

**Minute of the Dundee Partnership Management Group**

**held on Thursday, 12 December 2024 at 2.00pm**

**Committee Room 1, 14 City Square and online via Teams**

Present:

Alice Bovill, Community Regeneration Forums

Andrea Calder, Chief Executive’s Service, DCC

Audrey May, Children & Families, DCC

Cllr Heather Anderson, Climate Leadership Group

Colin Echevarria, Police Scotland

Greg Colgan, Chief Executive, DCC (chair)

Judy Dobbie, Leisure & Communities Dundee

Liz Bacon, Abertay University

Murray Webster, Community Regeneration Forums

Nicky Maccrimmon, Neighbourhood Services, DCC

Peter Allan, Chief Executive’s Service, DCC

Robin Presswood, City Development, DCC

Simon Hewitt, Dundee & Angus College

Online via Teams

Bob Benson, Integrated Joint Board

Brian Logan, Scottish Government

Christina Cooper, DVVA

Mark Speed, TACTRAN

Neale Laker, University of Dundee

Shiona Higgins, Department for Work & Pensions

In Attendance

Paul Davies, Chief Executive’s Service, DCC

Apologies:

Adam Smith, Police Scotland

Alison Henderson, D&A Chamber of Commerce

Bailey Kevin Keenan

Bryan Todd, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

Christine Milburn, University of Dundee

Connie Calvo, Skills Development Scotland

Cllr Mark Flynn, Dundee City Council

Emma Fletcher, Public Health, NHS Tayside

Ewan Haliday, Department for Work & Pensions

Graeme Stewart, Department for Work & Pensions

Jackie McKenzie, Abertay University

Jim McGeorge, University of Dundee

Matthew Lockley, Scottish Enterprise

Nicky Connor, Chief Executive, NHS Tayside

Sean Neill, Scottish Government

Serge Kabamba, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

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|  |  | **Action** |
| 1. | Welcome / Introductions |  |
|  | Greg welcomed everyone to the meeting and a brief round of introductions was made. Apologies received are noted above. |  |
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| 2. | Minute of the Previous Meeting |  |
|  | The minute of the September meeting was agreed as accurate. |  |
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| 3. | Matters Arising |  |
| a. | New DPMG Chair |  |
|  | Greg outlined that volunteers to take over the chair of this group were called for but to date no-one has stepped forward. As there have been numerous changes of membership recently, Greg offered to continue to chair for a further year with a rotation starting after that. Future chairs to hold the position for one to two years – a paper on this will be developed in the meantime* Murray commented that this has now been on our agenda for some time and calls for partners to step up and take a lead to ensure this is a partnership rather than a DCC-led group
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| 4. | Strategic Leadership Group Updates |  |
| a. | Child Poverty & Inequalities |  |
|  | Audrey provided an update, which included:The SLG has held one further meeting since the September DPMG and are still in the ‘forming’ stage and agreeing the precise focus for the group.Priorities discussed so far include Indicators the group will have oversight of and the other partnership groups to connect with. Broadly, the indicators cover Education, Employment, Health, Children in poverty), Housing, Care and Travel. The group are looking to rationalise these and receive updates on them regularly. Subgroups are also looking at how the various workstreams are moving things forward and how to map them all together. Sheila Allan and the Engine Room are helping with this.Wave Trust provided input at last meeting on their work around Child Poverty and Neglect, and the need for early intervention and prevention. The new JRF report on the work of the Dundee Fairness Leadership Panel was made available too, and those with lived experience spoke in relation to this. The group are starting to look at a reporting cycle for the whole year. Discussion followed that included:* Some of these KPIs will cross-over with other work that is taking place, which should lead to some cross-fertilisation
* The development of a suite of KPIs is useful, but we are also looking for this group to provide direction and leadership. Audrey indicated that this aspect should start from February, by when the KPIs should be in a workable format

Peter then highlighted the recent Joseph Rowantree Foundation (JRF) report on the work of the Dundee Fairness Leadership Panel (FLP) in order to give it some prominence in our thinking. The FLP is a big part of coproducing better solutions for those living in poverty. JRF did some research and released a praiseworthy report on how we are doing what we do in relation to policy development and involvement of those with lived experience. Three Pillars all work well together – Dundee Fighting for Fairness, Faith in Community Dundee, and DCC (& Other Partners). The report acknowledges that DCC are willing to listen and acknowledge when things aren’t working and make changes that might. The Improvement Service have also decided to host a national event in Dundee in March on this topic too, which will feature the FLP and examples from other Local Authorities too.Discussion followed that included:* Christina to discuss Third Sector involvement in the FLP with Peter, which Peter indicated fits with the current search for more civic partner representation.
 | **CC / PA** |
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| b. | Inclusive Economic Growth |  |
|  | Robin talked to a presentation on Dundee’s Growth Story: Draft Vision & Action Plan. Highlights included:* Challenges around low population growth, employment and unemployment rates, low jobs growth, and low average earning levels
* Opportunities around a transition to a knowledge economy, culture & tourism, Dundee Waterfront, and City Centre investment
* A focus around six themes, each with their own set of objectives
	+ Promoting the city
	+ Growing the population and talent base
	+ Building the new Dundee
	+ Powering the entrepreneurial city
	+ Expanding the knowledge economy
	+ Community wealth building

