



SUTHERLAND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF MEETING

15 JUNE 2018 1000 – 1200 Hours DRUMMUIE, GOLSPIE

Present	Iain MacLelland (IM) Deirdre Mackay (DM) Peter Allan (PA) Phil Tomalin (PT) Jason Gardiner (JG) Christine Ross (CR) Jacqueline Jennett (JJ) Jim McGillivray (JMc) Richard Gale (RG) Linda Munro (LM) Angela Simpson (AS) Lorraine Coe (LC) Fiona Hampton (FH) Susan Ainsworth (SA)	Chair, Police Scotland Deputy Chair, East Suth & Ed Support, Police Scotland Highland Council Ward Manager Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Third Sector Interface VG-ES Care & Learning Manager North Councillor East Suth & Edderton Councillor East Suth & Edderton Councillor NW & Central Suth Highlands & Islands Enterprise NHS Highland High Life Highland Minute Secretary, Police Scotland
Apologies	Helen Cairns (HC) Kirsteen Currie(KC) Michelle Johnstone (MJ) Martin Thomsen (MT) Ronnie Lansley (RL) Frances Gunn (FG) Valerie Gale (VG) Ian Mitchell (IM)	YDO, Golspie High School Councillor NW & Central Suth NHS Highland KSDT CVS North CVS North Sutherland Care Forum Scottish Natural Heritage
Guest	Cathy Steer	NHS Reach Out Highland

Members of the Public – 21

- 1. Welcome** -The Chair (IM) expressed a warm welcome to all members in attendance and to all new visitors to the SCP meeting being held at Drummuie, Golspie.

IM gave a special congratulations to Deirdre (DM) becoming a new granny.

- 2. Present and Apologies** – As above.

- 3. Actions from Previous Meeting** - IM updated the Partnership on the previous meeting:

- Safe Place Initiative with Judy Hill and PA – Golspie has become the pilot when the Police stations, Co-op shop and other sites have taken part in this scheme. This will be rolled out to all Police stations in Scotland - CLOSED

- Fuel Poverty – PA stated this is ongoing through the Fuel Poverty Sub Group with Senior Safe Highlander taking place on 20th June where all information will be available. - CLOSED
- Young people from Assynt to attend SCP Meeting – Arranged for 12th October at Lochinver - CLOSED
- YOYP – on Agenda – CLOSED
- Digital Inclusion for Scotland – PA stated that grants are being made available and forwarding this to all on the SCP mailing list by e-mail – CLOSED
- CLD Review – on Agenda – ONGOING
- Childrens’ Plan being circulated – on Agenda – ONGOING
- Participatory Budgeting – PT informed all that HC is working on budgets and will update SCP at a future meeting - ONGOING

4. Engagement – James Turner, KOSDT Engagement Team

James has been working on the Helmsdale Locality Plan from responses they have received. The team have completed workshops in Helmsdale and Creich. The next workshop is in Kinlochbervie on 25th June, along with Energy Advice Service in attendance. James explained their aim is to tie in with other community events that are already taking place. There has been good attendance from the community with the presence of SCP which has been well received. James added that other Partnerships from across the Highlands are now in contact with the Engagement Team. IM added that the quality of the KSDT work for the Partnership has been commendable.

5. Community Partnership Plans

- **Children’s Plan Update** – JJ informed all that she is now awaiting comments back from Agencies and then will circulate the Children’s Plan more widely, with deadline for today. IM added that priorities have been recognised and this has come from the young people of Sutherland. Adults are now required to produce the Action Plan.

ACTION – FINAL MEETING THEN CIRCULATE CHILDREN’S PLAN – JJ

- **Adult Health and Social Care Plan Update** – LC thanked all the partners for their input and has received extra support from Margaret Brown. This plan is now ready to be circulated to the core group with a presentation and launch at the August SCP meeting. Cathy Steer, NHS, added that from a regional point of view actions are being finalised. IM asked how can we address cross-cutting issues across the Highlands and it was explained that they are still under review. Transport being a top priority. There is an opportunity for Partnerships to join together to put forward plans.

ACTION – PRESENTATION AT NEXT SCP MEET - LC

- **Locality Plans**
Golspie - PA updated the meeting stating this has now been reviewed, updated and now with Ian Kyle, HC, with further pointers raised. To be updated and put to the Golspie Group. IM added that ‘Go Golspie’ are working around

employment and transport issues. RG added that a community bus would be well received.

Brora – LC informed the meeting that this has now been developed with huge support and input from KSDT, this is now ready to go live and added there has been great engagement from the community. Next meeting is 26th June where an Action Plan will go into more detail. This all leads to good evidence for funding through the Scottish Government. DM added that the NC500 Project which includes employment, skills and training has been included into the locality plan for Brora. NC500 and North Highland Initiative are supporting this in terms of time. DM also added the community are extremely supportive and this leads on to a feasibility study taking place and to report back at the end of the summer.

