

Community Planning Partnership Board
Wednesday 2 December 2020 at 11.00 am
Via Microsoft Teams



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Present

North Ayrshire Council

Joe Cullinane (**Chair**)
John Bell, Elected Member
Marie Burns, Elected Member
Scott Davidson, Elected Member
Alex Gallagher, Elected Member
Tony Gurney, Elected Member
Ellen McMaster, Elected Member
Craig Hatton, Chief Executive

North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

Robert Foster, Elected Member (Chair of IJB)
Stephen Brown, Director

Ayrshire College

Michael Breen, Vice Principal

DWP

Valerie McGrory

KA Leisure

Ashley Pringle, KA Leisure Vice Chair

Police Scotland

Chief Superintendent Faroque Hussain

Scottish Enterprise

Mark Newlands, Head of Partnerships

Scottish Fire and Rescue

Ian McMeekin, Area Manager

Scottish Government

Sam Anson, Location Director

Skill Development Scotland

Claire Tooze, Area Manager (Sub for Katie Hutton)

Scottish Partnership for Transport

Allan Comrie, Senior Transport Planner

Third Sector Interface

Barbara Hastings, Ayrshire Community Trust

In Attendance

Audrey Sutton (NAC), Rhona Arthur (NAC), Morna Rae (NAC), Neale McIlvanney (NAC), Greig Robson (NAC), Vikki Kewney (Scottish Enterprise) Jennifer McGee (NAC).

Apologies

Lesley Bowie (NHS Ayrshire and Arran), John Burns (NHS Ayrshire and Arran), Vicki Yuill (Arran CVS), Sheila Lynn (DWP), Barbara Hastings (TACT), Katie Hutton (SDS).

1. Welcome and Apologies

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

The Chair also welcome Chief Superintendent Hussain to his first meeting of the Board.

2. Minute of the Previous Meeting and Action Note

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Employability & Skills and the Kickstart Programme

G Robson, Senior Manager (Employability & Skills) provided the Board with an update on employability and skills as well as an overview of Kickstart Programme.

G Robson advised that pre-Covid North Ayrshire had amongst the highest levels of unemployment in Scotland. The team focussed on those groups often left behind by economic growth (people who are disabled, parents, care leavers etc). Post-Covid, there has been a shift in the delivery model, with interactions taking place online. Customers have adapted to this shift well.

The team continue to deliver an “all age, all stage” service However focus on -

- Young people
- Parents
- Disabled residents or those with health conditions

Services will also remain in place to support other excluded groups that might not fit under these headings. For instance, supporting those with a criminal record will continue as will support to Syrian community.

In terms of supporting young people, G Robson highlighted the work of the Kickstart Programme. The Programme provides funding to create new job placements for 16 to 24-year olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long-term unemployment. Employers of all sizes can apply for funding which covers:

- 100% of the National Minimum Wage (or the National Living Wage depending on the age of the participant) for 25 hours per week for a total of 6 months
- associated employer National Insurance contributions
- employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions

Employers can spread the start date of the job placements up until the end of December 2021.

A Kickstart application must be for a minimum of 30 job placements. If a single employer cannot provide this many job placements, they can find a Kickstart gateway, such as a local authority, charity or trade body for help applying.

G Robson highlighted that North Ayrshire Council has applied to be a gateway with the intention to support 300 vacancies, to date, over 300 roles have been identified by the private sector alone. It is hoped that the first lot of vacancies will be advertised in December 2020 pending DWP approval. Every young person who joins will get wrap-around support through council provision.

The Council is keen that wage levels are topped up to Scottish Living Wage, rather than National Minimum Wage.

The team will now look to public and third sectors for contribution.

G Robson highlighted the work commissioned by Government during the first lockdown looking at what could be done for young people. The Young Persons Guarantee which is a 2-year ambition to have every 16-24 year old in employment, training, education, volunteering, or work experience. £30m of funding has been distributed to all Scottish Local Authorities to help support this work. North Ayrshire's allocation of the funding is £870k.

G Robson advised that types of services likely to be funded were:

- Enhanced key worker capacity
- Digital devices and skills
- Top up Kickstart to Scottish Living Wage
- Employer Recruitment Incentives

Cllr Burns asked about how we are reaching young people at the moment and how are they getting careers advice and guidance.

C Tooze confirmed that SDS Careers Advisors are keeping in touch with young people via telephone, online sessions and email. Around one month ago SDS re-opened the Ardrossan Office one day per week, for those who would like to meet face to face, however the big uptake in communication with young people has been via email and text message. SDS continue to link in with DWP and colleges. During first lockdown every summer leaver was contacted to ensure they had support.

V McGrory also highlighted that the DWP have been keeping in touch with customers during the Covid period. DWP have new youth employability coaches in place to support young people.

The Chair thanked G Robson for his presentation and invited members of the Board to contact G Robson directly should they wish to explore the Kickstart Programme further.

ACTION: CPP Partners to discuss involvement in the Kickstart programme within their own organisations and commit to support the scheme.

4. Ayrshire Growth Deal

K Yeomans and N McIlvanney provided the Board with an update on the Ayrshire Growth Deal (AGD).

