



PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

13 OCTOBER 2020

CPP WORKING GROUP – REFLECTIONS AND FUTURE PRIORITIES

Report by Head of Operations, Skills Development Scotland
(Report G/20/120)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report updates CPP Board on the work of the short life working group established to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on Community Planning Partners and the key themes and priorities which emerged from these discussions.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At the CPP Board meeting of 7 July Board members shared their experiences of COVID-19 related lockdown, its impact on their service, users and staff. A number of common themes emerged from this meeting and it was agreed that in order to allow all partners an opportunity for a fuller discussion a Short Life Working Group would meet prior to the next full CP Board. The working group looked at challenges to partnership working, impact on service users and the priority issues over the coming over the short, medium and long term.
- 1.2 This report summarises the key points that have come out of the review work and outlines a refreshed set of strategic priorities under the Perth and Kinross Offer.

2. KEY FEEDBACK

- 2.1 The key points of note from the Working Group meeting were:

Key Themes

- Food poverty is more widespread than initially thought and is a key indicator of poverty in general
- We should anticipate a spike in unemployment following the end of the furlough period, further exacerbating an already difficult economic situation.
- Some key sectors of the local economy will be badly hit e.g. culture, leisure, hospitality, tourism and retail sectors. In addition, rural communities and migrant workers are likely to be disproportionately negatively impacted.

- There is a need to improve data sharing between partners e.g. customers, employees, sectors.
- Disadvantaged groups such as young people, minority ethnic communities and migrant workers are likely to be particularly adversely impacted
- The ability to access information, services, and maintain social contact on-line is increasingly important, especially for those self-isolating or previously shielding.
- The ability to connect and protect vulnerable people has been extremely challenging for some services e.g. Police Scotland, Social Services.
- The Pandemic has highlighted and exacerbated issues around personal resilience and mental well-being. All organisations report an increase in mental health related issues.
- There is scope for improved partnership working e.g. the collective response to the 2Sisters situation is an exemplar of how partnership working should operate going forward.

Emerging Recovery Priorities

- Digital exclusion and connectivity.
- Poverty.
- Mental wellbeing.
- Youth unemployment
- Protecting the most vulnerable including children.
- Minority ethnic communities and migrant workers.
- Community participation and co-production of services.
- Locality partnership working.
- Data sharing.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Based on the information gathered by the Working Group we would recommend that the CPP Board adopts these priorities under the umbrella of the Perth and Kinross Offer.
- 3.2 We would recommend that the number of priorities included within the Offer should be kept to a minimum and exclude those that could be considered business as usual.
- 3.3 We would ask CPP Board to consider how it would like to identify actions to address the themes and priorities recommended above e.g. via the Outcome Delivery Groups or further Short Life Working Groups.
- 3.4 We would recommend that any agreed actions should be those **which only the CPP Board can deliver**.
- 3.5 We would recommend that CPP Board review the response to the 2 Sisters COVID-19 outbreak as an exemplar of partnership working.