Discussion followed that included:* We want to see as much of the cultural assets of the city in plans as possible
* The six themes are really useful. How do they link to the work of the IEG and the other SLGs? How is it helping lift the 1/3 of the city’s population in poverty into the 2/3 not?
* They work well with young people to join things up and enable their progress
* Social Security Scotland (SSS) brought 800 well paid jobs targeted at our more deprived communities. Where can we replicate this sort of economic benefit? Robin commented that SSS gave guaranteed jobs (not just interviews) to those who went through the employability pathway
* While employment and skills around a just green transition was covered, the environment more generally was not. Many well-paid jobs are coming to the city around renewables, etc. which does need addressed in the next 3-5 years. Robin agreed and will include the green agenda in future presentations having overlooked it in this instance. There is an alignment between skills, work and properties.
* Simon commented that education is front and centre through Discover Work
* Murray stated that he hears the positive vision of what we are going to be doing, but there remains ~35% of our population who aren’t progressing. How is the Partnership going to take what we know and move from talking about it to actually making a difference?
	+ The Waterfront SSS building brought in 800 jobs. Without it, those jobs wouldn’t be there. We also need to look at which organisations around the table are local
	+ £20m Levelling Up money – much of this should go to communities not just the Waterfront, for creating good jobs and preparing people for them
	+ The narrative of the public also needs to be shifted in terms of positivity, what we can and cannot do
	+ The D&A College announcement about the Wellgate is transformational
	+ Robin agreed that Murray is correct as his initial slides showed how bad things are. We have ~100k working population and ~22k not working. About half of the latter could be in the workplace, which is where employability work comes in, and the college links people up with growth sectors too. Universities are also involved
	+ Simon indicated that recent Scottish Government conversations have been around joining up and aligning communications. Their initial query was ‘are partners on board and providing support for initiatives?’. We are, but need to show it more / better
* Christina added that people ask every day ‘so what?’, what does it mean for them? Impacts in local communities need to be promoted better. How does it align with anchor strategies or NHS?
	+ Robin responded that they are not directly involved in this but there is regular liaison with NHS. NHS has capacity issues around dealing with mental health issues for young people which probably keeps many out of employment
* Nicky asked what does the locality approach to these priorities look like? There is a need to link in with community enterprises. Looking at training on ambition raising across Tayside involving the local TSIs. This will help increase community ownership of ‘things’
* Negative press contributes to negative public perception of progress in Dundee. If we can look at more positive outputs this would be very helpful and make a day to day difference. Greg commented that it is amazing that Northwood Trust give out £4m a year for charitable causes but do not get according press coverage. Murray asked if Northwood could be invited to present to the DPMG? Greg to extend the offer.
 | **GC** |
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| c. | Climate Leadership Group |  |
|  | Heather provided an update which included.* The Climate Leadership Group is focussing on three main areas of work: District Heating, Adaptation and Communication
* DC Thomson is helping with communications as it can be hard to get stories out to the general public
* A technical assessment looking at the details of what to work on first in regard to district heating is due in March 2025. The financial model to make it work will also be included in the report. This will lead to real work for people too – there is currently £4.9bn in the Scottish Government for this, so workable plans are needed as soon as possible
* Adaptation ties in with the City Plan and so needs to be added into this. A climate Risk and Vulnerability Plan has been commissioned. Following on from that, water resilience as a city will be looked at. As with district heating, real jobs will emerge for improving Dundee

Discussion followed that included:* There is a need to join up developing energy solutions for the city and tackling fuel poverty. Within the plans, stage one is about how to make properties more fuel efficient, then moving to renewables. Consultants working on this are including ‘who needs this the most?’ in their calculations based around the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation
* There is a good opportunity for upskilling and reskilling people around insulation
* Private sector landlords are a known issue in relation to housing quality. Guidance and policies for private landlords are being looked at, e.g. properties cannot be sold unless they meet certain criteria
	+ Where people live in tenements (44% of households), it will be hard to install sufficient heat pumps
	+ The Fairness Leadership Panel are looking at private landlord issues too, including tenants knowing their rights which links to this
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| 5. | Local Planning & Locality Leadership Update |  |
|  | Nicky provided an update which included:* A report on Local Community Planning Progress has been to DCC Committee as part of the legislative requirement to publish progress on reducing inequalities. Nicky sought agreement of the DPMG that this shows that we are making progress in tackling inequalities and our City Plan priorities. This was given by the group. Highlights include:
	+ Eight Local Community Planning Partnerships driving local priorities
	+ Over 10,000 citizen responses to consultations
	+ 571 community members directly involved in delivering services in their communities
	+ A HMIE inspection giving a very positive report on the involvement of adults and young people across the city
* Nicky to send a version of the report that includes progress bars to Paul D for circulation to the group
* The ADP devolved funding of £80k pa to implement local programmes, support and preventative work has led to some impressive results including:
	+ Family groups in Lochee and Strathmartine wards
	+ Peer Recovery group in Coldside ward
	+ Good engagement with schools
* In addition, those with lived experience of substance use are getting more involved with other civic activities too, e.g. CRF, community gardens, etc. which is an unplanned area of progress
* Funding to continue this work is being sought for 2025-26. Dundee Partnership members‘ support would be welcome
* The Bella Centre also has some of its residents using the Hilltown Community Centre which has been very positive. Partners could support expansion of this type of work