K Yeomans advised the Board that Ayrshire Growth Deal got its full deal sign-off by the Scottish & UK Govts and Ayrshire Local Authority Leaders on 19 November 2020. This was a landmark signing which agreed to £251m direct investment in Ayrshire over a 10-15 year programme. It is anticipated that it will generate 7000 jobs and £350million investment.

K Yeomans highlighted the project commitments for the funding across Ayrshire:

- £80m investment in aerospace and space activity – primarily focussed around Prestwick
- £69.5m to support economic infrastructure and the engineering and manufacturing sectors in Ayrshire;
- £23.5m on tourism development;
- £53m innovation into the investment of energy products and development;
- £14m to support world class digital infrastructure and connectivity across Ayrshire;
- £8.5m programme for skills and employability
- £3m for new Community Wealth programme.

Detail was also given on the North Ayrshire Growth Deal project delivery and benefits. This includes:

I3 Irvine – Building Digital Process Manufacturing Centre and Flexible Space

- £15m investment in premium quality advanced manufacturing business space
- £6m investment in national Digital Process Manufacturing Centre
- Subsea cable landing point providing high speed data carrying capacity direct to site.
- Significant capacity to reprofile i3 as nationally significant commercial location
- Colocation with life sciences

Great Harbour - Irvine

- AGD Investment - £14m
- Leverage potential of circa £100m
- Placemaking and destination development
- Unlock potential for commercial leisure activity and marine tourism to create a regional destination of note
- Significant Community Wealth Building potential through community-led approach (e.g. Harbour Masters House)

Ardrossan – A National Scale Placemaking Programme

- £150m+ Capital investment
- Campus, harbour, marina expansion, Housing, Low Carbon Hub, town centre
- National scale placemaking and regeneration programme

Marine Tourism

- £5M enabling works for expansion of marina facilities at Ardrossan
- £4M for the provision of transit marinas on Arran and Cumbrae

Hunterston

- £18m investment to unlock manufacturing business space
- Ministerial Taskforce to lead and provide multi agency coordination of decommissioning of Hunterston B station impact with the development of the approach to AGD
- Blue economy strategic action plan critical to harnessing potential of assets at Hunterston, recognised as being nationally significant in terms of contribution to national energy requirements, and capable of developing blue and green credentials at Hunterston
- Masterplan and socio-economic decommissioning strategy critical to sequencing, phasing and ensuring wider value captured – e.g. through skills transfer, supply chain etc.

K Yeomans also highlighted that the Ayrshire Growth Deal gives an excellent opportunity to deliver Community Wealth Building aspirations. This will allow us to underpin and make sure all projects in Ayrshire give the maximise impact for its residents.

Partners commented on the value and range of work under the Ayrshire Growth Deal plans, and of their organisational support for Community Wealth Building in particular.

The Chair thanked K Yeomans for the presentation and highlighted that it is very exciting to have the agreement signed off and progressing towards delivering the projects.

ACTION: Partners note milestone and progress, and share within own organisation. AGD progress update to be provided at next Board meeting.

5. Cost of the School Day

A Sutton provided Senior Officers with an update on the work on the cost of the school day (CoSD).

A Sutton advised that a short life working group had been set up and is chaired by Councillor Foster. The working group is focusing on:

- What contributes to the cost of the school day and the impacts this can have on families;
- Actions which can help reduce the CoSD ;
- Examples of high-level structures, guidance and policies which have been put in place elsewhere including Dundee City Council's statements of intent around the CoSD;
- The importance of officers taking up roles which focus on implementing and pushing policies in respect of the CoSD;
- The requirement for visibility of policies and communication with families; and;
- The [Cost of the School Day](#) website where information, toolkit resources and practice examples are available.

The first meeting of the Group took place recently and the main topics of discussion were:

- Whether studies have been carried out elsewhere which have fully mapped the cost of the school day;
- Branded school uniform/equipment which is often raised as a major concern by families living in poverty;
- Cost can be a barrier to those looking to join after school clubs and trips; and
- Costs can lead to stress and anxiety in children and parents.

The key areas of focus emerging from discussions were:

- Good relationships with families who may need support but might be reluctant to ask;
- The cost of branded uniforms can be too high for some families;
- Families in poverty will often require some sort of support for their children to attend extracurricular activities and school trips;
- Food support ties in closely as some children are not being fed properly at home and therefore come to school hungry without the same capacity to learn.

The aim of the working group is to agree an action plan/policy for Cabinet approval in 2021.

Cllr Foster advised that the CoSD work is very powerful as the actions have come from those with lived experience and encouraged partners to be involved in any way they could.

F Hussain highlighted that he is considering how young people's voices hold him to account in terms of the delivery of policing in North Ayrshire and getting young people involved. A Sutton offered support in this work.

The Chair thanked A Sutton for her presentation.

ACTIONS: All partners to consider how their organisation can contribute towards cost of the school day issues and liaise with A Sutton. F Hussain and A Sutton to progress engagement with young people on community safety issues.

