



Minute of the Third Sector Forum meeting held at 11am on Thursday 22 January 2015 in the McGillivray Room, Orkney Library and Archive

**Present:** Sheila Garson (VAO), Gail Anderson (VAO), Gerd Peters (Scottish Health Council), Hillary Allen (PASS), Pat Shields (Orkney InfoNet and Access Panel Orkney), Angela Green (Victim Support), Mike Cooper (Orkney Care & Repair), Erika Copland (Home-start Orkney), Olivia Tait (Crossroads Orkney), Rachel Peace (Age Concern Orkney), Caron Jenkins (VAO).

**In attendance:** Cecily Cromby (minutes)

## **1 Welcome**

Sheila welcomed those present and thanked them for attending

## **2 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Sue Sulat, Bashir Hasham, Peter Scott, Bryan Milner

## **3 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

## **4 Matters arising**

**Item 4 Third Sector Working Group** - The TSWG agreed to continue with the current schedule of meetings but further discussion will take place.

**Item 5d Planning Group (Health and Social Care)** – Gail was pleased to report that the Integration Care Fund Plan (ICFP) has been approved by the Scottish Government. There is a mixed group of activities in the plan, with 63% being from the Third Sector. Gail noted that there is a large housing survey being conducted at present and some funds may be redirected as a result. Orkney Care and Repair will be very involved in the ICFP.

**Item 5e Community Response Plan** – A group has been set up to create a plan to prevent/reduce suicides. Several information booklets were sent out at the end of last year. The next step will be to develop the plan looking at specific local areas of focus. The group discussed some of the key factors, local and general, that affect mental health and wellbeing. These included the use of social media, geographical isolation (Gerd discussed a Scottish Government project on isolation that the Health Council might get involved with), problems with anonymity when accessing services in a small community, shortage of services and the continuing stigma associated with mental health. The role that faith and spirituality can play in mental wellbeing were also discussed.

**Item 10 Service Level Agreements** - Gail advised that it is likely that OIC will award a 1% increase to the third sector, but this will not be confirmed until February. It is unlikely that incremental increases will continue beyond 2015-16.

## **5 NHS Orkney new hospital and healthcare facilities build – update** (Rhoda Walker, Clinical Programme Lead)

Rhoda Walker, accompanied by John Trainor (Hospital Manager) gave a very informative and interesting presentation to the group on the new hospital build. She provided an explanation of the bidding process, timescale, requirements and layout of the new facilities, highlighting areas specific to Orkney, for example the provision of video conferencing equipment. The chosen construction company will be announced in October 2015, work will start in spring 2016 and the project should be completed in summer 2018.

Of particular interest to the group was the fact that ‘Community Benefits’ form part of the selection criteria. Companies bidding for the contract must demonstrate how they can work to benefit the community, for example by using local social enterprise, local labour, provision of apprenticeships, sponsorship of local sporting groups, etc.

Hillary asked about plans for a Community/Information room in the new building. Rhoda advised that a conference suite will form part of the project and will be available to public and community groups.

Gail highlighted the importance of partnership working between NHS Orkney and third sector organisations, particularly at point of discharge, and asked if there would be space/facilities to help bridge the gap between hospital and community groups, ie Age Concern. Rhoda advised that there will be space for display stands and screens in public areas with rolling information. She advised that there will be a hot desk for social workers in the community nursing area. Gail advised that as part of the Integration Fund Plan a new Third Sector liaison officer will work to support patients at point of discharge.

The opportunity to expand the role of volunteers in the hospital was discussed. Rhoda advised that this will form part of the plan, but there is no detail yet. John highlighted roles that volunteers could take on, for example helping to feed patients. It was noted that there is not currently a ‘Friends of the Balfour Hospital’ group and that the new hospital could provide the catalyst to start such a group. Given that patients will be in single rooms in the new hospital, measures to help alleviate loneliness will be vital.

Olivia asked about the opportunity to expand Mental Health Services in the new facility. Rhoda advised that a new Mental Health Unit is not an option for Orkney as it would be too expensive to staff. She explained that creating a large Mental Health Unit would divert funds from Community Mental Health Team and that caring for patients in the community would suffer as a result. The new hospital will house one designated Mental Health bed and a specialist nurse will be on call. This bed will be in a separate area from the main ward and patients will have access to an outside space. It will still be classed as a transfer bed with patients staying anywhere between one and three nights. Rhoda advised that they may revisit video conferencing facilities for families to speak with patients who are being cared for in Aberdeen. Gail noted that the ‘step up, step down’ work could be expanded to cover Mental Health, this would need joint working between groups.

## **6 Partnership updates**

### **a) Community Planning Improvement Programme (CPIP)**

Gail advised that the recent CPP audit highlighted the need to prioritise Community Planning work and look at areas that are not being dealt with effectively at present. Three main priorities were identified: sustainable communities; positive aging; vibrant economic environment. These priorities may change in the future.

Gail explained how the CPP structure is set to change, with three groups being established to tackle each of the identified priorities. A Resource Alignment group will be formed looking at the best way to pool resources and funding to meet the priorities. This group will be important for the third sector, as skills and services will be looked at rather than solely funding. Each of the groups will feed back to the CPP Board (formerly the CPP Steering Group).

