

Agenda Item	5.
Report No	CPB/5/23



## Highland Community Planning Board

### CPP Development Update

22 June 2023

Report by: CPP Senior Officers Group

#### Recommendations:

The CPP Board is asked to:

- Consider and note the update on the recruitment of the Partnership Development Manager and Officers and the initial work areas being progressed.

## 1. Background

1.1 A review of Community Planning in 2021 concluded that there was a need for the following to support effective community planning:

- Leadership – need for understanding of roles
- Priorities and Action - Need for focused priorities, aligning priorities
- Commitment – from all local partners and embedding throughout an organisation
- Evidence based decision making – need for data and monitoring
- Understanding of need and inequalities from all involved
- Involving and enabling communities – making it meaningful, co-production/solution focused, learning from covid
- Being the 'day job'

1.2 The overall conclusion was that to support delivery of these findings, a shift in the current approach to resourcing was required.

1.3 At a meeting of the Community Planning Board in December 2021, a new model was agreed for resourcing and supporting Community Planning in Highland. It was agreed that a core central team be established with the purpose of supporting local partnership working – this would allow sharing of good practice and improved co-ordination across

partnerships. The central team would combine elements of co-ordination, facilitation and development work in order to address the key issues identified.

- 1.4 To deliver this, it was agreed that a Partnership Development Manager and Partnership Officers to support Community Partnerships across the Highland area, would be appointed. The Development Manager post would be a jointly funded post across the 5 statutory agencies and the officer posts would be funded by Highland Council, NHS, Police and HIE – directly or through secondments.
- 1.5 At a subsequent meeting of the CPP Board in April 2022, it was noted that Highlands and Islands Enterprise had put in place funding to continue Aspiring Communities funding to Caithness and Sutherland and for the posts there to continue to support the Community Partnerships. This would also form part of the resourcing model for Community Planning in Highland.

## **2. Progress to Date**

- 2.1 The Partnership Development Manager and 3 Partnership Officers have now all been recruited and began at the beginning of June. All the officers appointed have considerable partnership experience, with the majority also direct experience of working with Community Partnerships in Highland. As agreed at the Board meeting in April 2022, the team is hosted by the Highland Council and sits within the Community Support and Engagement Team. The identity of the team is very clearly a partnership team and strategic oversight and direction of the team is through the Community Planning Senior Officers Group.
- 2.2 The team are in an induction phase at present. This involves understanding the position of each of the Community Partnerships and the wider partnership landscape across Highland. Key initial tasks for the team include:
  - Engagement with individual Community Partnerships
    - Finalising Community Partnership Self-Assessment – to be circulated imminently
    - Self-Assessment to be followed by online meetings by partnership, with key representatives from each Community Partnership and an allocated member of the team along with the Partnership Development Manager
  - Partnership Development
    - Overall summary position of Partnerships in Highland will be presented at an in person meeting for the Chairs and invited representatives for each Community Partnership in August 2023
    - Evidence base to inform areas for development
  - CPP Communications
    - Initial ideas being formulated to create a Communications Strategy
    - Supporting the progress of the new website led by HTSI, including the development of a new HCPP logo and branding
    - Planning and creation of potential content for the new website for Community Partnerships and local communities

2.3 As previously indicated, the intention is for each officer to be allocated a number of Community Partnerships to work with directly. The initial review of the position and work of the partnerships will help to support the allocation of officer time. The team will work alongside the Aspiring Communities Teams already in place within Caithness and Sutherland, providing a model of support across the whole of Highland.

2.4 Update reports on the work of the team will be brought to the CPP Board.

**Recommendations:**

The CPP Board is asked to:

- Consider and note the update on the recruitment of the Partnership Development Manager and Officers and the initial work areas being progressed.

**Author:** CPP Senior Officers Group

**Date:** 19-6-23