6. Locality Partnerships

M Rae advised the Board that the current cycle of Locality Partnership meetings were taking place and the key themes being looked at are:

- Community Support
- Cost of the School Day

- Community Investment Fund
- Grant Applications
- Refresh of Locality Priorities

Initial discussions around the refresh of locality priorities took place at the September round of meetings, which was then followed up with a survey. To assist with this work, we are going to draw from the wide range of engagement currently taking place.

Plans are also being progressed to have online conference which will look at the current priorities, what needs refreshed and the increasing ambition to address poverty and inequalities at a local level.

In terms of the locality profiles, online dashboards are being created which will provide data at locality level. The dashboards will be hosted on the CPP Website and will be available for partners and community members to use. M Rae highlighted that she has been in contact with Council colleagues regarding data and that she will be in touch with partners in due course. These will be visual and engaging.

Cllr Gallagher commented that the locality dashboards would be a great addition and would bring more awareness of issues in each area.

Partners were supportive of this approach.

ACTION: M Rae to progress work on locality profiles, work on refresh of locality profiles to continue and update to be given to Board in due course.

7. Community Mental Health and Wellbeing

A Sutton provided an update on supporting Community Health and Wellbeing.

A Sutton highlighted that the key priorities are:

- Continue to embedding a more strategic and coordinated commitment to mental health improvement locally and nationally;
- Ensuring GIRFEC principles inform how services work together for mental health (recognising that it was not simply a 'health service' issue);
- Understanding the complex spectrum of issues with which children, young people and their families need support, including emotional distress;
- Ensuring the workforce has the skills and capacity it needs to address these issues; and
- Providing the full range of support for those issues, including primary care, community support and alternative services to CAMHS in many communities.

A Sutton highlighted that last year the Clearer Minds young people's mental health project in the North Coast was granted funding via the Community Investment Fund. This continues with the school, some of this is arts-based work as well as peer support and training for young people and staff in the school.

In September 2020 Arran LP and Cabinet approved almost £50k of funding from the Community Investment Fund to Arran Youth Foundations to support peer support and training across the community on Arran.

There are also of number CIF application developments ongoing around social isolation and mental health.

In terms of new and ongoing opportunities:

- Scottish Government Health Improvement Project: putting children at the heart of all our work and ensuring their voices are heard;
- Youthlink funding: last week North Ayrshire Council were allocated the maximum amount of funding to look at how we can support young people's mental health and wellbeing through outdoor youth work.
- National Galleries – again maximum funding support allocated to support young people's mental health and well-being through arts-based work.
- Scottish Government Community mental health and young people funding: development of approach at CSSP to explore a much wider range of opportunities and activities for young people which might not be directly related to mental health and wellbeing, but will have a direct impact on the outcomes around that.

A Sutton asked partners to reflect the asks on the final slides and send any feedback to J McGee.

A Sutton advised that she would provide an update at a future meeting.

The Chair thanked A Sutton for her presentation.

ACTION: Partners to consider how they can link in and support this work. Update to be provided at a future meeting.

8. Caring For Ayrshire

J Burns was unable to join the meeting. The Chair asked for him to be contacted to check if he could attend the March 2021 Board meeting.

9. Risk Register

M Rae provided a report on the current CPP Risk Register and highlighted that as the circumstances in which we operate have changed significantly since December 2019 it is proposed that we review the road map to check its continued relevance. In order that we continue with a strategic approach we propose that we use a similar model.

The Board confirmed that they were happy with this format and formal agreement will be made at a future Board meeting.

M Rae thanked the Board and confirmed that she will be in contact with partners to share their current risk management information to support this work.

ACTION: M Rae to progress Risk Register update

10. Engagement Centre of Excellence

M Rae advised members that the online [Engagement Hub page](#) has been developed and is hosted on the Community Planning website. Within this section there is an overview of all open and closed consultations as well as engagement and consultation resources.

M Rae also advised that further resources are in development including an Engagement Toolkit, a 'Jargon Buster', and survey development information. It is planned that these resources will be launched on the Engagement Hub section of the website throughout December 2020 and January 2021.

M Rae highlighted that:

- A Teams site had been created which will act as a hub for all North Ayrshire Engagement Champions to share resources and information and develop an ongoing dialogue around engagement and consultation.
- The Community Engagement Network (CEN) meets quarterly to provide opportunity for partners to come together and share news, skills and experience in relation to their work around consultation and engagement.
- The CEN has welcomed a new chair, Carol Norton from Arran CVS.
- Moving into 2021, the focus for Centre of Excellence work will be using the skills and expertise of the CEN and Engagement Champions to finalise and publish online resources for the Engagement Hub.

M Rae also highlighted that she has been working with Supt D Frew around the wider engagement for the local police plan.

ACTION: Partners to promote use of consultation hub, the guides and to commit to adhering to best practice in community engagement

11. AOCB

A Comrie highlighted a consultation on the review of the concessionary travel scheme which looks at the financial sustainability of the scheme's objectives. A Comrie asked partners to share with their networks.

M Rae confirmed that this consultation had been posted on the CPP website.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and conveyed his best wishes for the festive season.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 11 March 2021 at 11.00am via Microsoft Teams.