

FALKIRK COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE LEADERSHIP GROUP
THURSDAY 19TH MARCH 2009
COMMITTEE SUITE, MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

ATTENDING

Falkirk Council

Councillor L Gow, Leader of the Council (Chair)
Mary Pitcaithly, Chief Executive
Fiona Campbell, Head of Policy & Performance Review, Corporate & Neighbourhood Services
Andrew Wilson, Community Planning Manager, Corporate & Neighbourhood Services
Julia Swan, Director of Education Services
Rhona Geisler, Director of Development Services

Central Scotland Police

Councillor J Blackwood, Vice Convenor of Central Scotland Joint Police Boards
Superintendent Gordon Samson

Central Scotland Fire & Rescue

Kenny Taylor, Director of Service Delivery

NHS Forth Valley

Marlene Anderson, Chair, Falkirk CHP Committee
Hazel Meehan, Health Promotion Manager, Falkirk CHP

CVS Falkirk & District

Kenny Murphy, Chief Executive

Forth Valley College

-

Scottish Enterprise

David Caughey, Director of Industries and Commercialisation

Apologies

Andrew Lawson, Associate Principal, Forth Valley College
Brian Pirie, Democratic Services Manager, Falkirk Council
Karen Algie, Head of Human Resources, Falkirk Council
Sue Dow, General Manager, Falkirk CHP

1. MINUTE OF LAST MEETING

There was submitted (circulated) and **APPROVED** Minute of the Leadership Group held on 3rd December 2008.

2. MINUTE OF MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING

There was submitted (circulated) and **NOTED** Minute of the Management Group held on 18th February 2009.

3. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT

There was submitted (circulated) a copy of a report updating members on the progress that has been made in developing the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) 2009 – 2011 for the Falkirk Council area.

The SOA has been submitted to the Scottish Government as a draft, with the proviso that it has not been approved by individual organisations, agencies or the Leadership Group. The final SOA has to be approved by the end of May 2009.

The Leadership Group **NOTED**:

- (a) The contents of the report and the work that has been undertaken to date in developing the SOA.

The Leadership Group **AGREED**:

- (a) The content of the draft SOA, while noting that this may be subject to change;
- (b) All partners would confirm to the Council, the process for approving the SOA by 27th March 2009;
- (c) The Council would prepare the April report and circulate this to partners prior to publication;
- (d) A revised Strategic Community Plan would be prepared and circulated to the Leadership Group for consideration over the summer recess; and
- (e) All Partners would put in place arrangements to provide a six month progress statement by September 2009.

4. ALCOHOL AND DRUGS DELIVERY REFORM

There was submitted (circulated) a copy of a report detailing proposals for the improvement of alcohol and drug delivery arrangements to ensure better outcomes for service users, taking account of the following:

- The Concordat between the Scottish Government and CoSLA and the introduction of the Single Outcome Agreements;
- The publication of the Stocktake Review of Alcohol and Drug Action Teams; and
- The parallel development of new drugs and alcohol misuse strategies.

The Leadership Group **NOTED**:

- (a) The proposed supporting structural changes necessary to create the Falkirk Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.

The Leadership Group **AGREED**:

- (a) The content of the report and the proposal to create the Falkirk Alcohol and Drugs Partnership; and
- (b) The Head of Policy & Performance Review to feedback recommendations that the CVS be included in the membership of the FVADP.

5. IMPLEMENTATION GROUPS' PROGRESS

There was submitted (circulated) a report giving members an update on the progress made by Implementation Groups building on previous reports considered by the Leadership Group. The key aspects discussed were:

- An Action Plan for the Economic Downturn;
- Proposals from the Lifelong Learning and Opportunity Implementation Group for the refocusing on skills;
- An update on the progress of applications to the LEADER fund;
- The review of the work and priorities of the Community Safety Implementation Group, including updates on Safer Streets and Cashback for Communities funding; and
- An outline of the latest Annual Report from the Director of Public health, NHS Forth Valley.

