



Present: Rosalind Aitken (Voluntary Action Orkney), Gail Anderson (Voluntary Action Orkney / representative IJB), Tamsin Bailey (Relationships Scotland Orkney), Zelda Bradley (Orkney Rape and Sexual Assault Service), Alice Foulds (Rousay Community Wellbeing Co-Ordinator), Alison Guthrie (Voluntary Action Orkney – Adult Befriending), Harry Johnson (Enhancing Well-being in our Island Communities), Karen Mack (VAO Connect Project), Alison Meason (Shapinsay Community Wellbeing Co-Ordinator), Samantha Payne (Red Cross), Margaret Rendall (Vital Talk), Lianne Sinclair (Advocacy Orkney), Gillian Skuse (Age Scotland Orkney), Linda Stuart (Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland), Sandra Towrie (IJB Carer representative/ Sanday Development Trust), Michelle Ward (Women’s Aid Orkney)

In attendance: Cecily Cromby (minutes)

1 Welcome and Apologies

Rosalind welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.

2 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Phyllis Braby (Orkney Heart Support Group), Erika Copland (Home-Start Orkney), Fraser Devine (Orkney Care and Repair), Katy Kitchingham (Trussell Trust Highlands and Islands), Olivia Tait (Crossroads)

3 Notes of previous meeting held on 18 September 2020

The notes were approved.

4 Matters arising not on the agenda

Item 4: Nominations for a third sector representative to serve on the Orkney Alcohol and Drugs Partnership: Tamsin Bailey had been appointment as the third sector children and families representative on the Strategic Commissioning Board of the IJB.

Item 9: Draft Paper: Community morbidity in Orkney: The impact of COVID-19 on longer term health and wellbeing: Rosalind advised that VAO had not yet made contact with Hannah Casey at NHS Public Health regarding the report.

5 ACE’s Collective (verbal report E Copland)

Not given.

6 Integration Joint Board

6.1 Mental Health Strategy (attached)

Rosalind noted that major revisions had been made to the strategy.

Margaret Rendall noted that the website given for Vital Talk in the document was incorrect and that they had not been invited to contribute information about their services. Gail advised that the document was approved and adopted at the last IJB meeting. The fact that some but not all third sector organisations had been invited to contribute had been raised and assurance had been given that third sector members would be invited to join the Planning Group when it was established

Tamsin noted that an omission was made in the strategy relating to commissioned services. Section 5g on p19, stated 'Services for people requiring support relating to use of substance misuse may be accessed through, Ypeople Orkney and the Needle Exchange Service.' Tamsin advised that Relationships Scotland Orkney was currently commissioned by the OADP to provide specialist Substance Misuse Counselling for Adults and Older Adults and that it would be helpful if this were reflected in the document. Tamsin noted that while the document was positive, it illustrated a lack of understanding of the work of the third sector.

Tamsin also noted that both the Mental Health Strategy and Good Parenting Plan failed to mention trauma informed practice.

6.2 Good Parenting Plan (attached)

Gail advised that the Good Parenting Plan had been approved by the Orkney Partnership Board at their meeting last week. Gail noted that the plan had been circulated to third sector organisations but no comments had been received. She advised that she would be happy to take comments now.

Tamsin noted that the document was positive and it was good that the third sector were seen as joint leads. She asked if a group would be formed to take the work forward. Gail advised that she would circulate information when available.

Gail reported that work had begun on an IJB Strategic Commissioning Plan for which she had drafted a framework. She advised that the IJB had been instructed by Scottish Government to create a workforce plan and staffing information from the recent third sector survey report had been included.

Gail advised that a skills audit would be carried out next year by master' students at Glasgow University. The audit would demonstrate the skills and experiences in the third sector and identify any gaps. The audit results would feed into the 2021-22 IJB workforce plan.

Gail reported that she was meeting regularly with Jim Lyon (Chief Social Work Officer, Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice) and Gillian Morrison (Interim Chief Executive of the Integration Joint Board). She advised that Jim Lyon would attend the next meeting of the Health and Social Care Group, but that members should contact her if they wanted to raise any issues with Jim or Gillian in the meantime.

Gillian asked when the commissioning plan was likely to be completed. Gail advised that the draft plan would be submitted to the IJB no earlier than February 2021 and that commissioning was unlikely to start until 2022. Gail noted the importance of commissioning as the current service level agreements were largely out of date.

Karen raised her concern that the short-term planning and funding relating to Covid-19 could impact on longer term planning, for example with outside services being brought into Orkney. Gail advised that she would raise this.

7 The Orkney Partnership (verbal update)

Gail reported that the Orkney Partnership met on 6 November and received updates from the delivery groups.

Two new actions were reported by the Strong Communities Group: a proposal to look at the possibility of creating local community hubs where people could access desk space and internet connection; and the long running issues of managing data to enable it to be accessed and analysed easily.

Gail advised that a Child Poverty Action Group had been established as a sub group of the Living Well Group. The Child Poverty Action Group was led by Jim Lyon. Gail and THAW (Tackling Household Affordable Warmth) were on the group from the third sector with the rest of the membership from statutory organisations. Gail noted that more involvement from the third sector, including development trusts to bring an island perspective, was needed and invited people to contact her if they were interested in joining.

