

MINUTE
of
COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Minute of Meeting held at 2.00pm in the Committee Room, Council Headquarters, Eastwood Park, Giffnock on 5 June 2015.

Present:

Councillor Jim Fletcher (Chair)
Councillor Tony Buchanan
Councillor Alan Lafferty
Robert Calderwood
Martin Gordon
Anne Marie Kennedy

Danny Logue
Alison Loveday
Wayne Mawson
Lorraine McMillan
Wendy Wilkinson

Councillor Fletcher in the Chair

Attending:

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

Apologies:

Councillor Gordon McCaskill.

INTRODUCTION

1. Councillor Fletcher welcomed those present and explained that the key roles of the Board lay in the areas of scrutiny and leadership. As part of the agenda before the Board, members would be asked to scrutinise the past performance of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and to provide leadership for the way forward through reviewing the future Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and agreeing a number of stretch aims for the areas which were of most importance to the Board.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Board considered and approved the Minute of the meeting held on 10 June 2014.

ANNUAL REVIEW 2014/15

3. The Board considered a report by the Chief Executive providing members with a review of the past year and the opportunity for discussion and scrutiny.

The report explained that performance within the CPP for 2014/15 had been very positive with East Renfrewshire continuing to be amongst the best performing areas in Scotland. Local services were in the best performing quartile across two thirds of SOA indicators at a national level. Over the year, out of a total of 41 indicators with targets, the CPP had met the target against 31 with 4 narrowly missed and 6 unmet.

It went on to explain that over the following 6 to 12 months, the Performance and Accountability Review (PAR) would be progressing further work around Developing Scotland's Young Workforce, considering and undertaking a CPP self-assessment process in preparation for a future CPP audit by Audit Scotland, and overseeing the Model for Improvement process. Following detailed discussion around out-of-work benefit claimants and children living in low income households within the overall context of welfare reform changes, the PAR had agreed to closely monitor performance updates against these areas throughout the coming year.

The Chief Executive expressed the view that the dynamics within the PAR appeared to be working well with the opportunity taken to engage in frank discussion on issues of concern. Referring to the very good outcomes achieved, she highlighted in particular the close monitoring of the early years strategy, the continued reduction in youth unemployment, and the generally good performance in relation to crime reduction whilst noting the increase in serious assaults. Members were also heard in respect to the need to further analyse the available data in order to be sure that the results were being influenced by the actions of the CPP. As an example it was suggested that the reduction in youth unemployment could be due in part to a general improvement in the wider economy. In response, the Chief Executive, supported by Mr Logue, accepted that the improving economic outlook had an impact on the figures but explained that the reduction within East Renfrewshire had been greater than across most of the rest of the country and suggested that this supported the view that the actions of the CPP were having a positive impact.

Following further brief discussion, the Board agreed to:-

- (a) note the activity and results throughout the year 2014/15; and
- (b) approve the planned focus of activity by the CPP for 2015/16 as outlined in the report.

MODEL FOR IMPROVEMENT – STRETCH AIMS

4. The Board considered a report by the Chief Executive updating the Board on progress in developing stretch aims for SOA Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 using the Model for Improvement methodology.

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 and to outline the progress made throughout 2014/15.

The Community Resources Manager briefly reminded the Board that, at its meeting in January 2014 formal agreement had been given to adopt the Model for Improvement as the key mechanism for driving a step change in each of the five SOA outcomes. A process utilising the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) methodology had been identified to provide support to SOA outcome workstreams 2, 3 and 4 and develop stretch aims internally within the CPP. The PAR had subsequently identified a range of challenges which were impeding the implementation of the model and at its meeting in November 2014 agreed that the CPP

should commission external support to help drive forward implementation. Consequently, ODS Consulting had been appointed and had begun to work across all workstreams meeting with strategic outcome leads to agree areas of focus and deliver initial workshops. Each workstream had identified a stretch aim relative to its outcome and driver diagrams were in the process of being developed. There had also been positive engagement in the process with staff and partners recognising the potential of the model to develop innovation and partnership working.

He went on to outline the areas of focus across the three outcomes and explain the importance of analysing the raw data in order to fully understand the impact of the actions of the adjustments to service delivery on the outcomes and to determine if it was practical to scale up the changes if they were shown to be successful. He also emphasised the importance of maintaining focus, of empowering participants to take calculated risks, and recognising that this was a long-term project involving a considerable amount of intensive work with the aim of achieving major step-changes in performance.