The Leadership Group **NOTED**:

- (a) The progress made by the Implementation Groups;
- (b) The need for the next Strategic Community Plan to take account of the recession, although should still promote positive aspirations for the area;
- (c) The importance of supporting the voluntary sector and the contribution they make in terms of helping to maintain and enhance the skills of local residents;
- (d) The work taking place to progress community engagement along the River Carron Corridor;
- (e) The Director of Public Health's Annual Report; and
- (f) The Equally Well Implementation Plan and the Community Healthy Weight Programme.

The Leadership Group **AGREED**:

- (a) The Economic Downturn Plan.
- (b) To request a report be submitted outlining proposals to co-ordinate our future approach on skills;

- (c) To request that a further report be submitted on the outcomes of the work being done to progress community engagement along the River Carron Corridor;
- (d) To request that a report be submitted detailing the outcomes of the review currently taking place across the Community Safety theme;
- (e) An application to be made to the Scottish Government to become a pathfinder area within the Community Healthy Weight programme;
- (f) Request that a report be submitted from the Community Health Partnership outlining an action plan to tackle local health inequalities.

6. PROGRESS ON CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

There was submitted (circulated) a report outlining the progress and issues on the Community Planning Partnership's cross cutting themes.

The Leadership Group **NOTED**:

- (a) The progress made in the continuing development of the cross cutting themes and the benefits they are delivering as a result of this;
- (b) The practically focused collaboration on sustainable development and the benefits this is realising for the partners involved in this area;
- (c) The contents of Appendix 1 – Fairer Scotland Fund Briefing Note, dated March 2009.
- (d) The development and implementation of the Equalities database; and
- (e) The progress being made in the provision of integrated children's services.

The Leadership Group **AGREED**:

- (a) That a report would be submitted on the Integrated Children's Services Plan;
- (b) A report would be submitted to the next meeting on Shared Services in relation to cost and impact on local businesses; and
- (c) The submission of further reports to assess future progress.

7. THIRD SECTOR INTERFACES

There was submitted (circulated) a report updating members on Scottish Government proposals to focus on local arrangements between Community Planning Partnerships and the Third Sector.

The Leadership Group **NOTED:**

- (a) The proposals made by the Scottish Government to focus on local interfaces between the Community Planning Partnership and the Third Sector and to implement a more direct model of funding

The Leadership Group **AGREED:**

- (a) The response submitted by the Community Planning Partnership to the Scottish Government's proposals; and
- (b) To request that a further report be prepared advising on the current arrangements for supporting the local economy.

8. BETTER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: LEARNING PROGRAMME

There was submitted (circulated) a report outlining the Scottish Government's proposals to create pilot projects for better community engagement.

Since April 2008, the Scottish Government and CoSLA have jointly committed to the development of a community empowerment action plan, comprising:

- Highlighting good practice examples of community empowerment;
- Providing direct capacity building investment to community groups;
- Investing in an integrated programme to develop skills, learning and networking in relation to community empowerment and engagement;
- Developing support to help communities own assets;
- Investing in improved support for community capacity building; and
- Working with Audit Scotland to agree how to assess progress on empowerment.

The Leadership Group **NOTED:**

- (a) The proposals made by the Scottish Government to improve both national and local approaches to empower communities through the Better Community Engagement framework; and
- (b) The opportunities for the Community Planning Partnership through securing one of the local demonstration projects.

The Leadership Group **AGREED:**

- (a) That the Improving Our Neighbourhood Implementation Group would proceed in submitting an 'expression of interest' with the aim of becoming a local demonstration project; and
- (b) To request that a report be submitted to the Community Planning Management Group in May 2009 outlining the key elements for our

Community Engagement Strategy and proposed implementation plan taking forward recommendations to improve our approach in this area.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 10th September 2009 at 2pm

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A brief discussion took place in relation to membership the Leadership Group.

The Leadership Group **AGREED:**

- (a) Representatives from SESTRAN and the Scottish Government would be invited to attend future meetings