



Minute of the Third Sector Forum meeting held at 11am on Thursday 23 July 2015 in the McGillivray Room, Orkney Library and Archive

**Present:** Gail Anderson (VAO), Shiela Garson (VAO), Pat Shields (Orkney InfoNet and Access Panel Orkney), Alan Manzie (VAO), Frazer Campbell (Blide Trust), Olivia Tait (Crossroads Orkney), Phyllis Braby (Orkney Heart Support Group), Sue Sulat (Pickaquoy Trust), Andy Spence-Jones (Advocacy Orkney), Helen Moss (Relationships Scotland Orkney)

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

**1 Welcome**

Sheila welcomed those present and thanked them for attending

**2 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Bryan Milner, Julia Meason, Jan Judge, Gillian Skuse, Helen Castle, Michelle Koster, Nic Thake, Simon Gordon, Hillary Allen.

**3 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

**4 Matters arising**

**Item 6b Community Learning and Development Consultation** – The report has been drafted and work started on a plan. Gail will circulate when available.

**5 Community Planning update:**

**a. Positive Aging Delivery Group Draft Plan (attached)**

The Positive Aging Triangle was discussed. Based on the outcomes triangle approach, the Positive Aging Triangle outlines the strategic aim, outcomes and activities/outputs that make up the Plan. This outline plan has been approved by the CPP Board and a more detailed plan is being developed. The plan along with the other two Delivery Group plans will be included in the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) which will replace the Single Outcome Agreement.

Gail asked for feedback from the group and noted that wider feedback and consultation will be sought. Sheila highlighted the clarity of the plan and noted that it is not overly wordy. Gail noted the benefit of having the whole plan on one sheet. She advised that it is an ambitious programme of work which will be undertaken over the next 2-3 years within which there is a very positive role for the Third Sector.

**b. Third Sector Working Group – Sub Group Progress Report (attached)**

Additional papers were circulated to the group. Gail expressed her thanks to those involved in the Sub Group and Sheila noted that a huge amount of work has been done. Frazer noted that the strategy has been amended following discussion at the TSF on 21 May and that further comments are being sought. He advised that Caron has been in touch with Moray TSI who have kindly given permission for the group to use and amend their documents.

Decisions still have to be made on the title and precise role of the representatives, for example Moray use the term 'liaisers' (there was consensus that Orkney would not use this). Subsequent discussion brought further suggestions such as 'champions' or 'conduits' but most thought 'representatives' the best term. Gail highlighted the fact that there is a difference between service specific issues and wider third sector issues, with the representatives acting as a conduit for information between organisations and groups.

Frazer discussed the need to make it explicit that the representatives will not have a full range of powers to make decisions. The time commitments of the representatives was discussed. Sheila thought it good that this was mentioned in the document. Fraser advised that the group are still looking at time commitments, as there is a need to factor in preparation and reporting time. Sue highlighted the fact that this type of role can grow substantially.

Frazer advised that the next sub group meeting will look at the election process and that Gerd Peters will attend and advise. All agreed that the process must be fair and transparent. The nomination form will require applicants to list all organisations and boards they are involved with. A comment had been received from Nic Thake suggesting that details of relevant past employment should be given. Gail discussed the practicality of representatives being in full time employment, questioning whether they would have time for the role. Helen commented that every job/role entails more work than people anticipate and that boards may therefore be reluctant for their staff to be involved. Gail and Sue discussed the need for marketing before nominations are sought.

Frazer discussed the importance of ensuring that the representatives were balanced both geographically and in relation to service. Gail advised that there are plans to consult in person with communities before opening nominations. Helen discussed the possibility of funding the posts either now or in the future, this would help minimise potential conflicts of interest. Gail advised this was a longer term aspiration. Sheila noted that as involvement would be good for personal development, boards would hopefully see the value in staff involvement.

Frazer noted the nomination form would have a word limit of approximately 350 as the ability to write concise reports will be key to the role.

Sheila discussed the timescale, noting that the CPP board will discuss the issue in September/October with a view to elections being held in January 2016.

Members were asked to digest the information and give feedback to Caron.

## **6 Creating a Fairer Scotland – Scottish Government Conversation (leaflet attached)**

The document was discussed, with Sheila noting that the messages are powerfully put and displayed. Gail advised that Voluntary Action Scotland has been in touch with all TSIs to try and generate their 'conversations'. She suggested we could combine existing work with this and encourage communities to engage and try to answer the three questions put in the document: 'What are the issues that matter most to you?; What do you think needs to be done to create a fairer Scotland?; How can you and your community play a role in helping to shape our future?'

It was noted that a number of communities, particularly the islands, will already be having these discussions. Discussions could take place around a particular issue, ie mental health, or a particular geographic location.

Andy questioned whether the aim was for a community-wide response to the document. Gail advised that VAO could act as a conduit for individual responses from groups. She discussed that groups could provide individual feedback, though it might be more powerful to compile an Orkney-wide response. Gail asked for peoples' thoughts.

