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# NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

14 February 2024

## Council

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**Title:** North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board:  
Minutes of Meeting held in December 2023

**Purpose:** To submit the Minutes of the meeting of the North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership Board held on 7 December 2023.

**Recommendation:** That Council the Council notes the Minutes contained in Appendix  
1.

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## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 It was previously agreed that the Minutes of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Board be submitted to North Ayrshire Council for information. The key matters arising from the minutes have been highlighted for the attention of Council and are detailed in Section 2.1.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 Minutes of the meeting of the CPP Board held on 7 December 2023 are appended. This meeting focused on an extended engagement input for the new Green Health Framework. Particular matters for the Council's attention include the following:

### Meeting of 7 December 2023

#### Agenda Item 3

CPP partners participated in an engagement session on development of the new North Ayrshire Green Heath Framework, led by Greenspace Scotland. This included an overview of the work so far and several discussion questions around the contribution of the Community Planning Partnership to green health work and strategy in North Ayrshire.

#### Agenda Item 4

Partners received an update on Democracy Matters 2, including the timeline for engagement by Scottish Government and plans locally, including discussion with partners through the Senior Officers Group and Community Engagement Network and a session with partners and the community at the 2024 Community and Locality Planning Conference, led by the Scottish Government team.

### Agenda Item 5

An update on progress with the Caring for Ayrshire programme was delivered for partners by NHS colleagues. This included detail on the work taken place so far, updated aims of the programme, and the 5 workstreams identified with outpatients:

- respiratory
- frailty
- diabetes
- palliative / end of life care
- rehabilitation

The CPP Board were also advised that there will be online opportunities for people to get involved in development of the programme over the coming months.

### Agenda Item 6

This is currently a standing item. CPP partners received an update on the work of the Child Poverty and Cost of Living Board. At a national level the CPP Board were advised of that the Child Winter Heating Payment of £235 began in November. There is also an Energy Bill Payment of £400 in addition to a Winter Heating Payment. More locally, the CPP Board were updated around:

- The islands Cost of Living fund has received a further £57k from the Scottish Government. This will be utilised for Energy Smart, money matters, welfare advice, schools, third sector community grants.
- Covid funds have been fully expended and reporting on these funds will cease.
- The Fair Food Network now has community larders in Arran and soon Largs. A consultation is taking place regarding a food larder on Cumbrae.
- Updates on the Financial Inclusion strategy and partnership development.
- Updates on the Parental Employment Support Fund and the Children and Young People Mental Health Wellbeing Fund.
- The role of Livewell for staff.

## **3. Proposals**

3.1 That the Council notes the Minutes contained in Appendix 1.

## **4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty**

### **Financial**

4.1 None.

### **Human Resources**

4.2 None.

### **Legal**

4.3 None.

## **Equality/Socio-economic**

4.4 None.

## **Environmental and Sustainability**

4.5 None.

## **Key Priorities**

4.6 The CPP activities detailed within this report support the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

## **Community Wealth Building**

4.7 None.

## **5. Consultation**

5.1 No consultation was required.

Audrey Sutton  
**Executive Director**  
**Communities and Education**

For further information please contact **Jacqui Greenlees, Senior Manager (Policy, Performance and Community Planning)**, on **01294 324415**.

## **Background Papers**

Appendix: 1 CPP Board Minutes, 14 September 2023

**Present**

**North Ayrshire Council**

Cllr Marie Burns, Elected Member (**Chair**)  
Cllr John Bell, Elected Member  
Cllr Timothy Billings, Elected Member  
Cllr Scott Davidson, Elected Member  
Cllr Alan Hill, Elected Member  
Cllr Shaun Macaulay, Elected Member  
Craig Hatton, Chief Executive (NAC)  
Audrey Sutton, Executive Director

**Department of Work and Pensions**

Sheila Lynn, Service Leader

**NHS Ayrshire and Arran**

Claire Burden, Chief Executive  
Ruth Mellor, Consultant in Public Health

**Police Scotland**

T/Superintendent Stephen McGovern

**Scottish Enterprise**

Brian Connolly, Engagement Partner

**Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**

Ian McMeekin, Local Senior Officer

**Scottish Government**

Julie McLachlan, Community Wealth Building Legislation & Policy Manager/Place Directorate Support

**Scottish Partnership for Transport**

Allan Comrie, Senior Transport Planner

**Skills Development Scotland**

Shona Mitchell, Head of Operations South-West

**The Ayrshire Community Trust**

Kaileigh Brown, Executive Director

**In Attendance**

Jacqui Greenlees (NAC), Jennifer McGee (NAC), Lesley Dunlop (NAC), Emma Halliday, Green Health Scotland

**Apologies**

Vicki Yuill (Arran CVS), Rhonda Leith, Head of Service (NAC), Sam Anson, Location Director (Scottish Government), Caroline Cameron, Director (NAHSCP), Ashley Pringle, Board Member (KA Leisure), Lesley Bowie, Chair, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Vice Chair)

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted.

