

MINUTE

of

COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Minute of Meeting held at 2.00pm in the Committee Room, Council Headquarters, Eastwood Park, Giffnock on 10 June 2014.

Present:

Councillor Jim Fletcher (Chair)
Councillor Alan Lafferty
Anne Marie Kennedy
Jane Martin

Lorraine McMillan
Julie Murray
Paul Tanzilli

Councillor Fletcher in the Chair

Attending:

Tracy Butler, Community Planning Manager; Jamie Reid, Community Resources Manager; and Ron Leitch, Committee Services Officer.

Apologies:

Councillors Tony Buchanan and Gordon Wallace; Assistant Chief Officer Dave Boyle, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Robert Calderwood, Chief Executive, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde; and Assistant Chief Constable Wayne Mawson, Police Scotland.

INTRODUCTION

1. Councillor Fletcher welcomed those present explaining that the key role of the Board was to have strategic oversight of the Council's Single Outcome Agreement (SOA). In order to ensure that members of the Board were kept up to date with performance issues it was intended that mid-year and year-end reports would be shared with the Board along with notes of meetings of the Performance and Accountability Review (PAR) team.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Board considered and approved the Minute of the meeting held on 14 January 2014.

MATTERS ARISING

3. Councillor Fletcher explained that at the inaugural meeting of the Board, ACC Mawson had proposed that the Board should meet more than once each year. However,

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Councillor Fletcher expressed the view that as the Board would receive copies of the Minutes and relevant reports considered by the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) as a matter of course, additional meetings should only be called if there was a clear purpose and agenda to justify them.

Following brief discussion the Board agreed that it would meet annually unless specific circumstances warranted the calling of any additional meetings.

SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT – 2014/15 UPDATE

4. The Board considered a report by the Chief Executive presenting the Community Planning Partnership's (CPP) draft Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) Update for 2014/15. A copy of the draft SOA accompanied the report.

The Community Planning Manager explained that a full scale review of the SOA had been undertaken for 2012/13 which had resulted in a revision of the outcomes. The CPP had thereafter received feedback during a national Quality Assurance (QA) process and a number of development areas had been identified which the CPP had been working towards. She went on to explain that for 2014/15 a light refresh of the SOA had been carried out with the strategic focus and the five high level outcomes and intermediate outcomes remaining consistent. The update had taken account of revised data arising from the 2011 census; reflected recent changes to community planning arrangements including the revised governance structure arising from the implementation of the CPP Board and the Model for Improvement approach to SOA outcome delivery; updated the work of the CPP around prevention and joint resourcing; highlighted improvements to the presentation of indicators and targets including trend data and the inclusion of new indicators as a result of improved data availability; and the development areas agreed during the QA process previously referred to.

The Community Planning Manager concluded her presentation by explaining that data from the CPP was entered into the Council's performance management system, Covalent, to produce mid-year and year-end reports; that year-end performance for 2013/14 had been reported to the PAR meeting on 27 May 2014; and that the performance report and notes of the PAR meeting would be issued to members of the Board in the near future for their information.

Local Senior Officer (LSO) Tanzilli explained that Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) had revised its Fire Action Plan and Operations Plan to better reflect and measure those activities over which SFRS had direct control. This change of approach could have an impact on the SOA and might need to be reflected in the stated outcomes. In response the Chief Executive reiterated that the SOA focused on outcomes as opposed to specific activities and that the changes being implemented by SFRS would require to be considered by the CPP.

Following further brief discussion, in the course of which Ms Martin complimented the Community Planning Manager on the clarity and evidence based approach taken in the SOA, the Board agreed to approve the content of the draft SOA Update 2014/15.

PRESENTATION – MODEL FOR IMPROVEMENT

5. Councillor Fletcher invited Jamie Reid, Community Resources Manager, to make a short presentation on the Model for Improvement methodology which had been adopted by the CPP to drive service and outcome improvement.

The Community Resources Manager briefly explained the current governance arrangements with the CPP Board providing democratic oversight and strategic leadership; the PAR team consisting of senior officers monitoring performance, improvement, partnership integration and joint resourcing; and the five high level outcomes focussing on early years, education, environment and economy, community safety and older people, each of which had its own delivery team working with the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) improvement methodology. He went on to explain that PDSA was a data-driven outcome-focussed approach which contrasted with the traditional top down approach to service design and delivery. PDSA was used to test small scale adjustments to service delivery which could then be scaled up if shown to be successful. Using the PDSA approach those in front line delivery were empowered to deliver service improvement. Crucial to the success of the PDSA model was the will of the CPP Board and senior managers as well as the freedom of staff and workstream champions to execute ideas to deliver improvement. Key points to be considered in implementing PDSA were staff time and levels of commitment across all levels of the CPP and skills development; changes to frontline services, staff roles and responsibilities and the allocation of workloads; and the scaling up of new methods of working while still meeting reactive service demands. He went on to illustrate the overall end to end process with reference to the relationship between the aim, primary drivers, secondary drivers, projects and tests of change with particular reference to a project aimed at improving the employability skills of vulnerable young people.

The Community Resources Manager concluded by outlining the progress made to date in rolling out the PDSA methodology and the stage in the process currently achieved by each of the SOA delivery teams.

