

Liaison Meeting between the Garnock Valley, North Coast, Arran and Cumbrae
Area Committee and the Community Planning Partners

2 March 2007

SKELMORLIE, 2 March 2007 - At a Liaison Meeting between the Garnock Valley, North Coast, Arran and Cumbrae Area Committee and the Community Planning Partners at 11.00 a.m.

Present

Councillors Richard Wilkinson, John Bell, Elizabeth McLardy and Elisabeth Marshall (North Ayrshire Council); Alan Buckley, Primary Care and Community Services Manager (Community Health Partnership) and Stuart Reid, Planning Manager (Acute Services) (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde); Roseann Neill, Operational Support Manager and Marlene McMillan, Lead Public Health Practitioner, North Ayrshire Community Health Partnership (NHS Ayrshire and Arran); Liz Brady, Community Safety Coordinator (Strathclyde Fire and Rescue); and Inspector James Seenan (Strathclyde Police).

Also Present

J McKnight, Principal Officer, Community Learning and Development (Educational Services); A Todd, Community Planning Officer and P Shiach and C Graham, Corporate Support Officers (Chief Executive's) (North Ayrshire Council).

Chair

Councillor Wilkinson in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Councillors Gordon Clarkson, Margie Currie, Jean Highgate, Alan Hill, Robert Rae, John Reid and Ian Richardson (North Ayrshire Council); Katie Chan (Communities Scotland) and Inspector Kenny McLachlan (Strathclyde Police).

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Liaison Meeting held on 17 November 2006 were confirmed.

2. NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Alan Buckley, Primary Care and Community Services Manager (Community Health Partnership) confirmed that approval for the creation of a Community Health Partnership in Inverclyde had been granted by the Scottish Executive on 15 January 2007.

David Walker has been appointed as Director of the Community Health Partnership and Eleanor Smith as Chair. It is anticipated that the first meeting of the Community Health Partnership will take place in June 2007.

Mr Buckley confirmed that the majority of services currently being provided at Inverclyde Royal Hospital would be retained under the new arrangements.

Mr Buckley then responded to question on his report.

Stuart Reid, Planning Manager (Acute Services) (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde) tabled a list of current proposals from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde providing a comparison with proposals made by NHS Argyll and Clyde in 2004, together with an explanation on why the changes were being proposed, who would be affected and the timescale for implementation.

Mr Reid then responded to questions on the revised proposals.

Noted

3. NHS Ayrshire and Arran

3.1 Health Improvement

Submitted report by the North Ayrshire Community Health Partnership on Public Health and Health Promotion activities in the Garnock Valley, North Coast, Arran and Cumbrae areas of North Ayrshire.

Marlene McMillan, Lead Public Health Practitioner, North Ayrshire Community Partnership (NHS Ayrshire and Arran) advised on Health Promotion initiatives undertaken to raise health awareness in Ayrshire and Arran as undernoted:-

Health Promoting Schools

The North Ayrshire Health Promoting Accreditation Scheme was nationally endorsed in October 2006 with the Accreditation Group continuing to meet in relation to issues of support and training for schools and nurseries. The first date for submission for schools and nurseries to apply for accreditation is June 2007 with further submission dates in September and November 2007. North Ayrshire has a baseline of the end of December 2007 whereby every nursery and school establishment should be promoting health at the minimum level of commitment.

Healthy Working Lives

The workplace team hosted a health event in Arran in September 2006, the aims and objectives of which were detailed in the report.

The topics which proved to be most popular were Safe and Healthy Working, and Fresh Air-shire, a smoking cessation and prevention programme.

Healthy North Ayrshire

The report contained statistics covering the period April to December 2006, detailing profiles on MOT Health Checks and Information, Intervention and Referrals in relation to smoking, weight control and mental health.

Noted.

3.2 Health Service Developments

Submitted report by the North Ayrshire Community Health Partnership on new and/or emerging service developments within the Garnock Valley, North Coast, Cumbrae and Arran localities.