Some of the current thematic groups may choose to continue but will not be part of the formal CPP structure however communication channels will be developed to ensure that remaining group can feed into the CPP. The new structure will hopefully address issues identified in the audit regarding the complexity of the CPP and the lack of a clear remit. The new structure will be discussed at the next Partnership Liaison Group meeting which contains representatives from all thematic groups. Gail advised that Caron is working on the Third Sector interface role to strengthen third sector involvement in Community Planning.

Caron noted the benefit of the recent audit coinciding with the CPIP checklist in Orkney, with very similar themes coming out of both pieces of work. A list of priorities has been drawn up from the CPIP checklist and subsequent workshops; the document will be circulated with the minutes to members. The nine priorities are as follows: Third sector engagement; Use of evidence; Focus on outcomes; Leadership and relationships; Governance; Accountability; Use of resources; Performance management and reporting and Impact. Caron advised that the priorities will be discussed at the next CPP Board meeting.

The top 6 individual priorities identified (listed under the above headings) were:

- *The CPP needs to clearly define its role and purpose in plain language and make this accessible to third sector organisations.*
- *Priorities must be based on evidence, focussing on need and must be reviewed regularly.*
- *The CPP needs an outcomes focussed planning approach using language that is easily understood by all practitioners, users and members of the general public. Caron noted that the Single Outcome Agreement indicators and the CPP outcomes don't correlate.*
- *There needs to be more democratic leadership with rotating leadership and a restructuring of the partnership into three action groups with a re-focus on priorities (sustainable communities, positive aging and vibrant economic environment).*
- *There needs to be a review of thematic groups' purpose and composition with the aim to break through the desire to silo certain topics to specific groups.*
- *The CPP needs to monitor the effectiveness of activity relating to achievement of outcomes as part of an ongoing circular process.*

Caron noted that accountability and reporting down to community level and back up is key.

Gail would like feedback on the priorities before the Partnership Liaison Group meeting. Olivia thinks that the priorities sound fine though still complicated, however, the three groups do make it clearer. Caron advised that understanding is key when engaging groups and the community and that there is a clear need to define the structure and have meetings to disseminate the information. Gail stated that the CPP needs focus and that the steering group need to know what is happening in the wider community. The fact that the CPP have identified their purpose as addressing gaps in current services has made their role easier to understand.

Sheila noted the positive role of the third sector in the CPP and the fact that the CPP and now more willing to engage with third sector groups.

Gail asked the group for their thoughts on the TSF no longer being part of the Community Planning structure, noting that nothing would actually change for the group. Gerd felt that if there was no actual change to the TSF that it should not be an issue for the group. Sheila advised that there will still be the means to feed messages from the TSF to the CPP Board. Gerd noted that it was reassuring to hear that the CPP will be building on existing good work.

There was general agreement that the new CPP structure is a positive and a more flexible approach. The issues for the third sector would be discussed further once the new structure has been approved.

## **b) Community Learning and Development Consultation**

Last year's learning communities' inspection highlighted the need for the partnership to develop a CLD Plan. Gail advised that Strategic Community Learning and Development Group would shortly launch a public consultation to develop a robust plan for Orkney. She encouraged members to complete the survey.

Gail noted that the consultation would take place at the same time as the Economic Impact Survey, which aimed to collect data such as type of service, number of volunteers and staff, income, etc with the objective of demonstrating the economic impact of the third sector. Gail encouraged members to complete this survey also.

## **c) Ideas XChange Event**

Gail informed the group that VAO and the Learning Disability Service recently facilitated a workshop for people with learning disabilities, their carers and OHAC staff. She advised that it was a very positive session with definite actions agreed and plans made to take them forward.

#### **d) Mental Health Workshop**

The recent Mental Health Workshop was very well attended. A great deal of information was gathered which will be used to develop a plan. Olivia reported that for the next three months, monthly meeting will be held to develop the action plan.

#### **e) Islands Network of Care Workshop - Update**

Gail informed the group that she had attended a workshop to develop plans to improve health services to the Isles. She noted that she had advised the workshop of the importance to communities of third sector services and of developing closer working relationships with GPs and other clinicians. Gail advised that work was still in progress but that it should result in an opportunity for closer working between third sector groups and clinicians. This should not affect the experience of patients as it will be concentrated on work in the background.

### **7 Member updates**

**Home-Start Orkney** – The group congratulated Home-Start Orkney on their successful bid to the Big Lottery Fund, having been awarded £285,844 over five years (this amounts to 70% of funding needed). Erika explained that the majority of the funding will be used for expansion to the Isles and that a new member of staff will be employed for this. Gail noted that this will fit with the Parenting Plan which is concerned with moving services out of Kirkwall and into local areas.

**Age Concern Orkney** – Rachel noted that they have recently appointed a manager, Gillian Skuse, who started work at the beginning of January.

**Access Panel Orkney** – Pat informed the group of the Placemaking proposals in Kirkwall. She advised that the plans to remove kerbs and to lower pavements are not safe and could have negative consequences for disabled people, guide dog users and children. Following a consultation held last summer the plans are now going ahead. Pat advised that papers were made available on line and in the library (though not to take away). She urged members to attend a stakeholders meeting on 3 February to voice opposition to the plans. Gerd and Erika noted that they had not been invited to this meeting, although they have been invited to previous events.

**Voluntary Action Orkney** – Gail showed members the new VAO logo which will be launched later this year.

### **9 AOCB**

Due to time constraints no other business was raised.

### **10 Date of next meeting**

26 March 2015