During detailed discussion it was noted that some early gains from the PDSA process were already being seen, particularly in the early years workstream, where considerable efforts had been made to embed new processes into “business as usual”. However, it was also noted that a degree of patience was required in the early stages of implementation with a view to reaping major benefits in the longer term. In this regard the importance of getting people to feel comfortable with the process, even if this meant having to step back and allow them to make mistakes, was emphasised. Once people felt comfortable with the process it was easier to apply pressure to improve and set stretch targets which would have a significant impact on service delivery. The Chief Executive highlighted the need to continue to monitor the local economy and suggested that the work of the “Place To Grow” strategy should be incorporated into the SOA. The importance of sharing any learning was also emphasised with all delivery teams encouraged to communicate with their colleagues in order to maximise the impact of the process.

Having heard Councillor Fletcher thank the Community Resources Manager for an interesting and informative presentation, the Board agreed to note the position.

KEY FOCUS AREAS - UPDATE

6. Under reference to the Minute of the meeting of 14 January 2014 (Item 3 refers) when it had been agreed to explore in more depth a number of topics identified as key focus areas, the Director of the Community Health and Care Partnership, supported by the Community Resources Manager, updated the Board on a number of topics

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(i) Early Years Collaborative

The Director explained that the Early Years Collaborative (EYC) comprised a multi-disciplinary team working within the community with a view to encouraging local people to become involved in identifying problems relating to children and young people and developing and implementing solutions to address these. To date 3 events had been organised which had been attended by more than 50 people representing individuals and community groups. From these meetings an action plan had been developed and steps were being taken to implement the recommendations contained within it. Visits to and by established community groups and meetings with Elected Members had provided valuable opportunities for engagement. The outcomes from this work had resulted in the improvement to play facilities; a summer day trip for youngsters; a litter pick; a series of food budgeting events; and the active involvement of the community in the design of the new family centre at Auchenback. The Community Resources Manager added that additional opportunities had also arisen for positive engagement between the community and East Renfrewshire Voluntary Action and that additional support had been provided to former addicts and to the Streetworks Groups in the area.

(ii) General Population Health and Looked-After and Accommodated Children

The Community Resources Manager explained that with regard to improving the health of the general population there were encouraging signs of increased physical activity but that as yet there was insufficient data available from which to draw any meaningful conclusions. The Director of the CHCP highlighted the work being undertaken with Look-After and accommodated children including a dedicated nurse within the CHCP working with this group; the introduction of individual health assessments; and the identification of unmet health needs. She also explained that 18 young people from within this group had been successful in gaining employment with the Council through the "Family Firm" scheme and that the Council was ranked 5th in Scotland in the reduction of instances of exclusion from school with the number having fallen from 266 to 20 in recent years. She also advised that the primary performance target for the Chief Social Work Officer for 2014/15 was to greatly increase the number of foster carers available across the Council area.

(iii) Domestic Violence and Abuse

The Community Resources Manager explained that it was proving difficult to obtain primary data in relation to domestic violence and abuse but that the CPP was currently looking at secondary data which might point towards unreported incidences of this form of abuse. Police Scotland had however confirmed that the trend nationally in this regard was downward and that there was no evidence of unmet needs within East Renfrewshire.

The Board agreed to note the position.

INSPECTION OF INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES

7. The Director of the CHCP updated the Board on the progress of the inspection of children's services being undertaken by the Care Inspectorate. She explained that the inspection was at about the halfway stage and that to date no significant concerns had been raised. Initial feedback suggested that the inspectors had noted a number of examples of exceptional performance and good practice, particularly in the field of child protection. She went on to outline the remaining elements of the inspection programme including, amongst others, extensive file reading; focus groups with a range of partners including the police and officers from the Education Department; visits to early years centres; a meeting with members of the Children's Panel; and a meeting with the Domestic Violence Referral Group.

It was anticipated that the final report on the inspection would be presented to the Council in late July with publication to the wider community expected in September.

The Board noted the report.

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION - FUTURE MODEL FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE IN SCOTLAND

8. The Community Planning Manger briefly outlined the proposal for existing Community Justice Authorities (CJAs) to be replaced by a new national body likely to be known as Community Justice Improvement Scotland (CJIS). The proposed model would require CPPs to be responsible for local strategic planning and service delivery; impose new duties on specific partners including NHS and Police Scotland with accountability for planning and performance; and be introduced from 2016/17 onwards.

She went on to explain that the consultation was due to close on 2 July; that the Community Planning team would coordinate a response on behalf of the CPP; that the Criminal Justice Service Manager within the CHCP would be submitting a response; and that she would welcome sight of any individual organisational responses. A copy of the CPP's draft response would be circulated in due course to Board members for information.

Having heard Councillor Lafferty express his disappointment at the lack of consultation prior to the publication of the proposed new model and express the hope that the degree of regional cooperation which had been built up over the lifetime of the existing CJAs would not be lost, the Board agreed to note the position.

AOB

9. Referring to the 2013/14 SOA outturn performance, the Chief Executive indicated that a summary of the results would be circulated to Board members for information in due course. She particularly commended to the Board the performance in relation to youth unemployment which had fallen considerably faster within East Renfrewshire than was the case across the rest of Scotland, suggesting that the CPP's approach to this problem was clearly enhancing the future prospects for young people in this area.

Councillor Lafferty reported that he was a member of COSLA's Health and Wellbeing Group and, referring to the CHCP Director's previous comments on the value of engagement with East Renfrewshire Voluntary Action, explained that East Renfrewshire was held in high regard by the group for its work in this respect. Mrs Kennedy confirmed that East Renfrewshire Voluntary Action enjoyed an excellent relationship with the Council and the CPP and that this was recognised nationally.

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The Board noted the position.

CHAIR