Roseann Neill, Operational Support Manager, North Ayrshire Community Health Partnership advised on health service developments in the area as undernoted: -

Arran

A modular building within the grounds of the Arran War Memorial Hospital, providing suitable administration and clinical accommodation is on schedule to be in place and fitted out by 31 March. The new building will provide a new podiatry suite, an educational and training facility and consulting rooms for visiting services.

Kilbirnie

The modernisation and extension of Kilbirnie Health Centre has commenced with the contractor on site from December 2006 and demolition works completed. The anticipated completion date for the new facility is February 2008.

Cumbrae

Restoration work on the Garrison Project, Millport has slipped with a revised completion date estimated at June 2007. Furniture and equipment needs are currently being assessed to meet the needs of the GP Surgery and other Primary Care Services.

Noted.

3.3 North West Ayrshire Resource Centre (NWARC)

Submitted report by the North Ayrshire Community Health Partnership on progress on the North West Ayrshire Resource Centre (NWARC), Largs.

In May 2002 the Scottish Executive Health Department (SEHD) approved in principle the development of a Primary Care Resource Centre for the North West Ayrshire area, which would form part of an Ayrshire wide Property Strategy.

Details of the current position, including works undertaken to date and the Group Structure approved by the North West Ayrshire Project Board to progress the work completed to date on the new building and the service provision from the facility, were contained within the report.

Roseann Neill, Operational Support Manager, North West Community Health Partnership, advised the meeting of the measures taken by the Partnership's Acting General Manager to ensure appropriate representation on these groups and indicated that the Patient Public Co-ordinator will support the public representative(s) on the Service Delivery Group. On completion of the building, representatives from the groups will be asked to form a Users Group to ensure effective communication and use of the facility.

It was anticipated that following the commencement of works on the site of the car park, the Main Contractor will commence works in April 2007.

An Open Day will be held with regard to discussions on service delivery from the new facility.

Noted.

4. Community Engagement in the Kilbirnie area

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) North Ayrshire Council on Community Engagement activities in the Kilbirnie area.

The Principal Officer, Community Learning and Development reported on activities currently being undertaken in Kilbirnie, and provided details of programmes involving a variety of groups within the community. Details of future programmes, including revamped ground space for the MATES Project and increased usage of the Radio City facilities, were also contained within the report.

Noted.

5. Community Planning: Progress Report

Submitted report by the Chief Executive (North Ayrshire Council) on progress against the actions, specific to the Garnock Valley, North Coast, Arran and Cumbrae area, contained within the Community Plan Action Plan 2006/07.

The Community Plan sets out the strategic direction for North Ayrshire and identifies seven priorities for the next ten years. An Action Plan has been produced with actions against each priority. The Community Planning Team and the Community Planning Co-ordination Group will monitor the Action Plan on a quarterly basis. An Annual Review and Action Plan will be produced in Spring 2007, outlining both key achievements in 2006/07 and planned actions for 2007/08.

Progress against the actions specific to the Garnock Valley, North Coast, Arran and Cumbrae area was detailed in the appendix to the report.

Noted.

6. Open Forum

Two members of the public, Mr Murdoch and Mr Macfarlane, were in attendance, and raised concerns with regard to the Largs Traffic Management proposals.

The concerns related to the provision of taxi stances, the proposed introduction of speed bumps and the introduction of a number of traffic light systems within the town. Suggestions included the removal of a traffic island, with subsequent widening on the road to allow more room for buses, the introduction of traffic lights at Nelson Street only and parking restrictions at the bottom of Park Street.

The Chair advised that detailed discussions had taken place with local Members , and that further consultation would be undertaken at a later date.

7. Valedictory

The Chair recorded his thanks to the Members and the Partners for their attendance at the Liaison Meetings and their contribution to joint working in the Garnock Valley, North Coast, Arran and Cumbrae area.

In return, Councillor Bell, on behalf of the Meeting, offered a vote of thanks to the Chair for his courtesy and leadership and wished him well for the future.

The meeting ended at 12.10 p.m.