## 2. Minute of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 14 September 2023 were approved.

## 3. Green Health Scotland

The Chair invited Emma Halliday to provide the Board with an update on the Green Health Engagement Framework. E Halliday advised the Board that they were currently at phase two of three of the development of the framework with the aim of the framework being launched in Spring 2024.

E Halliday highlighted that Green Health can improve both physical and mental health while also being preventative. She informed that the framework links in to all three LOIP priorities of Wellbeing, Work and World.

The project is in three phases which are as follows:

### **Phase 1 Oct - Nov 23:**

Steering group workshop  
National and local policy review  
Evidence review  
Stakeholder mapping

### **Phase 2 Nov 23 – Jan 24:**

Stakeholder engagement and research  
Overview report impacts and activity to date  
Learning and Sharing Event for health professionals

### **Phase 3 Feb – Apr 24:**

Green Health Framework  
Presentation and short film  
Webinar to share the Framework

E Halliday asked the following questions of the Board:

1. Who could take this work forward in North Ayrshire?
2. What contributions can the CPP make to this view of success in the future?

The responses below were received:

- Ideally jointly.
- This links strongly with Public Health which falls to the NHS. It would therefore make sense for this to align with them.
- Recognise good fit jointly with NHS, but as ever, challenge of capacity.
- It would be public health and infrastructure for NHS.
- Partners could be made more aware of initiatives like this and could do more perhaps to signpost to customers who would benefit
- KA Leisure working with NHS/HSCP and local groups.
- With regard to assessing outcomes and making comparisons there will be a role for likeminded bodies across Scotland to liaise - the most obvious of which would be the NHS but not exclusively - especially as regards infrastructure.

- Active Schools and Connected Communities will have a role.
- All partners have a role to play both individually or as part of the partnership.
- There is a broader aspect to development of innovation districts and how we create accessible green places as part of their physical planning with specific ties into the communities surrounding them.
- Partners already some way into embedding it in to our strategic framework, going forward it is how we can further embed within our joint practice.
- This is Caring for Ayrshire and the ambition to increase the healthy life years of our citizens-programme board.
- It would be useful to see how much this can be aligned within our new Wellbeing Alliance approach within the CPP, led by KA.
- Well documented that work is good for Health so DWP have a key role in this.
- A healthy working lifestyle is something that would align well with the wider Fair Work agenda, recognising how we support companies to explore health support for their staff. Even participation in national challenges e.g. Step Challenge would be part of that.
- Ensure partners are aware of the expectation on them and how they take forward their role in achieving the outcomes. A lot of work already undertaken however maybe not everyone aware of breadth of work across CPP.
- Working with NAC as part of Capital Funding specifically as regards Active Travel and access which enables greener journeys to be undertaken as well as the benefits which can accrue to mental health issues.

E Halliday put a further question to the Board:

#### **What contribution can the CPP make to overcoming these challenges?**

- There is an abundance of high quality green and open space in North Ayrshire. The key action is getting people to recognise the benefits and utilising the asset.
- The countryside rangers have a role in promoting and involving people in the use of open space.
- Maybe look at where people are at right now, engage with third sector/KA where people are already using green space as part of their work. Discuss with them how this could be developed.
- The Active Travel team is also leading on some new initiatives.
- The Wellbeing Alliance is looking at this and this could become more of a focus.
- There is already a lot of work on Arran about getting people out and involved with the outdoors. However, if they were involved in this strategy then they could focus their work to include the Green Network specific objectives.

E Halliday highlighted that they want to make sure the framework is ambitious but not undeliverable.

E Halliday informed that the ask of the CPP Board is:

- To continue to engage with us openly throughout the process.
- To input on the draft framework to achieve ownership.
- To become or identify champions for green health.
- To sign-up to support the framework and the shaping of the Green Health Partnership post March 2024.

The Chair thanked E Halliday for her presentation and acknowledged the opportunity for joint working.

#### **4. Democracy Matters 2**

The Chair invited Jacqueline Greenlees to provide the Board with an update on Democracy Matters 2.

J Greenlees outlined the purpose of today's input is to make the Board aware of this key piece of national work and how we will approach it.

In 2017 the Scottish Government and COSLA jointly launched the Review of Local Governance to consider how powers, responsibilities and resources are shared across national and local spheres of government, and with communities.