Referring to the statements and statistics on page 3 of the document, Helen noted that there is a perception that Orkney does not have problems with poverty. Helen discussed the increase in people approaching support services with real complex issues. Gail highlighted the impact that peoples' ability to cope with their circumstances can have on their family and the wider community. Gail highlighted real prejudices in the county, for example the notion that it is 'non-Orkadian' residents who have issues with poverty, mental health, etc. Sue discussed the importance of being open and discussing such prejudices, just as we have done with mental health and violence against women and the recent suicide awareness campaign. Gail asked whether this could be a role of the TSF.

There was discussion on the integration of services, with Phyllis discussing the need for a dedicated heart failure nurse in Orkney, and noting that one had previously been in post, Sue raised the issue that physiotherapists would like to work out of the Pickaquoy Centre and Andy noted that sometimes risk assessments get in the way of common sense. The importance of encouraging GPs to engage in joint working initiatives was discussed. Gail suggested, and the group agreed, that the TSF should put some of these issues to NHS Orkney. This will be put on the agenda of the next TSF meeting. Helen noted that this will help inform other work being carried out by the delivery groups (formerly delivery partnerships). Sheila noted that it is a shame the word 'partnership' has been dropped.

## **7 Data Sharing Working Group**

### **a. Scottish Accord on Sharing Personal Information (draft attached)**

The Scottish Accord on the Sharing of Personal Information (SASPI) was circulated. Gail advised the group that an Orkney specific version of the document is being produced ready to present at the visit by the Information Commissioners Office on 15 September. Separate information sharing agreements from individual services will sit under the SASPI. Gail asked for comments to take back to the Working Group. Helen asked whether it is anticipated that

everyone will sign up, Gail advised that it is, in particular those groups with SLAs. If these groups are not committed then the data sharing proposals will not work. Helen queried whether there will be equal enthusiasm from the statutory sector and third sector. Gail advised that this is part of the integration work being carried out by the joint board, but noted that GPs are independent. Gail requested members to forward further comments to her.

#### **b. Visit by Information Commissioners Office – 15 September**

Gail advised that there are two particular sessions which will be relevant to the third sector. The first being a multi-agency morning session which will focus on groups with SLAs, and the second, an afternoon session open to all groups, and of particular interest to smaller organisations. Gail advised that the morning session needs to be booked with OIC and the afternoon session with Edwina at VAO. The meeting should be useful and it is hoped that the updated SASPI will be launched at the event. Further details will be published in the VAO training and funding email and newsletter.

### **8 Member updates**

**VAO** – Gail discussed VAO's recent Big Lottery Funding success for Adult Befriending. Over £500,000 has been awarded to the project which will be used to fund two new staff members to co-ordinate the project, to recruit volunteers and for training and expenses. The Adult Befriending project will provide increased support and advice on issues such as IT and finance, signposting to other services where appropriate. The new project will start on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016.

**Access Panel Orkney** – Pat informed the group that four OIC counsellors will be taking part in a wheelchair challenge at 3pm on Monday 27 July and encouraged people to attend the event. The event, planned to highlight the challenge faced by wheelchair users, involves the counsellors traveling round four pre-planned routes.

**Blide Trust** – Frazer informed the group that the Blide have refurbished their reception area to make it a more welcoming space. He also advised that Margaret Burgess (Scottish Government Minister) will be visiting the Blide on 19 August.

**Pickaquooy Trust** – Sue advised the group that there is still no date set for the opening of the new Lifestyle Centre and that the SLA was returned to the legal department. She also advised that a new platform is being installed in the pool next week for use by wheelchair users, those with mobility issues and parents with small children.

### **9 AOB**

#### **SLAs**

Frazer advised that the Blide have still not received their SLA. Helen noted that RSO have not received theirs, though this could be due to a hold up at the RSO end. Andy advised that Advocacy have received their SLA but that there were issues with communication.

Gail noted that there is only one person at OIC who deals with SLAs. She had been assured previously that the service would improve. The fact that it hasn't is not acceptable and she will keep pressing OIC to resolve the issue.

Gail will shortly be discussing next year's funding with OIC, who normally make budget decisions in October. She advised that OIC were going to move to contracted commissioning, but that this has not happened. We need to know whether organisations have to submit bids or just roll over SLAs. Gail has a meeting with Caroline Sinclair, the newly appointed head of the joint board for integrated health and social care services.

Gail discussed the fact that the Joint Commissioning Plan may mean that services will go out to tender and organisations will have to contract bids. Groups need to know by the end of the calendar year what is happening in the new financial year.

Andy noted that Advocacy have had a 42% increase in referrals and that funding needs to reflect this. Olivia noted that increased funding is needed for pensions and staff training. Andy stated that Advocacy can only provide about half of the original service due to additional costs (eg pensions) incurred. Sheila stated that OIC cuts are creating more work for the Third Sector and that higher funding for the sector is needed. Andy advised that there is an expectation that Advocacy can pick up work from the statutory services, but this cannot happen without additional funding.

**10 Date of next meeting**

24 September 2015