

FALKIRK COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE LEADERSHIP GROUP
WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2008
FALKIRK STADIUM, FALKIRK

ATTENDING

Falkirk Council

Councillor L. Gow, Leader of the Council (Chair)

Mary Pitcaithly, Chief Executive

Fiona Campbell, Head of Policy and Performance Review, Corporate and Neighbourhood Services

Margaret Anderson, Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice, Social Work Services

Nigel Fletcher, Head of Educational Support, Education Services

Sue Selwyn, Head of Culture and Lifelong Learning

Andrew Wilson, Community Planning Manager, Corporate and Neighbourhood Services

Derek Kelly, Committee Officer, Law and Administration Services

Central Scotland Police

Superintendent Robbie McGregor

Councillor J Blackwood, Vice Convener of Central Scotland Joint Police Board

Central Scotland Fire and Rescue Service

Kenny Taylor, Director of Service Delivery

NHS Forth Valley

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CVS Falkirk and District

Kenny Murphy, Chief Executive

Forth Valley College

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Scottish Enterprise

David Caughey, Director of Industries and Commercialisation

Apologies

Marlene Anderson, Chair, Falkirk CHP

Bill Kelly, Chair, CVS Falkirk & District

Andrew Lawson, Associate Principal, Forth Valley College

Sue Dow, General Manager, Falkirk CHP

Julia Swan, Director of Education Services, Falkirk Council

1. **MINUTE OF LAST MEETING**

There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** Minute of Meeting of the Leadership Group held on 22 May 2008.

2. **MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETINGS**

There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Minutes of Meetings of the Management Group held on 7 August 2008 and 6 November 2008.

3. **SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

There was submitted (circulated) copy of a report on the Single Outcome Agreement.

The Head of Policy and Performance Review summarised the key changes in the guidance received from the Scottish Government on our Single Outcome Agreement. This included an outline of learning points from the first round of agreements and specific changes including:

- Governance and accountability;
- Performance management and indicators;
- Reporting arrangements;
- The format and scope of agreements;
- Area profiles;
- Outcomes and commitments; and
- Asks.

The Leadership Group **AGREED:-**

- (a) To note the newly issued guidance and to pass this to relevant officers within each of the partnership agencies;
- (b) To note the timescales for developing and approving the refreshed SOA;
- (c) That arrangements should be put in place within each partner organisation to approve the final SOA following its submission to the Scottish Government at the end of February 2009;
- (d) Note the work being undertaken to populate the new template;
- (e) To a partnership seminar being organised in January 2009 to take the revised SOA forward; and
- (f) That clarification should be sought from the Scottish Government Liaison Director on the points highlighted in section 3 of the report and this being fed back to partners.

4. IMPLEMENTATION GROUPS PROGRESS

The Head of Policy and Performance Review provided a summary of progress made by Implementation Groups, the key aspects of which were:

- Progress made by the My Future's in Falkirk initiative with the latest newsletter being attached to the report;
- Refreshing our approach on Lifelong Learning, giving consideration to how we currently deal with the Skills agenda;
- The implementation of the LEADER fund, overseen by the Improving Our Neighbourhood Implementation Group;
- The success of our Safer Streets initiative concluded at the end of March 2008 and the allocation of a further £20,000 by the Scottish Government, covering the forthcoming festive period;
- The implementation of our new Joint Health Improvement Plan; and
- A summary of proposals made to tackle health inequalities in the Braes.

The Leadership Group **AGREED:-**

- (a) To note the progress made by Implementation Groups;
- (b) To note the Review of My Future's in Falkirk and asked that a further report be submitted detailing the review's outcomes;
- (c) To note the launch of the LEADER fund and our success in securing support for the 'River Carron Corridor' project
- (d) To note the additional allocation of 'Safer Streets' funding and our proposals to utilise this;
- (e) To a partnership seminar being organised in January 2009 to take the revised SOA forward; and
- (f) To note the CHP's proposals to progress the 'Body Benefits in the Braes' project.

5. IMPROVING OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD – LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANS

There was submitted (circulated) Report by the Head of Culture and Lifelong Learning, introducing the draft Local Community Plans for (a) Larbert and Stenhousemuir; and the plan for (b) the Braes. These form part of a process which will deliver 6 Local Community Plans based on Area Forum areas.

The Leadership Group **AGREED:-**

- (g) Note the progress of Local Community Planning; and

- (h) To approve the two draft Local Community Plans for consultation.

