

Community Planning Partnership Board

10 March 2025 2.00 pm

Fullarton ConneXions, Irvine



Present

North Ayrshire Council

Cllr Marie Burns, Elected Member (**Chair**)

Cllr John Bell, Elected Member

Cllr Scott Davidson, Elected Member

Cllr Margaret Johnson, Elected Member

Craig Hatton, Chief Executive

David Hammond, Executive Director

Ayrshire College

Angela Cox, Principal and Chief Executive

Department of Work and Pensions

Pauline Craig, Regional Lead

NHS Ayrshire and Arran

Lisa Davidson, Assistant Director (Public Health)

KA Leisure

Malcolm McPhail, Chief Executive

Police Scotland

Supt Graeme Gallie

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

Steven Campbell, Station Manager

Scottish Partnership for Transport

Allan Comrie, Senior Transport Planner

Scottish Government

Eleanor Passmore, Location Director

In Attendance

Jacqui Greenlees (NAC), Jennifer McGee (NAC), Laura Barrie (KA Leisure), Scott Morrison (KA Leisure), Stewart Robbie (NAC), Jenni Blair (NAC), Laura Kayes (NAC)

Apologies

Sam Anson (NAC), Vicki Yuill (Arran CVS), Caroline Cameron, (NAHSCP), Cllr Shaun Macaulay (NAC), Cllr Charles Currie (NAC), Cllr Amanda Kerr (NAC), Cllr Alan Hill (NAC), Kaileigh Brown (TSI), Cllr Charles Currie (NAC), Claire Burden (NHS Ayrshire & Arran), Dean Anderson (DWP) Ian McMeekin (SFRS), Eleanor Passmore (Scottish Government)

1. Welcome and Apologies

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

2. Minute of the Previous Meeting

The overview of the Board meeting held on 5 December were approved subject to one amendment. Cllr Bell noted as in attendance and on list of apologies. Cllr Bell was in attendance. CPP Team undertook to amend this.

Action: CPP Team

3. Fairer Futures: Child Poverty and Cost of Living

Jenni Blair and Laura Kayes provided the Board with an overview of the work undertaken to date by the Council's new Child Poverty Strategy Team. The Team has been in place since January 2025, and they have been conducting a scoping exercise to guide their initiatives.

The aim of the team is to work collaboratively with partners to reduce child poverty through progressive service reform and a needs-based approach. Their focus is on six priority family groups:

- Lone parent families
- Families with a disabled adult or child
- Larger families (three or more children)
- Minority ethnic families
- Families with a child under one year old
- Families where the mother is under 25 years of age

The team aim to adopt a holistic approach, building on the Single Shared Assessment work being undertaken by the Council's Transformation Team, also further embed the No Wrong Door model, and testing place-based changes in collaboration with partners. They also support work on whole-family wellbeing.

L Kayes highlighted that there is a lot of data available. The drivers are categorised into three main areas:

- Income through employment
- Cost of living and;
- Income through social security.

It was highlighted that the current support systems are often reactive, focusing on short-term fixes. To enhance existing measures, efforts should aim to complement support already in place by fostering empowerment and sustainability. This approach should shift from "talking poverty" to actively mitigating or reducing it, drawing on research from Glasgow Caledonian University.

Key challenges include:

- Complex Access Points: There are currently 18 points of contact for accessing various support services, which involve complicated language. Streamlining this system into a model similar to No Wrong Door could reduce these access points and improve user experience.

- **Accountability Through Language:** Using shared and clear language enhances accountability and communication across stakeholders.

The Council's Transformation Team are also working on several initiatives to address child poverty. They are monitoring referral processes and creating a poverty dashboard using the Single Shared Assessment to guide Place-Based Tests of Change. The CACI portal will enhance data access, and tangible outcomes that are emerging. Celcis, a learning partner will be providing third-party verification.

The team are also looking to appoint a grants partner for the Place Base Test of Change work. Plans are also underway to engage communities through local roadshows.

The Team also attended the P7 Youth Council recently where over 100 students were in attendance. The most common responses from young people were around food insecurity and stigma concerns, emphasising the need for community-focused solutions to reduce poverty stigma and improve support delivery.

The Team highlighted the consultation being undertaken by the Scottish Government on their Child Poverty Action Plan. It I hoped a CPP/NAC response can be submitted to the consultation. To prepare for this the team has circulated a MS Forms to CPP Partners. Board member then split into two groups and discussion took place on the consultation response themes received so far.

The team thanked the Board for their feedback and advised that this would be included in the response being shared at Cabinet Pre-agenda tomorrow.

The Chair conveyed her thanks to the team for their input.

4. North Ayrshire Wellbeing Alliance

Malcolm McPhail, Laura Barrie and Scott Morrison provided the Board with an update on the work of the North Ayrshire Wellbeing Alliance.

M McPhail highlighted that North Ayrshire is taking a unique approach by prioritising wellbeing as a central focus of its initiatives. Supported by many partners across the CPP, the Alliance has successfully launched its taskforce. The Alliance has developed robust infrastructure for engagement, including wellbeing hubs that extend far beyond sports to encompass broader community needs.