8 Renew and Recovery Groups (verbal update)

Gail advised that the groups continued to meet. The Business Group had presented their proposals to the Orkney Partnership Board, which were met with support but no confirmed funding as yet. Gail noted the importance of aligning and not duplicating work and that renew planning was made difficult with the continuation of covid-19 restrictions. The Strong Communities Group were looking at how best to engage and consult the population and the Caring for People Group were working on a leaflet to distribute to all households in Orkney. The Business and Strong Community Groups planned to establish Facebook pages to help share information.

Gail advised that the Third Sector Renew and Recovery Group would meet next week.

9 Partner updates

VAO Connect – Karen noted that the Connect Project was still running and had been able to continue through the school holidays. Long term funding remained an issue.

ORSAS – Zelda advised that ORSAS were extremely busy and that during the first 6 months of this financial year they received the same number of referrals as in the previous 12 months. She noted an increase in referrals for young people from school guidance teams and social work. ORSAS can only directly support people 13 and over. Parents of younger children can be supported, but not the children themselves which was a clear gap. This was something that ORSAS hope to address. Zelda advised that ORSAS would be involved in '16 days of action' from 25 November to 10 December. Although events could not be held as usual, a social media campaign would highlight sexual assault and domestic abuse and people would have the opportunity to show their support on social media or by placing posters in windows.

Vital Talk – Margaret noted that most clients were being supported online and some face to face work was taking place. She advised that their child counselling service (5 years and above) had started again.

RSO – Tamsin advised that RSO continued to be busy with 135 new referrals received since April. Most clients were supported online or by telephone with face to face services available where necessary. She advised that work with GP surgeries was underway to enable Family Support Workers to support clients locally. The specialist drug and alcohol services (funded by the Orkney Alcohol and Drugs Partnership) had seen an increase in referrals. The Child Contact Centre was fully up and running providing Covid-safe services and new referrals could be taken. A decision from Scottish Government on Contact Centre funding from April 2021 was still awaited.

VAO Adult Befriending Service – Alison advised that one-to-one home visits were being reinstated and that telephone befriending services continued. She noted that a few new volunteers had started with the service but that more were needed.

Age Scotland Orkney – Gillian advised that Age Scotland Orkney were recruiting a Post Diagnosis Support Worker (Dementia) and that further recruitment would follow in January due to an increase in referrals. Gillian discussed the Kickstart Scheme which Age Scotland had signed up to. The Scottish Government initiative would provide employment for 18-25 year olds currently in receipt of Universal Credit. Participating employers would receive funding from Scottish Government to cover all employment costs (including salary and training) for 12 months. Gillian advised that the scheme was being offered in partnership with OIC Community Learning and Development and the Orkney Construction Group. Gillian requested members contact her if they would like more information on the scheme.

Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland – Linda advised that Cruse Bereavement Care had received an increased number of referrals during lockdown but that they did not have a large waiting list. Currently, counselling services were offered by telephone or online.

Advocacy Orkney – Lianne advised that Advocacy were offering face to face and online services. She noted that referrals had remained steady through lockdown and they had received an increased number of referrals relating to care homes. Lianne advised that Advocacy were looking for Board members and anyone interested should contact her for more information.

Women's Aid Orkney – Michelle advised that WAO continued to be busy and were currently supporting 79 women and 32 children and young people. 80 new referrals had been received this year with spikes in August and October. They had received an increased number of referrals for children and young people from social work and health professionals. Services continued to be offered online with face to face work where necessary. Michelle noted that WAO were working with ORSAS on the 16 days of action campaign. She advised that WAO were looking to widen their service to include work with perpetrators of domestic abuse. A rebrand and renaming of the service was planned for 2021 to coincide with their 21st birthday year.

Sanday Development Trust – Sandra advised that the Development Trust continued to provide Covid-19 related and other support to the Sanday community.

VAO Enhancing Wellbeing in our islands project – Harry advised that he was working closely with the Wellbeing coordinators on Rousay, Stronsay, Shapinsay, Hoy and Sanday and that he would share information about the work with the meeting minutes. He noted that coordinators continued to work to bring services to the islands, and help establish online services for those agencies who could not currently travel to the isles. Communities were also looking at establishing cafes to allow residents to legally meet.

10 AOCB

Gail noted that many members were involved with other partnership groups such as the Orkney Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, Domestic Abuse Forum, Community Justice Forum. She suggested that a generic partnership group update be added to the agenda of future meetings to enable members to share information. Members agreed. She reminded members that they can request other items to be placed on the agenda.

Gillian noted that Social Work were not yet offering home assessment visits. She advised that Age Scotland Orkney had recently conducted home assessments that should have been carried out by Social Work. She asked Gail to raise this with Jim Lyon to find out when they planned to resume home visits.

Action: Gail

Karen informed members of an online National Wellbeing Hub for people working in health and social care. She noted that the hub contained useful resources and that organisations could add information about their services. Rosalind advised that information about the Hub had been included in the next VAO Training and Funding email.

12 Date of next meeting

15 January 2021