

## **PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

Minute of meeting of the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership Board held hybrid in the Council Chambers, 2 High Street, Perth on Friday 24 February 2023 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors G Laing, J Duff and D Cuthbert (all Perth and Kinross Council); E Fletcher (NHS Tayside); C McKenna (PKAVS); J MacKay (NHS Tayside – substituting for P Raynor); V Lynch (Perth College UHI - substituting for M Cook); and G Binnie (Police Scotland).

In Attendance: S Devlin, F Robertson, C Mailer, C Hendry, S Devlin, L Haxton, D Stokoe, J Dudgeon and A Taylor (all Perth and Kinross Council); and S Noble-Clyne (NHS Tayside – observing only).

Apologies: Councillor P Barrett; T Glen, B Renton and J Pepper (all Perth and Kinross Council); S Kebamba (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); T Leonard (Police Scotland); M Wright (Scottish Enterprise); D McLaren (Scottish Government); and E Boyd (Skills Development Scotland).

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Councillor G Laing welcomed all present to the meeting and apologies were noted above.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the relevant Codes of Conduct.

### **3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF 18 NOVEMBER 2022**

The minute of meeting of the Community Planning Partnership Board of 18 November 2022 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

### **5. COST OF LIVING: COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP PRIORITY COMMITMENTS: UPDATES FROM EACH COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNER ON PROGRESS AND ACTION SINCE OCTOBER 2022 POVERTY TASKFORCE: NEXT STEPS**

#### **(i) Child Poverty Update**

C Mailer, Perth and Kinross Council, delivered a verbal update on the work being carried out to help mitigate and reduce child poverty.

She advised that work was continuing to be progressed on the detailed action plan with one of the key actions being the Children's Scorecard which was informed by children and families experiencing poverty and their lived experience providing a very useful baseline assessment. She also advised that the Child Poverty Co-ordinator recently delivered a presentation to the CPP Executive Officer Group, and an Elected Member Workshop was also recently held which looked at the type of action that is required to be taken at locality / ward level.

She also advised that along with T Glen, the Chief Executive of Perth and Kinross Council she had recently met with representatives from the Scottish Government to discuss the possibility of some accelerator funding and support for Highland Perthshire.

**(ii) Cost of Living Update**

C Mailer, Perth and Kinross Council, delivered a verbal update on the Cost-of-Living Crisis.

She advised that the initial £320,000 funding provided for community groups and organisations to apply for was extended by the Council in December 2022 with a further £100,000 added making a total of £420,000 available for the purpose to support communities and community groups in the creation and establishment of warm space areas, food, and warm home packs. She further advised that there was a good geographical spread of applications received, £170,000 for the cost of warm spaces was distributed to 92 successful applicants; £250,000 for the cost of food support and warm home packs was distributed to 85 successful applicants with positive feedback having been received from the various groups involved.

In the absence of Chief Inspector T Leonard, F Robertson provided details of an update he had submitted via email in advance of the meeting. He advised that during the festive period, Police Scotland issued emergency food and fuel packs to members of the community who found themselves in crisis, specifically to individuals who they either came across during routine duties or who were signposted to their local police office by partner organisations. He further advised that the availability of these packs helped raise awareness of the issues around poverty amongst officers.

E Fletcher advised that their focus has been on income maximisation referral pathways across primary and secondary care, and universal healthcare services to try and ensure that people are accessing all the financial support that is available to them. She also advised that a dedicated onsite welfare and benefit advice service is available to patients in the Carseview Centre which has received some very positive feedback from both in-patients and staff.

V Lynch advised that the Local Employability Partnership were continuing to develop an Employability Strategy which will have a large focus on the anti-poverty agenda, this was being developed through engagement with employability providers and service users. She further advised that UHI Perth had been successful in receiving some of the funding previously mentioned

for the creation of a warm space which is now open for students and others in the community.

C McKenna advised that PKAVS Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub were continuing to distribute surplus food to all service users along with foodbank vouchers and provide support to anybody with money concerns. She further advised that the Carers Hub crisis telephone service was seeing an increase in calls from carers asking for support with all aspects of the cost-of-living crisis and work was continuing with Perth and Kinross Council to develop some strategies to help with this. She also advised that a one-off cost of living payment of £250 had been provided to all employees of PKAVS along with the introduction of an employee assistance programme covering finance support including budgeting help along with legal and debt support.

E Fletcher suggested that it would be helpful for future meetings if partners could produce a one-page briefing paper providing details/reflections of the work being carried out showing key successes and key challenges and opportunities going forward. The Group agreed.

C Hendry, Perth and Kinross Council, also delivered a [slide-based presentation](#) on the work of the Anti-Poverty Taskforce.

**Resolved:**

The Group noted the updates.

## **6. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LOIP: RISK MANAGEMENT**

There was submitted a report by L Haxton, Community Planning Team Leader (G/23/11) providing information ahead of the risk workshop to be held on 28 February 2023.

L Haxton advised that the workshop originally scheduled to be held on 28 February 2023 had now been postponed and would be held on 22 March 2023.

**Resolved:**

The contents of report G/23/11, be noted.

## **7. COMMUNITY PLANNING INQUIRY: CALL FOR VIEWS / QUESTIONS**

There was submitted a report by F Robertson, Head of Culture and Communities Services (G/23/12) providing an update on the current ongoing inquiry into Community Planning.

F Robertson advised that Perth and Kinross Council were asked to submit a response into the inquiry. She advised that the response was submitted to the Council's Housing and Social Wellbeing Committee in January 2023 to allow Committee Members to scrutinise it and make any subsequent comment. She further advised that following submission of this response the Council has been asked to give evidence at an Inquiry Hearing on 7 March 2023.

Councillor Cuthbert referred to the third bullet point on page 4 of the report and queried who SG Place / Location Directors were and what they do. In response, F Robertson confirmed that this refers to Scottish Government Location Directors. She clarified that every Location Director or equivalent Senior Official in Scottish Government acts as the lead contact for at least one community planning partnership. She also confirmed that our Lead Contact is Douglas McLaren who regularly attends this Board.

**Resolved:**

The contents of report G/23/12, be noted.

AT THIS POINT OF THE MEETING, THE GROUP OBSERVED A ONE-MINUTE SILENCE TO MARK THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE.

**8. COUNCIL BUDGET – 1 MARCH 2023**

Councillor Laing delivered a verbal update on the upcoming Council Budget due to be set at the meeting of Full Council on 1 March 2023. He advised that the budget position was extremely difficult and provided some details around the following points:

- New Corporate Plan would be looking at more Transformation opportunities.
- Looking to deliver the same level of service or better with less money.
- The inability to respond to demand with more focus on need.
- Still try to support all Partners going forward.

The Group noted the update.

**9. ANY OTHER EMERGING STRATEGIC ISSUES / COMPETENT BUSINESS**

There was no other competent business.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Friday 21 April 2023 at 10.00am