On 28 August 2023 the Minister for Community Wealth and Public Finance, Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning and the COSLA Presidential Team launched the second phase of the Democracy Matters conversation.

The local approach to Democracy Matters 1 was to ensure that the community felt empowered to develop their own priorities.

#### **Previous North Ayrshire Response (2018)**

Partners agreed that the following principles were central to our response to the 2018 review:

- Decisions should be clear and understandable to communities, with clear lines of accountability back to communities.
- Our communities are diverse, it is important to ensure that public services can meet that diversity. We need potentially different models of governance for different communities.
- Collaboration and integration across public services is needed, whatever the structural or geographic boundaries.
- There should be opportunities for greater democratic control of other public services beyond local government.

J Greenlees highlighted that Phase 2 sets out to develop how groups making their own decisions will work. Financial support is available to communities who want to join the conversation. There is a question bank with 15 questions which covers the topics below:

- Powers
- Representation
- Accountability and Participation
- Setting Local Boundaries and Priorities
- Standards, Resources, and Relationships
- Nurturing Community Capacities

There is an easy read document available on the Scottish Government website.

#### **Next Steps**

- Promotion online- CPP social media and website
- Workshop session has taken place with the CPP Senior Officers Group
- Workshop session has taken place with the Community Engagement Network
- Will form part of the 2024 North Ayrshire Community & Locality Planning Conference – the Scottish Government will be providing an input on Democracy Matters 2
- Submission of response is due on 28 February 2024
- Linked work- development of North Ayrshire Participation Strategy and new website resources

The Chair thanked J Greenlees for her presentation.

## **5. Caring For Ayrshire**

The Chair invited Claire Burden to share her presentation on the work of Caring For Ayrshire with the Board.

C Burden highlighted that the Caring for Ayrshire Programme (CFA) wants to deliver care as close to home as possible and recognise that this needs to be supported by a network of community services.

### **Together in Ayrshire we want to**

- Deliver the best health and care services to the population of Ayrshire & Arran to support quality of life.
- Have sustainable services.
- Be able to provide access to the right expertise to support the best outcome.
- Ensure that we evolve services when improvements are evidenced, and new standards developed.

### **Ambitions for Change**

- Right care in the right place.
- Looking after our own health and wellbeing.
- Integrated health and care system circle.

The ambition is to keep people at home, independent and increase healthy life years.

### **Why do we need to change?**

- Life expectancy has decreased/plateaued over the last 5 years and by 2024 33% of population will be 75 and over.
- Need to understand local needs.
- Utilising digitised services.
- Trying to secure service sustainability by offering lifelong careers, developing sustainability service provision, keep care closer to home. More care in the community will decrease the demand for hospital services so they will become more available.
- There are two acute hospitals so there is plenty of estate to work with. There are no plans to close the hospitals.

### **Pathways**

Through a series of workshops, the 5 workstreams below were identified with the addition of outpatients:

- respiratory
- frailty
- diabetes
- palliative / end of life care
- rehabilitation

These services are available however there is replication, and we are looking at a Whole System Pathway to remove the duplication.

To date the service areas below have been part of the engagement and review process trying to ensure each group is multi disciplinary/multi agency:

- Acute Triumvirates – Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Surgery, Diagnostics, Women & Children



- Primary Care/GP Premises - Utilisation of Space, Link to MDT and community service based working
- Mental Health – Older Peoples’ Services

C Burden advised the Board that work will be completed by January 2024 and there will be online opportunities for people to get involved over the coming months.

The Chair invited comments and questions from the Board.

C Hatton highlighted that this is a massive, much needed piece of work given the pressures on the NHS and it will be interesting to see the progress made and receive updates.

Councillor Bell enquired about funding for capital projects and how the current situation was reached. C Burden replied that the funds earmarked for capital projects were used during the Covid pandemic. Councillor Bell added that lots of GP surgeries have been identified as needing updated, but nothing has been mentioned on how to improve them. C Burden responded that there is a maintenance programme and the maintenance log has recently been reinstated after being paused for three /four years.

The Chair noted that the world is a different place post Covid and enquired how feasible it is to deliver and how much is needed to see what is possible for Caring for Ayrshire? C Burden replied that the single patient record is achievable in Ayrshire next year and this will make a big difference with regards to access to test results which will mean the tests won't be repeated. The more detail that is in the plan the more funding we are likely to receive.

Councillor Billings acknowledged that there is a lot of planning going on which has been talked about for a long time and not much has moved forward. It does seem very challenging with the amount of funding available. He asked what are the expectations and how will it be managed for everyone and how will the community handle this and how can we define the benefits if it moves slowly.

C Burden highlighted that it is about how the provision is coordinated to be more sustainable including multi-agency working. There will be a lot of cost avoidance with reduction of replication so this will help with sustainability.