Helmsdale – AS stated a meeting and workshop has been held recently with information gathering being pulled together. Ongoing work is taking place.

Bonar Bridge – JG firstly wished to acknowledge the work that KSDT and they have given great support with putting on two workshops recently. Good positive community engagement came out of these workshops. The Engagement Team will commence work towards the next stages of the Bonar Bridge locality plan.

Kinlochbervie – PT stated this is in the early stage with the first meeting having taken place and workshop planned for 25th June. PA is to circulate workshop meetings.

RG wished to inform all present that in Golspie, housing sites have been identified with ten new social housing to be built.

LM added that all locality plans take time to formulate and there is frustration out in other communities but there is good work is being done.

IM informed all that the Engagement teams have also been working up north with assistance from Michael Simpson.

6. Presentation – Cathy Steer, NHS Reach Out Highland

Cathy presented a power point presentation on Loneliness and Health in older people. A recent survey has been carried out with 3,000 taking part with over half returning the questionnaires, resulting in 67% experiencing some level of loneliness and 8% experiencing intense loneliness. Cathy went on to explain the risk factors and recommendations. These have been raised in the locality plans and the Adult Health and Care Plan. The “Reach Out” Campaign started in 2016 which is to raise awareness and reduce the stigma of loneliness by the use of social marketing. In conclusion Cathy asked if SCP could sign a ‘Pledge’ to raise awareness.

IM gave a big thank you to Cathy, expressing that from an organisational point of view this is cross cutting with all locality plans and the Partnership will support the Pledge.

LC added that loneliness is a massive agenda and this does lead in to the Adult Plan. She said there are five Health and Wellbeing hubs in Sutherland to assist in combating loneliness.

Cathy informed the meeting that the younger generation are giving their support with two pilots ongoing with nurseries linking them to a Care Home and Day Care Centre.

PA added that partners are raising awareness at Safe Highlander events. LM said that children and young people living in remote and rural areas can also feel loneliness. Again transport is a huge problem. Cathy added that young people need volunteer drivers to take them to youth clubs and this could be part of signing the 'Pledge'.

ACTION - TO CIRCULATE PRESENTATION AND PUT ON TO SCP WEBSITE - PA

ACTION – SCP TO RAISE AWARENESS AND SIGN 'PLEDGE' AT NEXT SCP MEETING - ALL MEMBERS

RG wished to ask Cathy a question with regards to social prescribing and are GP's buying in to this? Cathy replied that in the last 12 – 18 months, GP's are working to a new national contract and buying in to social prescribing. RG added there is a reduction in Mental Health workers with a high number of suicides in the Highlands. Cathy stated that 500 staff are being trained in suicide prevention and will deliver training sessions to employers across the Highlands.

JG raised the subject of house fires and although on the decrease, 78% of house fires were in houses where the resident lives alone. He offers full support from SAFRS.

David Hannah asked for a mapping exercise to identify areas where there is no such support. Michael Simpson asked how training is going to be fanned out in the Communities. Cathy stated that by evidence based knowledge, training is open to everyone.

7. Other Matters

- **SFRS**

JG informed all present that the new SFRS Rapid Response Unit will be in attendance outside Drummie at the end of the meeting. This unit will be rolled out in the Highlands end of August/September after training has been given.

- **Fuel Poverty Sub Group**

DM updated the meeting that the working group met two weeks ago. One of their priority issues is to have more heating engineers trained to service heating boilers. The HC have recruited two, however day release courses are required in UHI and this is to be raised with them. Fuel poverty is included in Safe Highlander. Pentland Energy have joined the group to maximise experience and skills. DM added that Fiona from Caithness Renewable Energy Team attended a Nordic Event in Thurso and had given a talk on projects passing through Sutherland and will keep the group updated.

- **Employability Awards**

FH stated this has now taken place and has been well represented. Wim Chalmet, Golspie High School expressed his thanks to the Partnership in the success of running this course timetable with pupils achieving SQA Certificates and a new course has now started. A First Aid course is now completed with 13 pupils plus teachers now certified First Aiders.

FH added Farr High School are partially involved and picking up certain elements of the timetable. FH is looking for more local employers to have an input into filling gaps.

J McG expressed concern that Ardgay pupils should have access to these SVQ's however FH explained that Tain Academy is working with the Skills Academy Programme. Their employability format differs slightly and is towards Ross shire Trades. There is also a Windfarm Apprenticeship Scheme and FH will forward on these details.

- **Tykes**

Myra Clark updated the meeting that 17% of pupils at Golspie High School are young carers which is above the national average. LM states that more accurate and up to date figures are required. Denise Campbell informed members that within the Tykes group, carers have been away at Easter to attend an event, involved in the Plastic Campaign on Skye, Rock Challenge, Highland Youth Parliament and Summer School. DM added that the presentation at Rock Challenge by Tykes had been very impressive and a lot of work had gone in to this.