The Leadership Group requested that a report be submitted outlining the progress being made with the first two Local Community Plans for Grangemouth and Denny, Bonnybridge and Banknock and the outcomes for local communities and members of the public.

6. **PROGRESSING THE 'ENHANCING LIFELONG LEARNING AND OPPORTUNITY' THEME**

There was submitted (circulated) Report by the Associate Principal, Forth Valley College, on proposals to progress the Community Planning Partnership's theme on 'Enhancing Lifelong Learning & Opportunity'. This was introduced by the Community Planning Manager who highlighted some of the main achievements of the Implementation Group since its establishment in 2006. The report also highlighted a number of options for taking this theme forward.

The Leadership Group **AGREED:-**

- (a) To note the progress and achievements of the Lifelong Learning and Opportunity Implementation Group;
- (b) To note the factors affecting the future functioning of the Implementation Group; and
- (c) That a further report should be submitted outlining the way forward for this theme.

7. **PROGRESS ON CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

There was submitted (circulated) Report by the Head of Policy and Performance Review which informed the Leadership Group on (a) the background to the changes to the cross cutting themes; and (b) updates with regards to the Sustainable Development, Equal Opportunities and Equity of Access, Community Regeneration and Children and Young People themes. Separate reports were submitted on the Single Outcome Agreement, incorporating Public Sector Reform as well on Community Engagement. Some of the highlights of progress include:

- Different partners conducting energy audits with a view to seeking ways to reduce both energy consumption and carbon emissions;
- Partners taking practical steps within their respective organisations to increase recycling;
- Work progressing to create a shared partnership equalities database and the completion of an assessment of training provision on equalities across key partner organisations;
- Our successes over 3 years through Community Regeneration Funding in lifting people out of poverty;
- Positive impacts on other aspects of Community Regenerations such as improvements in Community Safety and in educational attainment;

- The continuing advancement of integrated children's services provision, particularly in the pilot areas of Denny and St Mungo's; and
- The implementation of the Integrated Assessment Framework for services to children and young people.

The Leadership Group **AGREED**:-

- To note the progress made in the development of cross-cutting themes and the benefits derived as a result;
- To note our achievements on Community Regeneration supported by the Community Regeneration Fund;
- To note our progress in integrating children's services; and
- To request the submission of further progress reports.

8. FAIRER SCOTLAND FUND

There was submitted (circulated) Report by the Head of Policy and Performance Review informing the Leadership Group on allocations from the Fairer Scotland Fund. The report highlighted the backdrop to the fund and its priorities and our local outcomes for targeting supporting projects on. The assessment process was also detailed including the use of community panels. A summary of the allocations was also provided.

The Leadership Group **AGREED**:-

- To note the approved allocations from the Fairer Scotland Fund; and
- To request a future progress report on the impact of the funded initiatives.

9. COMMUNITY PLANNING CONFERENCE

There was submitted (circulated) Report by the Head of Policy and Performance Review reporting back to the Leadership Group on the Community Planning Conference. The event was attended by approximately 120 delegates and focused on our achievements as well as the contribution of the voluntary and community sectors. The report also highlighted feedback provided by delegates, the response to which will be reported to the Leadership Group.

The Leadership Group **AGREED**:-

- To note the success of the Community Planning Conference and key issues emerging from it; and
- A future progress report be submitted on our response to the feedback provided by delegates.

10. CHILD PROTECTION – PRESENTATION

The Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice provided the Leadership Group with a presentation on the Falkirk Child Protection Committee's Annual Report. This included the context in which the committee operates and the fulfilment of its functions. Some of the key issues emerging from the report included:

- Ensuring the robustness of governance arrangements;
- That the work of the committee is embedded in all appropriate service planning structures; and
- Building a focus on creative and dynamic inter-agency working.

The presentation also provided details on the Committee's business plan.

11. CORPORATE PARENTING – GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS

There was submitted (circulated) Report by the Head of Policy and Performance Review to the Leadership Group, recently published guidance from the Scottish Government to Community Planning Partnerships on corporate parenting in support of looked after children and young people. This included an outline of the key elements of the guidance.

The Leadership Group **AGREED:-**

- (a) To note the guidance on corporate parenting and to request a report that outlines how the guidance is being taken forward across the Community Planning Partnership.

12. 2009 MEETING DATES

- 14:00, 19 MARCH 2009
- 14:00, 10 SEPTEMBER 2009

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items of other business were raised.