Councillor Fletcher expressed the view that it was useful to understand the context of targets as opposed to simply being presented with a range of figures. He also suggested that the outcomes were closely linked to the overall economic environment including the ongoing reduction in public sector budgets. ACC Mawson, referring to the link between the increase in serious assaults within East Renfrewshire and the well-publicised reduction in stop and search activity, explained that stop and search was only one tactic employed by Police Scotland as part of its prevention strategy with others including targeting of repeat offenders and repeat locations and making use of a range of analytical tools to target reductions in crime. He went on to explain that bail and curfew checks were being enforced and that the police were working closely with the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) to ensure that previous offenders were welcomed back into the community but were made aware that any repeat offending could result in them being returned to custody. He concluded by outlining the forthcoming roll-out of the scheme designed to give people the right to enquire if a new partner had a history of violent conduct and highlighting that the CPP's multi-agency approach to reducing domestic abuse was expected to have an impact on the level of serious assaults as many serious assaults were directly related to violence in the home. Mrs Kennedy gave a cautious welcome to the idea of Voluntary Action (VA) working closely with Police Scotland in this regard.

Ms Loveday explained that Scottish Enterprise was liaising with the University of the West of Scotland (UWS), local Chambers of Commerce and other partners to make available opportunities for teams of international marketing students to work with local companies in an effort to improve their businesses and highlighted the willingness of these companies to try new and innovative approaches. Councillor Buchanan, supported by the Community Resources Manager, expressed the view that it was important to communicate clearly with staff to encourage responsible risk taking and remove the fear of punishment in the event that any particular small scale adjustment to the traditional service delivery model failed to achieve the anticipated step change improvement.

The Chief Executive concluded the discussion by outlining a number of examples of partnership working including, amongst others, the approach currently being taken to link the work of the Licensing Board, Trading Standards and the CHCP in tackling a number of problems around alcohol and drugs misuse. She also called upon the Board to reiterate its endorsement of the PDSA methodology and to make every effort to encourage staff to participate in good faith through the removal of the fear of failure.

Thereafter, the Board agreed:-

- (a) that the SOA outcome workstreams continue the improvement work around the areas outlined in the report;
- (b) that Board members would continue to ensure that their staff engage in the most effective way possible in this outcome delivery process; and
- (c) otherwise, to note the position.

DRAFT SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT UPDATE FOR 2015/16

5. The Board considered a report by the Chief Executive presenting for approval the East Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership's (CPP) draft Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) Update for 2015/16. A copy of draft agreement was appended to the report.

The report explained that for 2015/16 a light refresh of the SOA had been carried out with the strategic focus and the five high level outcomes and intermediate outcomes remained consistent. The purpose of the update had been to reflect up to date analysis on the socio-economic needs of communities and demonstrated continuous improvements in the working arrangements of the CPP around outcome delivery and governance.

The Community Resources Manager explained that the update was the third update of the SOA 2013 – 16 and that it was anticipated that a new style of SOA would be introduced in 2016 to reflect the changes being introduced as a result of the implementation of the new Community Empowerment legislation and that further guidance would be forthcoming from the Scottish Government in this regard in due course.

Having heard Ms Wilkinson explain that East Renfrewshire CPP was already well placed with regards to achieving a smooth transition to the new style SOA which was anticipated as a result of the new legislation, the Board agreed to approve the East Renfrewshire Draft Single Outcome Agreement update for 2015/16.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

6. Councillor Fletcher invited Jamie Reid, Community Resources Manager, to make a brief presentation on a number of key developments that the Board could anticipate over the coming year.

The Community Resources Manager outlined a number of key national and local developments which could impact on the work of the PAR and subsequently the Board. At the national level these would include a Community Planning Outcomes Framework and the anticipated passing of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill. This new legislation would introduce a range of additional responsibilities for public bodies including new Community Planning duties, establishment of the Community Right to Participate, and was likely to drive new SOAs including locality plans. Further changes were anticipated under the heading of Community Justice Reform. Locally, implementation of the new Local Development Plan (LDP) and the City Deal proposals would see major infrastructure improvements including new housing, schools and business developments leading to significant opportunities for partnership working and improving outcomes. Shorter term, a short-life working group had been established to undertake some work around the issue of CPP self-evaluation providing a useful opportunity to check progress to date and to prepare for the possible CPP audit by Audit Scotland as mentioned in the Annual Review.

The Board noted the position.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7. The Board noted that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 30 June 2016 at 2.00pm in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Eastwood Park, Giffnock.

CHAIR