J McLachlan highlighted that anchor structures were submitted to the Scottish Government and asked how this would relate to Caring for Ayrshire. C Burden advised that they will invest in the infrastructure using local people and services, having local treatment centres. The gardens programme is now in house. This will reduce outsourcing to others.

The Chair thanked C Burden for her presentation and acknowledged the opportunity for joint working.

## **6. Child Poverty and Cost of Living**

Audrey Sutton provided the Board with an update on Child Poverty and Cost of Living.

A Sutton highlighted the following:

National:

- Child Winter Heating Payment of £235 began in November.
- Energy Bill Payment £400.
- Winter Heating Payment.

Local:

- The islands Cost of Living fund has received a further £57k from the Scottish Government. This will be utilised for Energy Smart, money matters, welfare advice, schools, third sector community grants.
- Covid funds have been fully expended and reporting on these funds will cease.
- The Fair Food Network now has community larders in Arran and soon Largs. A consultation is taking place regarding a food larder on Cumbrae.
- Financial Inclusion strategy and partnership development.
- Parental Employment Support Fund
- Cost of School Day
- Children and Young People Mental Health Wellbeing Fund
- Livewell for staff
- Mini enquiries have had a role in fund allocation and this will continue.

The Chair invited comments and questions from the Board.

Councillor Bell enquired how can we inform people about what they qualify for and how to apply? He also asked about the extension of the free school meals programme to P6/7. A Sutton responded that there is a suite of information available on both the Council and Community Planning Partnership websites as well as welfare officers, community link workers in GP practices available to provide support and guidance. Welfare advice is also available at community larders and work has been funded for Community Housing Advocacy Project (CHAP) to be onsite in community centres, libraries and sports clubs to provide support. If anyone is asked please refer to the Council and CPP websites. There is also one single number to contact for information.

With regards to the extension of free school meals, A Sutton advised that in line with Scottish Government funding we are committed, if funds are available, in 2026 to roll out free meals to P6/7. We will continue to keep this in our sights and prioritise, but funding and practicalities need to be resolved.

The Chair thanked A Sutton for her update.

## **7. Partner Updates**

I McMeekin highlighted that due to lack of funds the decision has been taken not to renew local fire plans at this time. Instead, they will be reviewed.

S Lynn provided an update to the Board including:

- Benefits - Universal Credit and disability benefits will increase by 6.7%, in line with September's inflation rate.
- National Insurance - cut by 2 percentage points from 12% to 10% from 6 January. For someone on the average salary of £35,000 this will save over £450 a year.
- Wages - both the National Living Wage and National Minimum Wage will increase. From 1 April 2024, the National Living Wage will increase by 9.8% to £11.44 an hour for 2.7 million eligible workers, which will include 21 and 22-year-olds for the first time. The National Minimum Wage rates will increase for young people and apprentices: for people aged 18-20 by 14.8% to £8.60 an hour, for 16-17 year olds and apprentices by 21.2% to £6.40 an hour.
- Self-employed - Class 2 National Insurance (paid by around 2m people) has been scrapped, saving £192 a year on average. Self-employed people who pay Class 4 National Insurance at 9% on all earnings between £12,570 and £50,270 will see that cut by 1 percentage point to 8% from April.
- On 18 November the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions announced a package of employment support measures as part of the Back to Work Plan. This £2.5bn investment will help up to 1.1 million people with long-term health conditions, disabilities or who are long-term unemployed to look for and stay in work.

- The second payment of £300 was paid by 19 November 2023.
- The Move to Universal Credit expansion in Scotland continues.
- Jobcentres across Scotland supported National Older Workers Week 20-24 November. The national campaign was led by Working Wise to promote the benefits of multi-generational workforces and encourage employers to support and retain older workers.
- DWP is carrying out a large-scale recruitment exercise for Universal Credit Review Agents and Work Coaches across Scotland. Four have been recruited in Saltcoats, one in Kilbirnie and one in Irvine. There are still Work Coach vacancies in the three areas.
- Launch of the brand-new Veterans' Career Development Fund. The £700,000 grant fund will enhance provision of qualifications, training and skills development to veterans and their families right across the UK. Applications for up to £70,000 - live until 8 January 2024.

B Connolly highlighted ongoing work on the regional strategy and delivery plan. This was launched in October and they are looking at governance and ownership. He is happy to share updates with the Board. Scottish Enterprise will launch their new strategy in January which will show the organisational direction.

## **8. AOCB**

No other business was discussed.

The next meeting of the North Ayrshire CPP Board will be held on **Friday 15 March 2024 at 11.15 am via Microsoft Teams.**