcing to undertake Partnership work effectively. The level of expectation of what CPs can achieve balanced against the capacity of people on the Partnerships remains the same and requires addressing.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

As previously stated the start of the tenure of a new Chair for the Partnership is an opportunity to look at the activity to date afresh and review what results have or have yet to be achieved. It is also an opportunity to review the plans for the Partnership in order to ensure they are meeting the expectations of the members of the public which we are charged with helping.

4. Future Actions

The B&S CP is scheduled to meet again in early in the new year. Focus for the next quarter will be continuing to work on the new draft plans and the self-evaluation results from the previous meeting. The Chair will continue to represent the CP at CPP Board events and meetings to ensure the B&S voice is heard.

Inverness Community Partnership

Board Update – 18th December 2019

1. Quarterly Update on Activities

This has been a particularly busy and productive period. Alongside the normal cycle of core group meetings and the main partnership meeting, there have been a number of developments and activities of particular note.

Inverness and the surrounding area have a high number of children and adults who have an **armed forces connection**. A meeting with representatives from a number of organisations was held to further examine how specific actions could be embedded into the locality, childrens and adults plans.

In **Hilton** an exciting initiative involving the local Primary school to tackle the issue of dog poo in the area was carried out in conjunction with the Community Engagement Officer Ainya Taylor and the SFRS Locality Plan lead Derek Wilson. This involved a creative arts workshop making poo bag holders with free poo bags to attach to lampposts to encourage dog owners to clean up after their pets. Dog Poo was identified as a major issue by the local community.

At the **Merkinch Primary School Christmas Fayre**, Ainya Taylor organised a number of organisations to be represented with the aim being to take the idea of the 'One Stop Shop' that had been hoped for in Grant Street and trial this as a one off in the community. Community engagement had highlighted that there are lots of services targeted in and around Merkinch, however people are not always aware of these.

This event brought together key services around food and fuel poverty, health inequalities, and home learning through play. The event was promoted as a Christmas event with fun including children's activities, a competition to win a free Christmas dinner hamper for a family, and more. Some of the organisations involved were Merkinch Primary School, Fiona Macleod who runs the Smoking Cessation clinic from Merkinch Enterprise, Merkinch Partnership, In This Together, Inverness Food Stuff, Changeworks, Social Security Scotland and the Councils Income Maximisation team.

The Transport sub group chaired by Councillor Ron MacWilliam has held another meeting and are examining the potential for a Bus Users Forum being developed in the area.

Merkinch Locality Plan has concluded almost 50% of its initial objectives. The group lead by Marie MacInnes, Police Scotland continues to meet on a regular basis and is updating its objectives and targets.

The **Hilton Locality Plan** is being further developed by Derek Wilson, SFRS in conjunction with local representatives with a focus on very practical outcomes. Some similar issues have been identified to those in Merkinch.

2. Issues

The conclusion of the Aspiring Communities Project and the departure of Ainya Taylor Community Engagement Officer will inevitably slow down the very valuable progress being made in developing locality plans in Ardersier and Raigmore and also the follow up to specific projects in Hilton and Merkinch.

Ainya's input over the last year really has proved invaluable and, whilst she has left a very comprehensive dossier of information on activities undertaken and area contacts, I am very concerned at my own capacity and that of partners to follow these opportunities up timeously.

I believe there is a very strong argument for a full time worker to be made available for Community Partnerships which should be viewed as a "spend to save" initiative. Definitely one for the Board/COG to consider.

3. Opportunities/Good Practice

Ainya Taylor prepared a series of documents on projects and engagement methods used as examples of good practice that I will forward on in due course.

4. Future Actions

Identify Locality Plan lead for Raigmore area and Ardersier as a matter of priority.
Develop the Event plans for the Green Health initiative for the Inverness Community Partnership area in conjunction with the Highlife Highland project lead, Tania Alliod.

Graham Ross
Chairman
Inverness Community Partnership