Although the Alliance's purpose and Terms of Reference are complex, the creation of a charter has been pivotal in building momentum. Its communication efforts operate on an industrial scale. A recent workshop brought together 80 agencies and over 500 smaller contacts, providing North Ayrshire Council with a large piece of research data.

The Alliance aims to be ahead of the curve, aligning its delivery with Marmot theories, which focus on reducing health inequalities and improving life quality. It has adopted an appreciative inquiry strategy, designing a framework that leverages its strengths to drive impactful change.

L Barrie shared two documents with the Board. The first contained statistics from when the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan was produced, outlines the principles of the Alliance, and its establishment and highlights how North Ayrshire are doing things differently. The second captured all events and focus groups of the Alliance over the past couple of years.

It also demonstrates the Alliance's commitment to engagement and co-design with partners and the community.

S Morrison highlighted the work of the Garnock Valley Taskforce which was established in response to a trend in youth disorder across the Garnock Valley area. The Task Force implemented several initiatives, including:

- Providing gym memberships to young people, along with education on proper gym use
- Collaborating with youth services and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to deliver an 8-week course for 8 young people
- Partnering with Café Solace to teach cooking skills
- Linking in with the 'lend and mend' library

Feedback from young people and schools involved in the initiative has been very positive and young people previously disengaged at school are now more engaged.

L Barrie highlighted the pilot taking place jointly with the Local Employability Partnership (LEP) in Blacklands, Kilwinning. The pilot focuses on creating opportunities for wellbeing, volunteering, skills development, and employment. It involves 28 partners working together to deliver impactful outcomes. The pilot operates on multiple levels, including hosting family fun events in April to build relationships, conducting door-to-door enquiries, organising coffee mornings, and offering placements.

This holistic approach allows the team to focus on one locality and better understand the most effective ways to deliver support.

L Barrie advised that an update on the pilot would be brought to a future Board meeting.

Action: L Barrie

Councillor Bell inquired about quantifying the success of the Garnock Valley taskforce. M McPhail offered to share data. Councillor Bell suggested linking this with police data to demonstrate a holistic approach. It was agreed to add this would be added to the June Garnock Valley Locality Partnership meeting agenda

Action: J McGee

R Leith praised the project's development, noting how strategic-level input is translating into local delivery. She emphasised the importance of having clear objectives and understanding how partners can contribute. R Leith also highlighted the importance of feeding back to Locality Partnerships and exploring replication in other local areas.

The Chair conveyed her thanks to the team for their input.

• **Review of Locality Planning**

Jacqueline Greenlees provided the Board with an update on the review of Locality Planning that is currently taking place.

J Greenlees provided the Board with an update on the review of Locality Planning covering the following points:

- A survey conducted with Locality Partnerships
- Aims to develop a toolbox of good practice for Locality Partnerships
- A timeline for the review process
- High-level recommendations presented to the Council's Policy Advisory Panel and, next, to Cabinet
- 23 responses were received across all six LPs, with a large proportion from community members

Key feedback from this work focused on improving community voice, meeting formats, and support for those involved in Locality Partnerships. Thematic areas include strengthening HSCP links, enhancing recruitment and support for representatives, and creating a more dynamic and engaging environment in meetings. Other priorities include reducing updates during meetings, aligning with statutory requirements, and ensuring Locality Partnerships remain central to the agenda.

J Greenlees also highlighted that the review emphasises rebuilding the connection between Locality Partnerships and the CPP.

J Greenlees undertook to circulate the slides that were presented to the Council's Policy Advisory Panel last month for the Board's information.

Action: J Greenlees

- **CHES Launch**

Stewart Robbie advised the Board that North Ayrshire's Collaboration for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES) launch event took place on 25 February 2025 at Saltcoats Town Hall. Over 70 attendees were in attendance to mark the beginning of this innovative partnership including Professor Sir Michael Marmot.

The initiative aims to improve health outcomes by applying the eight Marmot principles to enhance living conditions across all life stages. The launch event included a tabletop activity, with outputs which were included within the report circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting.

A local CHES steering group is being established with membership from a wide number of Partners. The first meeting will look at defining roles and responsibilities for each partner in delivering North Ayrshire's CHES work and examining local data mapped to Marmot priorities within localities to inform the CHES approach.

Governance for the CHES programme will be overseen by the Board and HSCP Integrated Joint Board. Significant decisions regarding the programme will be presented to both boards for approval.

The Chair conveyed her thanks to S Robbie for the update.

- **Partner Discussion and Sharing on Key Developments and Opportunities**

P Craig advised that the team are awaiting information on any changes taking place locally and will let the Board know when these have been confirmed.

- **AOCB**

No other business was discussed. The Chair conveyed her thank to everyone for their attendance.

The next meeting of the North Ayrshire CPP Board will be held on **5 June 2025 at 10.00am**