Discussion followed which included:* Partners were asked to share Nicky’s report within their organisations
* Query raised as to whether some of the recovered proceeds of crime could be used to fund this sort of work? Colin outlined that recovered money is spun back into central funds for Criminal Justice via the Scottish Government. Colin to enquire about getting some back for community allocation as there has been a Cash for Communities Fund in the past
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| 6. | Police Scotland: 2030 Vision & Three Year Plan |  |
|  | Colin provided some background information and what Police Scotland’s 2030 Vision means locally. This included:* Police Scotland was formed in 2013 providing advantages as a national team while making the local distribution of resources more difficult / limited
* There is to be a focus on safer communities, reducing crime, supporting victims, and having a thriving workforce in the three year plan
* Body worn video coming to Tayside in Spring 2025 – the first region in Scotland. This should help to build trust and have safer officers. It will save court time too
* A consultation will take place on some of the Police Scotland buildings in Dundee being rationalised – including the central offices on Bell Street, and some local sub-stations. Bell Street does include the control room for the whole of Scotland
* A local police service and delivery review will take place. Community policing is to have a stronger presence than in recent years to better meet demand. This includes having ‘bobbies on the beat’, named officers for the area and working to resolve more issues locally via redirection of 101 calls. Increasing community confidence is a big aim for this
* The full report is online – [link](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/our-2030-vision-and-three-year-plan/)

Discussion followed which included:* If Bell Street closes, there will still be a need for a central base in addition to outlying community bases
* The central policing team has grown which has checked various negative activities in the city centre
* Nicky offered to discuss any potential asset transfers if changes go ahead
* Policing hubs are seen as useful by communities and an increase in community officers will be welcome as would further links with schools
* Police dealings with people in distress due to mental health issues has been increasing. Dundee does have the Carseview Centre and Hope Point to assist people, and police have good arrangements for getting people to access these. It would be good for police to be able to reduce their involvement with cases like these, but this would require other 24/7 specialist support to be in place
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| 7. | Community Planning Improvement Board |  |
| a. | Fair Funding for the Voluntary Sector |  |
|  | Greg referred to the paper circulated detailing the principles around fair funding for the third sector. He asked that group members take them back to their organisations for consideration of implementing them.Christina welcomed this, appreciating the overall financial situation. She stated that engagement and negotiation are key, as is compromise when needed. Challenging times ahead are recognised, and this document is a useful one going forward.The group endorsed the document. | **All** |
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| b. | Values Based Leadership Experience proposal |  |
|  | Greg referred to the paper circulated outlining the Hunter Foundation proposal for two half-day workshops for the most senior representatives from partners. At present, we do not have the most senior representatives from most of our member organisations on the DPMG. We have a need for that level of representation to be able to challenge each other and seek to drive forward for delivering on tackling poverty and inequalities, inclusive economic growth, and climate leadership.The two workshops would be undertaken with Columba 1400 and would build on work others have done seeking to develop the ability to challenge each other to do differently and do more. Community Planning should be in place to deal with Public Reform. Greg asked the group if they were comfortable with this approach and wanting to take it forward. The aim would be for the DPMG to be less about updates and more about vision and strategy. Comments from the group included:* There is no lack of activity shown in the updates this group receives though there could be better joining up of activity. It would be good to collectively try and understand how we can join things up more going forward
* There is still a disconnect between some of the partners. We are getting stronger around challenging each other and also involved in negotiations off table. This would strengthen what we’ve got
* If this group is a priority, as it should be, then senior representatives should prioritise attending. In future we should hope that deputies attending will be the exception rather than the norm
* This could be an amazing opportunity for communities to get involved too. Greg added that the Hunter Foundation are already leading on this, and some groups have been formed
* The Discover Work Partnership had a similar conversation two to three years ago. They agreed the two or three things everyone could commit to which really helped focus. Recognising what we can and cannot control is important
	+ Glasgow focus on one priority – Poverty & Inequality. We have three priorities, and action on all of these is very important and interlinked

With the agreement of the group, Greg is to work with the Hunter Foundation to arrange suitable dates. Local community centre(s) will be used as a venue | **GC** |
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| 8. | AOCB |  |
|  | None raised |  |
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| 9. | Dates for Future Meetings |  |
|  | * 6 March, 2pm – 4pm
* 12 June, 10am – 12pm
* 11 September, 10am – 12pm
* 4 December, 2pm – 4pm

Venues: Physical venue tbc and via Teams |  |

Attachments:

* Locality Planning Progress Report (with progress bars)