- **Employment Sub Group**

DM informed all that a second meeting had been joined by Skills Development Scotland and a representative from DWP. Again transport tops the list for problems with work placements. HC Employability Fund has now been lost, however Learning Centres are now delivering help with CV's and job interviews. DWP have also been in touch with regards to school non attendance and working on options available. These points fit into the Children's Plan.

- **Newsletter**

PA stated the SCP newsletter is nearly ready, with deadline of 22nd June and asking for input from the core partners.

- **Year of Young People 2018 – Great Day Out in Sutherland**

This is being held on Wednesday 12th September at Ferrycroft, Lairg with all pupils from Golspie, Dornoch, Kinlochbervie and hopefully Farr secondary schools attending. The theme will be Health and wellbeing, with music, BBQ and samples of activities that go on in Sutherland. High Life Highland are paying for an event manager and next meeting will be held on 6th July.

FH also added that 'Big Blast Concert' is being held in Inverness on 15th September with all pupils in Sutherland to receive a free ticket for this event. LM confirmed that at the recent Ward Councillors meeting, the Discretionary Fund will pay for transport costs. This news was welcomed.

- **Living Accommodation for Older People**

LC explained the impact of social inclusion and wishes to set up a sub group.

ACTION – SUB GROUP TO BE SET UP RE LIVING ACCOMMODATION – LC

- **Social Prescribing**

FH stated that work is ongoing. Pilot has been set up in Brora and in discussions with GP's in Brora. Next meeting is 26th June. This has already been taken up in Tongue and Bettyhill. Margaret Brown is also involved in 'bereavement' walks. Brora and Helmsdale are linked in to the Patient Participation Group.

- **Senior Safe Highlander**

The next event is taking place in Rogart Hall on 20th June. There will be twenty six stands and representations from organisations attending.

- **VOSCARS EVENT**

CR added that Volunteering Awards had taken place with SFRS funding the trophies. A good news story for the newsletter.

- **Funding**

PA said that all funding information and literature that he is receiving via e-mail is being circulated to all on the SCP mailing list.

- **Registration of Defibrillators**

This is progressing with Steve Gorman to circulate when completed. JG added every Fire Station in Scotland will give training days and all fire engines are now fitted out with defibrillators.

- **School/College Transport**

DM stated this is an ongoing issue for funding to be made available for students to attend college courses. During discussion it was agreed that SCP would write to the Scottish Government with their concerns. RG added this is discriminating youngsters in the Highlands.

ACTION – LETTER TO BE SENT TO SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT RE TRANSPORT COSTS FOR STUDENTS – SCP

- **Toilet Closures**

IM received a reply to his letter on behalf of SCP re toilet closures in Sutherland and read this out. This explained the budget funding, however toilets could remain open Until 31 October and not 31st August as previously noted. HC are looking towards solutions from community bodies to resolve this. However Yvonne Ross stated that the Dornoch toilets were to be taken over by the community from 31st August but the process is not without pitfalls and they have come across lease problems and therefore unable to obtain insurance.

8. Community Matter Raised

- 19th August Dunrobin Castle, Vintage Car Rally Event run by Police Scotland with SFRS and other agencies in attendance. A warm welcome is expressed for a good turnout.

- **Transport Group** IM is arranging the next meeting and is to contact David Summers to attend to work with local issues that have been identified.
- **Midas Training** – Further training is being offered through Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust.

9. AOCB

- AS informed all of the Open Day re home employment by Sykes. Open day 19th June in Thurso. Possibility of 100 jobs in Customer Service. PA to circulate.
- Cllr Karl Rosie, Caithness, confirmed a Health and Wellbeing Event being held In Thurso on 21st June. Fuel Poverty Group will be attending.
- Yvonne Ross wished it noted that the Junior Safe Highlander Event has taken place.
- Michael Simpson representing Kinlochbervie CC has put forward a petition re the closure of toilets.
- Steve Henderson informed all that the John O' Groats to Inverness Trail is now open.
- Marion Turner asked for the circulation of locality plans to go out.

ACTION – INPUT FROM AGENCES THEN CIRCULATE LOCALITY PLANS - PA

- Representative from Nairn Community Partnership spoke to say that he has been very impressed with all matters discussed at the meeting and this has given him a lot of food for thought to take back.
- Energy Advise Service, KSDT, Arabella Kennard who has just taken up the post, confirmed that funding is available for another year and available for visits and talks.
- Alison Cowie, Helmsdale CC, expressed concerned re SAS to improve response times for the Helmsdale area.

9. **Date and Location of Next Meeting – Friday 24th August 2018. Location to be Finalised.**

The meeting was brought to a close at 1210 hours with network session following then a tour and explanation of the SFRS Rapid Response Unit.